



28th January 2001

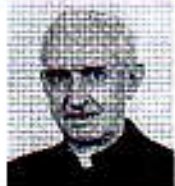
No. 663

Ballineaspais Bulletin

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK



FROM OUR
**PARISH
TEAM**

The Dean writes

LOVE IS...

Love is the most wonderful experience in all the world. St. Paul said so, and if he said so, that's good enough for me. He is quoted at length on the subject in the Second of this Sunday's Readings. Thousands of songs are written on this topic, millions of books have it as their central theme, all films had it before violence and cruelty took over.

If love is such a part in any relationship we might reasonably ask why doesn't everybody love everybody, and God above all? Some years ago a shopkeeper showed me a £20 note. He was testing my powers of observation, and I failed the test. The note was clean and crisp and looked good to me, but in fact it was counterfeit. It was worthless of course.

The same could be true of love. There are lots of imitations - lookalikes, but counterfeit. St. Paul spells out the qualities of the genuine article in his Letter to the Corinthians: "Love is always patient and kind; it is never jealous; love is never boastful or conceited; it is never rude or selfish; it does not take

offence, it is not resentful; love takes no pleasure in other people's sins, but delights in the truth; it is always ready to excuse, to trust, to hope, and endure whatever comes." What man or woman, boy or girl, can stand up, put their hands on their hearts, and say: "That's me". St. Paul of course is describing the genuine, wonderful, true love - as distinct from the emotional 'high', "which fades away like the morning dew" - O.K. in its own way, but without the foundation required for a lasting relationship.

Take this Bulletin home - discuss it - criticise the writer for his lack of understanding - but consider the subject carefully. It could save you a lot of pain, and increase your happiness.

"Love never comes to an end" - and it's wonderful.

Aennis O'Looney.

MOUNT MERCY NEWS

Congratulations and well done to second year students Aoife Bambury, Laura Hurley, Jennifer O'Leary and Emma Fanning, all prizewinners in this year's Esat Young Scientist Competition. Comhghairdeas leo go leir.

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

"In meditation we seek to become the person we are called to be, not by thinking of God but by being with God. Simply to be with God is to be drawn into being the person God calls us to be." (John Main OSB, 1926-1982) reviver of the Christian tradition of meditation).

The "John Main Seminar" held in his memory is an annual event, which brings together Christian meditators from all over the world. The seminar for the year 2000 was held in Belfast last October. People from 25 countries attended. The principal speaker was His Holiness the Dalai Lama.

We went to share the true spirit of the people of Northern Ireland, their courageous work for reconciliation and in the healing of the wounds of history.

We prayed that all peoples can discover that the power of love and compassion is within themselves; that this reality can transform political and social structures of injustice and violence more effectively than armed force.

A day's Youth Forum brought together two hundred young people from all sides of the Northern Ireland community to reflect on non-violence in the witness of the lives of Martin Luther King, Mahatma Gandhi and the present Dalai Lama.

The Dalai Lama also had a parallel programme of meetings that allowed him to mingle with the ordinary people of Northern Ireland, with the victims of violence, as well as with religious and political leaders.

The Dalai Lama's message was "be compassionate, be loving and

be happy."

Alas for us, the 2001 seminar will be held in Sydney, Australia. Not many bank balances will stretch that far.

The parish meditation group meets on Thursday nights in the C.P. Centre at 7.30 p.m.

- Rowena O'Sullivan

ST. BRIGID

St. Brigid was born c.454. Her father Duhtach of the Ui Fortharta sect of the Ui Failghe had a child by Broicseach, a Christian slave of his. She was born in Faughart, Co. Louth. Her youth was spent in herding and milking cattle and making butter. She was an attractive girl and her father fixed marriage for her. She refused. Instead she opted for religious life and received spiritual formation from St. Mel and stayed for a period under his direction in Ardagh. She founded a monastery in Kildare. Cattle were the main support of her monastery. Hospitality, alms-giving and care of the sick were her main pre-occupation. She died in 524. She is the Secondary Patron of Ireland and her feast is celebrated on 1st February.

IN SYMPATHY

We offer our sincere sympathy to MARY MURPHY, Clonmeen, Bishopstown Avenue, on the death of her mother.

To DANNY O'SULLIVAN, Leesdale, on the death of his brother Miah.

Cork Geological Association

Lecture on Wednesday 31st January at 8.00 p.m. Jury's Hotel - Fossil Conodonts - The Search for the Elusive Conodont Animal, by Dr. Jim Smith, Dept. of Geology, U.C.C.



FEAST OF ST. BLAISE

Legend and fact have become interwoven in the centuries since St. Blaise was martyred in 316 A.D. But we are told that he was a good bishop who worked hard to encourage the spiritual and physical health of his people.

So it is that, even though we associate St. Blaise with throats, the prayer said at the blessing includes the words: "May God deliver you from all ailments of the throat and from every other evil."

Why not avail of the Blessing of Throats at 9.00, 10.00 and 6.15 Masses on Saturday 3rd February.



Rest in Peace

On January 11th Sr. Cornelius Crowley died very peacefully after a long illness at St. Joseph's, Model Farm Road. Sr. Cornelius loved life and found God in the whole of creation when she rambled through the fields and pathways in Drishane. She was a gifted musician and trained choirs for annual choral examinations, as well as instilling into many of her students a great appreciation and love for music and song. She was unable to communicate in word for many years and we can only ask the question why? For those of us who were with her we can say that in her silence and inactivity she gave glory to God just as much as she did in her active mission. May she now sing the eternal hymn of praise to God whom she loved and dedicated her life to as a Sister of the Infant Jesus (Drishane!).

COLÁISTE AN SPIORAID NAOIMH

Edmond Rice Action:

A group of Transition Year students travelled to Belfast recently to represent the school at the annual Edmond Rice Youth Forum. The theme for this year's gathering was "Meeting the Challenge". We were delighted to be visited earlier in the year by Brother Andrew, leader of the Presentation Brothers upon his return from Peru. While there, he presented a cheque for £5000 (the proceeds of our annual Marasport Fundraiser) to Br. Jimmy Curlew who coordinates the food programme in the Presentation school in Lima.

Debating:

One of our fifth year students, Peter Burke, had the distinction of being chosen to represent Ireland at the World Debating Championships to be held later this month in South Africa. We wish Peter every success at this most prestigious competition.

The U-16 hurlers are due to play shortly but face a tough challenge from Farranferris in the Cork Colleges competition. Players like Shane O'Neill, Eoin Joyce and Ken O'Halloran have loads of talent and are hopeful of causing an upset.

The U-15 soccer squad have had a successful season so far and have progressed to the knock-out stages of their competition. Derek O'Keeffe and the lads are confident that the excellent record of C.S.N. teams in schools' soccer can be continued.



First Friday

Next Friday 2nd February is the First Friday of the month. Calls to the sick and housebound on usual days.

Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

Friday 2nd February from 10.30 to 7.30 p.m. followed by Mass.

St. Joseph's Young Priests Society

Meeting next Thursday 1st February in the C.P. Centre at 8.00 p.m.

St. Vincent de Paul

Monthly collection at all Masses next weekend.

Senior Citizens

Bishopstown Lions Club will host a party in the S.M.A. Hall on Friday 2nd February at 8.00 p.m. An enjoyable night out for all. Everyone welcome (no charge).

Assistant Caretaker Required

For school in Bishopstown area, must be eligible for community employment service with FAS. Telephone 4546675.

Keys Found

A single key and bunch of keys in church. Please contact sacristy.

PRESENTATION CENTRE

Evergreen Street, Cork.

Phone 021 431 4255 Fax 021 431 9550

Spirituality through Poetry Series: *Moving into Spring*

January 24, 31, February 7, 14, 21

(Wednesday 8.00 - 9.00pm)

Presenters: January 24: Sr Clare Heffernan;

Jan 31: Padraig McCarthy; February 7: Anne Francis;

Feb 14: Alice Taylor; Feb 21: Máirín Nic Coitir.

Donation: £5 per session, including cuppa!

February 8 - 11 (Friday 6.30pm Supper - Sunday Lunch)

Reflective Workshop with Clay

Presenters: Angie Treacy; John Shorten, OFMCap.

Donation: Residential £80; Non-Res. £60.

July 1 - 7 *Personally Guided Retreat*

(Sunday 6.30pm Supper - Saturday am.)

Directors: Annie Fox, PBVM; Anne O'Leary, PBVM;

Mike Riordan, OC, Diocese of Tuam.

Donation: £180.

Spoken Irish for Adults

Classes at Gaelscoil Uí Riada to cater for people whose oral Irish is very limited and those who have a reasonable degree of oral competence, commencing 30th January for 8 weeks, £25 per person. Registration in school from 9.00 to 2.30 p.m. tel. 4342027.

Bishopstown I.C.A.

Meeting Thursday next at S.M.A. Hall at 8 p.m. All welcome.

Highfield Squash Club

We are enjoying a very successful season so far. Ladies No. 1 Elenor Laphorne recently won the Ladies Irish Close competition, a tremendous achievement by her. The men's First Division team have won the Munster Senior League and the Second Division team were close runners-up in their league. There are also teams competing in the other leagues in progress at present. A veteran section is also very strong with Noel Murphy and John Calnan on the Irish team.

The juniors train on Wednesday afternoons under coaches Martin O'Donoghue and Kevin Quinlan. Both Brian Healy (U-15) and Dave Guiney (U-19) have represented their country.

A Minister of the Eucharist at our local church, Jerry O'Shea, is back playing after a second successful hip replacement.

The Club secretary is Jackie O'Neill, tel. 4541569.

EMERGENCY NUMBER

087 - 251 9940

Readings for Sunday 4 February

Is.6:1-2, 3-8; Ps.137;

1 Cor.15:1-11; Lk.5:1-11.