



St. Vincent de Paul

The Society wishes to thank all those who contributed to our collections during 2003. A total of €36,879.85 was collected at the three churches of Dennehy's Cross, S.M.A. Wilton, and the Poor Clares.

We are still looking for new members. If interested, we meet every Monday night in the Parish Centre at 7.15 p.m.



Psychology Lecture

A reminder that the parents' association of St. Catherine's School will host Dr. Tony Humphreys, Clinical Psychologist, on Wednesday 21st January at 8.00 p.m. in the school hall. Lecture: 'Self Esteem and Children's Education'. Tickets €10 available at school office.

Adult Education Courses

Enrolment is currently taking place at Bishopstown Community School for evening courses. Further information from 4869310.

Over 60's

Are You Over 60?

Would you like to improve the quality of life of older people and be willing to take part in a study in U.C.C.? If so, contact Mike Murphy, CHSU, at 4902084 or 087-6438798.

Parish e-mail address:
holyspiritparish@eircom.net



Baile'n Easpaig Gramophone Circle

We will resume our monthly recitals at 3.00 p.m. on Wednesday next, 21st January, in the Crypt of our church, when Pat Lemasney will present his choice of music. Everybody is welcome to attend.

Meeting

Integrated Education Support Group

A meeting for parents of children with special needs attending mainstream school, will take place in Greenmount Primary School on Tuesday 20th January at 8.00 p.m.

God's Word

Readings for Sunday 25th January

First Reading:

Neh.8:2-6, 8-10. The Word of God proclaimed by Ezra the priest is so powerful that his listeners weep.

Psalm 18

Second Reading:

1 Cor.12:12-30. Paul urges believers to use all their different gifts in service of the Church.

Gospel:

Lk.1:1-4, 4:14-21. The first words of Luke's Gospel are included, as well as the first act of Jesus' preaching ministry.

EMERGENCY NUMBER

087 - 251 9940



**Ballyneaspais
Bulletin**

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK



A NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION

Time marches on – relentlessly. We are now past the middle of January, and we have a glimmer of light in the mornings and more noticeably in the evenings. However, it's not too late to make a New Year's Resolution. No doubt you made your own already or, just like me, you thought about it and did nothing. Might I suggest one – I will pray some time every day for the remainder of 2004, and I'll make Sunday Mass central to my prayer commitment. Now don't sign off just yet. Some kind of prayer is absolutely essential to our oneness with Christ.

And did you know when Jesus first announced his promise of the Eucharist, it immediately tested the fidelity of his followers. First, he lost the masses. It was too hard for them to understand, so they walked no more with him. Secondly, he lost one of his specially chosen ones. It was at this point he announced that one of his Apostles would betray him.

But the really good news for all of us is that the Lord is awaiting the rover's return with a smile of welcome and open

arms. We can't afford to pass up so good an offer – so let us thank God for it and try to make some return in prayer. Oh, by the way, if you find prayer too hard, or just can't get down to it on your own, you might try Scriptural Prayer on Monday mornings after 10.00 a.m. Mass or Tuesday nights, 8.00 p.m. at St. Catherine's Convent. Failing that, you have a Meditation Group meeting every Thursday at 7.00 p.m. in Parish Centre.

We are just like you – so come and join us – no questions asked if you come, or if you go. To quote the irrepressible Brendan Behan: "The bells of hell go ting-a-ling-a-ling, but not for me. No sir." We are going upstairs – with the help of the Lord.



**SO THEY HAVE NO MORE
WINE: JUN 2-3**



PASTORAL COUNCIL

The monthly meeting was held on Monday last and, despite blustery wintry conditions, there was a full attendance.

Christmas Eve Family Mass. Favourable comments were expressed regarding this. In particular, the participation of the children in the nativity play, carol singing, prayers of the faithful and procession to the crib with lighted candles. This was considered a great success. The celebrant, Fr. Mansfield thanked all who helped make the event a real community occasion.

The enlargement of the social committee with new members from the council was completed.

A Table Quiz organised by the Faith in Action Group will take place on Tuesday, 24th February at 8.00 p.m. €40 per table – all proceeds to help Cois Tinné.

Lenten Programme: Details will be announced shortly. Ash Wednesday is 25th February and Easter Sunday 11th April.



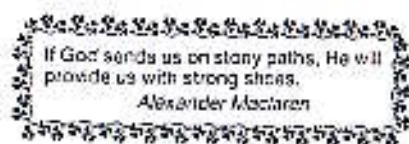
With God all things are possible.



Rest in Peace

Monica Murphy, Highfield Lawn, died at St. Clare's Ward, St. Finbarr's Hospital after a long illness. Mon (as she was fondly known to all who knew her) was a kindly and gentle lady. She was born into the Downey family at Victoria Cross, and remembered attending Mass with her mother in the old wooden chapel at the Sacred Heart before the present church was built. It was fitting that she should return there for her final farewell and funeral Mass. Our sympathy goes to her son Pat, sister Nareen, daughter-in-law and grandchildren, and indeed to all who miss this good lady.

Margaret (Peggy) Murphy, Wilton Road, died at St. Patrick's Hospital after a short stay there. Peggy was a native of a very beautiful part of the Beara peninsula. She left home as a young woman, and later took up residence on the Wilton Road, where she lived for many years with her late brother John. She retired to Woburn Rest Home on the Lower Glanmire Road last year due to failing health. She was a lady of cheerful disposition who was gladly cared for by her cousins, friends and neighbours. We extend our sympathy to her elderly sister in England and her relatives in Cork.



A Note of Thanks

The priests and parishioners of Ballinacspais would like to say a sincere word of thanks to Joe Browne of Farranlea Grove, who stepped down recently as co-ordinator of the Ministers of the Eucharist. Almost since these were first introduced in the eighties, Joe has been involved in recruiting, training, scheduling, in-service... He has given enormous dedication and commitment to the parish in this role. Beatha agus slainte chugat, agus go maithé Dia do shaothar duit.

Point to Ponder

ACCEPTING GIFTS

Allow the gifts to flourish, in the church, in the family of God: gifts like listening and speaking, healing and encouragement: gifts like forward planning and vision, like love for the good of the past. All can be gift. Sin repented and understood can be a huge gift for the community. Graces received in a time of alcoholism or divorce or the many experiences of life we don't choose, make us wonder and marvel at the ways in which the Spirit builds us up.

The church can be choosy on gifts and over-value the male, administrative, conventional ministry. What about the woman or man who feels not worthy to sit at the top of a church – but in the last seat is the friendliest and most grace-filled hand and heart of hospitality?

Fr. Donal Neary
Intercom

CHRISTMAS CROSSWORD



There were thirty-three entries for the crossword of which twenty-two were all correct. From these we drew for a prize:

JOHN FOLEY, Loyola, Laburnum Drive, and
EODN HEALY, 27 Melbourn Court.

