



30th January 2005

Ballineaspig Bulletin

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

No. 826



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CO. KK



FROM OUR
**PARISH
TEAM**

Fr. Declan writes

Love Your Neighbour

The closing of the Shop and Post Office at Dennehy's Cross this week-end is sad news to many people – even those like myself, who only picked up the Paper and bread and milk from time to time. But more so to the elderly who called for their Pension and posted their Christmas Cards there. There's something about the local shop. You never went in without a greeting from the staff or exchanging a few words with a neighbour you hadn't seen for a while. We will miss it, and we wish owners and staff well. Progress is difficult. Many things change in life, and we all find change difficult. Many people have different views on what defines progress though.

When I grew up in Farranlea, there was Enright's Shop at one end, and Wallaces' at the other, and for a while, Cuthberts' at the end of the Grove. The milk was delivered, the breadman called, the coalman came.... Now only the postman calls, and the paperman - but he's too early to meet!

In every neighbourhood now, everyone has a car, both parents are out working, people never meet. Neighbours don't know each other. Borrowing the cup of sugar, casual games of cards, sing-songs..... all a thing of the past. Television, home cinemas and playstations are the new entertainment. Increased prosperity has its benefits, but there are losses, especially the loss of a sense of community, the loss of human contact.

Often it is the old, the sick, the bereaved, who suffer particularly from a sense of isolation. We need to be alert to this. Jesus told us to 'Love your neighbour as yourself'. Good neighbours are a gift from the Lord. A Parish is a Christian community, and the Mass is the greatest community celebration of all. But we need to take it home with us. We can't live private and selfish lives. How do we build community? Each of us has an important contribution to make. Shyness and privacy are the barriers – and the excuses! 'Sure they know I'm there if I'm needed' is fine, - but some find it hard to ask!

'What can I do for you?' is sometimes the question to ask. Each of us can create a small supportive community around us.

Do you know your neighbours?



**BLESSING OF THROATS
ON THE MEMORIAL
OF ST. BLAISE
3RD FEBRUARY**

St. Blaise, Bishop of Sebaste in Armenia, is believed to have been martyred in the early 4th century. Very little is known about him. Tradition states that he was a physician before becoming a bishop. Since the 8th century he has been venerated as the patron of those who suffer from disease of the throat. He is said to have healed a boy who was choking. The blessing of St. Blaise is a sign of our faith in God's protection and love for us and for the sick.

Using two crossed and unlighted candles, the minister touches the throat of each person saying:

"Though the intercession of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from all ailments of the throat and from every other evil (or from every disease of the throat and from every other illness). In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen."

Throats will be blessed at both the 9.00 and 10.00 a.m. Masses.

**A Reminder:
'Help My Unbelief'**

(Mark 9: 230)

An Invitation for Lent

If you would like the opportunity to voice/discuss/tease out faith and practise issues in a respectful small-group forum, come along to

**The Crypt
Thursday Feb 10th
8 - 9.30p.m.**

The listening process will continue on
Feb. 17th, 24rd, March 3rd
for those who wish

You may wish to recommend this to a friend, or bring one along

Bishopstown Senior Social Centre
Meeting at Wilton Park House for exercise, dance, a cuppa and a chat.
Time: Every Thursday at 2.30 p.m.
New group just started.
Vacancies, vacancies!
Call Nora Fitzpatrick 4546358.
Brid Scully 4541955.
Roger Coughlan 086/3866975

Pioneers Mass

The monthly Mass for the intentions of the Pioneers will be held at:
The Way of the Cross Church, Togher at 7.30 p.m. on Friday 4th February.
Refreshments will be served afterwards in the Parish House.
There will also be an opportunity for people to enrol as members of the Pioneers after Mass.



MOUNT MERCY NEWS

Well done to the following Young Scientists from Mount Mercy College who performed so well at the exhibition this year: -

Margaret Perry and Nina Fitzpatrick - 1st place Junior Group Social and Behavioural Sciences category for their project "Teenager perceptions of blood donation".

Elaine Collins, Evelyn Spillane and Deirdre Plant who received the Comhar Special Award for "The health benefits of a Leisure Centre to the Community".

Tara Coppelstone and Sarah O'Herlthy - Highly commended for their project "Label Conscious".

Emily Murray and Katie Hickey - Highly commended for their project "Are our classrooms affecting our health".

Apostolate of Our Lady of Fatima
Mass and Holy Hour at St Marie's of the Isle.

Date: Monday 31st January at 7.30 p.m.

Priest: Fr. Joe Nagle O.F.M. CAP.



WELINE: NEW YEAR 2005



Bible Corner



PARTY POLICY

Nowadays many organisations, religious, educational political, business, social, recreational develop a mission statement or a values/policy statement. It puts words on the values and principles that are at the heart of each particular group. It is, at once, both an inspiration and a guide. It is the touchstone by which particular actions and decisions must be judged. To be effective, the mission statement must be owned by all who are committed to the organisation.

The idea of such mission statements is seen as very modern and up to date. Yet, Jesus was one of the first people to verbalise such a statement for his early followers. It forms the gospel this weekend. To be effective, it must be owned by us, the members. Are we ready?

A Reminder:

Parish Pilgrimage to Lourdes

June 11th-16th 2005

Hotel Tara

Cost €585

Joe Walsh Tours

Tel: 4277959

Parish Booking Reference: 20744
Immediate booking recommended

Further Information:

Fr. Declan @ 4346818



NOTICE BOARD

First Friday

Next Friday, 4th February is the First Friday of the month. Calls to the sick and housebound on usual days.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Adoration will take place next Friday from 10.30 a.m. to 7.30 p.m. followed by Mass.

St. Joseph's Young Priests Society

Monthly meeting next Thursday, 3rd February, at 8.00 p.m. in Parish Centre.

Your Website needs you!

The parish website production team is seeking volunteers. Do you have communications skills, technical (computer) or editorial experience? Do you have an hour or two to spare every couple of weeks? If so, please call Máire at 4543180.

Diocesan Directory 2005

The new Cork and Ross Directory, which gives details of Mass Times, Parish Information, Priests, Sisters, Brothers, Offices, Schools, Colleges and Social Services, is on sale this weekend. Price: €5.00.

Lourdes Invalid Fund

Diocesan Collection the weekend of 5th and 6th February

Three Score Book Club

Venue: Thomas Davis meeting room, Central Library, Grand Parade.

Time: 11.30 a.m. to 12.30 a.m.

1st Monday of every month.

Enquiries to no. 4544778.

Scoll an Spioraid Naoimh Boys' and Girls' School Registration

Registration will take place at the school, Curraheen Road, Bishopstown from Monday 31st January to Friday 4th February.

Parents/guardians are welcome to visit the schools or to telephone to register their children for the coming school year.

SACRISTAN REQUIRED

Due to the coming retirement of our much loved and esteemed Sacristan, Charlie Leahy, we are now seeking a replacement.

For further information, please write to
The Secretary, Parish Office,
Dennchy's Cross Church, Cork.

The closing date for receipt of
completed applications is

Tuesday 8th February

God's Word

Readings for Sunday 6th February

First Reading:

Is. 58:7-10.

Psalm: 111

Second Reading:

1 Cor. 2:1-5.

Gospel:

Mt. 5:13-16.

EMERGENCY NUMBER

087 - 251 9940