

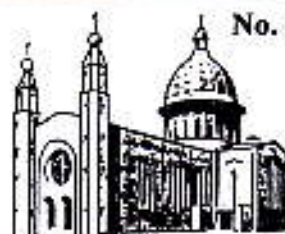


5th December 2004

No. 821

Ballineaspais Bulletin

Second Sunday of Advent



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK



FROM OUR PARISH TEAM

Fr. Declan writes

Mary, Mother of Jesus

Last week, the Moslem Imam (supreme religious teacher of the Mosque) from Dublin who spoke to us in the Crypt, focused on the common ground between the Islamic faith and Christianity. He said that for meaningful communication between his faith and ours, we had to focus on what we shared in common, rather than highlighting our differences. It is an important principle for all Ecumenism. We share in a lot more ways than we differ. The Imam made particular reference to the importance of Mary. They believe in the Virgin Birth of Jesus. To them, Mary was an extraordinary woman, chosen by God to be mother of the great prophet Jesus, and therefore graced in a special way by God. She is honoured by their faith.

To Christians, Mary is much more. She is our guarantee of the humanity of Jesus, who was God and Man. God entered fully into our human state so that we would be saved by one like us. Mary was privileged to be the sinless one, untouched by any of the corruption of human nature. December 8th - the Immaculate Conception - is her great feast. Feast of the Sinless One, feast of the one who intercedes for us, feast of

the one who honours us and all humanity by showing us what awaits us who are redeemed by her Son. Let us celebrate that Feast with joy, with a Rosary, but especially with a Mass, where her Son nourishes us on this Holy Day with his Body and Blood.

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Wednesday 8th December 2004

Tuesday Vigil Mass:

7.30 p.m.

Wednesday Masses:

9.00, 10.30 and 7.30 p.m. (no 12.15 p.m)

FAMILY CHRISTMAS

MASS

CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
MASS AT 12.15 - SUNDAY 12TH
DECEMBER

ALL ARE WELCOME

As well as bringing a home-made Christmas Card to be hung on the tree, every child is invited to bring a non-perishable food item (no toys) for St.

Vincent de Paul

and/or take part in the singing and readings of the Mass.

Rehearsals are on Thursday 9th December

at 6.30 p.m. and

Saturday 11th at 2.00 p.m.



Rest in Peace

Frances O'Sullivan, of Kenley Avenue, passed away in Marymount Hospice, on November 12th last, after a lengthy illness. A West Cork woman, she spent most of her life in the Cork area as a nurse, working in both the hospital and public health sectors. An independent and strong-willed woman, she lived on her own for as long as she could, with the huge support of many of her neighbours, as well as relatives and friends. Frances had a great love of the Eucharist, and in the past had been a Minister of the Eucharist in the Parish for some time. After Rosary in Marymount, she was taken back to her native Ballydehob for Removal, Mass and Burial. Our sincere sympathies go to her brother and sisters, relatives, neighbours and friends. May the Lord welcome her now to the table of God's children in Heaven.



We offer our sincere sympathy to DEAN O'CONNOR on the death of his sister, Kitty O'Leary.

To MRS. CATHERINE O'SULLIVAN, The Grove, Model Farm Road, on the death of her mother.

HOW DO YOU FARE IN THE FAIRTRADE QUIZ?

Circle True (T) or False (F) after each of these statements. Then check your answers at the foot of the page.

1. Fairtrade is a charity. T/F
2. All Fairtrade products are organic. T/F
3. Fairtrade guarantees producers a fair price for their products. T/F
4. Fairtrade products include coffee, tea, cocoa and bananas. T/F
5. Fairtrade means a better deal for workers. T/F
6. There are no Irish Fairtrade products. T/F
7. Some Fairtrade products are dearer than their non-Fairtrade equivalents. T/F
8. Fairtrade products taste awful. T/F
9. Our parish church uses Fairtrade products. T/F
10. This is the Fairtrade logo. T/F



Your Fairtrade score:
9-10: Excellent - please spread the word about Fairtrade.
6-8: For the latest news look up www.fairtrade.ie or www.fairtrade.org
3-5: Why not buy a Fairtrade product this week and enter the Christmas Hamper raffle?
1-2: For information on Fairtrade products available locally see last week's *Bulletin*.

Answers:
1 False; 2 False; some are, not all; 3 True; 4 True; 5 True; 6 False; 7 True. (The question to ask is not, why are some Fairtrade products dearer, but why are others cheaper. Is it because many producers and workers are being exploited?) 8 False (Many people praise what they're tasting and then we surprised to find it's a Fairtrade product); 9 True; 10 True.



St. Catherine's News

Our Ceremony of Commitment for the Confirmation candidates was held in the school on Friday 26th November and the Enrolment Ceremony for the First Communion children was held in our church on the following morning. These were special days in the lives of the children and their families, helping them to focus in on the importance of this year, and to prepare in a joyful and hopeful way for the Sacraments. The Confirmation girls were glad to hear the hymn 'Christ Be Our Light' sung by the church choir on the following Sunday.

Our Confirmation classes visited the *Mission Alive* exhibition in October and found it very thought provoking. They will revisit the theme of *Justice for All* later in the year.

Congratulations to our Novice swimmers who won Silver and Bronze in the relay events at the Cork Schools gala. Also well done to all who won medals at the recent inter-schools Irish Dancing Feis. A special mention for Mairead Hickey who performed so spectacularly on the Late Late Toy Show! Her parents regularly help out with the newly formed School Céilí Band.

The names of the swimmers are:
Chloe O'Donoghue, Hilary O'Driscoll, Jean O'Driscoll, Aisling Walsh, Alison Leisk, Aoife Barry, Jill O'Driscoll, Allyson Moore, Aoife O'Callaghan, Tara Murphy and Eibhlin O'Sullivan.

MOUNT MERCY NEWS

Congratulations to Laura Hurley, Wilton Avenue, 6th Year Student and Deputy Head Girl, who was a winner in the Recent Regional Final of the Rotary Youth Development Leadership

Competition. The prize includes a visit to the European Parliament in Strasbourg next February to participate in the Euroscola Programme.

STOP THE PAIN

Alcohol will cause more distress, injuries and, perhaps, even deaths than anything else this month. It will take imagination, courage and example to stop the alcoholic rot in our society. There is little to be gained by bemoaning the culture that fosters it. Somebody must start someplace to change it. How about you and I? Pray for the courage to make a difference.

SOME SUGGESTIONS:

1. Never drive after even one drink.
2. Never offer alcohol to the driver.
3. Never coax, embarrass or bully somebody into having unwanted alcohol. Accept their first refusal.
4. Never give alcohol as a gift or a bribe. Use your imagination. There are options.
5. Always tell the truth about your drinking.
6. Always treat alcohol like dynamite - with respect.
7. Always realise how faulty one's judgement is when under the influence.
8. Always put family before another drink.

Think up two more suggestions to suit your own circumstances. Good is only accomplished at great cost to those who do it. Risk the embarrassment of being misunderstood as mean or sensible.

Care for one another as the Lord expects us to do.

Fr. Tom



Advent Carol Service

You are invited to our Church to celebrate the Advent Season with joy and prayer, Word of God, carols new and old, movement, symbol, music and light.

Remember:

Sunday December 12th

7 p.m.

Refreshments and mince pies in crypt to follow.

Be there. Get in the mood!!

Prepare the Way of the Lord

A Parish celebration of healing, forgiveness and God's love. Come and experience support and strength.

Sunday, December 19th, 5.00 p.m.

God's Word

Readings for Sunday 12th December

First Reading:

Is. 35:1-6. The first reading looks forward to the time when the blind will see and the lame will walk.

Psalm : 145

Second Reading:

Jm.5:7-10. In the second reading, James reminds us to be patient, that the Lord's coming in glory will be soon.

Gospel:

Mt. 11:2-11. The gospel reminds us of the wonders worked in the life of Jesus.

Ministers of the Eucharist

New rotas are available on the altar rails.

Christmas Concert

In Christ the King Church in aid of church restoration fund. Majella Cullagh, Breffni Horgan, The Garda Choir, Wilcollane Singers, Cork School of Music Sinfonietta Orchestra. Wednesday 15th November at 8.00 p.m. Tickets €20 available from Pro Musica, Veritas or Christ the King parish office.

Study Theology from Home

As part on the ongoing programme of *Theology for Today*, the Priory Institute of Dublin is offering a 14-week module in the distance learning format, supported by a network of centres around the country. The module is entitled *Introduction to Philosophy* and is being launched in February. Details from 01-4048132 or 01-4048124. e-mail enquiries@prioryinstitute.com. website: www.prioryinstitute.com

Coellac Society

December Christmas Party Night on Tuesday 7th in the SMA Hall, Wilton at 8.00 p.m. "Bring a little, taste a lot!". All welcome.

Adult Education Short Term Courses

Rome-Cologne-Cork: A course which explores the enduring legacy of Roman Art and Architecture. Introductory Astronomy: A study of planets, galaxies and the universe. Commencing in UCC week beginning Monday 3rd January. Further information from 4904718, 4902301, email: ace@ucc.ie.

EMERGENCY NUMBER

087 - 251 9940