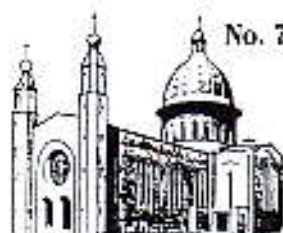




5th January 2003

Ballineaspig Bulletin

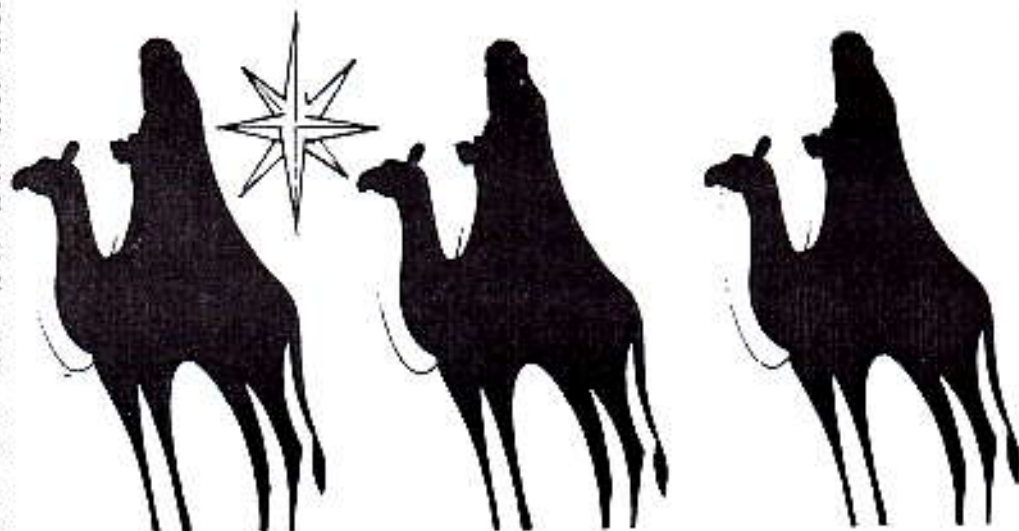
Second Sunday after Christmas



No. 743

CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNGHY'S CROSS, DORK

we have seen his star in the east,
and have come to adore the LORD.



FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

Monday 6th January

Vigil Mass on Sunday at 6.15 p.m.

Monday Masses at 9.00, 10.30, 12.15 and 7.30 p.m.



Rest in Peace

On 13th December Terence O'Keeffe, Wilton Road, died peacefully in the Bon Secours Hospital after a lengthy illness. A native of Cobh, Terence spent a long life in business in Cork while living in Sunday's Well, until he came to this parish some years ago. At his funeral, Fr. Scriven, M.S.C. remarked that Terence had been a founder member of the Mission Club at the Sacred Heart Church sixty years ago, a sign of a lifetime of service and care for the wider community. We offer sincere sympathies to his wife Eileen (nee Foley), his daughters Elma and Patricia, his sons Terence and Brian, his sisters, Sr. Carmel and Phil (Moriarty), his grandchildren and the wider circle of family and friends. May he rest in peace.

Early on Sunday morning 15th December, Mary Kenneally (nee Kearns) died peacefully at her home on Wilton Road in the care of her loving family after a very brief illness. A native of Newbridge, Mary came to Cork in the course of her banking career and having married Diarmuid they reared their family in their home on Wilton Road. Mary lived every moment of every day very fully and the people at her removal reflected the wide variety of her interests and friendships from the Barley Cove Caravaneers to the Cork Soroptimists Club and many others. Much loved, she will be missed by many who treasured her friendship but most especially by her families, Kenneally and Kearns. To her husband Diarmuid, her children Joseph, Donal, Diarmuid, Margaret, her brothers Joe and Fr. Tom, O.P., her sister Elizabeth, to the wider family and to a large circle of friends we offer our deepest sympathies. Fé choimirec Mhuire, go raibh sí is gconui.

THE REAL THING

We've a lot of lights these days – candles at Christmas and fireworks at New Year's Eve. And now today's Gospel talks about an inner flame – the light in your heart. How's that doing? Bright, flickering or smouldering.

A candle too full of wax smothers the flame. A Christian too full of self, can suffocate the flame of faith within. 'He came to his own and they did not accept him'. It's not that we deny Christ – we don't fully believe. We're generally too polite to say or do anything that would hurt. Perhaps the risen Christ is more wounded by apathy than by nails and a cross.

We pack away the apparel of

Christmas, our artificial wreaths, fake candles and trees – maybe fittingly bought with plastic money in a credit card. But what's our human giving like, real or fake? What is artificial never dies because it never lives.

Real candlelight consumes as it gives light. An old stump and a fresh candle give the exact same quality of light. Old and young are called to give light when and where they can.

We have a light to guide us that no earthly darkness of our world can overpower. The job is far from finished.

Fr. Tom Cox
Intercom



LETTERS

Dear Editor,

Re: Punished for their Faith.

The double yellow lines are there for a purpose, to ensure traffic flows freely. Ambulances and fire engines could suffer vital delays in getting to an emergency in the area. Such an incident happened in Ballincollig Church two years ago.

The local people in the vicinity of the church should thank the young Garda. People who pray are not exempt from showing consideration and care for the general public. The comparison with Cromwell is totally inappropriate.

T. Long
Kenley Estate

Dear Editor,

The Wren Boys

Many years ago I was 7 years old on St. Stephen's Day. We all had short pants and boots. We had no money for the cinema so I got me pals to go around homes in College Road singing Wren Boys songs. Some people told us clear off. Then we came to a big house and we sang away. A big fat man opened the door. All I could see was blue Garda pants and boots. "Have you a licence?" says he. I must confess I wet me pants with fright. Me pals fled. Then the Garda smiled broadly and pennies and three penny bits all came down from the upstairs window. Me pals returned for the cash and later we all went to the cinema. Oh, happy poor days.

John Foley

Bible Corner



THE WORD WAS MADE FLESH

The emphasis during the Christmas season so far is on the real humanity of Jesus. This is highlighted by his birth as son of Mary, the focus of the family at Bethlehem and Nazareth. The emphasis this weekend is on the fact that Jesus is divine. The challenge is how to express this central truth.

For the Hebrews, the spoken word was very precious and personal. It was inseparable from the speaker and it also revealed the person who spoke it. Thus God revealed himself through the words of his prophets who spoke on his behalf. More specifically, it is especially through his Son, Jesus Christ, that God reveals himself fully to us. So Jesus is described as the Word of God, the perfect showing forth of God.

Of course, the Son of God has always existed, so we read,

"In the beginning was the Word:
The Word was with God
and the Word was God."

This weekend's gospel goes on to speak of the "Word" as one who brings "light" insofar as he is the revealer of God. Many refuse to accept what is on offer, but those who do accept become children of God.

THE SWANTRILW
AND SYDNEY AND IVY

We offer our sincere sympathy to MARY CONDON, Convent Lane, on the death of her father Stephen O'Sullivan Green.

To FR. JOHN NEWMAN, The Lough, on the death of his father Willie.



Adult Education

Open Day for Adult Learners

At CIT on 14th January, Session 1 - 10.30 to 12.30 p.m. and Session 2 - 7.00 to 9.00 p.m. For further information contact Mary Pat O'Connor at 4326804 or e-mail to openday@cit.ie.

Bishopstown Social Services

The annual dinner for senior citizens will be held in Highfield Rugby Club on Sunday 19th January at 6 p.m. A limited number of tickets costing €12 are available from Nora Fitzpatrick at 4546358.

Alzheimer Society

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

God's Word

Readings for Sunday 12th January

First Reading:

Sir.24:1-2, 8-12. Isaiah gives out God's free invitation: all are welcome to come to the water and be baptised.

Psalm 147.

Second Reading:

Eph.1:3-6, 15-18. Jesus saved us by water and by blood, says St. John: The Spirit, the water and the blood are witnesses to this.

Gospel:

Jn.1:1-18. The events celebrated in today's feast are described in the Gospel. Mark's brief account was the first to be written.

Parish e-mail address:
holyspiritparish@eircom.net

Creative Writing Course

The techniques of a short story, play, poetry, children's short story, directed exercises, one to one feedback, maximum class size 15 people, 12 week course commences January 13th to 7th April, Monday or Wednesday 7.30 to 9.30, Abbey House, off North Mall. Fee €135 adults, €105 students. Contact Deborah Culhane, 086-8158449.

THANK YOU

The Advent and Christmas celebrations here at Dennehy's Cross were a great expression of faith, solidarity and joy.

The gifts at the Family Mass together with generous contributions to the Coal Fund and the St. Vincent de Paul eased many a family's burden and enriched their festivities.

There were so many joys. There was a special joy in welcoming back some who had not been with us for sometime. People back home for Christmas joined us in prayer and praise of the Lord also. Families coming to pray together inspired us all.

It was encouraging to see so many people involved, each in their own way, in making Christmas a great communal celebration of faith and love.

Many thanks to one and all and may the Lord continue to bless us all abundantly as we travel the road of life together in 2003.

Fr. Tom Clancy

EMERGENCY NUMBER

087 - 251 9940