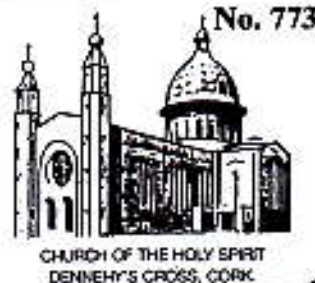


12th October 2003



Ballineaspais Bulletin

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time



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



FROM OUR
**PARISH
TEAM**

The Dean writes

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Quite recently I was speaking to an old friend. His mother died while we was still a little boy in primary school. On the evening of her death the neighbours began to call to the house to offer words of support and consolation – as the custom was and is. There was one immediate problem arising from this. It was the period of the Second World War – tea and sugar were exceedingly scarce commodities – and long standing custom demanded that a cup of tea would be provided for lady visitors. Later that evening, two pleasant looking gentlemen arrived at the house. They were strangers to the children. Their father welcomed them and after they had left it transpired that there were ample supplies of all that was needed for visitors. Years later my friend discovered they were members of St. Vincent de Paul Society.

This is typical of the way members of St. Vincent de Paul go about their work. They try to be there for anyone in need in a quiet and respectful way – never judgemental. At their weekly meeting they pray for “all who help us in our work”, and the members make a contribution to a “secret bag” for the

different works of the society. One could truly say that the essence of their work is to strive to ensure that everybody lives with love and dignity. Frederic Ozanam – a 20-year-old student – was the founder of the St. Vincent de Paul Society in 1833. His ideal, which he found in the life of St. Vincent de Paul, was to work with empathy and compassion for the needs of others.

On Friday last the Society here in Cork took practical steps to house the homeless in our city when they opened a beautifully appointed residence for 51 homeless men in a property donated by the Christian Brothers at Deerpark, Friar's Walk.

Some people see a need and complain – the S.V.P. prefer to help in a practical way with the very generous support and contributions from the people of this and other parishes.

Denis O'Leary

Material for Parish Bulletin

In future, it is essential that all material for inclusion in the Bulletin must reach the parish office by Tuesday morning.

Thank you.

CLUTTERED HEART

Strange how it's always someone else who is rich, never ourselves. It's even stranger that those who have least often give the most – while the more people have, the less inclined they can be to give. Curious how our possessions can possess us.

Enter this rich man – but why did he come? He seemed to have it all. Maybe he climbed the ladder of life, only to find it was perched against the wrong wall. Perhaps he realised that he couldn't take wealth with him – and this eternal life Jesus spoke of was the very thing he lacked.

He was a young keen, vigorous, probably well-connected candidate. Modern leaders would do everything possible to ensure they signed him up – but not Jesus. God's love never compromises with truth.

He's told he lacks one thing and is given five commands: Go! Sell! Give! Come! Follow! What did he think as he trudged away? "This is completely impractical! I have obligations. It's unfair. I bet he never asked others to do that."

Living the Christian life means following your Lord, no matter what. He asks us to stay in tough situations, to love the unlovable, to forgive the unforgivable.

What would Jesus say is lacking in you, as he gazes upon you with steady love? And would we go away sad: owning much, but possessing nothing of real value?

Fr. Tom Cox, Intercom

Spotted by Parishioner

A BEDTIME PRAYER FROM YEATS COUNTRY HOTEL

To all our guests

Because a hotel is a human institution to serve people and not just a profit centre, we hope that God will grant you peace and rest while you stay under our roof.

May this hotel be your "home from home". My those you love be near you in your thoughts and dreams. We hope we may get to know you, we hope that you will be as comfortable and happy here, as if you were in your own house.

May the journey that brought you here be fulfilling. May every call you make and every service you ask of us add to your delight. When you leave may your onward travels be safe.

For we are all travellers. From birth to the end of our days we travel between eternities. May these days be pleasant for you, helpful for those you meet and joy to those who know and love you best.

We make this prayer through God, our Saviour.

Don't keep the faith – spread it.



MOUNT MERCY COLLEGE OPENING SCHOOL MASS

On Wednesday September 24th, staff and students celebrated the opening School Mass in the Church of the Descent of the Holy Spirit. The Mass was celebrated by the new school chaplain, Fr. Declan Mansfield. The pupils participated through prayer, readings, mime, music and song. The theme of the Mass this year was "Tolerance".

A REFLECTION

Christ has no body now
on earth but yours,
no hands but yours,
no feet but yours.

Yours are the eyes through
which Christ's compassion
is to look out to the world.
Yours are the feet by which he
is to go about doing good,
and yours are the hands by
which he is to bless us now.

St. Teresa of Avila

(Feast Day 15th October)

U I U I S W A I D A T L A W
A A I S U O V A I A I A U U

We offer our sincere sympathy to
EITHNE O'HALLORAN, Farranlea
Grove, on the death of her brother-in-
law, Tomás Coleman.

To PAT DENNEHY, Cherrygrove, on
the death of her mother Mrs. Ellen
Cogan, The Lough.

To MARY O'RIORDAN, Woodleigh,
on the death of her mother, Josephine
Hallahan.

Bible Corner



"EYE OF A NEEDLE"

At the time of Jesus, poor people saw themselves as punished by God in this life with little hope of being saved in the future. On the other hand, the wealthy were seen as blessed by God now and guaranteed future glory. Jesus wanted to explode that myth and to point out that, in fact, riches could well be a hindrance to realising how dependant we all are on God and living accordingly as stewards of his creation rather than exploiters of his gifts.

To highlight how difficult it can be for some to trust in God rather than in wealth, he chose the vivid image of a camel trying to get through the eye of a needle. His original listeners were shocked but Jesus was not for turning on the issue while reassuring them that everything is possible to God.

Later scriptural spin doctors suggested that Jesus was only referring to a loaded camel getting through a narrow gate in the walls of Jerusalem known as the needle. Such watering down of the challenge of the gospel does little service to the call of the Lord to heroism among his followers.

Thank You

St. Joseph's Community at Model Farm Road say a big thank you to all our friends and parishioners who supported our coffee morning. We raised €400 for Marymount Hospice which was greatly appreciated.



NOTICE BOARD

Bulletins to the Homes

Bulletins will be delivered to all homes in the parish next weekend.

Pastoral Council

Meeting Monday 13th in Parish Centre at 8.00 p.m.

Lectio Divina Teacher in Cork

Fr. Michel de Verteuil, the renowned Lectio Divina teacher from Trinidad will conduct four sessions on 13th, 14th, 15th and 16th October, 7.30 to 9.30 p.m. at St. Aloysius School, Sharman Crawford Street. Lectio Divina is a simple method of using the Bible for personal prayer and reflection. If interested in being part of a parish group to attend the Course, please contact Anne at 4344452 (10.00-12.30). Cost: €10 per session - subsidy for parish group. (It is not essential to be able to attend all four sessions).

Mass for Industrial Peace

The 25th annual Mass for industrial peace, job creation and social justice will be celebrated at St. Mary's Dominican Church, Pope's Quay on Sunday 19th October at 4.00 p.m. Preacher Fr. Harry Bohan, Shannon, Co. Clare. All welcome.

Cork Mended Hearts

Annual Thanksgiving and Remembrance Mass will be held at Cork University Hospital Chapel on Thursday 16th October at 7.30 p.m. concelebrated by Fr. Bob Brophy, Fr. James Good and Dean Denis O'Connor, accompanied by Christ the King Choir. Enquiries to 4961541.

Parish e-mail address:
holyspiritparish@eircom.net

Rheumatoid Arthritis

Lecture on new prospects in rheumatoid arthritis will take place on Tuesday 21st October at the Kingsley Hotel at 8 p.m. Adm. free, all welcome.

God's Word

Readings for Sunday 19th October

First Reading:

Is.53:10-11. Isaiah writes of the suffering servant, who takes people's faults on himself. Christians apply these words to Jesus.

Psalm 32:4-5,18-20,22.

Second Reading:

Heb. 4:14-16. Jesus, our high priest, knows our weaknesses, so we can rely on his mercy.

Gospel:

Jn.12:20-33. The suffering and death of Jesus teaches us that we must embrace the cross. Then the merciful face of God will shine in us.

PARISH TEAM

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Dean Denis O'Connor, 2 Woodlawn,
Model Farm Road, tel. 4542972

EMERGENCY NUMBER

087 - 251 9940