

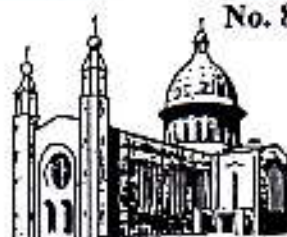
9th May 2004



No. 802

Ballineaspais Bulletin

Fifth Sunday of Easter



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK



OUR
**PARISH
PRIEST**
writes

EU WISDOM

Were St. Paul alive now, he would be keenly interested in EU developments, as well as in the war in Iraq. Based in the Middle East, Paul's missionary journeys took him to EU member states (Italy and Greece), to accession states (Malta and Cyprus) and to applicant states (Turkey and Macedonia). St. Luke wrote about Paul's travels in the Acts of the Apostles from which extracts are currently being read at Mass.

Paul's focus was not primarily political or economic, but it was focused on justice, love and human rights based on faith in God. It was about the vision and the spirit that the Risen Jesus brought to the world. It was a vision of each person, no matter of what nationality, as a brother or sister of the Risen Lord. The spirit empowers each person to put the other's needs on a par with one's own, and so love one another as Jesus loves us.

It is the only vision that will adequately underpin lasting peaceful unity in the EU. Democracy on its own with majority rule leaves minorities very vulnerable. Economics will never place

compassion centre stage. Much of economics depends on developing selfishness rather than detachment.

The EU's need for an overreaching vision was never greater. It is the vision that acknowledges God as creator and each one of us as a unique individual in His plan. Organising the governance of the enlarged EU is crucial to its economic success. But providing visionary and servant leadership in the new Europe is even more urgent and essential. Our need is not so much for profits as for prophets. Prophets see the world as it really is and articulate the vision that leads to life-enhancing progress.

We need such prophets, not only on the European stage but nearer home in our parish communities, in our councils, our schools and the workplace. To listen and heed true prophets is the wisdom that leads to peace. Such prophets are a gift of the Holy Spirit to God's people. We pray for the wisdom to recognise them.

CONFIRMATION CEREMONY

Last Wednesday, sixty-one girls from St. Catherine's School received their Confirmation from Bishop John Buckley. It was a very moving ceremony, with singing and music performed by the pupils of the school.



Top of the Class

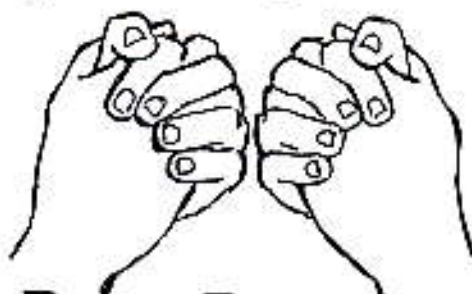
Students from Gael Scoil Uí Riada representing Bishopstown Credit Union Ltd. were 'top class' in the Irish League of Credit Unions National School Quiz on Sunday 4th April in the RDS in Dublin. They were runners up in the under 13 category competing against the top 100 national school teams in Ireland. The students, Diarmuid Mac Carthaigh, Michéal Ó Créad, Dara Ó Dalaigh and Catriona Ni Mhathuna were worthy winners in what was a very exciting competition, where the competing teams had equal points up until the final question. The principal, Aindrias Ó Maolansaidh, family and friends of the students, as well as representatives from Bishopstown Credit Union travelled to Dublin for the competition. Four hundred national school students packed the RDS and were entertained by 2FM DJ Lorcan Murray before the competition. Ray Darcy was on hand to perform the quiz-master duties. The winning school received prize money, a Certificate and winning Cup and each student received a mini music system and winning plaques. The questions were compiled by teachers in the Republic and Northern Ireland.

Ray Kenny, CEO of Bishopstown Credit Union Ltd said, "we would like to congratulate the students, teachers and principal of Gael Scoil Uí Riada on this wonderful achievement".



We offer our sincere sympathy to CATHERINE O'SULLIVAN, The Grove, Parkway Drive, on the death of her father.

To ANN CAHALANE-FITZGERALD, Model Farm Road, on the death of her uncle, Canon Frank Hegarty.



Prayer Partners

CHAPEL RENOVATION

Our parishioners, the Poor Clare Sisters, have renovated their chapel, a haven of prayer to many of us especially at times of particular crisis in our own lives. You may wish to contribute to the considerable costs of this worthwhile project. To facilitate benefactors, we will have collection boxes at the church doors next weekend May 15th/16th. Hopefully many will show their appreciation of our praying neighbours. Thank you.

"The Lord be with you always
and may you be with him always
and in every place"

- Blessing of St. Clare



It's wonderful what we can do - SVP and you.

This year, Ireland's largest volunteer organization, the Saint Vincent de Paul Society, celebrates 160 years of unbroken service to the poor and the vulnerable.

Every year, thanks to your support, the Saint Vincent de Paul Society touches the lives of 200,000 people. Every day, we visit families, people in hospital, and people in prison. We run 600 housing units and 18 hostels which together provide 1200 beds for people in need of housing. We run 120 good as new shops around the country, 9 holiday homes, 12 day care and family resource centres, almost 40 breakfast clubs and many other services.

The SVP would like to use this occasion to thank the many thousands of Irish people who support the society during the year and to invite all members to a special Members Day Event which will take place in the RDS on May 30th. For further information please contact your local conference.



Today's readings are in tune with the new life of Easter and the freshness of May's blossoms. Paul and Barnabas put fresh heart into the disciples. Jesus speaks of a new standard of love. John the Seer takes his readers beyond the Apocalypse's tribulations and terrors to the vision of the new heaven and the new earth, the new Jerusalem coming down from heaven.

New things are exciting, but more exciting still are the good things that last for ever. These are what we recognise in the psalm.

The Lord is kind, compassionate, slow to anger, abounding in love and full of goodness. These are the everlasting values, yesterday, today and the same for ever. Each new day is a fresh gift of God's life and love. Each morning *he makes all things new.*

In the name of all creatures, with our friends we repeat their blessing.

*I will bless your name for ever,
O God, my King.*

Fr. Silvester O'Flynn, OFM Cap.
Intercom





Bulletins to the Homes

Bulletins will be delivered to all homes in the parish next weekend.

Found

Sum of money in church on Sunday 2nd May. Please apply to Sacristan.

Bishopstown Meals on Wheels

Cooks urgently needed to maintain service. Please phone Pat at 4545790 between 3.00 and 5.00 p.m.

Alzheimer Support Meeting

In Jurys Hotel on Monday 10th May at 8.00 p.m.

Cúrsa Gaeilge 2004

One week Irish Course at Mount Mercy College, July 5-9th for girls and boys, 10-16 years. Apply to the Secretary, 4542366 (10.00-3.00 p.m.) and 4968496 (6.00-8.00 p.m.).

Anti High-Rise Association

A meeting will be held on Tuesday 11th May at 8.00 p.m. in the Crypt. All welcome.



ADVANCE ALERT

CHANGE OF SUNDAY MASS TIME

To facilitate the broadcast of our Mass on Sunday 30th May and Sunday 6th June, Mass will be at 10.00 a.m. to replace the 10.30 Mass.

Other Mass times remain unchanged. Please cut out for reference.

The Call of the Spirit

Emmaus Men's Fellowship extends an invitation to all men to a day of prayer, sharing and testimony. Given by men who are seeking Christ, for men who feel they want something extra from their lives - Saturday 15th May beginning 10.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. at the Sacred Heart Community Centre, Western Road.

Life in the Spirit Seminar starts on Tuesday 18th May for 8 weeks. Contact Sr. Bridget Dunne at the Prayer Centre on 4270362 for further details.

God's Word

Readings for Sunday 16th May

First Reading:

Acts 15:1-2,22-29. The Holy Spirit guided the first Christians as they adapted to new situations. The Spirit guides us too, if we are open to being led.

Psalm : 66

Second Reading:

Apoc.21:10-14,22-23. A radiant vision of the life that awaits us: the heavenly Jerusalem.

Gospel:

Jn.14:23-29. The Holy Spirit will keep alive in our hearts the message of Jesus, teaching us and giving us peace.

EMERGENCY NUMBER

087 - 251 9940