

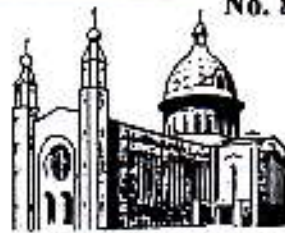


8th May, 2005

No. 840

Ballineaspais Bulletin

Feast of the Ascension



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK



OUR
**PARISH
PRIEST**
writes

THE POPE AND OURSELVES

Commentators continue to focus on the challenges facing Pope Benedict as he undertakes his new responsibilities for the People of God. Putting the spotlight on him can be a cosy cop out for the rest of us, distracting us from our own duty of making God's love effectively present around us each day. The opportunities and challenges facing the Pope and ourselves are really quite similar. Each of us, Pope included, is called upon to recognise and follow what God asks of us in the circumstances of our daily lives.

Here are four areas of vital importance in the Pope's life and in yours and mine.

1. **Prayer** must be a key part of our daily diet. Making our homes cells of biblical prayer is a pressing need of our time.
2. **Eucharist** must have a central place in our lives. Weekly Eucharist is not just fitted in as a lone ranger activity but is planned for, prepared for, shared in and celebrated by a community of joyful believers. We cannot leave it to others.

3. **Service** to the wider community, especially the disadvantaged, is crucial in our world today. Without such service, the preaching of the gospel can never be effective.
4. **"Do not be afraid"** to be recognised as a follower of Jesus. Christian is our brand name. The Cross is our logo. Both must influence our lifestyle.

As Pope Benedict set out on a new stage of life's journey as a beloved child of God, we are invited as his brothers and sisters to commit ourselves with new courage, hope and joy to live through love in God's presence. Forward in hope.

Annual Interfaith Service

Our Interfaith Service will take place
in The Crypt at 8 pm
on Monday 16th May.

Parishioners are encouraged to invite
neighbours and friends
of other Christian Denominations
to come along and join with us
on this annual occasion
of prayer and reflection.

Light refreshments will be provided.

QUESTIONS PEOPLE ASK+

Q. Didn't the ascension of Our Lord happen forty days after Easter Sunday, so why have we changed the feast from Thursday to Sunday, forty-three days after Easter?

A.; St. Luke wrote that Jesus continued to appear to the apostles for forty days after his resurrection, a round number with rich biblical connotations. Permission was granted to national hierarchies to change the celebration to the following Sunday if there was a good pastoral reason for doing so. Some countries have retained Thursday. The Irish hierarchy opted for Sunday as many people found it difficult to attend Mass on a workday, which certainly constitutes a good pastoral reason.

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



CONFIRMATION

Confirmation is the sacrament of receiving the fullness of the Spirit of God as inspiring each of us to be a witness to Jesus by how we live, as well as committing ourselves to be active participants in the worshipping community of faith. To enable our young to fulfil these daunting roles, we pray that they may be blessed with the fullness of these gifts.

WISDOM: To know the true and lasting value of God's creation.

UNDERSTANDING: To see their own place in God's plan and to appreciate the role of others in their lives.

RIGHT JUDGEMENT: To have God's compassion in their hearts for themselves and others.

COURAGE: To do what they know to be right no matter what pressure they are under.

KNOWLEDGE: To be enriched by the human exploration of our wonderful world.

REEVERENCE: To treasure the precious relationships in life.

WONDER AND AWE IN GOD'S PRESENCE: To be aware of God's presence in nature, in life, in each other, in the Eucharist.

Confirmation is here next Friday 13th May at 10.30 a.m. Mass. You are invited to come and pray God's blessing on the pupils of St. Catherines who will be confirmed by Bishop Buckley. If you cannot join us, please remember these young adults and their families and teachers on the day.

Fr. Tom Clancy



Calling All Our Confirmation Children

All the children of our Parish of the Holy Spirit who have received the Sacrament of Confirmation this year are specially invited to the 10.30 Mass on next Sunday, Pentecost Sunday, May 15th.
Please bring a Baptismal Candle

As a Parish, we are proud of them. We want to thank God for them. The majority of them attend school outside the Parish. Invitations have been sent to the children from St. Catherine's, St. Joseph's, Glasheen boys' and girls' schools, Scoil an Spioraid Naoimh boys' and girls' and to Gaelscoil Ui Riada. Those who attend other schools, or who attend Mass here are invited to come. After the Gospel they will be invited onto the Altar to light their Baptismal Candles, renew their promises and sing the Veni Creator. They will also participate in readings and prayers.

Let's make this Mass a joyful celebration of our belief in the Holy Spirit!



Thank You

Congratulations and thanks to our choir, under the direction of Paddy Killeen for the beautiful Schubert Mass last Sunday. Thank you also to David O'Sullivan, guest organist for the occasion. An uplifting experience.

Bible Corner



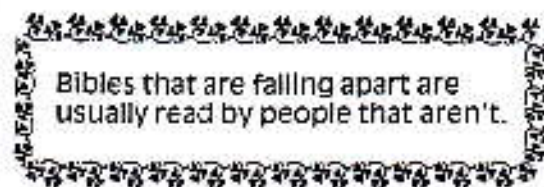
"GO, MAKE DISCIPLES"

The Ascension was a very significant closure experience for the original disciples. They had been through the Passion and Calvary and thought that they would not meet Jesus again. After the Resurrection, they did meet him again. But now this post-Resurrection phase is over and they will not experience Jesus in his bodily form again. He is returning to the Father.

It is a fact not a slogan. Our God is one and is a blessed trinity of three persons in one God. Like many precious things in life, this fact can only be appreciated and not explained. It cannot be discovered but is made known by God through his Son Jesus Christ.

So it is not surprising, that before returning to the Father and having promised the Holy Spirit, Jesus sent the apostles out to make disciples of all nations, instructing them to have as the foundation of their work, baptism in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

This is still the foundation of our faith and the core of Christ's parting message to us.





NOTICE BOARD

TAKE Note

Mass Change

Friday next, 13th May:
9.00 a.m. Mass as usual.
10.30 a.m. Confirmation Mass.

Bulletins to the Homes

Bulletins will be delivered to all homes in the parish next weekend.

Pastoral Council

Meeting on Monday 9th in the Parish Centre at 8.10 p.m.

Alcoholics Anonymous

Dennehy's Cross Group
Public Meeting
Crypt of Church of the Holy Spirit
10th May at 8.30 sharp.
Tea, coffee and refreshments.
All are welcome.

PARISH TEAM

Fr. Tom Clancy, P.P. Parochial House,
Model Farm Road, tel. 4347616
Fr. Declan Mansfield, C.C. 1 Woodlawn,
Model Farm Road, tel. 4346818
Dean Denis O'Connor, 2 Woodlawn,
Model Farm Road, tel. 4542972

EMERGENCY NUMBER

087 - 251 9940

HELP NEEDED

Bishopstown Meals and Wheels are urgently in need of drivers and cooks. If you think you can help please contact Pat Harrington, phone no. 4545790.



Open Garden Afternoon

Marymount Hospice are holding an Open Garden Afternoon and Sale on the winning farm of Jerome and Mary Byrne, Ballymorisheen, Grenagh. Home made cakes, jams, plants, books, bric-a-brac items new and old. Music, set dancing, Irish dancing. Bee-keeping display, old and new methods. Wheel-chair accessible.

God's Word

Readings for Sunday 15th May

First Reading:

Acts 2:1-11. The events of the first Pentecost are described vividly.

Psalm : 103

Second Reading:

Rom. 8:8-17. The Spirit binds all the members of the Body of Christ into one.

Gospel:

Jn. 20:19-23. The promise of the Holy Spirit is given in today's Gospel.

Parish e-mail address:
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