



# Ballineaspais Bulletin



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT  
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK



Christmas is about recognising goodness and being nurtured in love. The core of Christmas is about seeing the goodness of God in his joining the human family as Son of Mary. This kernel of our faith is nourished especially in the community celebration of the ongoing gift of God himself in the Christmas Eucharist. It is here our acceptance of his goodness is focussed. This is the gift beyond compare which nurtures our vision of seeing God's gifts in every aspect of creation, but especially in all our brothers and sisters. Such a vision is the cornerstone of love.

To be truly loved is our destiny. To be always growing in awareness of such a destiny fulfils our deepest longings. To open us up to such a treasure is why Jesus comes at Christmas. His sharing in our human family means that we share in his God-ness, his goodness, his love. Each one of us, you and I, is loved uniquely and unconditionally in the heart of God. Each of us and all of us, without exception, is made in the image of God, capable of loving and being loved as God loves. It is in and through our love of each other that we enable one another to ready ourselves to bask in God's love.

We are made for such greatness but the road to such an inheritance is sometimes blocked by fear or selfishness. Fear prevents us entrusting our lives, our hopes, our ambitions to the Lord. We settle for petty selfishness and perhaps, for sin. But the Christmas news headline is that the creative, healing, forgiving love of Jesus is more powerful than our limitations. He is not only with us, Jesus is within us. This is the foundation of our Christmas hope, joy and blessing.

May the Christmas love of the Lord be in your heart and in your home, now and during the year ahead.

Fr. Tom Clancy P.P.





### St. Vincent de Paul Society

We would like to acknowledge the very generous response to the Christmas collection, and also the large number of gifts brought by the children of the parish to the Family Christmas Mass.

### Irish Blood Transfusion Service

A blood donor clinic will be held at St. Finbarr's H & F Club, Neenan Park, Togher, on Tuesday 21 December from 6.00 to 9.00 p.m.

### Raffle for Fair Trade Hamper

Congratulations to our winner, **Mrs. Ina Walsh, Kenley.**

Thank you to all the people who took part in the raffle. Please continue to support Fair Trade products.

### God's Word

#### Readings for Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> December

##### First Reading:

Eccles. (Sir) 3:2-6,12-14. Respect for parents is never out of date.

**Psalm : 127**

##### Second Reading:

Col.3:12-21. St. Paul reminds us that, as Christians, we are called to live in harmony with one another.

##### Gospel:

Mt.2:13-15,19-23. The gospel introduces us to the family life of Jesus, Mary and Joseph.



## From the Editor



On behalf of the Bulletin Team, I wish all our readers a very happy Christmas. Thanks to all who help in the production of the Bulletin, our Folders and our Distributors who see that it is delivered to your homes on the third Sunday of the month.

We are grateful to our Parish Team for their weekly inspiring input, and to our parish secretary for her great work on the Bulletin. A very special thanks to our Parish Priest, Fr. Tom Clancy, for his advice and support.

*Irene M. Connolly*

### Pastoral Council News

At this month's meeting it was announced that the *Faith in Action* group will continue with their popular Wednesday Lenten talks. Lent begins on February 9<sup>th</sup>.

Following a lengthy discussion, the Council decided to organise a series of group meetings relating to an exploration of issues within the Church. More details of these meetings later.

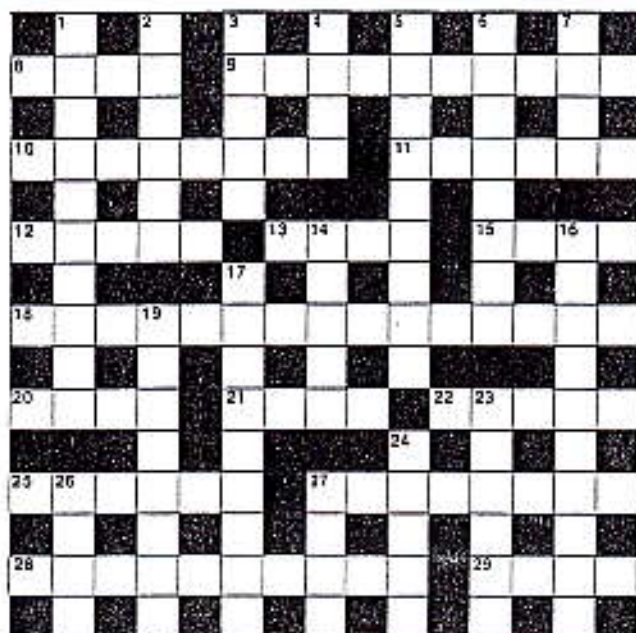
The parish website is ready to be launched. Final details and procedures are now agreed and the production team are preparing for take-off!

At the conclusion of the meeting, Fr. Clancy thanked the members for their work during the year, wishing those present a very peaceful and happy Christmas.

UN SWITH DMT W  
NS S Y UVE F AN H U W

We offer our sincere sympathy to HELEN DEVINE, 3 Kenley Heights, on the death of her sister, Mary O'Connor.

# CHRISTMAS CROSSWORD



By Portia

Results to  
Parish Centre  
by Monday  
12<sup>th</sup> January.



## ACROSS

8. With Mum, this is the very least. (4)
9. They were given a warning not to go back to Herod and returned to their ... .. by a different route. Mt.2 (3,7)
10. Do the clergy assemble to provide these sections of the book? (8)
11. Wind down to do this up. (6)
12. Don't expect the music until he is paid. (5)
13. Catch you with this one. (4)
15. It's neither morning nor evening whichever way you look at it. (4)
18. This is where it all began so happily (3,6,2,4)
20. Solo transposed for a Northern city. (4)
21. Eventide anthem has within it someone very special in our church. (4)
22. Something wrong – with a young lady? (5)
25. Right inside the drier for a digger. (6)
27. No light here, where negative things happen. (8)
28. Tim tells 'er to reorganise for a County Cork town. (10)
29. Low-down singer! (4)

## DOWN

1. Sounds like could be the sun, moon and stars, these outstanding features. (10)
2. This clue is certainly not difficult. (6)
3. Member of the pack not to be taken seriously. (5)
4. These goals come at last. (4)
5. What's better than having a party? Two, or even three! (9)
6. Sounds like a very small quantity, to make a statement. (8)
7. Encourage within insurgence. (4)
14. Sporting circle. (5)
16. Passes oneself out – or gets trigger-happy. (10)
17. Would need to be somewhat 2 down for such blind faith. (9)
19. This is the season for it. (8)
23. Because we are human, we are so. (6)
24. Cater for turning into this container. (5)
26. Doesn't fall on the hills – in Spain. (4)
27. Not a single-handed performance. (4)



✂ Please cut out and keep for reference

## **CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR CHURCH SERVICES**

### **MASSES**

#### **Christmas Eve**

9.00, 10.00, 6.15, Midnight

#### **Christmas Day**

9.00, 10.30, 12.15 p.m.  
No Evening Mass

#### **Sunday (St. Stephen's Day)**

9.00, 10.30, 12.15, 6.15 p.m.

#### **Monday 27<sup>th</sup> to Friday 31<sup>st</sup>**

10.00 a.m.

#### **Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> January**

10.00, 6.15 p.m.

#### **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup>**

9.00, 10.30, 12.15 p.m.

#### **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> & Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup>**

9.00, 10.00 a.m.

#### **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January**

9.00, 10.00, 7.30 p.m.

#### **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January**

#### **Feast of the Epiphany**

9.00, 10.30, 7.30 p.m.

#### **First Friday 7<sup>th</sup> January**

9.00, 10.00, 7.30 p.m.

### **RECONCILIATION SERVICE**

#### **Dennehy's Cross**

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> at 5.00 p.m.

#### **Sacred Heart Church and Wilton**

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> at 8.00 p.m.

#### **Curraheen**

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> at 8.00 p.m.

### **CONFESSIONS**

#### **Christmas Eve**

10.30-1.00, 4.00-6.00.

After 6.15 Mass.

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### **PARISH TEAM**

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