

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time**B**allineaspais
Bulletin23rd September 2001CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEHY'S CROSS, DUBLIN

FROM OUR

**PARISH
TEAM***Fr. Patrick writes***Rich Man, Poor Man**

The complaint that I most frequently receive is that Mass is very boring and that the readings have no relevance for our daily lives. "I believe in being a good Christian, but going to Mass does nothing for me." Indeed, the first reading today dates back to the middle of the ninth century B.C. (how old fashioned can you get?) This was a time of great prosperity for Israel, and also a time of terrible corruption, both in the religious and social sphere. Amos refers to the raising of the shekel, the unit of weight used in trading. Recent archaeological digs in Israel have unearthed several different sets of weights! Corruption and prosperity are often happy bed fellows. We know this from our times of tedious tribunals. Of course it is never the rich or powerful who suffer under corruption. Rather as Amos says:

*"We can buy up the poor for money,
and the needy for a pair of sandals."*

But I hear you yawn, you're bored. To the rich, the poor are always irrelevant.

Patrick Walsh

New Catechism Study

Pope John Paul II has often indicated that the primary focus of his pontificate for the new millennium is to oversee a great renewal in the church. His great hope is that Catholics will, by the strengthening of their faith and the Christian witness of their lives, bring about "a new springtime" in the church.

The New Catechism offers us a special opportunity to update our knowledge and deepen our understanding of the faith. A unique study method of the catechism has been devised by the Maryvale Institute. Many have testified that this way of studying the catechism has been enlightening and enjoyable – a great journey of faith.

A meeting to discuss the setting up of a group in the parish will take place in the C.P. Centre next Thursday 27th September at 8 p.m.

*Then the
righteous
will shine
like the
sun in the
kingdom of
their Father.*

MATTHEW 13:43



Maureen O'Hanrahan, Laburnum Drive, died after a short illness at C.U.H. on 3rd September. A long-time parishioner here, she was a native of Glanmire where she first developed her sporting interests and skills with her beloved Sarsfields. A talented camogie player, she won All-Irelands with Cork, but it is as an outstanding golfer with Little Island that her sporting prowess will be most remembered. It was in Little Island graveyard she was buried after Mass in the local church there. The tangible sense of celebration of her life that was so evident on that occasion was witness to the key role family, friends and faith played in Maureen's life. She will be greatly missed by her husband Joe, her family and a wide network of friends and neighbours. To her husband Joe, children Louise, Gene, Kieran and Shane, to her sister and brother, grandchildren, relatives and friends, we extend our deepest sympathies.

Finbarr Ahern, Kenley Crescent, died peacefully in 12th September at C.U.H. surrounded by his loving family. He will be remembered at Fás as a caring colleague, focussed and dedicated in his professional work. Neighbours speak of memories of many acts of kindness and support. At the Church of the Holy Spirit his service as a Eucharistic minister was appreciated as was his incisive contributions to Fr. John Newman's bible sessions. Above all, he will be treasured as a great family man. Loving appreciation of his wife and children was central to his happiness and fulfilment. May all his hopes now be fulfilled at home in the heart of God. We offer our sincerest sympathies to Finbarr's wife Noeline, his children Claire, Brian, Emcr, Maeve, John and to the wider family circle, neighbours and friends. Fé choimirce Mhuire, go raib sé.

TOONS

by Dan





New Centre for Older People

The Bishopstown Social Centre – a meeting place for older people in the parishes of Ballincaspaig, Curraheen and St. Joseph's Wilton – will be officially opened on Monday 15th October by the Minister for Health and Children, Mr. Michéal Martin.

The centre, located at Wilton Park House, is managed by a sub-committee of Bishopstown Community Association. It is intended to develop events to meet the social, recreational and educational needs of people using it.

Already, the Centre volunteers run a Wednesday 2.30 to 4.30 weekly carer respite programme caring for older people, while giving some free time to the carers themselves. Older parishioners and their carers are most welcome to take part.

An Open Day, held on Wednesday 5th September, attracted almost 100 people who came to view the Centre, see the newly-refurbished meeting rooms and modern kitchen-dining room and enjoy the hospitality.

The Centre, developed in close co-operation with the Southern Health Board, is intended as a "warm, friendly and welcoming home from home..."

A survey of Open Day visitor preferences will set the priorities for activities there.

Further announcements will be made about the Centre's programme in the weeks after the official opening.

Bible Corner



AMOS

Prophet in Celtic Tiger Times

The state of Israel never had it so good. Like ourselves, there was a new sense of national pride accompanying the prosperity. Like ourselves, too, the gap between the poor and everybody else was widening rapidly. This was happening despite the fact that the Israelite identity was built on an acceptance of each other as God's children, all equal before God. Amos did not spare the fat cats who exploited the poor in despicable ways. Maybe, he will stir all our consciences as he is read for us this weekend.



"DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING A
LITTLE LESS COMFORTABLE?"



St. Catherine's Primary School
Opening of the year Mass will be on
Friday 28 September
at 10.00 a.m.

in the Church of the Holy Spirit
Parents, neighbours and the usual
daily congregation are cordially
invited to participate

Seven days without prayer makes one
weak.

Allen E. Bartlett

A Prayer of Thomas Merton

My Lord God, I have no idea where I am
going. I do not see the road ahead of
me.

I cannot know for certain where it will
end.

Nor do I really know my own self, and
the fact that I think I am following your
will does not mean that I am actually
doing so.

But I believe that the desire to please
you does in fact please you.

And I hope I have that desire in all that I
am doing.

I hope that I will never do anything
except with that desire.

And I do know that if I do this, you will
lead me by the right road though I may
know nothing about it.

Therefore I will trust you always though
I may seem lost and in the shadow of
death.

I will not fear, for you are ever with me
and you will never leave me to face my
perils alone.



MOUNT MERCY

Once again our Junior Certs. have done
Mount Mercy proud with their excellent
Junior Cert. results. Very special
congratulations to the four girls who
achieved straights A's in all their Higher
Level subjects - Holly McConnell with
11, Vicki Brennan, Susy Kenefick and
Aoife Turner all with 10.

Comhghairdeas leo go léir.

Cork Deaf Enterprises

Charity Auction at Rochestown Park
Hotel on Sunday 30th September at 2
p.m. Admission free.

God's Word

Readings for Sunday 30 September

First Reading:

Amos 6:1,4-7: Amos warns the wealthy
about their selfishness.

Psalm 145:

The Lord protects all those who are
vulnerable.

Second Reading:

1 Timothy 6:11-16: Paul gives Timothy
tips on being a disciple of the Lord
Jesus.

Gospel:

Luke 16:19-31: A reminder that wealth
can insulate us from seeing the needs of
others.

EMERGENCY NUMBER

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