

5th May 2002



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CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK

Ballineaspais Bulletin

Ascension of the Lord



FROM OUR
**PARISH
TEAM**

The Dean writes

GOOD NEWS IS NO NEWS ?

I was reading an article in the magazine *Intercom* a few days ago. The message was one we have all heard before – and perhaps done precious little about it. We should all be actively involved in spreading the Gospel and what this involves in real life. Some people tell us with a sniff of cynicism – good news is no news. Think of this one – which I heard many years ago.

Some of you will recall a popular little ditty of 25 years ago, and occasionally since, "Tie a yellow ribbon round the old oak tree". Did you know that was based on a true story? A young man in the U.S. had spent five years in prison. His family never contacted him by letter or visit in that time. Now he was due for release. Like every prisoner before or since, he craved a visit home. He knew his didn't deserve a red-carpet reception because of the shame and hurt he had brought on his family. He wrote a letter home admitting this and openly stating he would understand if they never wanted him home again. In the centre of his home village there was an old oak tree (like Castletownsend). He told them he would arrive by bus on an appointed day – if they wanted him home tie a

yellow ribbon on the old oak tree, if not he would continue his journey to the next big city and get lost.

As he travelled along he disclosed his secret to a fellow passenger, who told another and another. As he neared the village he told his friend he couldn't bear to look if there was a yellow ribbon on the old oak tree – so please tell him. When they rounded the corner at the village square a high cheer went up in the bus – a hundred yellow ribbons were floating on the old oak tree.

Now the yellow ribbon has become a symbol of "Welcome Home". There is a warm spot in all of us, and we love good news too. Most of us respond positively – given the chance.

CONGRATULATIONS

Our good neighbours, the Sacred Heart Fathers, are celebrating the Golden Jubilee of the foundation of the Irish Province of their congregation. On Thursday, over 50 of the priests met at Western Road to give thanks to the Lord for their missionary calling. On Saturday evening there is a parish celebration focused around the vigil Mass. We salute the Sacred Heart Fathers for their outstanding missionary work throughout the world. We thank them for their ongoing service and ministry to the people of Cork and especially to the people of this parish. Ad multos annos.



REMEMBERING VIENNA

Our resident choir had the unusual privilege of visiting Vienna in a professional capacity via the Austrian Tourist Board last November. The following is an account of their travels.

On arrival in Vienna and after a good night's sleep in our lovely hotel which was to be home to us for the next five nights, our first stop off was a visit to the Schönbrunn Palace next morning, beautiful home of the Hapsburg Dynasty, emperors of Austria since the 14th century.

We were one of many choirs from varying countries performing our Christmas carols, chosen by choirmaster, Paddy Killeen, in extremely cold temperatures outside this breathtaking palace, nestled under a 50 ft. Christmas tree and surrounded by Vienna's advent market – all in all a sight to behold. A packed agenda for just five days, we were now into day two when we visited by coach the lovely St. Stephen's Cathedral in true Romanesque style with its huge pipe organ and magnificent ceilings.

On Sunday we sang at one of Vienna's oldest churches followed by a reception hosted by the parish council. Some members toured the Schönbrunn Palace

and its magnificent gardens. Others visited Bellview Palace, arsenal military museum, etc. Some simply went shopping. One of the memorable events was a traditional concert in true Vienna style and dress by students of the Strauss School of Music who enthralled us.

The Austrian Tourist Board laid on a half-day tour of Vienna across the Danube and into the centre of Vienna with its truly remarkable architecture and huge monuments. With a population of over 2 million people, one can just imagine the enormity of this beautiful place, the City of Dreams.

A traditional Viennese evening was held on the hills overlooking Vienna, as guests of the Tourist Board where food, wine and song was the order of the evening, almost like a miniature Bunratty setting. A choir from Italy came to our notice and before long an instant rapport was apparent!

We delighted all with wonderful song and without a word of English spoken! We were accompanied on this trip by St. Joseph's Choir, Castlemartyr, under their musical director Tomas Ó Tuama, with whom on many an evening we sang at our hotel into the small hours at the end of a wonderful day.

To conclude, it must be said this trip would not have been possible except for our conductor Paddy Killeen and his exceptional musical talent, combined with his secretary Sue Curtin, a choir member.

Gerrie O'Callaghan-Carroll



Rest in Peace

Bernie O'Connell, Lima Lawn, passed to her eternal reward on Sunday 14th April. Originally from the north side of Cork city, Bernie brought with her that great generosity and good humour which are the hallmarks of people from that part of the city. A staunch faith brought her through much suffering in her final months which she bore with patience and acceptance and without complaint. She is very sadly missed by her husband John, her children Gene, Bernice, Elma, Jackie, Justin and Michael, grandchildren and a very large circle of relatives and friends. May she rest in eternal peace.

Celia Malone, Model Farm Road, died at home on 3rd April 2002. All of us who knew Celia were deeply saddened to hear of her death. As we remember her, her gentleness and sensitivity immediately come to mind. On meeting Celia, one was always touched by her ready smile and obvious sincerity. Our abiding memory of Celia will be of a young woman who put effort and enthusiasm into everything she did in life. We extend our sympathy to her family on their great loss.



*Death hides - but it cannot divide,
Thou art but on Christ's other side.
Thou with Christ and Christ with me
And so together still are we.*

Anon

Bible Corner



LOVERS OF HORSES

When Jesus chose his apostles, one of his early choices was Philip, a friend of Peter's younger brother Andrew. Philip came from Bethsaida where there were Greek speaking Jews. In Greek, the name Philip means lover of horses. Philip is remembered in the gospels as asking trigger questions. When the hungry crowds followed Jesus and somebody reported that a young boy had a few loaves and fishes, it was Philip who asked what use that was with so many to feed. Jesus used the question to highlight the miracle he was about to do. Later Philip was totally confused when Jesus was talking about the Trinity. So he asked to see the Father. Jesus used the occasion to point out that He himself was the way to the Father.

Last Sunday, another Philip arrived on the scene, one of the seven deacons chosen to help the apostles with administration. In fact, this weekend, we find this Philip off preaching to the Samaritans which must have been a bit like a preacher crossing the peace line in Belfast in the height of the troubles. With a Greek name, Philip may have been more acceptable than somebody with a native Aramaic Jewish name. The fact is that he was immensely successful in breaking through centuries of prejudices and winning many converts to Jesus. Then Peter and John followed up, laid hands upon them and they received the Holy Spirit.

Our young world needs many Philips to proclaim Christ to the peers.



Alzheimer Society

Carers support meeting on Monday 13th May in Jurys Hotel at 8 p.m.

Found

A small silver bracelet was found near the entrance of Mount Mercy College. Enquiries to 4343533.

Education for Adults

Short term access to education. Public meeting at 11 a.m. on Wednesday 8th May in Coláiste Stiofáin Naoifa, tel. 4961020.

An Experience of Monastic Life

At Mount Melleray Abbey, Cappoquin, Co. Waterford, from Friday 10th to Sunday 12th May. We invite young men who would like to know more about the monastic way of life to come and stay with us this weekend. For further details please contact Br. Denis Lynch, Mount Melleray Abbey, Cappoquin, Co. Waterford, tel. 058-54404, e-mail: denislynchocso@eircom.net.

THIS WEEK'S SAINTS

Monday 6th:

In the Byzantine calendar, St. Job is honoured today. The Book of Job (in the Old Testament) is a long reflection on the question: *Why do bad things happen to good people?*

Friday 10th

St. Comgall. He founded the monastery at Bangor, Co. Down, from which Columbanus, Gall and others set out for Europe as missionaries.

EMERGENCY NUMBER

087 - 251 9940

Irish Senior Citizens

Michael O'Halloran, Administrator of the Irish Senior Citizens Parliament will meet election candidates in the Deane Room of the Imperial Hotel on Thursday next, 9th May, at 11.00 a.m. to discuss problems. People are welcome to attend.

PENTECOST

ECUMENICAL PRAYER SERVICE

TUESDAY 21ST MAY

CRYPT AT 8 P.M.

Our annual prayer for Christian Unity with our friends from each of the Churches will be on the Tuesday of Pentecost week.
Further information later.

God's Word

Readings for Sunday 12th May

First Reading:

Acts 1:1-11. Luke's description of the Ascension, taken from the very beginning of the book of Acts.

Psalm 46

Second Reading:

Eph.1:17-23. Paul interprets the event as Christ's exaltation at the right hand of the Father.

Gospel:

Mt.28:16-20. Matthew's description of the command to make disciples of all nations, given at the Ascension.