



14th September 2003

Ballineaspig Bulletin

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time



No. 769

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



FROM OUR
**PARISH
TEAM**
Fr. Declan writes

COME FOLLOW ME

Moving from one parish to another is one of the most difficult experiences in the life of a priest. Saying goodbye to a people you have been getting to know, whom you have been involved with in times of joy and tragedy, at birth, marriage, confession... Then, moving house, packing and unpacking, getting to know and fit in with a new Parish team...

But I am so blessed. For me, coming here is like moving home. Back to my native parish, back to work with priests I have known and been influenced by for years, back to follow in the footsteps of wonderful men who were family friends, as well as mentors to me, when I was a student, a young seminarian and priest. I was privileged to preach the funeral homily for Fr. Humphrey Mulcahy twelve years ago. I have a great sense of himself and Fr. Jim Byrne, among others, looking down on me now as I move in to Ballineaspig.

I lived in Farranlea Grove from the age of four. My mother still lives there. Ordained in 1978, I taught in Farranferris for nine years, spent two years in Bantry, then seven years in the new St. Patrick's Church in Rochestown Road. I spent three years in charge of Diocesan Education, and for the last two years have been studying Spirituality in Milltown Institute in Dublin. Now I am appointed to lead the Eucharist in the church where I first received Jesus in the Eucharist. Come Holy Spirit!

Fr. Declan Mansfield, C.C.

FAREWELL AND WELCOME

The people of the parish wish Fr. Patrick Walsh every blessing in his new appointment, and a warm welcome for Fr. Declan Mansfield as he returns to take up duty in his native parish.

You can easily judge the character of a man by how he treats those who can do nothing for him.
James Miles



FR. PATRICK WALSH

Fr. Walsh came to Ballineaspig from the Lough Parish four years ago and now leaves us to take up his new appointment as Chaplain at University College, Cork. He leaves with the good wishes of the entire community in this parish, and what is our loss is, indeed, UCC's gain.

Fr. Patrick is a man of many parts, and during his time here he made a notable contribution to the life of the community in Ballineaspig. He will be remembered, particularly, for introducing and organising *Lent on the Edge* at lunchtime each Wednesday during Lent. It was an innovative and courageous decision to arrange this series of talks at a time of the day when most people would not think of going to the church. But his choice of speakers – people like Nuala O'Loan, Fr. Peter McVerry and John Lonergan – and topics ensured a full house on each occasion. Truly a remarkable achievement. He followed up on the success of the Lenten talks with *The Light Within*, a series of reflection during Advent in preparation for Christmas. This was facilitated at lunchtime on Wednesdays in 2002 by Fr. Donagh O'Shea.

Fr. Patrick's work with the Liturgy Committee and his commitment to developing a greater understanding and appreciation of the Liturgy of the Mass among the members of this community is also worthy of mention. His contribution to the enrichment of the Easter Vigil and the organisation of the large fire outside the church was

particularly noteworthy, and his encouragement of greater participation and singing by the congregation at Mass, especially at the 10.30 a.m. Mass must also be mentioned. He led by example in the singing.

During his time here, Fr. Patrick served as chaplain to Mount Mercy College and was an active and valued member of the Parish Pastoral Council. His many contributions to the deliberations of that body were always incisive and challenging. He will be greatly missed by all his friends in this parish including his Bridge friends. But then he is not moving too far away, and he will manage to maintain contact.

Finally, on behalf of the members of the parish community, we take this opportunity to wish Fr. Patrick every happiness and success in his challenging new ministry. Rath Dé ar a shaothar.





ALTAR SERVERS

We continue to be blessed with a group of dedicated and competent altar servers. But each summer, some move on as they change schools. As we say an appreciative goodbye to those who are leaving and pray God's blessing upon them, we invite new recruits to take their places. The newcomers, boys and girls, will probably be from 3rd, 4th, 5th or 6th classes. The commitment is service every second weekend at the Mass the family chooses, and a little extra at special times like Holy Week, Easter and Christmas.

Training begins on Saturday next 20th September at 1.00 p.m. here in Dennehy's Cross Church. The training session is until 2.00 p.m. and will be continued on two or three subsequent Saturdays. Those interested are asked to contact Mercedes Cunningham (4544113), or any of the priests, as soon as possible. God bless.

Fr. Tom Clancy



Bible Corner



DEATH ON A CROSS

St. Paul was a very reluctant convert to Jesus but, once converted, he was on fire in his proclamation of the gospel. He was completely captivated by the fact that the Son of God not only became human but "even accepted death, death on a cross" for us, as the second reading puts it this weekend.

Death on a cross was not only an excruciating way to die, but was the most ignominious way for a criminal to be executed at the time. Crucifixion was not inflicted on Roman citizens but was reserved for slaves and non-Romans who had committed heinous crimes like murder or treason, the crime for which Jesus was officially condemned. So the mystery for Paul, himself a Roman citizen, and for us, is that this most shame loaded execution could be the instrument of God's saving love.

Jesus foretold his crucifixion and Christians quickly adopted the sign of the Cross as the symbol of their loyalty to Jesus and as a way of accessing the treasury of God's redemptive love.

Hence, this weekend's feast of the Triumph of the Cross.



Rest in Peace

Sheila Twohig, Model Farm Road, died peacefully at Cork University Hospital on 18th July. Sheila was a native of Macroom, and blessed with a gentle and caring disposition. She had a considerable amount of sadness in her own life with the death of her husband Denis, at a comparatively early age, her son Sean, just 13 years, and her daughter Annette who died leaving a husband and two young children. Through all this, Sheila maintained a certain serenity and acceptance. She was loved by all who knew her, especially by the children she cared for. We offer the sympathy of the community to her family - Helen, Catherine, Dermot, Denise and Phyl, her wider family, and all who miss a very dear friend.

Mount Mercy College

Congratulations to our Leaving Certificate students of 2003 who achieved excellent results. A special well done to deputy Head Girl, Jane Cunningham, and to Frieda Long, both of whom obtained maximum points. Comhghaideas leo.

OUR PILGRIMAGE HOST

Fr. Kieran Twomey, P.P. of Inchigeela, has recently been transferred to Farranree. We wish him well in his new parish, and thank him for his help and co-operation during our parish pilgrimages to Gougane Barra.

Parish e-mail address:
holyspiritparish@eircom.net

NOTICE BOARD

Bulletins to the Homes

Bulletins will be delivered to all homes in the parish next weekend. We thank sincerely our distributors, without whom this service could not be continued.

Friendship Club

Resumes on Monday 15th September at 2.30 p.m. in Crypt.

Arthritis Foundation

Lecture by Dr. Muriel Soden, Consultant Rheumatologist at 8.00 p.m. on Tuesday 23rd September in the Kingsley Hotel. Admission free, all welcome.

Bereaved Parents Support Group

The Annual Commemoration Gathering will take place on 21st September at 2.30 p.m. at Bishop Lucey Park, Grand Parade. Dedication Service and Lighting of nightlight for each deceased child will take place at St. Francis Church, Liberty Street. at 3.00 p.m. Free handbook available - send SAE to 106 Grange Heights, Cork. Meeting once a month, contact 4364695/4312978.

God's Word

Readings for Sunday 21st September

First Reading:

Ws.2:12,17-20. Describes the anger the good person can endure, the same anger that led to the death of Jesus.

Psalm 53

Second Reading:

Jm.3:16-4:3. James challenges people to conquer the wrong desires in themselves, as a means of bringing peace.

Gospel:

Mk.9:30-37. Jesus tells his followers about his death and resurrection, and teaches them how to be true disciples.