



Third Sunday of Easter

Ballineaspais Bulletin

14th April 2002



No. 715

CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
OF FENNEY S. CROSS, DORK



FROM OUR
**PARISH
TEAM**

The Dean writes

The great Dutch painter Rembrandt led a very chequered life. His biographers describe him in his youth as a proud young man who loved luxury and was totally insensitive to the needs of others. He produced a self-portrait at this time depicting himself as half drunk, brash and very arrogant – shamelessly lecherous. In huge contrast his last, and probably greatest painting, is his picture of the return of the Prodigal Son.

Here he painted himself again as broken and disenchanted with the path he had taken in life, and now returns to his Father's House. In the intervening years he painted numerous pictures with a religious theme. One of these depicts Jesus at table between the two disciples He had met on the road to Emmaus. The painting aims to capture the rapturous joy on the faces of the two disciples when they recognised Jesus. With an absolute stroke of genius – or divine inspiration – he captures the mystery of how these men had walked and conversed with Jesus for some considerable distance but never recognised Him until He sat at table with them. Yet He was the same Jesus they had known so well – full of love and

empathy for their pain and distress for having lost the one in whom they had placed all their hope.

This is the extraordinary lesson of this Sunday's Gospel. We all heard it before – many times before – but like the disciples perhaps we haven't really met Jesus, or recognised Him for who He is. In reality He walks with us all the time – through every dark valley, reassuring us that He is there for us – "Lord, make our hearts burn within us." Then when we know you, we may get the grace to walk with others too – to be present to them, to listen, to empathise with them in their disappointments, failures, and shattered dreams.

"There is no knowing what God can do. What He has done for others He will do for you."

The parish has acquired an e-mail address. Letters or notices for the bulletin are welcome via this route. Please send them to:

holyspiritparish@eircom.net

**PLEASE JOIN IN THE
SINGING AT MASS**



Rest in Peace

James Irwin, College Road, died peacefully at C.U.H. on March 25th after a brief illness. Although in his mid-eighties, he was a keen gardener who was tending his roses a week before he died. Reared in the Lough parish, he was always involved in the community locally, especially in Highfield R.F.C. which was evident in the large attendance at his removal and funeral. A devoted family man, he will be missed especially by his wife Aggie, daughter Mary, sons Michael and Jimmy, grandchildren and great grandchildren, the wider family and a large circle of friends, to all of whom we offer our sincerest sympathy. Ar dheis Dé, go raibh a anam.



We offer our sincere sympathy to Rita O'Donoghue, 38 Leedale, on the death of her brother, John Tighe.

Let not your heart be troubled.
John 14:1

Baptism in Christ



We welcome into our Christian community the following who were baptised :

Jane Rosemary Murphy
Sarah Geraldine Murphy
Ciara Siobhan Ryan
Shenelle Frances Twomey
Sorcha Celine Wall
Eimear Eileen O'Sullivan
Luis Fernanda Halligan
Sophie Geraldine Roche-Keane
Caoimhe Noelle Cora Desmond-Boland
Kyle Jeffrey Corcoran
Naoise Deshani Milne
Erin Sarah McKibben
Sean Daniel O'Toole
Abaigeal Maria Walsh





An American student who experienced one of the many High School massacres wrote the following:

- The paradox of our time in history is that we have taller buildings, but shorter tempers; wider freeways, but narrower viewpoints; we spend more, but have less; we buy more, but enjoy it less.
- We have bigger houses and smaller families; more conveniences, but less time; we have more degrees, but less sense; more knowledge but less judgement; more experts, but more problems; more medicine, but less wellness. We have multiplied our possessions, but reduced our values.
- We talk too much, love too seldom, and hate too often.
- We've learned how to make a living, but not a life; we've added years to life, not life to years. We've been all the way to the moon and back, but have trouble crossing the street to meet the new neighbour.
- We've conquered outer space, but not inner space; we've cleaned up the air, but polluted the soul; we've split the atom, but not our prejudice.
- We have higher income, but lower morals; we've become long on quantity, but short on quality.
- These are the times of tall men, and short character; steep profits, and shallow relationships. These are the times of world peace, but domestic warfare; more leisure, but less fun; more kinds of food, but less nutrition.
- These are days of two incomes, but more divorce; of fancier houses, but broken homes. It is a time when there is much in the show window and nothing in the stockroom.

Bible Corner



A WEEK IS A LONG TIME...

A week is a long time in politics describes how quickly life can change. In the life of St. Peter it is not the swiftness of the change but the complete transformation that is significant. On Holy Thursday, when challenged by a young girl, Peter denied that he had ever known Jesus and ran for cover. In this weekend's reading, we find him proclaiming that Jesus is Son of God. He reprimands the Jewish religious leaders for not recognising Jesus as the promised Messiah, son of David. Their whole tradition spoke of the one to come and leaders should have recognised him for what he truly was. Instead, they crucified him.

Now the spirit of the Risen Jesus is active everywhere, filling the disciples with dynamic courage to be witnesses to the resurrection of Jesus. Over the coming weeks we will read accounts of this spirit at work especially in Peter's preaching and miracles. This same spirit lives on in our church and is available to each of us.





Bulletins to Homes

Bulletins will be delivered to all homes in the parish next weekend.



April Events in the Dominican Centre, Pope's Quay

Tuesdays: 16th April to 21st May:

D'ya wanta a dance? Six nights for married couples.

An opportunity to reflect on your marriage in the light of the Gospel and the realities of modern living. Informed, relaxed time out together. Numbers limited.

Course Leaders: Mick Devine and Anne Francis (a married couple)
€40 waged; €20 unwaged.

Saturday, 20th April, 10.30-4.00

Day of Reflection for Ministers of the Word

Course Leader: Victor Tabone
€20 waged; €10 unwaged

Saturday, 27th April, 2.00-5.30 (lunch 1.00 p.m.)

Women and priesthood?

An exploration of why women are not admitted to the ordained priesthood and the views of those who believe this should change. Please bring lunch to share.

Course Leader: Anne Francis
€10 waged; €5 unwaged.

To book phone 021-4502267 or 4502067.

www.BustedHalo.com

This is the unlikely name of a new web site aimed at Catholic young adults in search of spirituality and deeper meaning in their lives.

The brainchild of Paulist Young Adult Ministries in New York, the web site offers features such as "Chilling out about prayer" and "A man's view of *Sex and the City*" as well as opportunities to take a quiz about "Looking for love in all the wrong places." There are also forums on relationships, spirituality and work lives for young adults between 18-39.

God's Word

Readings for Sunday 21st April

First Reading:

Acts 2:14,36-41. As in last week's readings, St. Peter's words are found in the first two readings. The first contains another part of his speech on Pentecost Day.

Psalm 22

Second Reading:

Pet.2:20-25. St. Peter calls Christ the shepherd and guardian of our souls.

Gospel:

Jn.10:1-10. Jesus describes himself as the gate of the sheepfold, who comes that we might have life to the full.

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