

Ballineaspaig Bulletin



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK

13th November 2005

Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

No.857

DEAN O'CONNOR WRITES

God's Word

Readings for Sunday
20th November

First Reading: Ez.34:11-
12, 15-17

Psalm: 22

Second Reading: 1
Cor.15:20-26, 28.

Gospel: Matthew
25:31-46.

"YOU MUST LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOUR AS YOURSELF"

This straightforward and unambiguous command of Jesus is worthy of some reflection. Obviously he expects us to have a healthy self-confidence and appreciation of ourselves – not to be confused with selfishness. The Lord knew quite well that we tend to project our own feelings on to others.

This little story illustrates the point. A man was sitting on a bench at the entrance to the town where he lived when he was approached by a stranger. "What are the people in this town like?" he asked. "What were they like in the town you left?" was the response. "They were a mean, selfish lot – they wouldn't lift a finger to help you, to be honest, I was glad to get out of the place," said the traveller. "I'm afraid you'll find them much the same here," said my friend. The following day another man came along and asked the same question of my friend. Again he replied by asking the same question, "What kind were they in the town you left?" "Oh, they were the nicest people you could find anywhere, kind and understanding, generous and helpful, to be honest, it broke my heart when I had to leave." My friend replied, "I think you will find them much the same in this town."

My friend gave two absolutely contradictory replies, yet he told no lie. In fact he was right – the point of the story is that very often we see other people, not as they are, but as we are. We can't offer love and warmth to others if our own hearts are cold and empty. We can only love with the quality of love that is in us.

Of course it's easy to love certain people because they are naturally loveable, but not so easy to love others. But this is the real test of love. Where there is not love, sow love, and you will reap love. Where there is no love, put love and you will find love.

Now that's a challenge worth pondering on a cold November morning.

EUCHARIST IN MY LIFE

A Parishioner's Thoughts

When I come to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament
it is by His gift that I believe He is truly present.

I feel secure in His love and peace.

When I pour out my heart before Him, I experience
a great calm and peace as if He is taking
all the burdens from me.

For such a gift, I am most thankful.



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Maureen Hartnett of Wilton Gardens died at Cobh Hospital on 26th October where she had been a patient for a number of years and where she received great care and attention. Maureen, together with her late mother and sister Nan were early residents in Wilton Gardens and the respect in which she was held was manifest by the large number of her old neighbours who came to her removal and Mass. Maureen was also well known for her courtesy and efficiency in Fielding's Pharmacy, Patrick Street, where she worked for many years. For her funeral Mass, members of the church choir came together at short notice to sing and pay their respects to Maureen who had been a loyal and valued member of the choir prior to her illness. Her niece Catherine Healy, husband John and family in Cobh were extremely kind and devoted to Maureen during her long stay there, visiting her daily and taking care of all her personal needs. To them we offer our sympathy. May Maureen rest in peace.



NOTICE BOARD

Bulletins to the Homes

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

Pastoral Council

Meeting tomorrow Monday 14th in the Parish Centre at 8.10 p.m.

Cork Marriage Counselling Centre

The annual collection will take place next weekend, 19/20th November.

Annual Day of Prayer

At St. Dominic's, Ennismore, on Sunday 27th November, 9.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. including Mass. Cost €22. Further information and booking from Jackie at 4541144 after 6.00 p.m.

Annual Bazaar

At O'Connell Court, Windmill Road, on Sunday 20th November, 2.30 to 6.00 p.m.

Community for Sustainable Development

(Formerly anti-high rise group). Meeting will take place in the crypt of the church at Dennehy's Cross on Tuesday 15th November at 8 p.m. to discuss the successful amending of the city development plan and its implications, and to update you on current and future development in your area. It is in your interest to attend. All welcome.

Your Child's Literacy

"How you as a parent can develop your child's Literacy". Guest Speaker - Gene Mehigan on Thursday, 10th November at 8:00 p.m. in Scoil an Spioraid Naoimh (B). Tickets €5.

Bible Corner



LIVING OUT OUR GIFTS

This weekend's Old Testament reading may seem very inappropriate to many of its hearers. Its origin was deeply influenced by the culture of its time, an ancient culture that saw women's role as completely in the home. Its purpose was to pay tribute to the key role of homemaking. It highlights one particular talent, one life-calling lived out to its full potential with generous concern for the poor in the midst of many responsibilities.

The reading is chosen this weekend as a preliminary to the gospel parable where Jesus sets out starkly the importance of utilizing every gift, talent and opportunity we have been given, to realize our full potential for the good of the whole community.

"Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown that you can be fruitful in small things, I will trust you with greater."

MOUNT MERCY NEWS

The pupils and teachers gave a warm welcome to Cllr. Deirdre Clune on her recent visit to the school. She was welcomed on behalf of the students by Head Girl, Niamh Doherty, and Deputy Head Girl Ciara Moriarty presented the Lord Mayor with a bouquet of flowers. Cllr. Clune spoke of Cork's year as European Capital of Culture.

Congratulations to Transition Year students Margaret Creedon, Rachel Cusack, Kate McCutcheon, Laura O'Connor and Siun Tobin who were chosen to participate in the first round of the Irish Junior Science Olympiad based on their excellent Junior Cert results in Maths and Science.

A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS

Recent emergency roof repairs to the Parish Centre needed a supervisor/handyman

