



Fifth Sunday of Easter

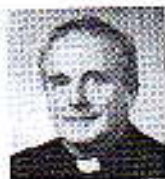
Ballineaspig Bulletin

28th April 2002

No. 717



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK



OUR
**PARISH
PRIEST**

writes

Calling others to account continues to be the focus of national attention. Church leaders, public representatives and employees, trade union officials and business executives are challenged every day to reveal how they have discharged their responsibilities to society and to face up to the consequences of any failures on their part. Such scrutiny often helps to safeguard the common good.

Such challenges to the integrity of those in public roles must also awaken a serious examination in each one of us of our life styles and behaviour. No one of us is an island. Everything we say or do

or fail to do has a ripple effect on others and on the whole of society. One small lie of calumny or detraction often undermines relationships irreparably. Dishonesty in small things contributes to a culture of deceit and selfishness. Failure to speak the word of truth or encouragement, of forgiveness or love lessens the thrust of goodness in our homes and neighbourhoods. Unwillingness to share in community life impoverishes society.

We could fruitfully keep in mind the words of the Lord. "Let the one who is without sin among you, cast the first stone." "Be compassionate (to yourself and to others) as your Father in heaven is compassionate." Such is our calling.

COMMUNION PYXS

Over the last few months, our lay Eucharistic Ministers have brought the Eucharist to the sick and housebound with great faithfulness and compassion. We thank you for this great service.

Over time needs change and you may no longer have an immediate need for the pyx you were using in this ministry. If so, we would appreciate if such pyxs were returned over the coming week to meet new needs.

Thank you and God bless 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

EMERGENCY NUMBER

087 - 251 9940

Bible Corner



WITNESSES AND MARTYRS

At this time of year, the readings from the Acts of the Apostles again and again speak of the disciples being witnesses of Jesus. Before His passion, Jesus had told his disciples "to proclaim the kingdom of God". But after the Resurrection the command is to be witnesses to the Risen Jesus. There is a sea change in perspective brought about by the Resurrection. It is not that the earlier task has been dropped, but through the Resurrection all is changed. The kingdom of God is being established here and now.

There is another change. Jesus now tells the apostles that they are to be his witnesses "not only in Jerusalem but in Judea and Samaria and, indeed, to earth's remotest end." It is no longer salvation for the Jews alone but for all people. In English, the word 'witness' originally meant knowledge, understanding or wisdom. It gradually came to mean one who could testify from personal experience. In this case, not experience of the Resurrection itself but of the Risen Jesus. In Greek, the word 'martyrion' meant witness, and in our tradition has come to mean one who gives witness to Jesus by dying for belief in the Risen Lord.

In different ways at different times, we are called to be both witnesses and martyrs.



Anne Gleeson, Wilton Road, died peacefully at the Bon Secours Hospital on April 19th. A graduate of U.C.C. Anne worked in the college for many years, principally in the Admissions area. Highly respected by her colleagues, her courteous competence, pleasant personality and her sense of humour eased the anxiety of many a student and parent alike. Anne enjoyed worldwide recreational travel and was always committed to justice and peace issues wherever they arose. A member of a widespread family, Anne was loved and treasured by all, young and old alike within that circle. We extend our deepest sympathies to her brothers and sisters, John, Tom, Moira, Der, Pat, Des and Audrey, and to the extended family and very wide circle of friends. Ar dheis Dé. go raibh a hanam dílis.

Mary O'Donovan, Greenfields, Model Farm Road, died peacefully, but quite unexpectedly at her home on Tuesday 16th April 2002. Mary was a native of Rosscarbery Parish in West Cork, but spent the greater part of her life in Cork City. She was by nature a quiet and unassuming person, but a good neighbour. We join her relatives and neighbours in tendering our very sincere sympathy to her husband Pat, her daughter Gillian, her sister Nora and all those who were close to her.



MY
LORD
AND
MY
GOD!

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

The apostle Thomas was very frustrated by the answers Jesus gave him. It is a frustration that could be shared by many hearers of today's gospel. Thomas' request was simple. He wanted straightforward and clear-cut guidelines on how best to come to God. If the rules were clear and definite, he felt that he could keep them and earn his salvation.

But Jesus did not give him the much sought-after clarity. Instead, he told him (and us, in turn) that the secret is to gradually get to know Jesus, to live like him and so to grow in a deepening relationship with him. This is the only way to the Father.

Nothing has changed. Some of us at times, and more of us at all times, look for security in human religious regulations, thinking that once these are fulfilled, salvation is guaranteed. Not so, says Jesus. Following him means always being willing to go the extra mile, always to be increasingly generous in prayer and good works, always being willing to let God surprise us with his gifted call to expanding love.

It is in Jesus that we see the fullness of the father's revealed love, the truth about God. He is truly the way, the truth and the life. Listen with the doubting Thomas to the master's message.

Preaching the Word

TAKE NOTE:



HERE'S HEALTH TO YOU

There is 9.00 and 10.00 Mass each day. Leave the car at home. Walk to one of the Masses, see the summer come to life in gardens as you stroll along. After a while you will feel a lot better for it, and the bonus - you will make friends. So step into summer health and walk to daily Mass.

- a parishioner



Hell hath no fury.....

like that experience by one who has just walked into dog's dirt. Why should anyone have to endure this INDIGNITY!

For goodness sake, dog owners, would you ever clean up after your dog. Have some regard for your fellow citizens.

An angry pedestrian



First Friday

Next Friday, 1st May, is the First Friday of the month. Calls to the sick and housebound on usual days.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Next Friday from 10.30 to 7.30 p.m. followed by Mass.

Bishops' Commission

The annual collection will be taken up at all Masses this weekend.

St. Joseph's Young Priests Society

A reminder that the Annual Mass will take place in the Crypt on Thursday 2nd May at 8.00 p.m. Members and friends are all welcome.

St. Vincent de Paul Society

Monthly collection at Masses next weekend.

Apostolate of Our Lady of Fatima

Mass and Holy Hour at St. Maries of the Isle on Monday 29th April at 7.30 p.m. Priest Fr. John O'Donovan, C.C., Ballincollig.

God's Word

Readings for Sunday 5th May

First Reading:

Acts 6:1-7. Describes the continuing successes in the early Church, and the giving of the Spirit to new believers.

Psalm 32

Second Reading:

1 Pet.2:4-9. Peter writes that Christians should be able to give a reason for the hope that is in them.

Gospel:

Jn.14:1-12. Jesus repeats his commandment of love, and promises the gift of the Spirit.



Alzheimer Tea Morning

The Friendship Club will hold a tea morning on Thursday 2nd May in the C.P. Centre, from 10.30 a.m. to 12 noon. Please join us for a cuppa and chat in aid of this very worthy cause.

Thank You

Cork Marriage Counselling Centre would like to thank the parishioners of Dennehy's Cross who, contributed so generously to their recent collection.

An evening for parents in marital breakdown will be held on Thursday 16th May at their centre at 34 Paul Street. For further details or to book a place on the course please contact 4275678.

Cork College of Commerce

Adult Education Open Day on 24th April, 9.30 to 12.30 p.m. There are currently over 400 adults studying for Leaving Cert. Psychology, Teleservices, Complimentary Health, Health & Safety, Counselling, etc. Further details from 4222100.

Alcoholics Anonymous

Open Public Meeting in the crypt of the Church of the Holy Spirit, Dennehy's Cross, at 8.30 p.m. on Wednesday 22nd May. All welcome. Refreshments later.

*IT'S never easy to be glad
When all around is gloom.
It's never easy to prevent
What pessimists may groom.
It's never easy to put right
What's wrong as time goes by.
Although it's never easy
At least it's worth a try.
J.M. Robertson.*