

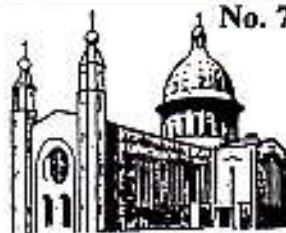
28th March 2004



No. 796

Ballineaspais Bulletin

Fifth Sunday of Lent



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK



OUR
**PARISH
PRIEST**
writes

How quickly we forget. The recent severe winds were to be expected. They often accompany the Spring Equinox (March 21st and 22nd). This is how our planet works, revolving on its axis and rotating around the sun. Its daily and annual cycles are the cornerstones of maintaining life on the planet. We can, of course, destroy the balance of nature by selfishly exploiting the resources of our world.

Gandhi once said the world had enough resources to meet everyone's need, but not everyone's greed. Wisdom is knowing the difference between what we merely want and what we really need. Waste may well be the most destructive attitude of our time without our even being aware of our carelessness.

Recognizing our selfishness is a key step on the road to justice.

Recognizing the real needs of others is a first step on the way to peace.

Recognizing our interdependence is the cornerstone of love.

How quickly we forget. Lent is a time to tune our hearts again to such recognitions. To miss this Lenten

opportunity is to risk being blown off course by unexpected eruptions of greed. In such ways, love is undermined.

Volunteers Needed

Would you be willing to give up some time each week to work in the Cork Simon Community Shop on North Main Street, which is extending opening hours and urgently requires more volunteers. The shop is a very important part of the Cork Simon Community, providing clothes for homeless people and also raising funds to help provide services for homeless people. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Mairéad at 4321166. You can also e-mail at fundraising@corksimoncommunity.ie.



RECONCILIATION SERVICE

NEXT SUNDAY 4TH APRIL

5.00 P.M.

TO BE LED BY DEAN O'CONNOR



LETTER

Tara Court
Glasheen Road

Dear Editor,

On two occasions, over ten years ago, I took part in the general rite of absolution of the sacrament of Reconciliation. It was for me, and I am sure, also for the rest of the congregations on those occasions an extremely enriching event.

I've been recently wondering why this form of the rite has not been made more frequently available to the faithful. I was told that for the rite to take place in a diocese, an authorisation from the bishop is needed. In this diocese the authorisation has not been granted.

This evoked a memory of a newspaper article about a ruling from a department of the Curia, the government of the Catholic Church, that aimed to suppress as much as possible this form of the rite of Reconciliation. Why has a form of the sacrament of Reconciliation established by the Catholic Church in its General Council at the Vatican, been nearly ruled out by later high-ranking clerical functionaries in the same Vatican?

What is the nature of the control exerted over local bishops to make them reluctant to ignore this type of directive? What can the local faithful, the baptised, priestly people of God, do to encourage their bishop to ignore this type of ruling,

and to support him if he is put under pressure by the central government?

The far-seeing Church of the 1960s in General Council at Vatican II read the signs of the times. Is the backwards-looking Church of the 2000s at Curia level not failing to do so?

Madelaine MacNamara



Adult Education U.C.C.

You are invited to explore the options, offerings and opportunities available to adult learners wishing to return or continue with education on in Devere Hall, Students' Centre, on Wednesday 31st March, 5.30-8.30 p.m. Tel. 49023012, email ace@ucc.ie. Information stands, programme coordinators, former students, complimentary tea/coffee, all welcome.

Perfect love casts out fear.
1 John 4:18

Novena to the Divine Mercy

At the Church of the Real Presence, commencing on Good Friday at 2.30 p.m. Easter Saturday 7.30 p.m., Easter Sunday 12.40 p.m., Monday 11th-Saturday 17th at 11.30 a.m. and closing on Sunday 18th with confessions 2.00-3.00 p.m. followed by Stations of the Cross, Divine Chaplet, Mass, Solemn blessing of the Divine Image, Veneration of first class Relic of St. Faustina. Everyone welcome.

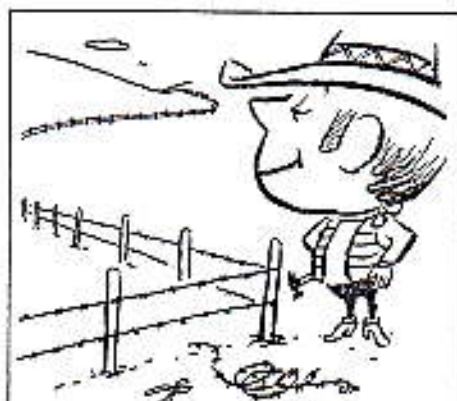


DIOCESAN PASTORAL STRATEGY

At the request of Bishop Buckley, a parish meeting was held in the Crypt on Monday last to discuss ways to deepen a sense of active partnership among the people of the parish and the diocese, and to elicit ways of linking parishes into pastoral areas. Over fifty people attended this lively constructive meeting which was chaired by Liam McGinn.

While many difficulties were mentioned, the overall thrust of the meeting was hopeful with many views on the introduction of deacons, the centrality of the Eucharist to community and community to Eucharist, the need to awaken a new realisation of the responsibility for all baptised believers for the overall building up of the faith community.

Máire Mulcahy, Claire McCutcheon and Peter Desmond were selected with Fr. Declan to take these views forward to an area meeting in May.



Stages of Accomplishment

Every great accomplishment has three distinct stages: (1) It's impossible, (2) it's difficult, and (3) it's done.

LOCAL SCHOOLS

COLÁISTE AN SPIORAID NAOIMH

The school's senior footballers put up a great display in their recent Munster Final but were beaten by a very strong St. Augustine's team. Commiserations to all involved.

Belated congratulations to parishioners Colm Murphy and Michael Dineen who along with classmate Donagh Healy won scholarships to U.C.C. earlier this year.

MOUNT MERCY

PEACE SLOGAN WINNERS AS GAELIGE

Congratulations to Clare Finnegan, Ciara Lawless, Deirdre Crowley and Aoife Quish who were winners in the recent P.E.A.C.E. slogan competition As Gaeilge organised by Mr Cecil Hurwitz. The students received their awards and prizes at the P.E.A.C.E. awards ceremony held in St. Finbarr's Hurling and Football Club. Clare won 1st prize with her slogan and also won the overall prize for the best slogan in either English or Irish. Clare, Ciara and Deirdre were also presented with Crystal Plates by Gael-Taca, for the three best Irish Language slogans.

DIAN SWANBURY

We offer our sincere sympathy to EDITH LYALL, Woodlawn, Model Farm Road, on the death of her sister Jeanne Geary.

To PATRICIA O'SULLIVAN, 14 Bishops Court Avenue, Wilton, on the death of her sister Hélène McCullen, Malahide, Co. Dublin.



Here's **NEWS**

First Friday

Next Friday, 2nd April, is the First Friday of the month. Calls to sick and housebound on usual days.



Eucharistic Ministers

All Eucharistic Ministers are invited to a meeting on Monday 29th March at 8.00 p.m. in the Crypt. The meeting will focus on preparations for Holy Week especially distribution of the Eucharist under both species on Holy Thursday and Holy Saturday. Thank you.

Note: 29th March, 8.00 p.m.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Next Friday 2nd April from 10.30 a.m. to 7.30 p.m. followed by Mass.

St. Josephs Young Priests Society

Monthly meeting takes place next Thursday 1st April at 8.00 p.m. in the Parish Centre.

Day Trip to Knock

Friday 16th April, Feast of St. Bernadette, €30 return. Further details from 086-1939225.

Money Found

A sum of money has been found close to Church gates. Apply sacristy.

St. Vincent de Paul

Monthly collection next weekend.

Bishopstown Senior Social Centre

Closing Tuesday 6th April, re-opening Monday 19th April.

Vacancies on New Exercises & Dance for Seniors every Thursday at 2.30 p.m. Apply Roger Coughlan 086-3866975 or Breda Scully 4541955 after 6.00 p.m.

Apostolate of Our Lady of Fatima

Mass and Holy Hour at St. Maries of the Isle on Monday 29th March at 7.30 p.m. Priest: Fr. Pat O'Herlihy, S.S.C.

God's Word

Readings for Sunday 4th April

First Reading:

Is. 50:4-7. The prophet Isaiah lets us into a secret: strength comes from listening to God.

Psalm : 21

Second Reading:

Phil. 2:6-11. St. Paul never got accustomed to the wonder of Jesus' love for us, of the dispossession involved in his becoming one of us, and of his humility in accepting death on a cross.

Gospel:

Lk.22:14-23:56. We pay attention to Luke's version of the betrayal and Passion of Jesus.

EMERGENCY NUMBER

087 - 251 9940

Parish e-mail address:

holyspiritparish@eircom.net