



1<sup>st</sup> February 2004

# Ballineaspais Bulletin

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

No. 788



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



## FROM OUR PARISH TEAM

Fr. Declan writes

### The New Arrival

The new arrival last weekend was greeted with puzzlement, curiosity, stares, refusals, welcome, gratitude, indifference... Some people said a polite but firm 'No, thanks, I'm a crow.' Others said 'I forgot my glasses'. Others just said 'I don't sing.' One person stopped me in the Supermarket to say 'I think it's a brilliant idea. They're great.' Another met me in the pool and said 'She's a lovely singer up there, but half the time we didn't have the words, and couldn't join in. Now we can.'

The new Hymnal was christened last weekend. Talked about for years, discussed by Parish Pastoral Council and Liturgy Committee, and still in the doldrums as to the best way to distribute and collect it, and encourage its use, but 'Laudate', meaning 'Give Praise', has arrived.

As a Parish, we've all worked hard on improving the liturgy in Dennehy's Cross Church. In particular, we've worked hard on participation and congregational singing. This is our golden opportunity now to improve even further on this. The new Hymnal is full

of good music. Let's do our best to sing it!

But wait a minute, I hear you say. What about those of us who can't sing? Those of us who are tone deaf, those of us who were told in school that we were crows? Our Parish Mass on Sunday is not Feis Maitiú, nor an audition for an Opera Chorus! It is the people of God trying to celebrate His presence. It is participation, it is community, it is congregation – a word that means a flock gathered together.

I remember once driving through a beautiful narrow valley in the north of Wales by the side of a river, and hearing the sounds of the sheep echoing off the steep mountainsides. I never realised that some sheep had high 'baas', and some had low 'baas'. The valley was filled with the sound – totally unmusical, horribly discordant, but completely filled with the glory of God, the grandeur of God. I got out of the car and listened in amazement and wonder. How wonderful it would be if we, as a congregation, could do that every Sunday!

*'All God's creatures got a place in the choir,*

*Some sing low, some sing higher.*

*Some sing out low on the telephone wire.*

*And some just clap their hands, their paws, or anything they've got.....'*

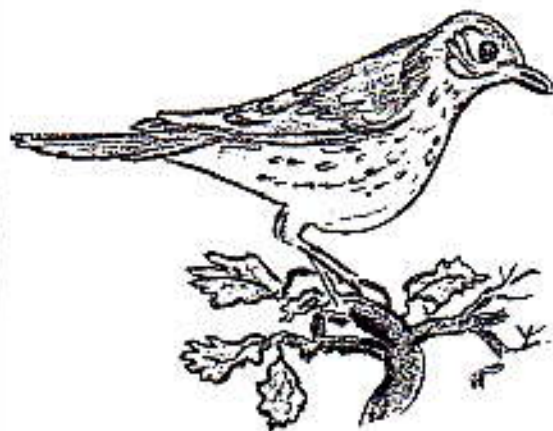


## Rest in Peace

**Elsa Ronan**, Lima Lynch Park, died peacefully in January at Cork University Hospital in the presence of her loving family. Elsa, originally from Sheares Park, moved to Liam Lynch Park in 1956 with her husband Con who predeceased her in 1996. When Con became ill, Elsa cared for him at home as long as possible and when he eventually had to be hospitalised, not a day went by without a visit from Elsa. She was a wonderful neighbour and friend as anyone who knew her will agree. She lived life to the full and loved her weekly game of cards. She took great pleasure in her garden. She had a lovely warm personality and had a great interest in life and in people. She was deeply loved and respected by her family and her world revolved around them. She was very proud of all her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren and was always there for them. They, in their turn, were there for her when she needed them and especially during her illness. Elsa became ill in mid-October and was mostly confined to the house after that. She bore her illness with great faith, dignity and good humour. She will be sadly missed by all her family, neighbours and many friends.

United with him  
in his suffering on  
the cross,  
may we share  
his resurrection  
and new life.

**Kitty Moloney** of Model Farm Rd. died in January, on the exact anniversary of the death of her late husband Jim, eighteen years before. Her daughter Annette O'Loughlin, son-in-law Bill and family had lived with her for many years, though she had spent the last few years of her life in Cara House where she had received great care. She was blessed with a strong faith in the Eucharist, but also had a great devotion to Sr. Faustina. She will be missed by her daughters Annette, Paul, Martina, and son Finbarr. Her concelebrated Requiem Mass was led by her relative, Fr. John Collins, Administrator of the Cathedral. I lámha Dé go raibh sí.



The woods would be  
very silent  
if no birds sang there  
except those  
who sang best



## THE FRIENDSHIP CLUB Meets the Lord Mayor

On Monday last our club had a very pleasant visit to the City Hall at the invitation of the Lord Mayor. Cllr. Colm Burke, who lives in the neighbourhood, was very happy to meet his neighbours and accorded us a very warm welcome. We were plied with eats and drinks and the music played by the two excellent musicians provided a pleasant ambience.

The Lord Mayor spoke about the recent improvements to our City and how the City Council planned to extend and improve walkways around our area. He acknowledged the work of the officers of the Club, and Helen O'Hea, Chairperson, replying thanked him and his staff for the refreshments and the cordial reception we had received. She then spoke about the activities of the Club past and present.

Deirdre Clune also popped in to welcome the group.

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## FORTY DAYS ON MONDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> FEBRUARY

Forty days have passed since Christmas. Joseph and Mary fulfilled the Jewish custom of their time by bringing their young Son, Jesus, to the Temple in thanksgiving to the Lord on that day. Early Christians adapted this custom into the feast of the Presentation of the Lord, a feast in honour of Mother and Son. Candles always had a central place in the celebration of this feast. So much so,

that the Mass of the day became the CANDLE MASS and the day was call CANDLEMAS.

On Monday, at each of the Masses we bless candles for use in the Church throughout the year ahead. People often keep a blessed candle in their home, and this Monday is one opportunity to have your candle blessed if you like to bring it on the morning.

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## BLESSING OF THROATS ON THE MEMORIAL OF ST. BLAISE 3<sup>RD</sup> FEBRUARY

St. Blaise, Bishop of Sebaste in Armenia, is believed to have been martyred in the early 4<sup>th</sup> century. Very little is known about him. Tradition states that he was a physician before becoming a bishop. Since the 8<sup>th</sup> century he has been venerated as the patron of those who suffer from disease of the throat. He is said to have healed a boy who was choking. The blessing of St. Blaise is a sign of our faith in God's protection and love for us and for the sick.

Using two crossed and unlighted candles, the minister touches the throat of each person saying:

*"Though the intercession of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from all ailments of the throat and from every other evil (or from every disease of the throat and from every other illness). In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen."*

Throats will be blessed at both the 9.00 and 10.00 a.m. Masses.



**First Friday**

Next Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> February is the first Friday of the month. Calls to the sick and housebound on usual days.

**Adoration of Blessed Sacrament**

Next Friday 6<sup>th</sup> from 10.30 a.m. to 7.30 p.m. followed by Mass.

**St. Joseph's Young Priests' Society**

Monthly meeting next Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February at 8.00 p.m. in the Parish Centre.

**Lourdes Invalid Fund (Diocesan Pilgrimage)**

Yearly collection will take place next Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> February at all Masses.

**Bishopstown Senior Social Centre**

Annual collection this Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February at the three Bishopstown Shopping Centres. Can you spare one hour to help. If so, please contact Breda Scully 4541955, Nora Fitzpatrick 4546358 or Roger Coughlan 086-3866975.

**Cork Branch of Alzheimer Society**

Support meeting on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February at 8.00 p.m. in Jurys Hotel. All are welcome.

*THANK YOU*

We wish to thank all who so generously subscribed to the collection for the poor at the Crib during the Christmas period. The sum of €1,044 was collected. To Nangles Garden Centre, who again provided the beautiful trees to adorn the Crib, and to all those who donated flowers and holly, we offer our sincere gratitude.

**CORK SCRABBLE CLUB**

Every Wednesday in SMA Centre Wilton  
(beside Wilton Shopping Centre)

At 7.30 p.m.

Players most welcome!

For further information

Phone Maura at 021 4544141

**God's Word**

**Readings for Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> February**

**First Reading:**

Is.6:1-2,3-8. Faith Alive in the soul: the call of Isaiah burns his heart like coal burns his body. He will never forget that he is a servant of God.

**Psalm 137.**

**Second Reading:**

1 Cor. 15:1-11. Faith Alive in our conviction of being called: Paul knows that all the strength of his calling comes from God, not from himself nor from the apostles.

**Gospel:**

Lk.5:1-11. Faith Alive in our sinfulness and weakness: Peter wants to walk away because he knows he is a sinner. Jesus calls him as he is.

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