



1st June 2003

Ballineaspig Bulletin

Ascension of the Lord



No. 764

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

CORK & ROSS MISSION TO PERU AND ECUADOR

The following are extracts from a letter from Bishop John Buckley.

My dear People,

I am writing to you regarding the Cork & Ross Mission in South America.

It is now almost 40 years since the late Bishop Lucey established the mission in Peru. It took great courage to take responsibility for an area thousands of miles away, with different traditions, culture and language. The outreach to South America was a response to a request by Pope John XXIII to help in the renewed evangelisation of South America, a continent which was experiencing a severe shortage of priest and sister.

About sixty of the priests from this diocese, with some Kerry and Cloyne priests, have worked in our parishes there. An even greater number of sisters from the Bon Secours and Mercy Orders also served there as nurses, teachers and parish sisters.... In 1992 the late Bishop Murphy visited Ecuador and was moved by the poverty and shortage of priests in that country. In 1993 he made a commitment to the Archbishop in Ecuador that he would take responsibility for two parishes on the outskirts of the city of Manta for a period of 10 years. That contract has expired since March 2003, and the priests are returning home.

I have decided that our commitment in Peru will end in March 2004, and the three priests at present working there will then return home. A most significant chapter in the history of the Diocese of Cork & Ross will end at that time... This is not the end of our commitment to Peru and Ecuador. There is still widespread poverty in both countries... We intend to provide ongoing financial support for the local churches in accordance with their specific needs as long as that is necessary. The sisters of the Mercy and Bon Secours Orders will continue to work in the parishes in Peru. Both Orders are now receiving many local girls into their Communities.

Next weekend, 7th/8th June we will have the final public collection since 1965. I thank you very sincerely for your generosity over the years. I trust and encourage you to continue to help our new commitment to Peru and Ecuador. I invite you to keep the people of those countries in your prayers.

With prayerful best wishes, I remain, yours sincerely in Christ,

+ John Buckley
Bishop of Cork & Ross.



TODAY'S PSALM

*God goes up with shouts of joy;
the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.*

It is easy to see why this psalm was chosen for the Ascension of the Lord. This feast marks the completion of the paschal journey of Jesus. He has come down from above and now he is departing from his presence in the flesh here below to return to the Father.

This psalm was originally sung at the solemn enthronement of the Ark of the Covenant on certain feasts. We sing it to celebrate the return of Jesus to this throne of glory. The human body has been divinely sanctified through the incarnation. So, we praise the Lord with clapping hands and trumpet blast, with cries of joy and all our skills. The psalmist calls out to all nations. An important dimension of the Ascension story is how the Lord sent out the disciples to the whole world to proclaim the news.

*Fr. Silvester O'Flynn OFM Cap
Intercom*



FEAST OF ST. KEVIN - JUNE 3rd

Kevin was born in Leinster and educated in Cornwall under his uncle, St. Eugene of Ardstrath. He later followed the monastic life at Kilnamanagh, and finally returned to a lonely spot at Glendalough, now known as St. Kevin's Bed, to live as a hermit.

Even there, disciples sought him and a monastery grew up which in time became the seat of the diocese of Glendalough.

A great animal lover, many legends surround him. Once when his arms were outstretched in prayer a blackbird laid an egg in Kevin's hand. He is said to have remained in that position until the baby bird hatched!

He died at a very great age in 618.

QUESTIONS PEOPLE ASK

Q. What was Jesus doing or where was he between his resurrection and his ascension into heaven?

A. St. Luke wrote in the Acts of the Apostles that for 40 days the risen Jesus appeared to the apostles. Jesus, the Beloved Son, was with the Father. The time of his presence here in the flesh was finished but his final departure had not yet taken place. Forty days means a full or complete period. He was completing their instruction about the reign of God and preparing them for receiving the Holy Spirit. The various stories of apparitions of the risen Jesus show how he continues to be with his Church.

-Sr. Silvester O'Flynn OFM Cap
Intercom



CONGRATULATIONS

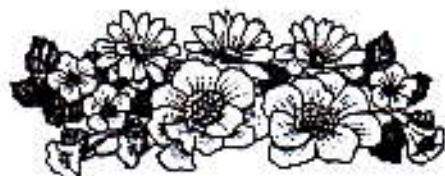
Congratulations to Sr. Catherine Whooley on the celebration of her Golden Jubilee on Wednesday 23rd April at St. Catherine's Convent, Bishopstown, with her community sisters and family, including her sister Lily O'Callaghan, Lima Lawn, and her niece Maeve Cowhig, Laburnum Drive.

MOUNT MERCY COLLEGE

❖ Congratulations to Tanya Adamson, Junior Certificate student, who has been selected to attend a Chemistry Camp this summer organised by Salters. Tanya will attend the camp at the University of Ulster, Coleraine, Co. Derry from the 10th to 14th August. Well done, Tanya.

❖ **First Aid Inter-Schools Competition.**

Congratulations to Susan Garde and Clare Flynn, Transition Year students, who got first place in the St. John's Ambulance, First Aid Inter-Schools competition. Well done, girls.



THOUGHTS INSPIRED BY THE PARISH PILGRIMAGE

High over the rugged beauty and splendour of Gougane Barra we huddled together sheltering from the driving wind and rain. The celebrants offering the Mass looked strange dressed in rainwear. This was the climax of our parish pilgrimage – our journey to a sacred place. Soon we would relax in the comfort of car or bus to enjoy a welcome meal.

My thoughts went back to a different period of our country's history, when similar groups of our people, often at great risk, met secretly to attend Mass. It was recorded that many of them walked many miles and endured great hardship just to be present. The Mass Rocks in our country are a lasting testimony to their enduring faith and hope in a loving God.

Roots, heritage, faith and tradition – these are part of what we are. To reject and abandon such a rich legacy of faith for whatever reason impoverishes us spiritually. The times in which we live present great challenges, they also offer great opportunities. May we find the courage to respond.

Arthur O'Callaghan



NOTICE BOARD

TAKE NOTE:

Peru and Ecuador Missions

The annual collection will take place at all Masses next weekend 7th/8th June.

First Friday

Next Friday 6th June is the First Friday of the month. Calls to the sick and housebound on usual days.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Next Friday 1st June from 10.30 a.m. to 7.30 p.m. followed by Mass.

St. Joseph's Young Priests Society

Monthly meeting next Thursday 5th June at 8.00 p.m. in the Parish Centre.



N.A.O.M.I.

Pre-marriage courses, natural family planning, etc. available at 36 Washington Street, tel. 4272213 Tuesday-Friday.

Bishopstown G.A.A.

Looking for a venue for summer activities? Off-peak (before 7 p.m.) €20 per hour, peak (after 7 p.m.) €35 per hour. Bookings also being taken for September 2003. Phone Conor 086-3743752.

Parish e-mail address:
holyspiritparish@eircom.net

God's Word

Readings for Sunday 8th June

First Reading:

Acts.2:1-11. Pentecost is described. People from different nations hear the same Good News, as the Spirit brings unity.

Psalm 103

Second Reading:

Gal.5:16-25. Paul appeals to Christians to live in peace and unity, and lists some of the gifts the ascended Lord has passed on.

Gospel:

Jn.15:26-27. 16:12-15. These last verses of Mark's Gospel show how Jesus remains with us. When the church proclaims and lives the Gospel, the Lord himself is at work.

PARISH TEAM

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EMERGENCY NUMBER

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