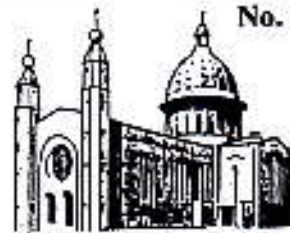




Our Lord Jesus Christ, Universal King

Ballineaspais
Bulletin21st November 2004CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEHY CROSS, COBKFROM OUR
**PARISH
TEAM***The Dean writes***A THOUGHT IN NOVEMBER**

Last week I met a stranger as I was coming out the gate of St. Oliver's Cemetery. In fact, he had come all the way from Sweden. He was fascinated by our funeral customs in this city. Things were done very differently in his native place. By way of example, he cited a colleague arriving for work in a very distressed condition one afternoon the previous week. It transpired he had buried his mother earlier that day! This, of course, just couldn't happen here. We show respect for our dead, and support grieving relatives. We don't try to camouflage the fact that a death has taken place, and that parting can be awfully painful. It's no harm to express our grief openly, and tears are natural where love is genuine. We have inherited another precious tradition – to gather and pray with friends and neighbours, and support the bereaved family in practical ways.

Many people in today's world want to ignore the reality of death. Part of the problem is a weakening of Faith, and uncertainty about the life hereafter. It's worth remembering the words of St. Paul: "We want you to be quite certain about those who have died so that you

do not grieve about them like those who have no faith. We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and that it will be the same for those who have died in Jesus – God will bring them with him. With such thoughts as these you should comfort one another."

Death is part of the reality of life. Ignoring it won't make it go away. It's good for us to reflect on this at times – not in any morose way – but to help us shape our lives in line with what Jesus taught us. It is good, too, to treasure the life God has given us here and now – for the families and friends we are blessed with – and for the home in heaven he has prepared for us when life here is over.

**Parish Adult
Education Programme
Final Night
'Love One Another'**
(An Appreciation of the Religious
Beliefs of Another Faith)
The Islamic (Muslim) Faith
The Crypt
Tuesday November 23rd
8p.m.
**Speakers: The Imam Halawa
Ali Selim**

St. Finbarr's H & F Club

The annual Mass for living and deceased members will be celebrated at the Club on Monday 22nd November at 8 p.m. All are welcome.

WAITING IN JOYFUL HOPE

As God's children we walk in the shadow of his love, yet without exception, our lives are touched by the mystery of the Cross. The truth is that for many, faith is lived out against a backdrop of challenging, trying and difficult situations.

On a trip to Dublin recently my wife and I called to visit an old friend. Margaret has now been resident of a nursing home for over 30 years and, God willing, will shortly celebrate her one hundredth birthday.

Born in Dublin in 1904, she contracted polio as a child. To add to her grief her father and only sister died soon afterwards. Margaret was to spend several years in hospital, undergoing various operations and receiving treatment for her condition. However, she would be permanently disabled, walking with the aid of crutches.

Later in life, following the death of her mother, she moved to Cork making many friends and settling in well. Margaret became an active member of the Legion of Mary. A gifted seamstress, she won several awards for her creative work.

After many years, due to her disability and advancing age, she retired to a nursing home in Dublin.

Once an avid reader, old age has now robbed her of her sight. Now confined to a wheelchair, Margaret loves to attend Mass each morning. A deep faith and lifelong relationship with her God has sustained her through difficult and painful years.

Blessed with a cheerful personality and positive attitude, she is not one to complain. Now in her twilight years she awaits prayerfully "in joyful hope for the coming of her Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ".

Arthur O'Callaghan

Study : The Dyslexic Child

A lecture will take place in the Country Club Hotel, Montenotte on Tuesday 23rd November at 8.15 p.m. Everybody welcome. Admission €5.



Rest in Peace

Anne Kenny, Liam Lynch Park, died quietly at C.U.H. on 9th November after a long illness bravely borne. Almost fifty years previously, she had come with her husband Bill to the Park where in the midst of other great families, they reared their two girls, Mary and Anne. Her daughter Anne's death only a few years ago was a great blow to her and she slipped away so quietly to rejoin her. Her funeral to St. Joseph's, Little Island, was an appropriate going home to her native place. She will be missed by all the family and many neighbours who knew her so well over the years. To her wonderful husband Bill, her daughter Mary, her grandchildren, her sister and brothers, relatives and friends, we offer our sincerest sympathy.

John Keenan, The Grove, Model Farm Road, retired from the E.S.B. about two years ago, after a lifetime of loyal service. Since then he didn't enjoy the best of health, but nothing to be alarmed about. His unexpected death on Wednesday 10th November came as a terrible shock to his wife and family, and indeed to all his friends and neighbours. John was a quiet, inoffensive man. He enjoyed a drink with his friends at the local, but the love of his life was his wife and family, and for the past few years his little grandson, Lee. We extend the sympathy of our community to his wife Eileen, his children Maurice, Alan, Linda, John, Susan, Roisín, Paul and Tracey, his brothers, sister and many relatives and friends. May his dear soul rest in peace.



LOCAL SCHOOLS

Mount Mercy

Past Pupil *Elaine Dewhurst* has been awarded a €51,000 fellowship that will allow her to examine the rights of migrant workers around the world. Elaine a U.C.C. Civil Law Graduate beat off international competition to secure the Prestigious E.J. Phelan Fellowship in International Law awarded by the National University of Ireland. Elaine graduated this year with first class honours in Civil Law and will use the money to accumulate a detailed thesis on the rights of migrant workers in Ireland, Britain, the U.S.A. and Israel. Well done, Elaine.

Colaiste an Spioraid Naoimh

Transition Year News

Sports4Success Programme. Students have begun work on this year's programme which runs under the auspices of St. Vincent de Paul, setting up and running a sports and homework club for primary school children from Greenmount and working with them each Wednesday afternoon for two hours. School co-ordinator Ms. Cleary reports that week one was a great success. COPE Foundation Visits. Students have begun their programme of visits to the Cope Foundation in Glasheen. This programme has been running for quite a number of years now and provides students with the opportunity to interact in a meaningful way with people with learning disabilities.

Sports

There was great disappointment that the senior hurlers exited this year's Harty Cup competition. Despite finishing the group stage with the same points as the teams that progressed, consecutive victories over Thurles C.B.S. and Coláiste Chríost Rí proved insufficient to ensure progress to the knock-out stages. Attention now turns to the gaelic footballers who play Killorglin next in the Corn UI Mhuiri and to the soccer and basketball teams, both of which have already progressed to the second round of their respective cup competitions.

Bible Corner

Contrasts often alert us to reality. Photographs from Brazil of the extravagant luxury of the wealthy juxtaposed with shots of the beleaguered street children highlight the diversity of lifestyles there. Some contrasts are deliberately arranged. Others just happen. Sunday's gospel recounts an accidental one.

A condemned man is in agony on a cross. He has been scourged already and crowned with thorns. His appearance is devastating. The inscription on the cross is King of the Jews. The contrast between the titles and the dying convict is dramatic. But then, the life of Jesus was marked by contrasts. He cured the man born blind, but was exhausted and thirsty near a well in Samaria. He raised Lazarus from the dead, but he allowed himself to be crucified at the behest of a mob. He had the power but he surrendered everything to accomplish the Father's will through service and suffering. So behind the apparent contrasts in the life of Jesus, there is an all-pervasive consistency. This consistency is based on acknowledging the Father's plan and living accordingly.

For us, the call is to live each day a little more like Jesus in doing the Father's will. Each person must discern that will, especially at decisive moments, and do what God asks. For the follower of Jesus, our Lord and King, there is no middle ground between yes and no. The choice is often stark.

2004 ADVENT CAROL SERVICE

SUNDAY 12TH DECEMBER

7.00 P.M.



An Advent Invitation:

Would you have one hour to spare for four weeks? Would you like to be able to understand the Word of God a bit better, and be able to apply it to your life? Would you like to hear God speak to you? You are invited to come to a Scripture Prayer group, to listen to the Gospels of the four weeks of Advent. No previous experience needed; no knowledge of the Bible. It's so simple!! Come along during the coming week to one of the following:

Scripture Prayer Groups

Mondays: Parish Centre after 10.00 a.m. Mass.

Tuesdays: 8.00-9.00 p.m. in St. Catherine's Convent.

Wednesdays: 8.00-9.00 p.m. in Parish Centre.

For further details please contact Patsy at 4344745 or Margaret at 4345875.

Singing for Cork in 2005

FÁS Community Services are introducing a special project to coincide with Cork 2005 – European Capital of Culture. The programme is of 12 months duration, for the long-term unemployed and young unemployed over 18 years who will benefit from an opportunity to refocus on their career paths. Community re-employment rate, 19.5 hour a week. Please contact Marie Stack at 4856204 or FÁS Information Service on 4856472/4856379.

Alzheimers Disease and Dementia

An important public Awareness Evening dealing with Alzheimer disease and related dementias, will take place this Monday evening 22nd at 7.30 sharp in the Maryborough Hotel, Douglas. Admission free. Panel of speakers will discuss the issues relating to the condition and to the needs of carers. Refreshments afterwards.

Day of Prayer

At Ennismore, on Sunday 28th November, 9.30 – 5.00 p.m. including Mass. Cost €22. For details contact Jackie at 4541144 after 6.00 p.m.

Baile'n Easpaig Gramophone Circle

Our final recital for 2004 will take place on Wednesday next, 24th November, at 3.00 p.m. in the crypt of our church. Recital will be given by the renowned radio broadcaster, David McInerney. As always, everybody is welcome.

Transition to Adolescence

Learn about the Positives and Pitfalls at a lecture given by Mr. Gerard Stack and Dr. Mary Horgan, in St. Catherine's School on Wednesday 24th November at 8.00 p.m. sharp. Adm. €5. Tickets available at school office from 15th to 18th for school parents and thereafter to all others. Teenagers welcome to accompany a parent. Lecture organised by parents' association.

Christmas Open House 2004

At D.J. Murphy's, Bride Park Cottages, Kilumney Thursday 25th/Friday 26th 6.00-10.00, Saturday 27th/ Sunday 28th 12 noon – 10.00. Refreshments served. Admission €7. Proceeds to Marie Keating Foundation (Cancer Awareness) and St. Gabriel's Special School, Bishopstown.

God's Word

Readings for Sunday 28th November

First Reading:

Is.2:1-5. King David was recognised as leader and guide

Psalms: Ps.121

Second Reading:

Rom.13:11-14. St. Paul reminds us of the magnificent plan of God, in which Jesus is 'first in every way'.

Gospel:

Mt. 24:37-44. Jesus is king as he pours out his life's blood for us on Calvary.

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EMERGENCY NUMBER

087 - 251 9940