

21<sup>st</sup> October 2001



No. 691

# Ballineaspais Bulletin

Mission Sunday



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT  
DENNEHY'S CROSS, DUBLIN



## OUR PARISH PRIEST

*writes*

Ireland's representatives worked extremely hard to secure a place on the Security Council of the United Nations. They canvassed countries large and small across the world. Almost everywhere, but especially among the newly emerging nations of Africa and Asia, leaders and officials knew of the Irish not only as peacekeepers, but as missionaries, sisters, brothers, lay people and priests who brought news of Jesus as Saviour, as they brought education and medical care to towns and rural areas alike in their home countries. To countries as big as China and as little as the Gambia and scores of countries in between, Irish missionaries had brought Christian hope and love through the century just gone. In our time, a growing number of these young faith communities have become missionary themselves, bringing the faith to places only dreamt of a century ago.

What of ourselves on Mission Sunday 2001? Is Irish missionary effort becoming part of mere heritage or is it a crucial factor in our ongoing faith story? It must be the latter or our faith is dead. To be a true believer, one must be missionary. True, the focus of our

missionary effort may change, but the core command of the Lord to proclaim the good news to the whole world can never be altered.

The witness of living faith is the fundamental missionary activity. The young must first be evangelised themselves if they are to become evangelisers. Who will rekindle the vision in them? Would others know from how I live that I am a believer in Jesus, committed to his values of justice and love? Would our life styles as community encourage others to join us in following Jesus? Are our immigrants so overwhelmed by the love we Christians have for one another, that they are inspired to ask the motivation? Will our financial support through today's collection show an appreciation of our frontline missionaries? Questions to ponder. Living faith always reaches out in love. Such is our calling.

### Novena for Holy Souls

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> November is the Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed. Each priest will start a Novena of Masses on that day for all the dead on our November list. Envelopes and prayer cards are available in the church, and please place your completed envelope **in the box at the altar rails** before November starts.



### MISSION SUNDAY

"Mission Sunday is important in the life of the church. Mission cannot be left to a group of 'specialists'. It is a matter for all Christians, dioceses, parishes, Church institutions and associations...to pray for and encourage offerings for the missions" (Pope John Paul II). Please be as generous as possible in the Propagation of the Faith Collection, which will be sent in its entirety to the Missions. *MISSION IS SHARING*

### Bishopstown GAA New Multi-Purpose Sports Hall

The Club has secured a government grant of £200,000 for a new multi-purpose sports hall and changing rooms, which will be available to community groups. Further funding of £356,000 has been assembled. Last year the club sold a record 1400 tickets for the Cork County Board Draw, contributing £37,000 of the above funding. We still need to raise further finance of the order of £200,000 to complete the entire project. The Cork County Board Draw will be used again this year as a fundraiser. By purchasing a £60 ticket from any club official, you will be helping this community-based amenity, as well as entering 12 monthly draws with many great prizes each month, with a total prize fund of £250,000. We are planning to place a contract shortly for the commencement of the project.

### Local Schools

#### MOUNT MERCY

On Monday 8<sup>th</sup> October the Leaving Cert. students attended a retreat in Cork Heritage Centre, given by the 'Scala' team. The girls were delighted with their day of discussion, reflection and prayer.



Well done to Jenny Kennefick, Leaving Cert 2001, who was awarded a scholarship to U.C.D. based on her excellent results. Jenny is now studying architecture.



From the  
Editor

#### APOLOGY

In last week's Bulletin, the author's name in the first piece on **The Race of Life** was inadvertently placed after Dan's contribution. Apologies to Darren and Dan.





## LETTER

Dear Editor,

In last week's Bulletin No. 690, I enjoyed very much the joint article by Darren and Dan, *The Race of Life*. We are used to appreciating older people who hand down their spiritual wisdom. It was pleasant to receive gifts of youthful spiritual wisdom. Such exchange of wisdom is surely a gain for all ages.

Thankfulness for the gift of life seemed the common thread between the two inputs. I admired Darren's ready acceptance of the mixture of joy and sadness "that is the deal and the beauty of our existence". Though fifty-five, I still often hanker for a life of joy unmingled with pain!

And, I was delighted by the feeling of surprise and fulfilment that Dan associates with his newly discovered passion for the theatre. I too have recently found that I enjoyed speaking before an audience!

Accepting surprise thankfully is probably the wisest spiritual response to the gift of life. It was good to be reminded of the truth. When so many everywhere are so busy complaining, or as last Sunday's scripture put it "being timid", it was wonderful to see such positive values honoured.

What I would love to find out is how young people manage to translate their individual, wise and spiritual responses to life, into a context of community.

It is often said both that one cannot be a Christian on one's own, and that community building is one of the greatest challenges of our time. It would

be so interesting to hear how young people overcome or attempt to overcome this apparent contradiction. What are their achievements and their disappointments, what hinders and what helps them in their endeavours to build a community or communities characterised by a thankful acceptance of life and an openness to its ever renewed surprises?

Yours sincerely,

Madelaine Nerson-Mac Namara

## Bible Corner



### HAPPY MISTAKE

Even though it only happened through a mistake in translation, the book in the bible called Deuteronomy has been aptly named, I think. Deuter comes from a Greek word for *second* and this book is written as Moses' second outline preaching of the Torah, God's law guiding his people. It guides the Hebrews in their struggle to remain faithful to the one true God in a world that is given over to idolatry, greed and irreligion in so many ways.

One message in this weekend's reading from Deuteronomy is as relevant in our time as it was then. God cares for the stranger and expects his followers to do the same. God's attitude must shape our attitude towards those who differ from us in race, religion and social standing.



**St. Joseph's Young Priests Society**

Day of Prayer, on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> November at St. Dominic's Retreat Centre, Ennismore, 9.30-5.30 p.m. including Mass. Cost £15. Contact Jackie at 4541144 after 7.00 p.m.



**Baile'n Easpaig Gramophone Circle**

The monthly recital will take place on Wednesday next 24<sup>th</sup> October at 3 p.m. in the crypt of our Church at Dennehy's Cross, when Paddy Murphy will present an afternoon of great music. Everybody is welcome.

**Autism Association**

Voluntary collectors urgently required for Flag Day on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> October. Anyone interested in helping please contact Liz Kiely at 4271808 or 4371041 (evenings).



**Enable Ireland**

Currently seeking volunteers to work in their shops. Full training, great social atmosphere and an opportunity to gain work experience in return for a commitment of just three hours per week. Please call to Margaret in North Main Street (4272828), or Maura in Princes Street (4278280).

**Bishopstown I.C.A.**

Meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> October in S.M.A. Hall, Wilton at 8 p.m. Talk on Alternative Pain Relief by Phil Duggan. All welcome.



**Bishopstown Meals-on-Wheels**

Cooks needed for 2½ hours one morning every third week. If you could help please phone Pat at 4545790 between 6.00 and 7.00 p.m.

**God's Word**

**Readings for Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> October**

**First Reading:**

Eccl.35:12-14m16-19. The Lord is not deferential to the powerful but takes the side of the powerless.

**Psalm 32:** The humble person's prayer will be answered

**Second Reading:**

2 Tim. 4:6-8,16-18. Paul speaks of his imminent death and reflects on his own deep faith.

**Gospel:**

Lk.18:9-14. Humility before God is a recurring theme in the readings: the Gospel describes the Pharisee and the tax collector.

**EMERGENCY NUMBER**

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