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Ballineaspig Bulletin

Easter Sunday

No. 713



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENVYH'S CROSS, CORK

Reflection of the Risen Christ in our Eye



He is alive....

Kieran Healy



OUR
**PARISH
PRIEST**
writes

HAPPY EASTER to you and yours. There is often a buzz of hopeful joy about Easter morning and this is as it should be. Still, I sometimes think that the move from the devastation of Good Friday to the joy of Easter Day is too quick to be real. In reality, the pain of loss of a loved one is not easily or quickly transformed by the joy of promised resurrection. It is no surprise, then, that Peter, Thomas and the other disciples doubted the women's word that Jesus was risen.

Peter hoped against hope that it was true. Torn apart by guilt about his denial of the Lord, he just wanted another chance to sort things out before parting.

Thomas did not want to believe in resurrection. He was afraid. He loved so much that he did not want to risk being hurt so badly again. Pain blocked the possibility of belief.

Something of Peter and Thomas surfaces in many hearts. When we sanitise death, resurrection becomes irrelevant. But, it is when we feel the pain of bereavement most that we need faith in the resurrection. It is a healing gift that we pray for one another.

Holidays are fast replacing resurrection as the core of Easter. The Resurrection of Jesus is the cornerstone of our faith, the foundation of our hope and the wellspring of our love.

Let us celebrate it well together.



Our
EDITOR
writes

On behalf of the editorial team and all our readers, I offer our deep-felt gratitude to the parish team for the Holy Week ceremonies and for all their input to the Bulletin throughout the year.

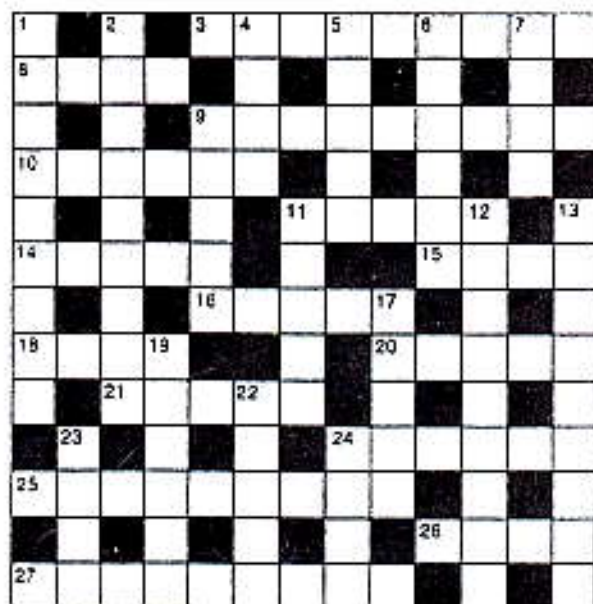
I thank all of you who have helped in the Bulletin production, the editorial team, the folders, distributors and a special thank you to Kieran Healy, 1st year, Coláiste an Spioraid Naoimh, for our thought provoking cover; the parish secretary, Anne O'Riordan, who does trojan work in the preparation of the Bulletin and to all our contributors who so generously shared their thoughts with us.

We owe a great debt to our Parish Priest, Fr. Tom Clancy, for his help, advice and support. To you, our readers, we are grateful for your continuing encouragement.

I wish you all a very happy Easter.

Irene Connolly.

EASTER CROSSWORD



NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

Across

3. Snails set out to be squeaky clean. (9)
8. Part of the listener, often adorned with jewellery. (4)
10. Meagre repast associated with old Lent. (9)
10. See 16 across.
11. Starting with ... and going through the prophets he explained the passages through the scriptures. Luke 24. (5)
14. It's on the wall, but it's not graffiti. (5)
15. A dance to make your head spin. (4)
16. and 10 across. He bent down and saw the... .. lying on the ground. Jn.20. (5,6)
18. Some inventions can contain high explosives. (4)
20. May be the thorn in your side, but you're asked to love this person. (5)
21. They produce deep tones, blow them! (5)
24. If you don't do this now, you may have to do it nine times later. (6)
25. Praiseworthy actions. We are told that faith without them is dead. (4,5)
26. A man from Aden, very special in our parish. (4)
27. These proverbially ease the workload. (4,5)

Down

1. Does one use dark envelopes to convey this threat. (9)
2. Repugnant to every right minded person. (9)
4. In which the animals went into the ark. (4)
5. White house, no bricks or mortar used to build it. (5)
6. A batch of puppies can make quite a mess. (6)
7. Our local hospital turns back for a smug superior person. (4)
9. The factor in the wind that gives us the shivers. (5)
11. The only sure places where it's guaranteed to make money. (5)
12. Needs three more to make a score. (9)
13. Sounds like it could be an object used by actors, but it's a toy. (9)
17. You put your eggs into them to cater for the rainy day. (5)
19. Looks like what you might do with the washing on a fine day, but it has various meaning. (6)
22. Use your nose to pick this up. (5)
23. Find the girl inside the panorama. (4)
24. This is the last clue, so put your foot on the brake, fast! (4)

Solutions to Parish Office by Monday 14th April.



Many people have stood by an open grave and wondered whether this is the end of all. Is everything over for the deceased? Certainly when Jesus died, the disciples thought it was all over for him and their own future looked pretty bleak as well. They had seen the miracles and everything else he had done. Indeed, they were so captivated by his achievements that they failed even to glimpse the person behind them, the one who was loved so fully by the Father in the Holy Spirit from all eternity and for all eternity. It was only through the gift of the Holy Spirit after the resurrection that the disciples came to recognise the person of Jesus who would live among us forever.



This is the core of our faith. We are more than our accomplishments, our possessions or our reputations. After death, these become irrelevant anyway. The only thing that lasts is love. The essence of who we are is that we are unique individuals loved by God. When God loves, it must be forever. In him, there is no change. So whatever happens at death our identity remains the same, we are God's chosen ones.

On the first Easter day, the same Jesus who was crucified, but is now transformed by the Holy Spirit, returned to his mother and to the disciples, to show them and us that he would live forever in the bosom of the father, and that same destiny awaits us. The Easter gift is to believe in the transforming power of the Holy Spirit so that we can grow in the belief that each of us is the Beloved of God who will love us forever in a way that is totally beyond our understanding just now, but which is the cornerstone of inner peace and indeed, of world peace. Lord, increase our faith.

Happy Easter.