



4th May 2003

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Ballineaspais Bulletin

Third Sunday of Easter



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CO. CK



OUR
**PARISH
PRIEST**
writes

At this time of year, the gospel stories highlight various encounters between the Risen Jesus and his disciples. This weekend the two disciples who had met Jesus on the road to Emmaus tell the others how "they had recognised Jesus at the breaking of bread." Since those earliest days, "the breaking of bread" has been used by followers of Jesus to describe the Eucharist and it is used by Pope John Paul in his Holy Thursday letter this year. This letter was written to remind us of what the Eucharist truly is, to nourish our faith in this awesome gift and to renew our devotion to this great sacrament. This letter is packed with enriching insights into what is the cornerstone and crown of our faith.

"The Lord Jesus on the night he was betrayed instituted the Eucharistic Sacrifice of his body and his blood. The Eucharist is indelibly marked by the event of the Lord's passion and death, of which it is not only a reminder, but the sacramental re-presentation. It is the sacrifice of the Cross perpetuated down the ages."

"When the Church celebrates the Eucharist, the memorial of the Lord's

death and resurrection, this central event of salvation becomes really present. This sacrifice is so decisive for the salvation of the human race that Jesus Christ offered it and returned to the Father only after he had left us a means of sharing in it as if we had been present there. Each one of us can thus take part in it and inexhaustibly gain its fruits. What more could Jesus have done for us? Truly in the Eucharist, he shows us a love which goes to the end, a love which knows no measure."

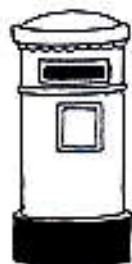
Wherever we celebrate the Eucharist, we can in some way relive the experience of the two disciples on the road to Emmaus: "Their eyes were opened and they recognised him." Such is our weekend opportunity.

Parish Peace Pilgrimage and Picnic
Gougane Barra
Sunday, 18th May



PILGRIMAGE PETITIONS

You are invited to bring a written petition to the Gougane Barra pilgrimage on 18th May. If you cannot be there yourself, you may give your petition to a pilgrim, or else place it in the box on the altar rails before Sunday 18th May. Special petition envelopes are available at each door of the church. All petitions will be placed at the altar during the pilgrimage Mass.



LETTERS

GREETINGS FROM THE U.S.A.

Dear Fathers at the Church of the Holy Spirit,

Hello and how are you all? Please allow me to introduce myself. My name is Danielle Lloyd and I am a 3rd year student at Siena College in Albany, New York. This past September to December I had the opportunity to study abroad at U.C.C. While I lived in Cork I regularly attended Masses at the Church of the Holy Spirit. I was so grateful to be a part of your parish, even if it was for such a short time. The church itself is beautiful and I could never forget the entire community of people. I am writing this letter in the hopes of your parish praying for the memory of someone I lost just two months ago. One of my best friends, Michael, was in a car accident on 15th February.

My time spent in Ireland was the most wonderful experience of my life. I was hoping that during Mass you might be able to pray for the soul of my friend so that I know he is being prayed for by such a wonderful parish. I cannot wait to come back to Cork and attend Mass with you all again.

Danielle M Lloyd.

Bible Corner



Ever developing technology ensured that we could have instant viewing and reporting on the war in Iraq. Indeed, it sometimes felt that one was almost present at the battlefield. No such technology was available when the infant Church was heroically bearing witness to the Risen Jesus and was struggling for survival. However, the Acts of the Apostles which forms the first reading at Mass over these weeks, has a great sense of immediacy if one is tuned to listen with ears of faith. Of course the author, St. Luke, was actually present for much of the action covered, especially St. Paul's missionary journeys which are recounted in the later chapters. The earlier chapters are largely devoted to the miracles, preaching and teaching of St. Peter, which were originally directed towards religious Jews who had a great sense of their own history and traditions. So Peter concentrates on pointing out to them how Jesus was the fulfilment of their own prophecies about the long awaited Messiah. This Messiah was to suffer and die at the hands of his own Israelite people, descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. So, unwittingly, Peter's listeners had colluded in the death of God's servant, Jesus. Peter challenges them to repent.

P.S. A suggestion:- Take up the Bible and read the entire Acts of the Apostles in one reading. It is a great story.





WHAT IS PRAYER?

You pray in your distress and in your need; would that you might pray also in the fullness of your joy and in your days of abundance.

For what is prayer but the expansion of yourself into the living ether?

And if it is for your comfort to pour your darkness into space, it is also for your delight to pour forth the dawning of your heart.

And if you cannot but weep when your soul summons you to prayer, she should spur you again and yet again, though weeping until you shall come laughing.

When you pray you rise to meet in the air those who are praying at that very hour, and whom save in prayer you may not meet.

The Prophet
Kahlil Gibran

BLESSED EDMUND IGNATIUS RICE

FEAST DAY 4TH MAY

Edmund Ignatius Rice (1762-1844) came from Callan, Co. Kilkenny. After his young wife's early death, he sold his possessions and dedicated his life to the education of the poor. To advance this work, he gathered other like-minded men who took religious vows together to work for the Catholic education of boys. He is a model of patient and cheerful acceptance of the sufferings God sends, a true lay apostle and a deeply committed religious.

MOUNT MERCY NEWS

Trócaire Lenten Fast

Well done to all Mount Mercy pupils who took part in the annual Trócaire Lenten Fast. A total of €6,384.57 was raised.

CONGRATULATIONS

Poetry Competition

Congratulations and well done to Olivia Van Walleghem, 1st year, who was a prize winner in the "Write a Poem" competition with her entry *Monday Morning Blues*. The competition was organised by the Teaching English Support Service, and Olivia will be presented with her certificate at a later date.

Vocations Sunday – 11th May

A Prayer for Vocations

O Jesus, send labourers into
your fields,
which are awaiting holy apostles,
saintly priests,
heroic missionaries and
dedicated sisters and brothers.

Enkindle in the hearts of men and
women the spark of a vocation.

Grant that Christian families may
desire to give your Church,
helpers
in the work of tomorrow.

Amen



NOTICE BOARD



Alzheimer Tea Morning

The Friendship Club will hold a Tea Morning on Thursday 8th May from 10.30 to 12.00 noon in the C.P. Centre. All welcome.

Coeliac Society

Meeting on Tuesday 6th May at 8 p.m. in the SMA Centre, Wilton. A Summer Party is the theme. All welcome. "Bring a little, taste a lot."

**SPECIAL
event**

Gala Concert

In aid of Christ the King Church on Thursday 15th May at 8 p.m. Mary Hegarty, Nyle Wolfe, The Garda Choir, School of Music orchestra. Adm. €15. Tickets on sale in C.P. Centre.



Cork College of Commerce

Calling all adults. Courses designed with you in mind. Interested? Then join us for an information session in the College on Tuesday 20th May, 9.30 to 12.30.

Free A4 Our Lady Print

With every issue of the Universe dated 4th May.

Foyer of Charity

Annual pilgrimage to home of Marthe Robin, 17th-24th August. Fly Dublin/Lyon return, cost €845. Day in Ars and 7 nights in Chateauneuf-de-Galaure. Five day Foyer of Charity Silent Retreat given by Fr. Kilian Byrne, P.P. Magnificent peaceful surroundings. Modern single room ensuite accommodation. For information contact Edward Donaghy, 01-26921395.

God's Word

Readings for Sunday 11th May

First Reading:

Acts 4:8-12. Peter explains how he healed a cripple. He did it by praying in the name of the Lord Jesus.

Psalm 117.

Second Reading:

Jn.3:1-2. John reflects on the love of God the Father, which is lavished on all God's children.

Gospel:

John 10:11-18. We are told that Jesus is like a shepherd who lovingly cares for his sheep.

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