



24th June, 2001

Ballinaspais Bulletin

The Birth of St. John the Baptist

No. 684



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENEHY'S CROSS, CO. CK.



FROM OUR
**PARISH
TEAM**

The Dean writes

The long, and hopefully sun-drenched days of our summer holidays are upon us. Looking back on holidays from previous years can be a worthwhile exercise. What was it that made them special? Why are some so happy and memorable, and others best forgotten? The answers should provide valuable pointers for us. Some wise person wrote, "If you want to feel proud of yourself, you have got to do things you can be proud of."

The late Cardinal Basil Hume of Westminster told this little story about God's loving generosity. A friend of his told him how his idea of God was profoundly changed when as a boy he went to visit an elderly relative. The old lady had a short quotation from the Bible written on a wall plaque. "You, O Lord, always see me." She explained to her young visitor that these words do not mean that God is always watching to see if you do anything wrong. They mean He loves you so much He cannot take His eyes off you. St. Thérèse often said something similar.

Holiday time is a time when I have space to be free – sure. But remember, freedom is not about doing whatever I

want to. This is the freedom demanded by bullies and dictators. It is rather the inner strength to do what I ought. It means the ability to love; to do things you can be proud of – the stuff that happy memories are made of. If misused it becomes the way of selfishness – and selfishness does not leave happy memories.

Have a lovely holiday, and bring back pleasant memories of summer 2001.

Aennis O'Connell



DON'T

TAKE A VACATION
AWAY FROM GOD

EMERGENCY NUMBER

087 - 251 9940



The Living Spirit

If you can speak to the Lord, speak to him, praise him; if you cannot speak because you are exhausted, don't worry. When approaching the Lord, lock yourself in your room, and like a courtier, revere him. He will see you and be pleased with your presence; he will accept your silence; then, on some other occasion, he will console you by taking your hand, speaking to you, and walking with you along the paths in his garden of prayers.

Padre Pio

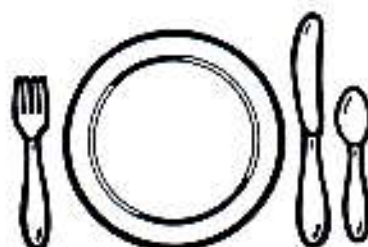


Our
EDITOR
writes

This is the last Bulletin until Sunday 9th September. We would like to thank our Parish Team for their inspiring writing, Fr. Tom Clancy for his support and advice, and the many new writers who responded so generously to our appeal for contributions. We thank our readers for their encouragement and constructive criticism of the Bulletin. All were welcomed. Finally, we would like to thank our Printers, D. O'Mahony & Sons who are always helpful and do such a splendid job.

The Bulletin Team wishes all our readers a pleasant summer.

Irene Connolly



Summer Cookery Demonstration

Due to a bereavement in the Highfield Rugby Club, the postponed demonstration will now take place on Tuesday 26th June at 8 p.m. Raffles, recipes, sports. Tickets £5 at the door or from Pam 4543551/Pat 4545790. All funds raised in aid of club's trip to Canada in August, when forty-eight U20/U18 under-age members will travel to Toronto representing both the club and locality while playing rugby for nine days. This is a huge commitment by the club to the young people of the area and your support would be greatly appreciated.

ST. THERESE'S RELICS IN CORK

Only the most hardened sceptic could fail to be moved by the visit of St. Therese's relics. Late into Wednesday evening and early on Thursday morning thousands – men, women and children, babies in arms and the wheelchair-bound – queued in quiet good humour to enter the North Cathedral. Impeccably stewarded by the gardai, auxiliary services and the volunteers from the dioceses' parishes, including our own, they joined in the prayers and filed reverently past the reliquary. Whatever the motives which drew such a vast and varied crowd, one could not but be struck by the prayerful, respectful



attitude of all who attended.

Some have claimed that this occasion will be another Pope's visit, with a brief powerful impact, soon to evaporate. Let us hope that those, who have been inspired by this visit to return to prayer and confession, will continue to do so, and that all who have been touched by the life and words of a young Carmelite nun will turn to the God she loved.

St. Catherine's National School

It's been a very successful year, with trophies and cups all round! Our camogie team won the Sciath na Scol final on 13th June, beating Scoil Barra by one point. Our tennis team are Munster champions: Ann Crowley, Deirdre Crowley, Laura Lynch and Emma Duffy beat Nenagh by 4-0 on 14th June. Deirdre Crowley was also the captain of the camogie team!

At the City Sports on 15th June the following were prize winners: Jennifer Murphy, Alice Keogh, Cliodhna Buckley, Suzanne O'Sullivan, Emma O'Neill, and the U-11 Relay team: Jean O'Donovan, Laura Pratt, Aisling O'Boyle and Fiona Curtin.

Our Spellathon teams did very well also, getting to the final against stiff opposition: Laura Hayes, Emma O'Sullivan, Melissa Collins and Kate Carmody deserve great praise along with Emer O'Sullivan, Kat McCutcheon, Siún Milne and Maeve O'Sullivan.

Our Suzuki violinists added another string to their bow when they finished their year with a concert in Mitchelstown Caves.

Travelling to Lourdes this summer?

Before you go check out the website created by the town of Lourdes and the 'Sanctuary of Our Lady of Lourdes' for full details of the Shrine and places of interest: www.lourdes-france.com

YOUR RAINDROP OF SELF-DENIAL

In every heart is a struggle for supremacy between opposites. The longing to take revenge, or at least to nourish a grudge, struggles with the spirit of forgiveness. The need for peer approval undermines the courage to reach out in truth for what is right. The craving for pleasure nibbles away at the generosity that would share all with the less well off. Infatuation with the new and the novel does battle with the bulwark of fidelity. In every area, goodness demands a sacrifice. Good is only achieved at great cost to those who do it.

Jesus makes the point forcefully in today's gospel by challenging his disciples to renounce their selfish instincts if they wish to follow him. Jesus showed by life and death that there is no such thing as cheap love and that real commitment demands a surrender of one's own individualism in favour of the needs of all God's family. Just as there would be no streams, rivers or drinking water without the individual raindrops falling, so there can be no reservoir of generous love without our separate personal little acts of self-denial.

Living the Word



NOTICE BOARD



Assumption

Feast of the Assumption

Holyday of Obligation on Wednesday 15th August. Vigil Mass Tuesday at 7.30 p.m. Wednesday Masses 9.00, 10.30, 12.15 and 7.30 p.m.

First Friday Adoration

Will continue during the summer months.

Family Studies Course

Certified by National University of Ireland for parents, workers in caring professions, and those involved in community/parish work. The course aims:

- To increase participants' knowledge and skills in the area of family.
- To increase awareness of social issues and promote a positive perspective of family life.
- To facilitate group development and to train participants as resource people.

Duration 9th October 2001 to 28th May 2002. Venue: Cork & Ross Family Centre, 34 Paul St. Tel. 4275136. For information and application forms contact above.

Can You Spare a Little Time?

Bishopstown Meals on Wheels urgently require cooks. The service is run on a voluntary basis, with cooks and drivers giving of their time for those who cannot fend for themselves. If you can help, please contact Pat at 4545790 between 6.00 and 7.00 p.m.

Congratulations!

Well done to Coláiste an Spioraid Naoimh hurling team who won the Lord Mayor's Cup, a competition for non-leaving certificate students, at Páirc Uí Rinn recently. They beat Christian Brothers College in the final, having previously beaten Ballincollig Community School, Presentation Brothers College and Carrigaline Community School. Parishioners on the team include Colm Murphy, Terence O'Donoghue, Ken O'Halloran and Shane O'Neill.

GOD'S WORD

Readings for Sunday 1 July

First Reading:

1 Kings 19:16,19-21. Elisha is called by the prophet Elijah.

Psalm:

No. 15. Once we have God, we have enough.

Second Reading

Galatians 5:1,13-18. Anyone led by the Spirit will not be self-indulgent.

Gospel:

Luke 9:51-62. Jesus demands full and instant commitment.