

22nd June 2003



No. 767

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

Ballinaspaig Bulletin



FROM OUR
**PARISH
TEAM**

The Dean writes

THE "MINISTRY OF WELCOME"

I have just been reading an article in our religious magazine *Intercom*. A gentleman conducted a survey of different aspects of Church life in Ireland. Among those he interviewed was a young nurse who has just returned to work in Ireland after a stint working and travelling abroad. One of the questions posed was: "What changes would you like to see in the Church in Ireland in your lifetime?" Response: "Here in Ireland I think there should be more welcoming! More acknowledgement for new parishioners. Visits to people who have just moved in (regardless of religion) should be encouraged."

Many years ago we set up a network of people in this parish to do exactly that. They have done wonderful work over the years in this field. But this needs to be supplemented by immediate neighbours of the new arrivals. I know of many instances where neighbours extended the hand of friendship in a most practical way, and this was very much appreciated.

During the week I was delighted to meet an old friend who had left here

during the year, and settled in Dublin. I was concerned for him at his departure – trying to settle in a new environment among total strangers. I needn't have worried. He went to Mass in his local church the morning after his arrival. The priest noticed he was a stranger, invited the regulars to make him welcome, which they did with open arms. In fact he was overwhelmed with kindness, and never felt happier in his life.

The Lord himself stressed the importance of this 'Ministry of Welcome' when He said it was a matter we would be judged on at the Last Day: "I was a stranger and you made me welcome", "as often as you did this for the least of my brothers and sisters you did it for me." Love demands the best from us, and brings out the best in us." "The biggest disease in the world today is lack of love." - Mother Teresa.

Denis O'Leary

THE EXTRA EURO

Thank you for your continued
support for the Crypt
renovations.



Rest in Peace

Mary O'Callaghan, Lima Lawn, Magazine Road, died unexpectedly on 8th June 2003. Mary inherited a strong teaching tradition as both her late father Jack and her mother Kitty were gifted teachers. In turn, Mary enriched many children's lives in her career at the Cork School of Commerce and St. John's College, where she will be sadly missed. We extend a special word of sympathy to her sister Maeve, her mother Kitty, brother Nick and sister Gerardine. Our sympathies go also to wider family circle of brothers-in-law, sister-in-law, nieces and nephews, aunts and many friends, as well as to pupils and colleagues at her schools. Too dearly loved to be forgotten. May she rest in peace.



We offer our sincere sympathy to **BARRY O'CONNELL**, Bishopstown Avenue West, on the death of his father Paddy.

O taste and see that the Lord is good.
Psalm 34:8



LETTER

St. Catherine's National School

Dear Editor,

I read Des Dunnion's letter with interest. Over here, on Bishopstown Avenue West we are beginning to experience the same problem. Cars are being parked between our school and Bishopstown Ave. As we operate a voluntary one-way system around our school, this could be very dangerous. Children and adults in our school community expect traffic to come from one direction only at school opening and closing times. If the parking extends as far back as the school, in time to come there will be terrible obstruction in the vicinity of the school gates. It is only a matter of time before there is an accident.

I would echo Des's dismay at the Planning Authority's lack of foresight in building new facilities without consideration for those who use them.

Yours sincerely,
Margaret McCarthy



TAKE A VACATION
AWAY FROM GOD



THE HEART OF THE MYSTERY OF THE CHURCH

"The Church's commitment to proclaiming the Eucharistic mystery has been matched by interior growth within the Christian. Certainly, the liturgical reform inaugurated by the Council has greatly contributed to a more conscious, active and fruitful participation in the Holy Sacrifice of the Altar on the part of the faithful. In many places, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is also an important daily practice and becomes an inexhaustible source of holiness. The devout participation of the faithful in the Eucharistic procession on the Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ is a grace from the Lord which yearly brings joy to those who take part in it."

Pope John Paul II

Bible Corner



A COVENANTED PEOPLE

Recent mobile phone research shows us to be a nation of talkers or, at least, of texters. Apparently, per head of population, we make more use of the phone than any of our neighbours. We are sometimes cast in the role as a nation of drinkers, of drinking too much.

The Jewish people of the time of Jesus were very conscious that they were a covenanted nation, a people bound to God by a special relationship that was unbreakable. To show its permanence, it had been sealed, not by a handshake or by signatures, but by blood, the blood of an animal offered in sacrifice. The blood signified life and the relationship was for life, forever.

Into this tradition of a blood sealed covenant between God and his people came Jesus. He was to seal a relationship, not just between the Jews and God, but between the eternal Father and all his children. He was to do this by his death on Calvary. On the night before his died, he gave us his covenant through the Eucharist when he said, "This is my blood, the blood of the covenant, which is to be poured out for many."

This weekend, Corpus Christi weekend, we give thanks for the gift of the Eucharist and of the covenant between God and us. Each of the readings reminds us that we are a covenanted people to whom God has committed himself irrevocably.





NOTICE BOARD

CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION

SUNDAY 22ND JUNE 2003

This year, parishioners are invited to meet at 3.30 p.m. on Frenches Quay, near Proby's Restaurant, under the splendour of St. Finbarre's Cathedral and walk in procession from there as a parish group to the Grand Parade, for the arrival of the Blessed Sacrament about 4.00 p.m. All are invited.

Note:

Assemble Frenches Quay at 3.30 p.m.



Your Attention Please

St. Vincent de Paul

Please note that the monthly collection will take place on the second weekend of July - 12th/13th.

During the Summer we will be in the Parish Centre at 7.15 p.m. on the following Mondays:

30th June, 14th and 28th July, 11th and 25th August, and 8th September.

This is the last Bulletin until Sunday 7th September. The Bulletin Team wishes all our readers a very pleasant Summer.

Christian Meditation

The Parish Meditation Group continues to meet throughout the summer. To learn more about this ancient form of prayer you are invited to participate in our weekly group meeting held at the Parish Centre each Thursday from 7.00 to 7.30 p.m. If you would like further information, please phone Nessa at 4545441.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Adoration will take place on 4th July, 1st August and 5th September.

God's Word

Readings for Sunday 29th June

First Reading:

Acts 12:1-11. Peter escapes from prison through God's powerful intervention.

Psalms 33

Second Reading:

Tim.4:6-8. Paul reflects on the life he has lived, the good fight he has fought, and gives all credit for it to God.

Gospel:

Mt. 16:13-19. Peter makes his confession of faith and is named the rock on which the Church will be built by Christ.

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EMERGENCY NUMBER

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