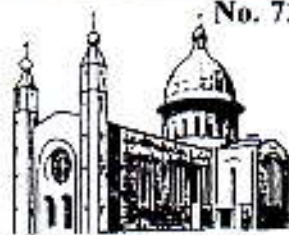




Ballineaspig Bulletin

9th June 2002



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENRHY'S CROSS, CORK



OUR
**PARISH
PRIEST**
writes

Even though overshadowed by world cup fever, the election of a new government could be a decisive time in the life of our country. What directions will our country take over the next five years? Obviously, the elected representatives may be key players in choosing those directions, but they will not be the only ones deciding the priorities ahead. Each of us has a role to play, each of us in our own place.

It could start with litter. With this growing problem, everyone can make a difference by action and by example. In an overheating world that is running out of energy, everyone can use less. In a country drowning in alcohol, temperance, if not abstinence, is the way open to all. In a society where truth is so often short-changed, individual honesty is a beacon hope to the wavering. In the face of the poison of selfish individualism, the antidote of community service calls each of us. It is too easy to opt out, to leave responsibility to others and to allot the blame for failure accordingly.

It is often thought that only those with power make significant changes, but every believer knows that loving generous service of others is the real key to a better world for all.

Faith in Jesus is our inheritance, not to be selfishly exploited for personal salvation only, but to be enriched and shared with the young. It is theirs to integrate into their future. We must go for it together.

GOD SPEAKS !

For the last few weeks our walls, fences, poles are festooned by multicoloured posters. I'm reminded of another type of billboard that's doing the rounds in America at the moment. They are "God Speaks" billboards. These are awesome. Enjoy them.

- Tell the kids I love them – God.
- Let's meet at my house Sunday before the match – God.
- What part of thou "Thou Shalt Not" didn't you understand – God.
- We need to talk – God.
- Keep using my name in vain, I'll make rush hour longer – God.
- That "Love They Neighbour" thing... I mean it – God.
- I love you and you and you and you and... - God.
- Will the road you're on get you on to my place? – God.



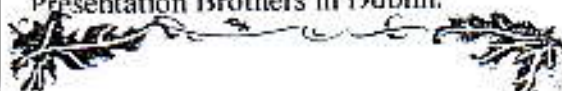
Coláiste an Spioraid Naoimh's most prestigious award, Gradam an Choláiste, was recently presented to no fewer than twelve 6th year students at a ceremony attended by all senior students. Never before have so many students been honoured in the one year. The proud dozen were Alan Brett, Colm Clancy, Colin Hawkes, Eoghan McCarthy, Denis Murphy, Aidan Murray, John Murray, Darren O'Donovan, Patrick O'Driscoll, Shane O'Farrell, Tadhg O'Leary and Diarmuid O'Meara. Congratulations to them all.

A Mass celebrated by Fr. Tom Clancy was later held for all Leaving Cert. students and their parents and this proved to be a moving and memorable experience for all who were there. We wish all our Leaving and Junior Cert. students the very best in their upcoming exams.

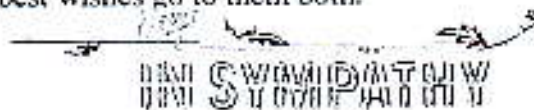
Well done to the senior hurlers who added the Lord Mayor's Cup to the Under 16 Cork Colleges trophy won earlier this year. This team is brimming with talent and is already looking forward to next year's Munster campaign. Congratulations also to Joseph Lynch and Eoghan McSwiney who have qualified for the final of the Irish Junior Maths Competition and to Hugh Hurley, Luke Harris and Shane O'Farrell who competed in the final of the ESB Munster Schools' Debating Competition.

Ten Transition Year students attended the annual Edmund Rice Action Awards held in Dublin on 2nd May. This awards scheme was set up to reward students for their efforts in community service and was inspired by the work of Blessed Edmund Rice. The end of year Transition Year Night was held in the school hall on 15th May and was attended by the boys and their parents. It proved to be a very enjoyable night and provided an excellent insight into the type of activities undertaken in Transition Year. Well done to all those who gave presentations, spoke, sang, acted or entertained us in any way.

Finally, we send our best wishes to Mr. McGillicuddy and Mr. Waters who retire this year after long careers teaching the boys of C.S.N. and to Brother Sean who is to take up a new position with the Presentation Brothers in Dublin.



We hear that Bill and Phil Moriarty have just celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary. Our congratulations and best wishes go to them both.



We offer our sincere sympathy to TONY O'DONOVAN, Camelot, Model Farm Road, on the death of his mother. To FINBARR RONAYNE, Avondale, Model Farm Road, on the death of his sister Sheila Murphy.



View and Vision

Dublin will shortly see the building of the much-promised spike, a soaring needle 120 metres high. More properly called the 'monument of light', it will form the centrepiece of Ireland's main street. Already the jokes appear – 'a perfect symbol of a pointless society', or allusions to drug addiction.

We could say the spike is a little bit like the judgmental attitude criticised in today's gospel. Like a pin, judgmentalism is pointed in one direction, yet headed in another.

Most of us do a great deal of judging. Some embrace it as a way of life. We judge with our tone of voice, with the look around our eyes and mouth when we speak to (or about) family, neighbours, associates at work. It's pointed talk, but it's heading us away from Christ's vision.

Matthew lost a comfortable job but found a destiny. Jesus saw something great in him, unlike others who called him sinner. What do you see in people? A speck or a spark? A flaw or a flame? Something cheerful or fearful? It all depends on whether you have a view or a vision. If we are going to be the body of Christ, we must have the vision of Christ.

"...I did not come to call the virtuous but sinners."

- Intercom



Bible Study

This weekend's Mass readings are taken from 'Ordinary Time'. This is the name given to Sundays outside of the Advent to Christmas and the Lent to Pentecost seasons. The numbering of these ordinary Sundays began back in January. Now, after the feasts of Trinity and Corpus Christi, we take up the numbering again with this Sunday being the tenth. Apart from a special feast, the continuous reading of sections of Matthew's gospel will be the backbone of our weekend liturgy until preparations begin for Christmas.

Mathew's gospel highlights Jesus' founding of the community of believers that grew into our church. The cornerstone of this church was the inner group of disciples who became the twelve apostles. So the call of Levi to become the apostle Matthew is a key moment in Jesus' early community building. Unpopular though Levi's profession was among the Jewish people, he was still God's choice and the crunch is that he answered God's call immediately. A similar option faces us again and again in life.

God writes the gospel not in the Bible alone, but on trees, and flowers and clouds, and stars.



Bulletins to the Homes

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

Bishopstown Senior Social Club

Wilton Park House, 2.30 p.m.

Monday 10th - Gentle Exercises

Tuesday 11th - Cards

Wednesday 12th -Memory Lane and Storytelling with Pat Egan.

Diabetes and Travel

The Diabetes Federation of Ireland will hold an Open Day on Sunday 9th June at 3.00 p.m. at the Sacred Heart Centre, Western Road. Invited speakers will speak on the subject. Light refreshments, no charge.

Questions People Ask

Q. Publicans today are people are people who own pubs, but who were the publicans in the Gospel?

A. Publicans were people who collected public taxes and excise duty. These minor officials didn't set the tax rates; their job was to collect the revenues. It was never a popular job, especially when the revenue went to an occupying power, the Romans. Sometimes they got a bad name for extortion and lining their own pockets, hence the link between publicans and sinners. Yet Jesus made a point of befriending them and honoured their profession by calling Matthew to be an apostle.

Fr. Silvester O'Flynn OFM Cap

Theology Summer School

4th God in the City. July 4th-7th, Thursday to Sunday. Theme: The Church - Changing or Ending? Venue: Dominican Centre, Pope Quay, Cork. Phone 4502067.

Please leave this world as you'd like to find it.

KEEPING OUR CHURCH IN ORDER

We would ask our parishioners if they might replace the missalettes in the box by the door before they leave after Mass.

Also, we seek your cooperation in keeping the church litter-free. An extraordinary assortment of items have had to be picked up from around the floor, including sticky sweets, walked-upon biscuits, stubbed out cigarettes, the inevitable chewing gum and even - wait for it - corn flakes, toast and nail clippings! The mind boggles.

God's Word

Readings for Sunday 16th June

First Reading:

Ex.19:2-6. The first reading contains a reminder of God's care for the people of Israel, our ancestors in faith.

Psalm 99.

Second Reading:

Rom.5:6-11. St. Paul says that the death of Jesus proves God's love.

Gospel:

Mt.9:36-10:8. In the Gospel, Jesus shows compassion for the people by appointing apostles to heal the sick and cast out demons.

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EMERGENCY NUMBER

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