



21<sup>st</sup> September 2003

# Ballineaspais Bulletin

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time



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

No. 770



## FROM OUR PARISH TEAM

*The Dean writes*

### GOD'S WAY - TO SERVE THE MOST VULNERABLE

I didn't have the privilege of attending the All-Ireland at Croke Park on Sunday last, but I did witness the game in miniature during the week. I happened to pass by as a local group of nine or ten year olds lined up for their own "All Ireland". One lad declared he would be D.J. Carey. Others objected, he had held this special position the previous evening. "Oh, yes I can," came the reply, "I have the cup" (a plastic jug). "Well, I'll be Setanta so." "No, you are too small". "You can be Joe Deane." So it went. All wanted to represent the most honoured names in media reports. We had Martin Comerford, Henry Shefflin, John Gardiner, Diarmuid O'Sullivan, etc.

When I read the Gospel for this Sunday I found an uncanny resemblance between my local hurlers and the Apostles who wanted the top jobs they expected were coming up shortly in the Kingdom of the Lord. Needless to say Jesus taught something totally different. He saw all round him the ambition of people to lord it over others. He taught that God's way was to serve others - and serve the smallest, the most vulnerable, and insignificant. This was the reason he called the child. In Roman times the child had no rights, and so stands for the weakest,

and most needy in our community. It is easier to serve the great, because we feel honoured through our association with them and there is a better chance of rewards. The real test is in serving the least, from whom we can expect nothing. But the Lord will not forget - "As often as you did it to the least of my brothers and sisters you did it to me." We can trust him.

*Denis O'Loonnot.*



### PASTORAL SUPPORT

We are delighted to offer a new pastoral support here in the parish! Sr. Frances Cummins has been working as a Counsellor (for adults and young people) throughout London for the past 14 years and has now returned to Cork. Many of you will remember Frances - she was on our parish team here in the eighties.

So, if you need help in coping with the stresses of life today, feel free to contact Frances at 087-1242452 between 7.00 and 9.00 p.m. Home visits can also be arranged.

### FEAST DAY GREETINGS

On 24<sup>th</sup> September to the Sisters of Mercy, especially in St. Catherines, St. Columbas and Mount Mercy.





## Rest in Peace

Austin Crowley, School Avenue, died unexpectedly and peacefully at his home on 20<sup>th</sup> July. It is sometimes said that once a Lough man, always a Lough man. This was certainly true of Austin, whose interests and life focused in the Lough area, though his work as a taxi driver gave him a wider circle of long-time and sincere friends who joined in great numbers at his Requiem Mass at the Lough Church. To his sister Phyllis, his brother-in-law Jack, nephews and nieces, relatives and friends, we offer our sincerest sympathies. Ar dheis Dé, go raibh a anam dílis.

Patrick Higgins, Sheares Park, Glasheen Road, died peacefully at Marymount on 20<sup>th</sup> July. Having lived all his life in Sheares Park. He was well known and loved by all who knew him. His political aspirations were well known and shared by many of those who came to pay him a final tribute in St. Finbarr's Cemetery. He will be greatly missed, especially by his brothers John and Jimmy, nephews and nieces, relatives and neighbours, to all of whom we offer our deepest sympathy. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dílis.

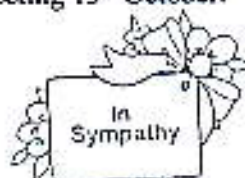
Patrick O'Sullivan, Liam Lynch Park and Kenley, died peacefully at the South Infirmary on 24<sup>th</sup> July after a long illness patiently borne. Leaving us at such an early age, he will be sadly missed, not only by his family but by the wide circle who enjoyed his kind friendship, appreciated his many musical gifts and worked with him. To his wife Kathryn, his children Jane, Bobby, Joe, Louise and Katie, to his parents Robbie and Kathleen, his brothers, Joseph, Robert and Brendan, we offer our sincere sympathy. May he rest in peace.

### PASTORAL COUNCIL

On Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> September, the Pastoral Council met for the first meeting of the new year. Fr. Tom Clancy and Fr. Declan Mansfield were present at the meeting. The Chairperson, Clare McCutcheon, on behalf of the Council, welcomed Fr. Declan to the meeting and wished him every happiness and God's blessings on his ministry in Ballineaspai. The Chairperson also paid tribute to Fr. Patrick Walsh for his contribution to the parish during his time here, and the Council decided to write to Fr. Patrick to thank him for his contributions to the deliberations of the Council, for his work with the Liturgy Group and the enhancement of the liturgy, and generally for his service to the community.

A short discussion took place on the arrangements for the Autumn Seminar to be held in Mardyke House on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> September, from 2.00 to 7.00 p.m. It was noted that Rosarii Murphy, a former member of the Council, would facilitate the Seminar, and it was agreed to invite a number of people from the various active groups within the parish to the Seminar.

The ongoing question on the enhancement of the Sunday Liturgy was referred to the Liturgy Committee for report in October, and a Group, under the Chairmanship of Fr. Declan, was appointed to plan for Advent. It was agreed that this matter would be discussed at the next meeting. It was also agreed to review the arrangements in the parish for Contact Persons who have been such a valuable resource in the past. The next meeting 13<sup>th</sup> October.



We offer our sincere sympathy to TOM KAVANAGH, Parkway Drive, on the recent death of his mother Gretta.





## **LOCAL SCHOOLS**

### **COLÁISTE AN SPIORAID NAOIMH**

The new school year has begun and we extend a particular welcome to our first year students. We hope that their six years with us will prove both happy and rewarding.

Congratulations to all our 2003 Leaving Certificate students who achieved such remarkable results in their examinations. Special mention is reserved for Hugh Hurley, Wilton Ave., and Donagh Healy two of just four students in the whole country to achieve no fewer than eight A1 grades. We are no less proud of Colm Murphy of Highfield who scored seven A1 grades. Bravo to all our students who did so well!

Well done also to Shane O'Neill of Court Cairn, who along with fellow CSN students Ronan Conway and Michael Ahern represented Cork in the All-Ireland minor hurling semi-final recently. Their achievements give our senior hurlers great confidence as they participate in the Harty Cup for the first time ever. Congratulations too to Conor Sheehy, Kenley, who became the Irish schools triple jump champion, and to David Ryan who was chosen to represent Munster in rugby.

### **ST. FINBARR, PATRON OF CORK**

Many of the facts of St. Finbarr's life have not been established with certainty. Unlike St. Patrick, he seems to have left no personal writings which would describe either the events of his life or his character. In addition, such accounts as were written date from several hundreds of years after his death in 623.

While substantial differences exist between historians, particularly in recent years, there is no doubt he was a revered saint. He is fully honoured in the liturgy of the Church and we should honour him on his feast day which is Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September.

## **Bible Corner**



### **WISDOM YESTERDAY AND TODAY**

The gospel is always the focal reading at our weekend Eucharist. The first reading is usually chosen to highlight some aspect of the gospel. The connection between the two is not always immediately obvious.

In this weekend's gospel, Jesus challenges his disciples to imitate his lifestyle of loving service which will lead to his being rejected. His goodness in word and action upsets the powerful people of his time by whom he will be executed.

The Old Testament reading shows that this unwillingness or inability to cope with outstanding goodness in another person is always part of our human history. Unselfish goodness annoys the strong who see strength as the yardstick of virtue. "They do not know the hidden things of God, they have no hope that holiness will be rewarded."

So the reading is both an insight into true wisdom for today's living and a glimpse into Christ's future destiny.

### **LOOKING AHEAD**

On Saturday afternoon next, the Pastoral Council, together with its committees and helpers, meet to plan its work for the year ahead. This annual get-together helps to focus on the opportunities and needs of the parish as a believing and caring community. Would you like to draw the Council's attention to any particular topic or area of need that comes within its remit? If so, please contact your area representative, or drop a note into the Parish Centre before Wednesday next, 24<sup>th</sup>. Thank you.





**New Altar Servers**

Training of new servers begins this Saturday in Denchy's Cross Church at 1.00 p.m.



**Coffee Morning for Marymount**

At St. Joseph's Convent, Model Farm Road on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> September, 10.30 to 12 noon. All are welcome.

**Seniors' Art Classes**

V.E.C. art classes have resumed on Thursdays in the Crypt at 2.30 p.m. Males and females welcome.

**Bridge Lessons for Beginners**

Commencing on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September at 8 p.m. in Room 9 at the S.M.A. Parish Centre, Wilton. Tel. Alice 4542776.

**Wednesday Night Bridge**

At S.M.A. Parish Centre Wilton, at 7.30 p.m. has reopened. New members welcome.

**Bridge on Tuesdays**

Please note that Bridge sessions have resumed in the Crypt on Tuesday afternoons at 2.00 p.m. All are welcome.

**Festival of Flowers**

At Lough Church from Friday 26<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September in aid of church renovation fund.

**Baile'n Easpaig Gramophone Circle**

Will resume its once monthly recitals on Wednesday afternoon next 24<sup>th</sup> September at 3 p.m. when Matt O'Farrell will give the recital. As always, everybody is welcome to attend.

**EMERGENCY NUMBER**

087 - 251 9940

**Bulletin Folders**

New rota available in Parish Office.

**Special Thanks**

Our thanks to Eithne Pollock who ran the Bridge Club (now in the Sacred Heart Church hall) through the summer for charity. She has donated the proceeds, €600, to be given to charities within our parish as usual.

**Mother and Toddler Group**

Resumes in the Crypt on Thursdays from 10.00 to 12 noon. All welcome.

**LITURGY GROUP**

Would you like to help with enriching our community worship, especially at Sunday Eucharist? No specialised knowledge needed, just a willingness to help and to learn.

The group will probably meet on Monday nights twice per month. The first meeting of the new group will be in the Parish Centre on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> September at 8.10 p.m. Bí linn.

**God's Word**

**Readings for Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September**

**First Reading:**

Num.11:25-29.. Moses is asked to prevent some followers from acting as prophets, but declines. God's gifts are for all, not just a few.

**Psalm 18**

**Second Reading:**

Jm.5:1-6. James condemns the rich, those who perceive they have no need of God.

**Gospel:**

Mk.9:38-43,45,47-48. Jesus teaches his followers to recognise people who are helpful, and shows them how to deal with obstacles to faith.

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