



Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ballineaspais Bulletin

18th November 2001



No. 695

CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEWY'S CROSS, COOK



FROM OUR
**PARISH
TEAM**

The Dean writes

Many years ago a young mother told me - with some humour - of her battle with her seven-year-old son the previous evening. He was ordered to bed for his misdemeanours on a bright spring evening at seven o'clock. His resentment found expression in different serious threats - he wouldn't go to school ever again, he wouldn't say his prayers, and as a deadly last throw - he would tear up all Fr. O'Connor's flowers. This young man is probably grappling with his own teenagers now on more important issues. But I did think of him recently when I received a letter - written in desperation - from an old friend. His teenage son had declared with considerable anger that he hates his home, he hates the stupid radio programmes they listen to, he hates college, he hates religion and wouldn't be going to Mass anymore.

I tried to write back some hopeful and encouraging words but, to be honest, I never felt more inadequate. We all know the unsettling effects of rapid change. Then home, school and religion are seen as inhibiting factors to the absolute freedom aspired to in the adolescent mind - ignoring

responsibility, and that every action has a re-action.

The most we can hope for is that values absorbed earlier in the home will re-assert themselves later - though the return of the Prodigal is not near as sure as it used to be. Ignorance is all too often the sequel.

We all must pray more. Parents must lead by example rather than directives, and then live with the realization that they have done their best. And the young - hopefully they will find a better way than breaking the hearts of those who love them best - and if they must go a different way, they will do so gently and with sensitivity for others.

Aine E. Lannon

AFGHANISTAN THANKS

Last weekend's collection stands at over £7,000 at the moment. Thank you. This week it looks as if overland food corridors will be opened and so make it possible to get in food and shelter to the most needy. Your generous help will have a fairly immediate benefit to those concerned. Further contributions will be very welcome if handed in over the weekend. We can all be inspired by one another's generosity.



Dr. Patrick Quinlan, late Professor of Mathematical Physics at U.C.C. and former Senator, died rather unexpectedly on Thursday 8th November. Paddy, as he was affectionately known to colleagues, friends and generations of students was a native of Kilmallock. He had a brilliant academic career. He entered U.C.C. with the highly rated Honan Scholarship and with serious misgivings on the part of his father, who rated the young students of that august institution as a lot of wasters. Unbelievably, his own bright son had turned down a permanent and pensionable job in the Civil Service! Dr. Paddy however followed his star – read a brilliant course at U.C.C. and followed that with a Doctorate in California. He returned to U.C.C. to inspire and direct thousands of students at his old Alma Mater. As I am writing this I have just received a phone call from a former student who spoke of the profound influence for good Dr. Quinlan had on his personal and professional life. However, it was his human qualities which endeared him to everybody – his profound humility, his deep faith, known to God alone. We offer our sympathy to his wife Jane, his family Michael, Roarii, Gail, Josephine and Jeannie, his grandchildren, relatives and friends. He has left them beautiful memories. They may well remember him with pride and affection.

LOCAL SCHOOLS

Two Mount Mercy students, Sinead Kennedy and Rhian Mulcahy, have been honoured for their work with Belarussian orphanages. They were presented with a Humanitarian Award by Ludmila Savitskaya, Deputy Director of the Novirki Orphanage and official representative of the Belarus government.

Important role played by Contact Persons

Our parish contact persons are playing a vital role in the development of ideas and structures to best help the parish meet the pastoral care needs in today's world.

As a direct result of a series of meetings of contact persons last year the Pastoral Council is undertaking a review of many important aspects of parish work and activities.

Reports on the various area meetings have been studied in detail and were the central theme of a recent one-day special seminar involving the Pastoral Council and its different sub-committees.

From this it is hoped to develop ideas and strategies aimed at promoting an even greater sense of parish family in our area.

At Tuesday night's meeting of the Pastoral Council the Chairman, Pádraig Ó Riordáin, paid tribute to the contact persons and said their commitment and dedication were clear from the number and quality of the ideas and suggestions which had emerged and all of them relevant to parish life in today's world.



DUES ENVELOPES

Our twice-yearly Dues envelopes are currently being distributed through the courtesy of our dedicated distributor-collectors who will call back to collect. While an increasing number of people find it more convenient to drop in their contribution directly, or to post it, it would be appreciated if you would let your collector know your intentions. Your kindness to our collectors will be appreciated as will your generosity towards our priests.

Make
Plans

Solve your Christmas Gift Dilemma

Goats, mango trees and chickens are some of the gifts Trócaire suggest you give this Christmas. The charity's Christmas fundraiser, the global gift campaign which raised £600,000 last year, means people can buy a gift certificate which gives a family in the Third World something vital towards their battle for survival. Donations of between £10 and £100 will enable Trócaire to give anything from a clutch of chickens to a hectare of land to a family. Once people make a donation they receive a certificate which can be passed on as a gift. For more information call 1850 408 408, or visit

www.trocaire.org



Bible Corner



TEMPLES

NOW AND THEN

Since September 11th, much has been written about the importance of the Twin Towers to the psyche of New Yorkers. The towers were a symbol of their uniqueness on the world stage and of the values they worship. For the Jewish contemporaries of Jesus, the Temple was even more central to their identity. Centuries earlier, the return of the Hebrew people from exile climaxed in the building of this beautiful shrine. It was the focus of their religious practice as well as of their national identity. It was a life ambition of every Jew to visit the Temple at festival time. For them, to think of the Temple being destroyed was unimaginable. Such destruction could only be visualised if the world were to end. They could not foresee that it would be levelled to the ground in their own lifetime by the conquering Romans.

The foretelling of its destruction in this weekend's gospel is to highlight that the coming of Jesus is decisive for the Jews and all the world. His coming will lead to persecution of believers, just as the native population and culture is crushed by the invader. The gospel challenges us to recognise the sign of the times and not to place our trust in "fine stonework and votive offerings", but in God.

When God seems far away,
read Psalm 139.



St. Anne's Adoption Society

The annual collection will take place at Masses next weekend, 24/25th November.

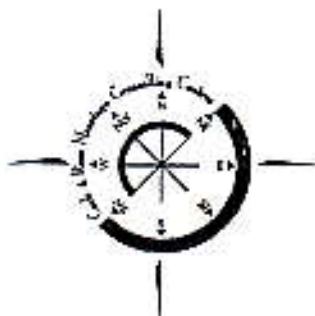


Baile'n Easpaig Gramophone Circle

Our final recital for 2001 will take place on Wednesday next 21st November at 3 p.m. in the Crypt of our Church at Dennehy's Cross, when Frank Rea of Hospital Radio will give the recital and everybody is welcome.

Concert

Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann, Coiste Chontae Chorcaí, ceiliúradh 50 bliain, presents a night of "Songs and Slow Airs" on Saturday 24th November at Bishopstown G.A.A. Club, commencing 8.45 p.m.



Parents of Marital Breakdown

A programme for parents who are about to be or who have separated will be held at C.M.C.C. 34 Paul Street, on Monday 3rd December from 6.15 to 10.00 p.m. Early booking is advisable as there are a limited number of places available. For further information and booking, please phone 4275678.

Table Quiz

Organised by The Parents' Association of Scoil an Spioraid Naoimh Buachailli, on Wednesday 21st November at 8 p.m. at Bishopstown G.A.A. Club, with lots of prizes. All are welcome.



C.I.T. Open Day

On Friday 23rd November. Main features will be a Careers Exhibition and series of information sessions and demonstrations. Students will have opportunities to meet lecturers and to view the extensive facilities both for courses and extra-curricular activities. Times as follows: 9.30 - 4.30 p.m. and 6.00-8.00 p.m.

God's Word

Readings for Sunday 25th November

First Reading:

2 Samuel 5:1-3. The choosing of David as King of Israel in ancient times.

Psalms 121:

Acclaim the king! God will come to rule with justice.

Second Reading:

Col.1:12-20. Jesus is given all the titles a king would have.

Gospel:

Luke 23:5-43. On the cross, Jesus promises heaven to the good thief.

EMERGENCY NUMBER

087 - 251 9940