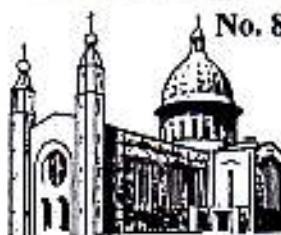




6th June 2004

Ballineaspais Bulletin

The Most Holy Trinity



No. 806

CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEHY'S CROSS, COBK



FROM OUR
**PARISH
TEAM**

Fr. Declan writes

The Smell of New-mown Grass

Strange how things linger in the mind! This time of year, the smell of new-mown grass brings me back to dreary exam-halls. To the hall in Farranferris sitting my Inter and Leaving, to the Aula Max in Maynooth, sitting Science and Theology exams. Weeks of swatting, days of pressure, longing for freedom, while the sun shone brightly outside the hall, and the sound of lawnmowers and the smell of newly-cut grass was everywhere.

Spare a thought and a prayer this week for the thousands of young people beginning State exams all around the country, especially the Leaving Certs. Pray especially for those in the Schools of our Parish – Mount Mercy and Coláiste an Spioraid Naoimh, as well as our parishioners in other schools.

It's one of the toughest times of their lives. Their futures often depend on what they can write down in six (or very often three) hours; on what they can say in a few minutes in an oral exam. The race for points is on, and parents worry about them as they try to keep them calm, or maybe take more fresh air and recreation

and sleep, or sometimes motivate them to study harder.

Students, please remember to pray! No matter how cynical or critical you might be at times about the Church or religion, remember that God is on your side, and has a great plan for you. God wants you to achieve your full potential in life, and to develop all the gifts you have been given. You are unique, precious and special.

If you are ambitious for the future – and what young person isn't? – share your dreams and ambitions with Jesus.

In particular, pray to the Holy Spirit, given to you as gift in Baptism and Confirmation - knowledge and wisdom are two of the Spirit's gifts. If you get a blank in the middle of an exam, don't panic; talk to the Spirit and ask for inspiration. Breathe deeply and breathe in the breath of the Spirit.

God too is Father – and mother – like the parent who has lit a candle or said a prayer or had a Mass said for you! Trust in God's love.

As we celebrate the Feast of the Trinity – Father Son and Spirit, we all commend ourselves to the God who has revealed His own Self to us, that we might know God, and share God's life, now, and in the fullness of the Kingdom.

Fr. Declan Mansfield, C.C.

**FEAST OF THE SACRED HEART
(JUNE 18TH)**

Since 1856, the Friday after Corpus Christi has been celebrated as the Feast of the Sacred Heart. This year, it falls on June 18th. Some of our parishioners may wish to make a short Novena to the Sacred Heart beginning on June 10th, so we publish a short prayer to be said each day.

Devotion to the Sacred Heart was a practice of the people which began in the late Middle Ages, when a new interest arose in the humanity of Jesus and the sufferings of his Passion. The heart was seen as the centre of love, of life, of passion, and of suffering, and so, the heart of Jesus was emphasised. This devotion, from the 17th century on, did much to help people who were confused by Jansenism, a movement which emphasised our severe sinfulness, and a severe punishing God, demanding a very strict moral code. In particular, the visions of St. Margaret Mary Alacoque at Paray-le-Monial (1673-1675) emphasised the heart of Jesus on fire with love for sinful humanity, and the practice began of receiving Holy Communion on the First Friday of each month, observing an hour of prayer on Thursdays etc. The practice of consecrating homes to the Sacred Heart began in 1907.

Even though some of these devotional practices have fallen into disuse, and some of the popular Sacred Heart pictures of Jesus may seem old-fashioned and effeminate by today's standards, unfortunately, nothing more worthwhile has replaced them.

Let's keep alive clearly:

- The love of Jesus for us
- His heart is open to us in prayer
- His life is shared with us in Eucharist
- He says 'Come to me'.
- 'Make your home in me'
- 'From his heart will flow fountains of living water' (Jn 7:38).

**Novena Prayer of the
Sacred Heart**

Lord Jesus, your Sacred Heart is always open in love to each of us, and especially when we are suffering. To all who come to you seeking your help, you show your compassion and healing power. You care for us when we are lost, sympathise with us in loneliness and comfort us in mourning; you are closest to us when we are weakest. You reach out your hand to us when we stumble and have most need of your help. I ask you to listen to my prayer during this novena, and grant what I ask (*make you request silently*). But if what I ask is not for my own good or that of others, grant me always what is best, that I may build up your kingdom of love in our world. Amen.





Rest In Peace

Pat Falvey, St. Anthonys, Laburnum Lawn, died on Sunday night 23rd May in St. Finbarr's Hospital. He had been a patient there for about two years. Pat was a member of a Cork family long associated with the building trade. He and his wife Ann were the first residents in Laburnum Lawn when they moved in there in 1950. Pat was a man with a sense of decency and integrity and was liked and respected by neighbours and colleagues. We extend our sympathy to his wife Ann (they were about to celebrate 66 years of married happiness), to his sons Pat and Tony, his daughter Marie, sisters, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, and grandchildren. They will remember him with pride and affection.

Tim Holland of Robin Hill passed away recently, at eighty eight years of age. Born near Enniskeane, Tim worked all his life as a teacher, first in Waterford, then in Cork, finishing in the former Glasheen Secondary School. He also taught for a time in Presentation Brothers College. A teacher to his fingertips, Tim was possessed of a keen logical mind, and a precise speaking voice. His faith was tremendously important to him, and even in his late eighties, he was possessed of a great love of the Scriptures which inspired him to join one of the Parish Scriptural Prayer groups, where he contributed the fruits of his deep reflection. Struck down by a brain tumour, his illness was brief and his death sudden. We extend our sincere sympathy to Rina his wife, to his daughters, Rosemary and Veronica, to his sons Kevin and Mark, his brother and sister, relatives, friends and neighbours. Ar dheaslámh Dé go raibh a anam.

Bible Corner



PAULINE BOASTING

People usually boast about their success, or about the achievements of those linked to them. In the second reading this weekend, St. Paul speaks of boasting about something that is seen as evil or, at least, unfortunate.

“We can boast about our sufferings.”

We can boast about them not because of themselves, but because they remind us of our total reliance on God. It is because of this reliance on God that suffering can produce the ability to continue in what is right in the face of adversity. Such endurance leads to the hope which is the fruit of God's love for us. This is God's gift to us through the Holy Spirit. It is central to 'our peace with God', that active possession of divine friendship which is a kind of presence with God into which we are introduced by Jesus.

This reading from Chapter 5 of the letter to the Romans is a stimulating exposition of what redemption means for us.

HEROES GET THEIR DUE AT CIVIC AWARDS

Congratulations to Bishopstown Senior Social Centre on winning First Place in the Equality Awards, and in particular to the long-serving parishioners, Nora Fitzpatrick (Chairperson) and Breda Scully (Hon. Secretary). Well done all.



CHANGE MASS TIME

To facilitate the broadcast of our Mass today, Mass will be at 10.00 a.m. (not 10.30 a.m.)

CORK EUCHARISTIC PROCESSION

Sunday June 6th 2004

3.00 p.m.

Higher Education for Adults at CIT

(i) A preparatory programme for potential mature students to provide participants with the necessary skills, knowledge and confidence to pursue higher education.

(ii) National Certificate in Business Studies.

There are no tuition fees. For further information, please contact the Education Opportunities Dept., CIT, at 4326531, e-mail: cit.ie

Day Trip to Knock

On Saturday 19th June, Feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, €30 return. Further details from 086-1939225.

EMERGENCY NUMBER

087 - 251 9940

Messiah

At St. Peter's Church, Bandon, on Friday 11th June at 8.00 p.m., performed by The West Cork Choral Singers, conductor Diana Llewellyn, soloists: Deirdre Moynihan, Pauline Frizelle, Bob Beare, Michael McGowan, and Carbry O'Sullivan on trumpet. Accompanists: Annabel Adams and Antoinette Baker. Proceeds in aid of children's playground, Bandon.



God's Word

Readings for Sunday 13th June

First Reading:

Gen.14:18-20. The story of Melchisedech, priest who offers bread and wine and receives God's blessing, is often understood as a foreshadowing of the Eucharist which we celebrate.

Psalm : 109

Second Reading:

1 Cor.11:23-26. This is St. Paul's account of Eucharistic celebration in the early Church.

Gospel:

Lk.9:11-17. Luke's gospel tells of the miraculous feeding of five thousand people. this is a prefiguring of Eucharist, food for the Christian journey.

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