

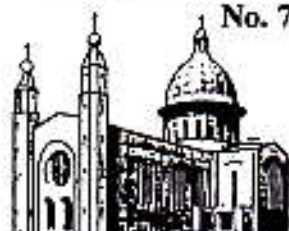


25th January 2004

No. 787

Ballineaspais Bulletin

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time



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



OUR
**PARISH
PRIEST**
writes

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Dorothy Day, who worked heroically for the poor in the U.S.A. once said, "No one has the right to sit down and feel hopeless. There is too much to do."

Such a challenging attitude of heart and mind is crucial to our own well-being and that of our families, our neighbourhoods, our parish and our church. In our time, terrorism, urban violence, alcohol abuse, hard drugs, family disintegration, homelessness, religious decline often evoke feelings of hopelessness and anxiety about the future. Such worries sap our courage and our energy, if we allow them.

We must sense life differently. Today, this day, is not an obstacle race to be survived. It is an opportunity to make a difference for good. The difference may be small but it is never insignificant. Goodness has a ripple effect, spreading out like lake ripples created by a small stone even after the stone itself has long sunk to the bottom.

In discouraging moments, we need to recall our successes, remembering the achievements with which God has

blessed us, especially small gestures of kindness and service, given or received. Such memories nourish our faithfulness to our better selves.

Sometimes, we mutter that somebody should do something to rectify or to enrich the situation in which we live. Often, it is up to each of us to make the difference for good in 2004. Otherwise, the darkness of despair will overwhelm us. Where will your spark of goodness ignite help this week?

Tom Clancy

Thank You

Dear Fr. Clancy,

I wish to thank you most sincerely for your help and co-operation during our recent church gate collection for Edel House. You will be delighted to learn that the sum of money collected in your parish amounted to €750. Sr. Jane and all the staff of Edel House are grateful to you and your parishioners. Please acknowledge the generosity of your parishioners in your newsletter.

Yours sincerely,
Con Quirke



Rest in Peace

Sr. Fintan McAuliffe, late of Lixnaw and St. Joseph's Convent, Model Farm Road, died peacefully on 10th January. One of the founding members of the Drishane community in California, she travelled in 1950 from Cobh by liner to New York on her own, and then to San Francisco by train. This was her first exposure to the New World, where she spent 35 years in parish ministry making many friends as she visited nursing homes, hospitals and private homes "spreading the Word" as she used to say. She continued her ministry by letter writing, bringing hope and encouragement to many. Her community, family and friends will miss her for the personal interest she had for all. We pray that the new dawn may anoint her eyes with wonder and that beauty may await her in heaven.

Bridie King passed away in December at the age of 94. A native of Belfast, she moved to Cork where three of her daughters were living, following the death of her husband Frank, in 1979. She lived in Bishops court Hill with her daughter Fran Barry, her husband Paddy and family. A loving and caring person, she had devoted herself to her nine children, and their education was a priority. She had a keen interest in music, which she retained to the end, playing the piano up to a few years ago. Her body was given for medical research. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a h-anam.

Humphrey Murphy, Rosemary, Lima Lawn, who has died aged 91, enjoyed a varied and colourful career serving 44 years in the Public Service. His love for the Irish language sustained him all his life; he was an actor, writer, broadcaster and teacher. He was still writing in Irish until recently. No matter where he was in the country, he had to be back to collect in the church on Sundays. He worked tirelessly for the poor, showing the generosity of spirit that was the hallmark of his life. He is survived by his wife Ann, sons Jerry, Tim, Humphrey and Tony, grandchildren and great-grand children. "Leaba i measc na naomh go raibh aige."



We offer our sincere sympathy to FRANK BARNETT, Wilton Road, on the death of his brother, Fr. Christy Barnett, Melbourne, Australia.
To DR. HUGH HARRINGTON, Cherrygrove, on the death of his mother.
To BROTHER ALBERT COONEY, who conducts art classes in the crypt, on the death of his mother.



I know your light may hurt
as it shines in my darkness;
but shine anyway, Lord,
and give me courage
to repent.



"DEAR MUM.... BEING A MISSIONARY
ISN'T QUITE WHAT I THOUGHT
IT WOULD BE...."



LOCAL SCHOOLS

Mount Mercy College recently staged a very successful production of *Calamity Jane*. It involved group one of the Transition Year Students together with a chorus of 2nd and 3rd year students. Among the very talented girls were Jennifer O'Donovan in the title role, Leona Cantillon, Mairead O'Donoghue, Marian Kelleher, Susan Cuthbert and Laura Mangan.

The Transition Year group would like to thank all those who supported them and look forward to staging another musical in May 2004.

Bible Corner



CYCLE OF READINGS

The Gospel reading is the cornerstone of the proclamation of God's Word at Mass. There is a three year cycle of Gospel readings on Sundays – A, B and C.

- Year A consists of Mark's gospel and as it is the shortest gospel, it is supplemented by large parts of John's gospel.
- Year B uses Matthew's gospel.
- Year C is largely based on St. Luke's gospel and this is the one we are using in 2004.

Luke was well educated and was commissioned to write an orderly account of the life and teachings of Jesus. He proved to be a very competent and balanced investigative reporter. Luke's gospel is the gospel of great mercy, the parable of the prodigal son is found only in Luke. It is also the gospel of great challenge with the demand that we forgive as fully as God does and that if we have two coats we must give one away.

We have the beginning of Luke's gospel this weekend. Follow it reflectively throughout the year. Some primary school children are doing a special study of Luke's gospel this year and are able to fill in the background for anyone who asks.



St. Vincent de Paul

The monthly collection will take place next weekend.

Apostolate of Our Lady of Fatima

Mass and Holy Hour at St. Maries of The Isle at 7.30 p.m. on Monday 26th January. Priest: Fr. Denis O'Sullivan, S.M.A.

Day of Reflection and Prayer

On Saturday 7th February from 10.00 to 6.00 p.m. in St. Dominic's Retreat House, Ennismore, Montenotte (tel. 4502520). Offering €20 including light lunch. Please contact Jean McKeown at 086 1547944.



Lough Derg Fundraising

Grand Variety Concert at Silversprings Moran Hotel on Sunday 15th February at 7.30 p.m. Tickets €15 available from 4883288 or Vincent de Paul office, Tuckey Street.

Spring Concert

In Christ the King Church in aid of restoration fund, on Friday 6th February at 8 p.m. with Cara O'Sullivan, Cork Symphony Orchestra, Cor Cois Abhann and Christ the King Church Choir.



Bishopstown Senior Social Centre

Weekly activities include relaxation and gentle exercises on Mondays and Thursdays; Cards 45 (beginners welcome) on Tuesdays; computer coaching for 'the petrified' on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. New seniors especially welcome. €2 per session includes cuppa and chat. Queries anytime to Roger Coughlan 086-3866975.

God's Word

Readings for Sunday 1st February

First Reading:
Jer.1:4-5,17-19.

Psalm 70

Second Reading:
1 Cor. 12:31-13:13

Gospel:
Lk.4:21-30.

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EMERGENCY NUMBER

087 - 251 9940