

# Ballineaspaig Bulletin



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT  
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK

15<sup>th</sup> January 2006

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

No. 865

## God's Word

Readings for Sunday  
22nd January 2006

First Reading:  
Jon 3:1-5,10

Psalm 24

Second Reading:  
1 Cor 7:29-31

Gospel:  
Mk 1:14-20

## THE DEAN WRITES



### A LIFE-GIVING VISION OF LIFE

I was walking down the Wilton Road one day last week. On the hoarding opposite the Farm Centre offices I noticed a poster from a Christian Evangelist Group. It read: "Jesus Christ is the answer". Some wag had come along and scrawled under it. "But what is the question?" Of course, many questions are thrown at us as we go through life. What is important for us is that we have a Christian vision of what life is all about – why are we here? And where are we going? You remember that little rhyme, "Two men looked out through prison bars. One saw mud, the other stars." I know a man who looks in the mirror every morning and says, "I cannot change others, the world, the weather, or the stars. The only one I can change is myself, and my attitude to others and to God." Sometimes we can feel that the whole world is having a party and enjoying themselves, and I'm the only one who hasn't been invited – poor little me. Forget it. Nobody wants to know about our misery.

Jesus said, "I have come that you may have life, and have it to the full." That includes you and me. The sun shines conferring light and warmth on all ready to receive it. God only loves and confers his light and warmth on all who would receive it. The wonderful truth is we are loved by God unconditionally, and just as we are. Of course we can refuse his love and separate ourselves from him, but still his love for us does not change. We don't have to be good in order to be loved. Rather, we are loved so that we can change, and grow and be good. The group that put up the poster were right after all. "Jesus Christ is the answer" and our Forever Friend for 2006, and right to the end of the road.

## CONTACT DETAILS

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## BIBLE CORNER

### BACK TO BASICS

No matter how one tries to string out the festive season, the party is well and truly over and so the time between now and Lent is called ordinary time (not a very imaginative title but accurate).

However, this weekend, St. Paul in the second reading highlights something very extraordinary about the most ordinary of things, our bodies. He reminds us that the Holy Spirit comes to live in our bodies, making them his home from home, as it were. With such a distinguished resident guest, we should use our bodies for the glory of God. Our bodies are anointed in Baptism and Confirmation to enable the Holy Spirit to permeate our lives. In the Eucharist, our bodies receive the Lord. The loving union of minds and hearts is expressed especially in bodily union in marriage. Through our bodies, our God becomes present to us and lives amongst us. The ordinary is quite awesome. Thanks be to God.

Fr. Tom Clancy

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## Rest in Peace

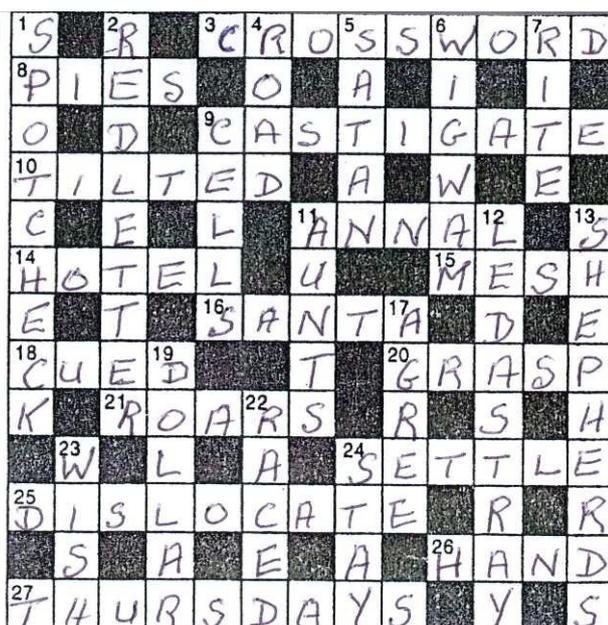
Robert (Bobby) McGowan, of The Manor, Model Farm Road, passed away in 2<sup>nd</sup> December. His death was very sudden and a huge shock to all; he had played golf in Monkstown only a few days previously. Bobby was a quiet man, who with the help of his wife and son, had built up a small business in the manufacture of sweets. Some years back, until he experienced some health problems, Bobby was a Minister of the Eucharist in the Church of the Holy Spirit. To his wife Deirdre, daughters Mary and Deirdre, and son Conor, grandchildren, relatives and friends, we extend our deepest sympathies. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dhílis.

Jack Pierse, Sheare's Park, died peacefully on 5<sup>th</sup> January after a long and fulfilled life. Family and home were the focus of Jack's life. A plasterer by trade, he took great professional pride in good workmanship, a pride that had been handed on to him through the generations. Well read and interested in sport, Jack was a great colleague and a good neighbour. His funeral Mass was at St. Joseph's, Wilton, where Jack's faith was nourished by regular devotion to the Eucharist. A gentle and kind man, he will be greatly missed. We offer our sincerest sympathy to his wife Delia, his daughter June, his son Jerry, his brother, sister, grandchildren and the wider circle of family and friends. Fé choimirce Mhuire, go raibh sé.

Eileen Power, mother of Michael Power, of Kenley (Westgate) Crescent, was laid to rest in St. Finbarr's Cemetery on January 2nd, following her Requiem Mass in the Church of the Holy Spirit. Eileen was originally a resident of Wellington Road. She was deeply loved by her son Michael and his wife Margaret, but very specially by her five grandchildren in whom she took a great interest. She lived a long life of 88 years, remaining active almost to the end. Go ndéana Dia trócaire ar a anam.

We offer our sincere sympathy to Esther Walsh, The Ridge-way, whose brother, Michael Nagle, died recently

### Solutions to Christmas Crossword



A record number of entries were submitted. Portia would like to thank all those who sent them in. The winners were:

- (1) Mary O'Herlihy, Dromana, Model Farm Road, and
- (2) Breda Scully, Blessington, Laburnum Drive.

## Pastoral Council

The process for the election of the next Council was discussed at the meeting on Monday last. The election will be held on 24<sup>th</sup> April and the new Council will meet on 8<sup>th</sup> May.

**Church Collectors:** It was stated that we urgently need extra collectors for the weekend Masses. Anyone willing to help in this important task should contact Gertrude our Sacristan, or any of the priests.

**Parish Pilgrimage:** This year the Society of African Missions are celebrating the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of their foundation. Their annual pilgrimage to Knock Shrine on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> May will be the climax of their celebrations. The Pastoral Council unanimously agreed to accept the invitation of Fr. Fachtna O'Driscoll, S.M.A. Provincial, for our parish to join with them in celebrating this special event. Further details later.

Next meeting Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February at 8.10 p.m.

### THANK YOU

Many people have returned their Christmas Dues envelopes and we are very grateful for your continuing support. We are grateful, too, to our dedicated distributors/collectors. We also deeply appreciate your generosity in the Christmas Day church collection which goes to our support. Thanks and God bless you all in 2006.

*The Priests of the Parish*

### Scriptural Prayer

Calling anybody who wishes to give one hour to pray the Sunday Gospel!! New members welcome. No stress. No background knowledge of Scripture required. Just the desire to see what God may be saying to you. Mondays 10.30-11.30 a.m. in the Parish Centre, Tuesdays 8.00-9.00 p.m. in St. Catherine's Convent. Beginning again Monday 16<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup>.

### Annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> Jan, 8.00 p.m. St. Columba's Church, Douglas. Preacher: Revd. Laurence Graham Methodist Minister.

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> Jan, 5.00 p.m. Honan Chapel. Ecumenical Service. 'Where Two or More are Gathered in my Name'

### One Lord, One Faith, One Baptism

What does it mean to be a Methodist, Catholic, Church of Ireland, Presbyterian in Cork 2006? Cork Theology Forum, a broad-based gathering of people exploring Christian theology and how it applies today, is hosting four Wednesday nights 18<sup>th</sup> January – 8<sup>th</sup> February at St. Dominic's Retreat House, Ennismore, €5 per night. Each night will feature two speakers from a Christian tradition. Details and bookings from John Scanlan 4316812 [justjohn@eircom.net](mailto:justjohn@eircom.net); Derek Johnston 4533865 [kjston@eircom.net](mailto:kjston@eircom.net); Anne Francis 087 2282134 [ab-francis@eircom.net](mailto:ab-francis@eircom.net).

### Baile'nEaspaig Gramophone Circle

Will meet on Wednesday next, 18<sup>th</sup> January at 3.00 p.m. in the crypt of our church at Dennehy's Cross, when Ken O'Callaghan will give the recital. Everybody is welcome to attend.

### Leaving Cert Oral Exam

If your son/ daughter is doing Leaving Certificate orals why not help them to brush up on their oral skills by attending evening/ Saturday morning courses in French, German, Spanish, Italian and Irish at the Cork College of Commerce, Morrison's Island, Cork. The college is also enrolling for its new Spring Courses at present.

The college will be holding two enrolment nights on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> Jan and Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> Jan from 5-7pm. Please telephone 021-4222100 or email [adulter@ccoc.ie](mailto:adulter@ccoc.ie) for further information.