

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Ballinaspaig Bulletin

13th October 2002



No. 731

CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENBY'S CROSS, CORK.

The Bishops' Conference **DAY FOR LIFE 2002**

The Irish Bishops' Conference has designated Sunday 13th October as the *Day for Life 2002*, and the issue being addressed this year is Euthanasia.

In his 1995 encyclical letter *Evangelium Vitae* (The Gospel for Life), Pope John Paul II proposed that 'a day for life be celebrated each year in every country'. The primary purpose of this day should be 'to foster individual consciences, in families, in the Church and in civil society a recognition of the meaning and value of human life at every stage and in every condition'.

Euthanasia is any action or omission which is deliberately calculated to end the life of another human being, with or without that person's consent, on so-called health grounds.

The Catholic Church absolutely rejects euthanasia as a response to chronic or serious illness. This rejection is rooted in an understanding of the human person as someone who is called into life by God, and the ultimate meaning of whose life is to be found in relationship with God.

Quite apart from any question of morality, good palliative care should mean that there is no need for euthanasia. A person who is dying is more than just a sick body. Every person is created for relationship with God. The last days and weeks of life are the closing stages in a lifelong journey. This is often a time for giving thanks, and for reconciliation.

We wish to join in solidarity and prayer with those who are seriously ill, and with all who care for them, whether at home or in hospital.

*L*IFE'S worth living surely,
If one cares to look around
And ascertain the many
Fine reasons that abound;
Blessings can be counted,
And, by their presence, giving
An estimate of just how much
That life is worth the living.



OUR
**PARISH
PRIEST**

writes

In a T.V. interview marking the anniversary of September 11th, a New York policeman spoke of a new awareness of the fragility of life and especially of the priority needed to provide for his children's future by making a will. But making a will is not the only way of deciding what the future will hold for all our children. Voting next Saturday, or not voting, could have an enormous influence on all our futures.

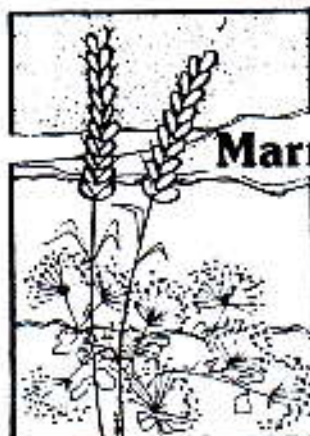
A century ago half the population did not have a vote. A few decades ago eighteen to twenty-one year olds could only look on as older people voted on the future that would affect the young more than anybody else.

Now, in 2002, all of us over eighteen have the opportunity and the responsibility of voting on an issue that will seriously influence our own future and, maybe, that of millions of other people. It is a precious right that cannot be lightly ignored.

The issue is much more serious than mere party politics. The crunch question is not just how we build a better future for ourselves, but how we care for the planet and all its peoples. Because of our privileged blessings on this island, our responsibility is all the greater. If at all possible, we must vote wisely. The Lord would expect us to do so.

Tom. A. Conroy

Congratulations



Marriage —
Two
Shall
Become
One

Congratulations to the following parishioners who were married in recent months:

SUSAN AHERN, Wilton Gardens, who married Niall O'Leary, Ashleigh Drive, Blackrock.

BERNARD MURPHY, Farranlea Park, who married MAURA DELANEY, Farranlea Park.

PATRICK HEANEY, 18 Leedale, Model Farm Road, to LINDA HEFFERNAN, 17 Parkway Drive, Model Farm Road.



Rest in Peace

We offer our sincere sympathy to PEGGY MEEHAN, Kenley Close, on the death of her brother Patrick Lynch.



Bible Corner



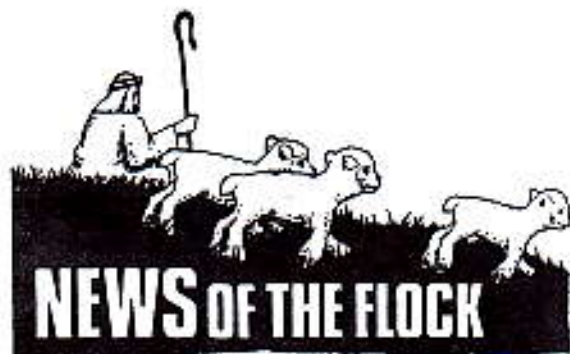
Television coverage of the foot and mouth crisis showed the emotional distress endured by sheep farmers whose flocks were put down. The pain was obviously much more than the financial loss. They had bred these sheep, reared them, taken care of their every need. In many cases, they seemed to know them individually and to be linked to them almost personally.

It is a bond that every true shepherd will have experienced. So, it is hardly surprising that when David, the shepherd poet wrote about the God who cared for him in every way and to whom his life belonged, he took the image of a good shepherd to describe his Lord. After all, in the rugged barren terrain where David lived, the sheep would not survive, not to mind thrive, without the dedicated care and guidance of a wise shepherd. The providing shepherd knew the location of food and drink in the green pastures and the little streams hidden among the rocks. Living in constant danger from the wolves, it was only the staff of the shepherd that could protect them.

David drew a parallel between his care for his sheep and the Lord's care for himself. It is an image that inspires us from childhood to the grave.

David's psalm this weekend can be a springboard for reassuring and challenging prayer. The resonance is that the good Lord cares for us always as we are so often reminded with David's psalm at funeral Masses. The challenge is to accept God as Lord of every aspect

of our lives and to acknowledge that every talent and every moment is a pure gift from God who expects us to live as he guides us through love in his presence.



EMERGENCY NUMBER

087 - 251 9940

Parish e-mail address:
holyspiritparish@eircom.net



NOTICE BOARD

Bulletins to Homes

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

Pastoral Council

Meets this Monday 14th at 8.10 p.m. in C.P. Centre.

Mission Sunday

Annual collection will be taken up at all Masses next weekend to help our missions in Peru and Ecuador.

Bulletin Folders

New Rota available in Parish Office.

Open Night

St. Aloysius School, St. Maries of the Isle, Open Night on Wednesday 16th October, 7.30 – 9.00. A warm welcome to prospective pupils and their parents.

Table Quiz

In aid of Colette Murphy's *Concern Nepal Challenge*, will take place in Highfield Rugby Club at 8 p.m. on Friday 18th October. Raffle prizes on the night. €30 per table. Contact 087-7813304.

P.E.A.C.E. Mass

The 24th annual Mass for industrial peace, job creation and social justice will be celebrated at St. Mary's Dominican Church, Pope's Quay, on Sunday 20th October at 4 p.m. The special preacher will be Fr. Edmond Grace, S.J. All are welcome.

Bishopstown G.A.A.

Bishopstown GAA Club and their Senior Football team want to thank everyone for the magnificent support last Sunday at the County Football Final. Even though we did not win on this occasion, we know that with the wonderful support and enthusiasm evident last Sunday, it will not be long before a major trophy comes to the 'Town'. Beidh lá eile ann. Thanks again!

Calling All Young-At Hearts

Do you have 90 minutes to spare? Are you looking for a challenge? The Lough Girl Guides are looking for new leaders – no experience needed! If you are aged between 18 and 118 and interested in joining our team, or just want further information, please call Anne-Marie 086 8533706 or Lorraine 087 9506069.

God's Word

Readings for Sunday 20th October

First Reading:

Is.45:1-6. Cyrus the unbeliever is chosen by God to do a job, the job of being a good leader.

Psalm 95

Second Reading:

1 Thess.1:1-5. Paul commends the people for their faith.

Gospel:

Lk.5:1-11. The Gospel contains Jesus' invitation to the disciples to 'launch into the deep'.