

22<sup>nd</sup> February 2004



No. 791

# Ballineaspais Bulletin

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT  
DENNEHY'S CROSS, COBK



FROM OUR  
**PARISH  
TEAM**

*Fr. Declan writes*

## Lent 2004 – a Call to Action

It is impossible to celebrate the great Feast of Easter properly without having celebrated Lent properly. Nobody appreciates light who hasn't seen darkness; nobody appreciates joy who hasn't experienced hardship, sacrifice, suffering. Traditionally, forty days of fasting, prayer and almsgiving prepared the mind and body for the forty-day celebration of Christ's Victory. How are you going to enter into the season of Lent this year?

**Prayer:** There will be an extra daily Mass on the evenings of Lent at 7.30 p.m. Why not try to make the effort to come, even once or twice a week? All it takes is an earlier, simpler dinner. Lent used to be the great time of spiritual growth and instruction in the Church as the candidates finished preparing for Baptism. Two new Scriptural Prayer groups will be formed for Lent, to allow people spend an hour praying the Sunday Gospel. Why not join, for five nights or five mornings?

**Fasting:** The younger children still show great interest and perseverance in 'giving up' things for Lent. For a generation that has everything, this is an excellent training and self-discipline. Encourage them, and encourage the smokers, the drinkers, the spenders (this includes all of us!) to cut back. Keep the Trócaire Box handy to

collect the Euros and Cents that are saved.

**Almsgiving (Charity):** As a Parish, we encourage you to support Trócaire, to buy Fairtrade products, to support Cois Tine, the centre for immigrants, at parish events. Fill a few bags with clean clothing for the Charity Shop and make the journey into town with it..... There are so many deserving of our support. You may like to keep a piggy-bank or money-box in the bedroom and throw in the small coins that weigh down the pockets and handbags. A few cents each day can mount up. They will make little difference to us, but a huge difference in the Third World.



"JESUS' MAMA WAS REALLY GREAT!  
SHE LET HIM HAVE CAMELS, COWS,  
SHEEP AND ALL KINDS OF ANIMALS IN  
HIS BEDROOM!"

## Dates for your Diary:

- **Shrove Tuesday:** Crypt, 8 p.m., Table Quiz in aid of Cois Tine.

## Lenten Lunchtime:

- **Ash Wednesday:** Crypt, 1.10 p.m., Talk and discussion: Trócaire and Rwanda.
- **Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup>:** Crypt, 1.10 p.m., Talk and discussion: Fairtrade products and the Third World.
- **Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup>:** Talk and discussion: Cois Tine centre for immigrants.



Fairtrade products carry the Fairtrade Mark logo. The products meet standards set by the international body: **Fairtrade Labelling Organisations (FLO) International**. They are products which guarantee a fair price to the producers in the Third World, as well as fair wages and decent working conditions for worker employees. No child labour, or forced or bonded labour, are used. The Fairtrade logo represents a human figure with an arm held high in a symbol of hope.

The Fairtrade movement is supported by many development organisations including Trocaire and Oxfam, as well as Fairtrade Mark Ireland.

By choosing Fairtrade-marked products, such as tea, coffee, biscuits, chocolate, fruit juices, all of which are available locally, shoppers can do something practical to help to alleviate poverty, and promote self-sufficiency in the Third World.

**Fairtrade is not a charity; it is a right.**

### **Trocaire 2004**

This year, Trocaire's appeal is for Rwanda. Smallest of the African countries, it is only the size of Munster, but has a population of eight million. Many of us will remember the horrific events of 1994, when one of its two largest tribes attacked the other, resulting in the massacre of over a million people. Ten years after this genocide, Trocaire is involving itself in the work of education, reconciliation and development. Only 10%

of its children receive secondary education. An excellent pack has been issued for Irish schools to be used during Lent.

A talk will be given on **Trocaire and Rwanda in the Crypt, on Ash Wednesday, Feb 25<sup>th</sup>, at 1.10p.m., followed by tea and a biscuit.** Please come, and please support Trocaire's Lenten Campaign. Boxes will be given out in the Church on the First Sunday of Lent.

### **COIS TINE**

Those of us who grew up with the 'open fire' have very happy and comforting memories, as it was the focus of Irish family life. It was the place where stories were told and where fates were determined. In the same way, the 'Cois Tine' Centre in Fr. Matthew Hall offers strangers in our city, namely refugees and asylum seekers, a place to share their story in a warm, supportive and safe environment. It is a multicultural, interfaith organisation which addresses the emerging pastoral, spiritual and social needs of the immigrant community. It is rooted in the call of the Gospel to welcome the stranger.

To assist in the day-to-day running of the Centre, the Faith in Action Parish group is holding a **Table Quiz in the Crypt next Tuesday (Shrove) 24<sup>th</sup> February at 8.00 p.m.** Team of four, €40 per table, to be sent to Seamus Murphy at the Parish Centre. This will be a fun night with raffles, spots and guess what? Pancakes!



"HURRY UP, WOMAN! WE GOT TO GET TO CHURCH EARLY OR WE WON'T GET A BACK SEAT"



## LOCAL SCHOOLS

### MOUNT MERCY

Transition Year students raised the grand total of €6000 for Edel House in their recent Fashion Show.

A sponsored silence by 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year students raised €500 for the Oncology Department of C.U.H.

Also a non-uniform day held before Christmas raised €1000 for the local conference of St. Vincent de Paul. A large number of hampers were also donated by the students to the Conference.

A big thank you to all students for their generosity.

### BISHOPSTOWN COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Success in European Competition

Congratulations to ten Transition Year students who have won a four-day trip to Strasbourg in a national competition organised by EUROSCOLA. Their colourful tourist brochure on the Czech Republic was awarded the prize by an international panel of judges. The Bishopstown students will gain an insight into the workings of the European Parliament, joining in debate with 500 students from other EU countries, and learning about their lives, views and expectations.

### LENTEN RESOLUTIONS FOR MASS GOERS

1. Arrive five minutes earlier to tune in to the celebration and the readings.
2. Collect your hymnal, use it and return it.
3. Move in towards the centre aisle from the over-crowded Model Farm Road entrance.
4. If young and able, walk to Mass. Meet the neighbours, keep fit and lessen the parking difficulties.

Thank you.

Other suggestions welcome for next week.

## Bible Corner



### PRINCIPLE OR POWER

It seemed like once in a lifetime opportunity. With his whole army, King Saul set out to eliminate David and his few followers whom he imagined to be a threat to himself. David and his lieutenant, Alishai, slipped into Saul's camp at night and stood unhindered over the sleeping Saul. Alishai was ready to strike the fatal blow. David would not allow him. David's principle was that it would be wrong to harm the one whom the Lord had appointed ruler of his people. He tried to live by his principle no matter what the cost to himself.

This weekend's first reading recounts this principled incident as a forerunner or trailer to the gospel where Jesus outlines his principles to his disciples.

"Love your enemies. Pray for those who treat you badly.

Treat others as you would wish them to treat you.

Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate.

Give and there will be gifts for you."

It is a challenging message coming up to Lent. We must listen to it receptively to be empowered by it.



We offer our sincere sympathy to MICK LANE of Cherrygrove, on the recent death of his mother, Margaret, at the age of 103.



## TAKE Note:

### LENT

Next Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February is Ash Wednesday, a day of fast and abstinence. Ashes will be distributed at all Masses.

Daily Mass (Monday to Friday) for Lent will be at 9.00, 10.00 and 7.30 p.m. Saturdays 9.00, 10.00 and 6.15 p.m. Trócaire Boxes available in the church.

### Ministers of the Eucharist at CUH

Are you a minister of the Eucharist in your parish? Are you interested in becoming a Minister so that you might serve the sick in a major hospital? We are looking for people to give an hour or so once a fortnight any weekday morning at 11.00 a.m. Monday to Friday. We would really appreciate your becoming involved in a very important ministry. Please contact the Chaplaincy Department 11.00 - 12.00 noon, 2.00-3.00 p.m. Monday to Friday at 4922178.

### Apostolate of Our Lady of Fatima

Mass and Holy Hour at St. Maries of the Isle on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February at 7.30 p.m. Priest Fr. Dan Crowley, P.P. Grange.

### Scriptural Prayer for Lent:

Many people joined a Scriptural Prayer group for the season of Advent to pray the Sunday Gospels, and enjoyed the experience. As a preparation for Easter, you are invited to come and pray the Gospels of Lent for one hour each week for five weeks, beginning on the week of March 1st.

a) Monday morning, after 10 a.m. Mass, at the C.P. Centre.

b) Tuesday night, 8 p.m., at St. Catherine's Convent.

You are welcome to come to either of these, or to one of the new groups:

c) Monday night, 8 p.m., at the C.P. Centre

d) Wednesday morning, after 10 a.m. Mass, at the C.P. Centre.

### TABLE QUIZ

Faith in Action will hold a Table Quiz on Shrove Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> February, at 8.00 p.m. in the Crypt. This is a parish community fund-raising event in aid of "Cois Tine". Tables of four - €40 per team. This will be a 'fun-night' with lots of spots and *maybe* Pancakes!!

Please get a team together and send into Seamus Murphy, Parish Centre.

### God's Word

#### Readings for Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> February

##### First Reading:

Deut.26:4-10. The Old Testament readings in Lent this year pick out great moments in the history of salvation. Today, Moses invited the people to make a profession of their faith in the God who has brought them out of slavery.

##### Psalm : 90

##### Second Reading:

Rom.10:8-13. Paul encourages the Romans to make a profession of their faith in Jesus as Lord.

##### Gospel:

Lk.4:1-13. With Jesus, we spend our 40 days in preparation for the celebration of his saving death and resurrection.

### EMERGENCY NUMBER

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