

6th March, 2005



No. 831

Ballineaspais Bulletin

Fourth Sunday of Lent



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



OUR
**PARISH
PRIEST**
writes

GIVEN ON TRUST

Recent weeks have been testing times for our small birds. The severe cold wind has come at an unfortunate time for them. Their layer of winter fat is almost used up. The supply of berries to feed on is nearly exhausted. The weather is too cold for insects and flies to venture out. Strangely enough, built up areas could be the birds' best chance of survival, if only humans would leave out nuts, crumbs, water to tide them over until nature provides abundantly again. Do we appreciate an opportunity to protect this vulnerable section of God's creation?

We do not own any part of God's creation. We hold it in trust for our generation and for those who will come after us. Our planet will be enriched or impoverished by our presence, depending on whether we appreciate our interdependence or not. "God saw what He had made and it was very good." He made us stewards of this creation. Are we as a parish, a city, a country enriching the gift of God or destroying our heritage? How am I fulfilling my stewardship? Am I caring for the most vulnerable?

"Just Lent"5

The final speaker in our lunchtime series:

Sr Medhin,

Daughter of Charity, Ethiopia, is visiting Ireland in conjunction with the Trocaire Lenten Campaign.

Sr Medhin is Coordinator of her Order's projects in Mekele, and of the street childrens' program in Tigray, Ethiopia.

She will speak about the effects of poverty and hunger in her country, where last year **over 8 million people were dependent on food aid.**

Come and learn what we can do

March 9th, 1 – 2pm, in the Crypt

All are welcome

Parish Pilgrimage to Lourdes
(Leader Fr. Declan Mansfield)

June 11-16

Some places still available

Contact Joe Walsh Tours

Tel: 4277959

Booking Reference: 20744

**'Just Lent' – Third Lenten Lunchtime
Talk - Buy Fairtrade for Lent!**

On Wednesday February 23rd, Neasa O'Riordan presented a talk on the subject of Fairtrade.

Neasa is a volunteer promoter of issues which affect the Third World. She has for many years worked with Oxfam, and is now travelling around to schools and other venues to promote the efforts of Cork to become a Fairtrade City. In a swift-talking, engaging half hour, Neasa convinced us of the value of searching out some of the products found on many supermarket shelves which bear the Fairtrade logo. We don't have to change completely from our favourite brands of tea, coffee, chocolate, bananas, biscuits and snacks, but even buying one of these Fairtrade products occasionally can bring some direct benefits to a Third World producer. If we have difficulty buying any of these in our local stores, we should keep asking management until they stock them. We have the purchasing power. This year, Cork is working towards achieving the status of a 'Fairtrade City'. This will involve a certain percentage of shops, restaurants and cafes stocking and selling Fairtrade goods. Again, it is up to us to ask 'Do you serve Fairtrade Coffee?' The Fairtrade logo is awarded to products which meet stringent conditions involving fair prices to the producer, profits put directly back into development, etc. The Fairtrade organisation is an international one, run on a tight budget, competing with the huge world kartels; hence, the price is often slightly more expensive. But it is a matter of justice to support it!

Rest In Peace

Dominic Clancy, Farranlea Road, was in poor health for a considerable time, yet his death at a comparatively early age at the Bon Secours Hospital on 17th February came as a shock to all who knew him, especially to his wife Marie and their daughters Jennifer and Anne. Dominic carried on a successful car hire business on MacCurtain Street for many years, and was widely known as a competent and courteous businessman. He was a native of the Lough Parish – he was baptised, made his First Communion, Confirmation, and was married in the Lough Church. At his own wish he was taken back there for his funeral Mass, which was attended by a large gathering of business colleagues and friends, including Bishop Buckley. To his wife and daughters, their husbands and children, his brother and sisters, we extend the sincere sympathy of our community at this time.

Prayer for Family Life

Dear Lord, with Mary and Joseph, you have lived within a family.
Teach me always to appreciate the precious gift of being part of a family.
Show me ever new ways to protect and comfort those closest to me; and
Let me, each day, do something that will say 'I love you' without speaking the words.
But remind me also to frequently say those words;
Let me never part from any member of my family in anger.
Prompt me always to turn back without delay – to forgive and be forgiven.
And let me see your image within each person, In my own family, and in my greater family, Knowing that in your kingdom, we will truly be one family,
United by your sacrifice on the cross.
Amen.



AN INVITED GUEST

The final question of the radio interview was "If you had a choice, which historical figure would you invite to share a meal with?" John Wilson, former Government Minister replied, "The person I would choose would be Jesus Christ because he was the most extraordinary person ever to walk on this earth."

Born into very humble surroundings, Jesus lived most of his life in an obscure town, working as a carpenter. For three years he travelled as an itinerant preacher throughout the countryside, healing the afflicted, forgiving sin and even raising people from the dead. Betrayed into the hands of his enemies, his friends deserted him. Forced to endure the mockery of a trial, he was crucified between two thieves. The only thing he owned, a coat, was gambled for by his executioners. When he was dead, he was taken down from the cross and laid in a borrowed tomb.

Yet, this hidden life has become the centrepiece of human history. All the armies that ever marched, all the navies that ever mobilised, all the parliaments that ever sat, and all the kings that ever reigned, put together have not affected the history of the world as this one solitary life.

Today, two thousand years after he rose from the dead, his life and teaching through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, continues to inspire and transform the lives of countless people.

Lent is a good time to examine our relationship with Jesus. As frail human creatures, in a world of changing values, we need a higher power to sustain us in all that life may bring.

"O Lord, in you I find shelter." *Psalm 7.*

Arthur O'Callaghan

Bible Corner



ANOINTED TO SERVE

Olive oil was a key feature of life among the ancient Hebrews. Oil as a condiment was an important part of the diet. It was medicinal and was used in the anointing of wounds. It was the usual fuel for the lamp. It was an important item in the export trade of Palestine.

But it is the use of oil in a sacred rite that is of interest to us this weekend. David is chosen as a king and to highlight God's choice of him, he is anointed with oil by Samuel who is God's prophet and messenger. The first reading in this weekend's Mass is chosen to link with those who are preparing for Baptism at Easter. At a Baptism, each one is anointed with oil to highlight that we are chosen by God to worship, to praise him and to serve him in our care for each other. We are anointed to serve.

Letter to the Editor

DANNY LA RUE

Danny O'Carroll was his real name. He lived in Horgans Buildings. He was an altar boy in St. Augustines Church. He starred in top theatres in London and also was sold out in advance in pantomimes. Will we ever forget Mother Kelly's Doorstep? Every place Danny acted in, he always erected his little holy altar in the dressing room. His faith meant a lot to Danny O'Carroll, alias Danny La Rue. An example to us all to keep the 'Faith of our Fathers.'

God bless Danny La Rue.

John Foley, P.C.



Announcements

Calling all Music Lovers:

Tsunami Aid Concert:

Mary Hegarty (Soprano)

Madrigal 75

St. Francis Choir

City of Cork Male Voice Choir

Carrigaline Singers

Chorus of Cork Opera

Coláiste Choilm, Ballincollig

St. Francis' Church

Sunday March 6th 8p.m.

Admission: €20

(All proceeds directly to Trócaire)

Tickets @ St. Francis, Opus II,

And on the night

Irish Night

At Ardfallen Centre on Thursday 10th March, 9.00 to 12 midnight, €7 incl. supper. Spot prizes. Donal Ring Ceili Band, Compere and M.C. Paddy O'Donovan. Entire proceeds to the Third World. Car parking at Douglas Swimming Pool nearby.

The ISPCC Wants Your Opinion

What do you think young people need? What do you believe the ISPCC could do to improve the lives of children and young people in your area? We need answers to these questions, but we need your help. Please give us your input, come along to our public meeting on Monday 7th March at 8.30 p.m. in the Gresham Metropole Hotel.

Found

Car key found in church grounds. Please contact parish office or sacristy.

The Hazards of Nightlife

Coláiste an Spioraid Naoimh Parents' Association is holding a talk for parents on Monday 14th March at 8pm in the school hall. The speaker is Dr.

Lenten Concert

At St. Patrick's Church, Rochestown, on Saturday 12th March at 8.15 p.m. Cór Cois Abhann, Cantairí Mhúscraí, J.S. Bach – Jesu, Meine Freude, Elgar – The Spirit of the Lord, Monteverdi, Bruckner Rutter. Tickets €10 (students and OAPs €8) available at the door.

God's Word

Readings for Sunday 13th March

First Reading:

Ex.37:12-14. God makes a promise, in this first reading, to restore the Chosen People and to bring them to new knowledge.

Psalm : 129

Second Reading:

Rom. 8:8-11. In his Letter to the Romans Paul assures his converts that they have already tasted resurrection because the Spirit of God is living in them.

Gospel:

Jn.11:1-45. The gospel today shows us Jesus as the Resurrection and the Life.

EMERGENCY NUMBER

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