

29th April 2001



No. 676

Ballineaspais Bulletin

Third Sunday of Easter



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNIHY'S CROSS, DUBLIN



FROM OUR
**PARISH
TEAM**

Fr. Patrick writes

THE FISHERMAN

It seemed such an innocent thing to say: "I'm going fishing". But when he said it, Simon Peter seems to indicate that he was reverting to his original trade, a trade from which the Lord called him to be a fisher of men and women. But though he drifts from his true vocation, he realises that "there stands Jesus on the shore". The huge haul of fish reminds the fisherman of his real vocation and he is awakened to the presence of Jesus by his side. Jesus, after the eucharistic breakfast, questions Simon Peter, "Do you love me?" three times. Peter is grieved by such questioning, and gives a rather ironic answer. "Lord, you know all things, you know that I love you." If the Lord did and does know all things, why did he ask the question of Peter, "do you love me"? He knew the answer. Perhaps it was Peter who did not know it fully. He was not aware who it was that was at the centre of his life and indeed our world. Perhaps we all need to become aware again that, even if our boat has drifted a little, Jesus is by our side calling us back to our true vocation, to be his followers.

Patrick Walsh

CHILDREN

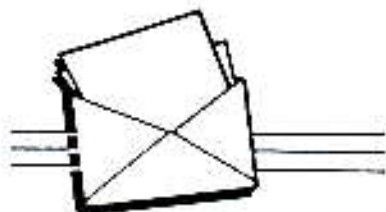
How A Child Learns

- If a child lives with criticism
he learns to condemn.
- If a child lives with hostility
he learns to fight.
- If a child lives with ridicule
he learns to be shy.
- If a child lives with shame
he learns to feel guilty.
- If a child lives with tolerance
he learns to be patient.
- If a child lives with encouragement
he learns confidence.
- If a child lives with praise
he learns to appreciate.
- If a child lives with fairness
he learns justice.
- If a child lives with security
he learns to have faith
- If a child lives with approval
he learns to like himself.
- If a child lives with acceptance and
friendship
he learns to find love in the world.

EXAMPLE

Bear in mind that children of all ages have one thing in common: they close their ears to advice and open their eyes to example,
The Tablet

The religion of the child depends on what its father and mother are, not on what they say.



Dear Editor,

I refer to Aideen Clifford's letter in Bulletin 675.

I would assume that the Easter Vigil is the most important liturgy in the Church's year. Therefore, two hours duration would not be out of place. It is well known to be a long ceremony so anyone planning to attend it should be prepared to spend the time.

I personally found our Holy Saturday night celebration very meaningful and I thought Fr. Patrick's words were inspiring. Every aspect of the ceremony was beautifully carried out.

Elsie Harris

Dear Editor,

In reply to Aideen Clifford's interesting letter regarding the Easter Vigil ceremonies, we should remember that these ceremonies cover a wide span of time, from the very dawn of creation to the present time.

As a Christian pilgrim people travelling on the streets of time, it is important that we acknowledge God's saving power in the past - while forwarding onward with renewed hope and faith in the Risen Lord.

By our participation in Christ's passion, death and resurrection at Easter we deepen and strengthen our own faith. By allowing our lives be touched by the presence of the Risen Christ we become living witnesses of the "Good News". Without Christ, Easter becomes just another bank holiday.

It would be a great pity and lost opportunity if we cannot find the time to attend all or perhaps some of these inspiring ceremonies. A special thank you to all concerned for the excellent celebrations.

Arthur O'Callaghan

Dear Editor,

What a pity Aideen Clifford had to keep an eye on her watch during the Easter Vigil Ceremony. I suggest she shouldn't worry whether those "encouraged" or "cajoled" to attend will come next year. We surely can, and must, encourage, but the fruits of their sharing in the Vigil Ceremony is surely dependent on God, not us. Our priests deserve our encouragement too. We are fortunate to have three such dedicated priests who consistently endeavour to enrich our liturgy and always preach Christ's word in meaningful and uplifting ways. The intense preparation made by Fr. Patrick Walsh to bring so alive for all of us the greatest event of Christianity deserves affirmation, not criticism for what Aideen regards as too long a sermon.

Carmel O'Shea



For Teens Who Want Something Deeper

Last weekend we had some free introductory copies of **FACE UP** available at the doors of the church. The lively interest shown meant that they were snapped up quickly. A further 100 copies are available this weekend, together with envelopes for ordering future copies directly from the Redemptorists who are publishing the magazine.

If they are all gone again by the time you read this notice, contact Redemptorist Publications, 75 Orwell Road, Rathgar, Dublin 6. A year's subscription costs £10 by post. Recommended for teenagers and parents. The Editor of the Bulletin will welcome comments and reviews about the magazine, especially from the young readers themselves.



A Story:

Recently I took my children to a restaurant. My son asked if he could say grace. As we bowed our heads he said: "God is good. God is great. Thank you for the food - and I would thank You more if Mum gets us ice-cream for afters. Amen."

Along with the laughter from other customers nearby, I heard a woman remark: "That's what's wrong with this country. Children today don't even know how to pray!" Hearing this, my son burst into tears and asked me: "Did I do it wrong? Is God cross with me?" As I hugged him and assured him that he had done a fine job, and God was certainly not cross with him, an elderly gentleman approached the table. He winked at my son and said: "I happen to know that God thought that was a great prayer." "Really?" my son asked. "Cross my heart" the man replied. Then in a theatrical whisper he added (indicating the woman whose remark had started this whole thing): "Too bad she never asks God for ice cream. A little ice cream is good for the soul sometimes".

Naturally, I bought ice cream for my children to finish the meal. My son stared at his for a moment, and then did something I will remember for the rest of my life. He picked up his ice cream, and without a word, walked over and placed in front of the woman. With a big smile he told her: "Here, this is for you. Ice cream is good for the soul sometimes, and my soul is good already."

The End.

THE PRODIGAL

Every parent is at some time the father of un-retuned prodigal with nothing to do, but keep his house open to hope.

John Ciardi

Aidan O'Shaughnessy, Woodlawn, died after a short illness at Cork University Hospital on 18th April (Easter Week). Aidan was a native of Ballinlough and near neighbour of Mary Hurley who was to become his much loved and ever loving wife and best friend. Aidan and Mary moved into Woodlawn shortly after they were married and became very much part of that tightly-knit community. They never moved house even when success might have beckoned others. Sadly Mary died at a comparatively young age in October 1994. We offer very sincere sympathy to their sons John and Aidan, his brother Bernard, his daughters-in-law, grandchildren, brother-in-law and business colleague John Hurley, and all who miss him.



Rest in Peace

We offer our sincere sympathy to ANNE ENGLISH, College Road, on the death of her sister Mary Moriarty.



Cúrsa Gaeilge 2001

Course for girls and boys, 10-16 years from 25th to 29th June, 10.00 - 3.00 p.m. catering for fourth to sixth class primary, and 1st to 3rd year post primary. Seisiúin teagaise, drámaíocht, céilí. Apply to the Secretary, Mount Mercy College, tel. 4542366 10.00-4.00 p.m. or 4968496 6.00 - 8.00 p.m.



First Friday

Next Friday 4th May is the First Friday of the month. Calls to the sick and housebound on usual days.



Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

Next Friday, 4th May Adoration will take place from 10.30 to 7.30 p.m. followed by Mass.

St. Joseph's Young Priests Society

Monthly meeting will take place next Thursday 3rd May in the C.P. Centre at 8.00 p.m.

Mná Feasa

Women's Domestic Violence Project and Support Group. Confidential helpline 4211757 Monday to Thursday 10.00 a.m. - 2.00 p.m., Tuesday 8.00 - 10.00 p.m. Support Group Thursday morning in city centre, 10.00- 12.00 noon.



Spirituality and the Natural World

Presented by Julie Newman, O.P. and Marian O'Sullivan, O.P. (Dominican Farm & Ecology Centre) on 21st April, 10.30 to 3.00 p.m. at Presentation Centre, Evergreen Street. Donation £25 - teas/lunch incl. Bookings 4314255.



A Date to Remember

It's Tea Time again. An Alzheimer National Tea Day 2001 will take place at the C.P. Centre on Thursday next 3rd May, from 10.30 a.m. to 12 noon.

St. Vincent de Paul

Monthly collection at all Masses next weekend.



Opera Gala

At Christ the King Church, Turners Cross, in aid of renovation fund, on Friday 11th May at 8 p.m. sharp. Cara O'Sullivan, Soprano, Rodolfo Cavero, Tenor, Cór Cois Abhann and Narrator David McInerney. Tickets £15 at Pro-Musica 4271659 or Christ the King Church 4312465.

Readings for Sunday 6 May

Acts 13:14,43-52. Paul and Barnabas visit Antioch.

Psalms 99: We are sheep of the Lord's flock. Apocalypse 7:9, 14-17: Those who die because of persecution are rewarded in heaven.

John 10:27-30: Jesus is a shepherd whose voice is listened to.

EMERGENCY NUMBER

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