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Ballineaspais Bulletin

Our Lord Jesus Christ, Universal King



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



FROM OUR
**PARISH
TEAM**

The Dean writes

AFTER DEATH - WHAT?

I was listening to a radio programme hosted by Vincent Browne a few weeks ago. His topic was - After Death, What? Vincent was his usual brash and caustic self. His panel didn't seem too sure what to say, whether they were mesmerized by Vincent or not - anyhow they fudged.

One lady said we really don't know if there is any existence after death - after all nobody has returned to tell us. Another gentleman said love never dies, and it seemed reasonable to him that he would join those he loved in this life after death. Yet another said he was sure there must be an after life - but he wasn't sure why.

Since it is a topic of vital personal importance for all of us I thought it well to get the facts straight. Briefly, Jesus passed through death to a new and glorified life - not like Lazarus or the widow's son at Naim, they still had to die. So Jesus was competent to speak authoritatively about the reality of life after death. What did he say? These are just brief samples:

1. "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son so that whoever believes in him may not be lost, but may have eternal life."
2. "Anyone who eats my Flesh and drinks my Blood has eternal life."
3. "Come you whom my Father has blessed and take for your heritage the kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world."
4. "Anyone who believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?"
5. "In my Father's house there are many rooms... I shall return to take you with me, so that where I am you may be too."

So Jesus stated categorically and repeatedly that there is a new life after death - He never fudged, and nobody could, or did, accuse him of deceit. He gave no details of what kind of life this would be - though He did say it would be a very pleasant experience, and likened it to a wonderful banquet - but no word of angels playing their harps for me!!

"May the Lord support us all the day long, 'till the shadows lengthen, and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then, in his great mercy may He give us a safe lodging, a holy rest, a peace at last." Amen.

Denis O'Connell

Conclusion...

BLESSED THADDEUS McCARTHY

The Bishop ordered the body to be clothed in Episcopal robes and brought in procession to Ivrea Cathedral in Italy for solemn lying in state before burial within the cathedral.

Soon afterwards, a strong local devotion developed towards him, miracles were being attributed to him. This was confirmed by Monsignor Angelo Perusio who states in his testimony that the remains of Thaddeus McCarthy are buried under the altar of the Cathedral. He concludes by stating "God has adorned the body itself with many miracles performed since 1492". These events are calendared in a manuscript history of the ancient city of Ivrea, compiled in 1763 by Canon Robesti of Ivrea.

During the great famine in 1847 the clergy and people of Ivrea donated a substantial sum of money for the relief of Irish famine victims. They also requested any information on Thaddeus, principally due to the veneration of the people of Ivrea and the miracles attributed to his intercession. The request aroused great interest in Thaddeus and prompted a long and detailed study of his life. Overwhelming evidence was that Thaddeus McCarthy was indeed a worthy candidate for recognition by the Church.

Monsignor Richelmy, Bishop of Ivrea and Bishop O'Callaghan of Cork petitioned the Holy See, seeking the beatification of Thaddeus McCarthy on behalf of the people and clergy of Ivrea and Cork. A further two year

investigation was carried out by a Monsignor Antonio of the Sacred Congregation of Rites.

Finally in 1896, Pope Leo XIII beatified Thaddeus in a ceremony attended by laity and clergy from Ireland and Italy. The Italians would not hear of parting with the remains of their beloved Thaddeus but agreed to donate a major relic of his to the Diocese of Cork.

Thousands were present when the beautiful reliquary containing his relic was brought in procession to the North Cathedral, where it remains to this day. Today his shrine in the Cathedral attracts many who come seeking his help and intercession. He is, after all, 'one of our own'.

Arthur O'Callaghan

REFLECTION

It had obviously been thrown down in a storm. The branches spread out, leaves and twigs an untidy tangle.

Just another fallen tree. Yet how strange that those crushed leaves were *also* living leaves. How come? I walked around the huge root-ball. Torn from base, it looked wrongly vulnerable, almost shamefully exposed.

Yet deep down under, a hidden root remained grounded, quietly sustaining its own life and ultimately providing nourishment for the growth of new leaves.

I found this comforting.

Ann Alcock, Intercom



Bible Corner



KEEPING UP WITH THE NEIGHBOURS

The Hebrews always kept a close eye on their neighbours. They needed to. They were often under attack from them. As well, these neighbours were often wealthier and more powerful than they were themselves. So the Hebrews were often tempted to ape those whom they saw as better off. Still, their stronger tradition was that they were God's chosen people led by divinely appointed leaders in the tradition of Abraham and Moses. Such leaders were both key figures, both religiously and politically. They were the ones who would care for the whole people compassionately, especially the vulnerable and the poor. But their neighbours had high profile kings to rule over them. The fact that these kings were despots who exploited their people did not deter the Hebrews from appointing their own to such roles.

So in the Hebrew tradition there was an ambiguity between God being their King and some civilian ruler being in power. This caused particular confusion for an occupying force like the Romans for whom Caesar was the supreme authority, and any talk of any other kingship was equivalent to treason. This is the dilemma that Pilate is trying to tease out in the weekend's gospel. Jesus' reply to Pilate's questions was probably of little help to one who was terrified of even the slightest rumour of a Jewish conspiracy. Hopefully, it will be of more help to us who believe that he is the Son of God.



Christ the King

Out of the line of David, king of a nation small in numbers and wealth, came the first-born of all creatures, the Messiah, the One who would have power over all things. But many did not recognize him!! Let us rejoice that the Father has rescued us from darkness and brought us into the kingdom of his beloved Son. And because we have been invited into the house of the Lord, let us cooperate in the work of all who inherit the Kingdom, that is, the reconciliation of all men on earth to one another and to their Lord.

W E O F F E R O U R S I N C E R E S Y M P A T H Y T O
K I T T Y C R A W F O R D T H E O R C H A R D

We offer our sincere sympathy to KITTIE CRAWFORD, The Orchard, Farranlea Park, on the death of her mother.



PARISH FAREWELL

A reminder to parishioners that the Pastoral Council has arranged that Fr. Patrick Walsh will return to concelebrate the 6.15 p.m. Mass on Saturday 29th November, and afterwards in the Crypt to allow parishioners to say farewell.

Ministers of Word and Eucharist

Reminder that the final session of the formation programme will take place on Thursday next, 27th at 8 p.m. in the Crypt. Fr. Declan will talk on the key elements in our celebration of the Eucharist.

Apostolate of Our Lady of Fatima

Mass and Holy Hour at St. Maries of the Isle at 7.30 p.m. on Monday 24th November. Priest - Fr. John McCarthy, Fermoy.

Handel's Messiah

100 voices in Christ the King Church on Saturday 29th November at 8 p.m. East Cork Choral Society with Cantairi Mhuscraí and soloists Helen Hassett, Deirdre Cooling Nolan, Robert Craig, Brendan Collins. Tickets €15 at Christ the King Parish Office, Veritas, Pro Musica. Proceeds in aid of Church Restoration Fund.

Sacred Heart Afternoon of Prayer

Sunday 30th November, 1.30 to 6.00 p.m. at the Sacred Heart Parish Centre, Western Road. Spiritual Director Fr. Brendan Hanley MSC. Theme: "Prepare a Way for the Lord". Day's programme will include Mass. Offering €5. Further information from Nell Kelleher at 026 41236.

God's Word

Readings for Sunday 30th November

First Reading:

Jer.33:14-16. Jeremiah's prophecy looks to the day when a son of David will bring salvation. Christians see this fulfilled in Jesus.

Psalm 24

Second Reading:

Thess. 3:12-4:2. Grow in love, says Paul: be blameless when the Lord comes in glory.

Gospel:

Lk.21:25-28, 34-36. Jesus warns his followers to be vigilant.

Christmas Open House

At D.J. Murphys, Bride Park Cottages, Kilumney 27/28th November, 6.00-10.00, 29th/30th 12 noon to 10.00. Proceeds to Motor Neuron Association Hyperbaric Unit in Bandon. Refreshments served. Adm. €5.

N.A.O.M.I.

For information on pre-marriage courses, natural family planning, achieving a pregnancy, menopause counselling, contact 36 Washington Street, tel.4272213.

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EMERGENCY NUMBER

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