

1st May, 2005**Ballineaspais
Bulletin**

Sixth Sunday of Easter

CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK**FROM OUR
PARISH
TEAM***The Dean writes***SOME THOUGHTS ON A
WET SUNDAY AFTERNOON**

Last Sunday week was a very wet day. So I did something very unusual for me – I bought a Sunday newspaper. This simple transaction set me thinking. The general content of the paper was filled with a sense of gloom and depression – in keeping with the weather. Of course we all know that good news is no news. The late Erskine Childers, President of Ireland, tried to change all that – and failed.

My Sunday newspaper found fault with the late Pope John Paul – while all the world mourned his passing. It lambasted the stalwarts of the G.A.A. who might vote against opening Croke Park to other codes. It berated Sinn Féin to the extent that I felt I wanted to join them – not to mind our own politicians. And for good measure, a lash at the clergy.

Now it's a well known fact that a constant diet of bad news depresses people – worse still it's contagious. We ourselves start seeing everything more negatively. Our thoughts and memories are more likely to mull over negative events, while positive ones are

disregarded. So should we put our heads in the sand, turn off the 'telly', and live in a world of make-belief. Of course not. But it's good to be aware of the struggle between good and evil in the world, and in the news. It's a mistake to fill our minds and entertain ourselves watching films full of rage and violence. Even the kids' games where the one who 'kills' the most 'baddies' is the winner.

In contrast, listen to St. Paul's letter to the Philippians: "Whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious – think about these things." As your thoughts change, so will your life.

This too is the strong message of Easter – the Lord has triumphed over death and evil, and he has brought us with him.

And a new start with a new Pope. Alleluia.

Old Chinese Proverb

If you are planning for a year, sow rice,

If you are planning for a decade, plant trees,

If you are planning for a lifetime, educate a person.

I seem to be
able to resist
everything but
temptation . . .



Questions & Answers

QUESTIONS PEOPLE ASK

Q. I have fond memories of May devotions and the litany of Our Lady but I was always puzzled by calling her the Ark of the Covenant.

A. The ark of the covenant was a very precious treasure-chest specially constructed for carrying various relics of the Exodus and God's covenant with the chosen people. It contained samples of the manna, the rod of Aaron who was the priestly brother of Moses, and the stone tablets on which the commandments were written. Mary is recognised as the ark of the new covenant because she carried Jesus who is the true bread come down from heaven and the teacher of the new commandment of perfect love.

Fr. Sylvester O'Flynn OFM Cap.
(Intercom)



Rest in Peace

The death occurred recently of John Fitzpatrick, Merlyn Lawn, whose funeral took place in Kinsale. John had a keen interest in art and spent many happy hours drawing and painting. We offer our sincere sympathy to his wife Aileen, his daughters and son. John's brother, Fr. Pat Fitzpatrick, a Carmelite from Whitefriars Street, Dublin, conducted his Removal and Funeral Mass.



We offer our sincere sympathy to **MARY WALL**, Gleneden, Model Farm Road, on the death of her sister, Norma Barry.

To **MARY O'SULLIVAN**, Leesdale, Model Farm Road, on the death of her brother, Robert Hurley.





MOUNT MERCY NEWS

Well done to Transition Year Students Elaine Lynch, Jeanne Dennehy and Denise McCarthy who represented the school in the Model United Nations Session which took place in U.C.C. recently. Special congratulations to Elaine Lynch who received a trophy for best delegate in the Munster Section.

Seven Transition Year students went to Calcutta recently to experience the work of the Hope Foundation. While there, the girls visited some of the many centres run by the foundation. The students financed the trip themselves. A collection was held in the school and the €1,500 collected went directly to the work of the foundation.



**IF YOU LOVE ME AND
OBEY MY COMMANDS
JN 14-15**

Bible Corner



OBEDIENCE IN LOVE

Obedience has many faces. It can be based on fear, cuteness, subservience, duty, respect, gratitude or, indeed, on a mixture of some of these. Sometimes obedience can evoke a response of anger, resentment and self-righteousness.

Christian obedience is something radically different. It is based on love and that changes everything. When one obeys because of love, love given and love received, the deep response is one of peace and joy, no matter what the pain involved or what the effort needed.

This is the obedience that led Jesus to obey His Father's will and so die on a cross. It is the obedience that inspires the courage of the martyr, the fidelity of the abandoned spouse, the charitable silence of the maligned, the forgiveness of the wronged.

This obedience is the fruit of love or the acid test of love. In this weekend's gospel, Jesus says bluntly, "If you love me, you will obey my commandments." He offers a great reward to those who do. The reward is that God will live within us through His spirit. We will live together in love.

God is great, and therefore He will be sought: He is good, and therefore He will be found.
Anon.



First Friday

Next Friday 6th May is the First Friday of the month. Calls to the sick and housebound on usual days.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Next Friday 6th May from 10.30 a.m. to 7.30 p.m. followed by Mass.



ALZHEIMER TEA MORNING

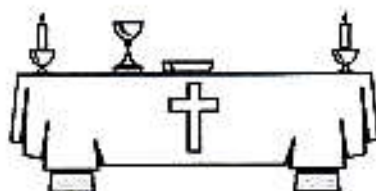
Thursday 5th May at Parish Centre
10.30 – 12 noon
organised by Friendship Club.
All Welcome

Venerable Edel Quinn

Holy Hour including rosary and Mass to give thanks for the life of Venerable Edel Quinn, will be held by the Legion of Mary at Holy Trinity Church on Thursday 12 May at 7.00 p.m. Everybody welcome.

Pioneers

The monthly Mass will take place on the First Friday, 6th May at 7.30 p.m. in the Way of the Cross Church, Togher. Refreshments will be served afterwards in the Parish House. There will also be an opportunity for people to enrol as members of the Pioneer Movement.



DATE TO REMEMBER

St. Joseph's Young Priests Society has been associated with this parish for 25 years.

On Thursday May 5th Mass will be celebrated in the Crypt at 8.00 p.m. All members, subscribers and friends will be welcome.

God's Word

Readings for Sunday 8th May

First Reading:

Acts 1:1-11. Luke describes the Ascension: this excerpt is taken from the very beginning of the book of Acts.

Psalm : 46

Second Reading:

Eph. 1:17-23. Paul interprets the event as Christ's exaltation at the right hand of the Father.

Gospel:

Lk. 24:46-53. Mathew's description of the command to make disciples of all nations, given at the Ascension.

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EMERGENCY NUMBER

087 - 251 9940