

Ballineaspaig Bulletin



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK

30th April 2006

Third Sunday of Easter

No. 880

God's Word

Readings for Sunday
7th May

First Reading:
Acts 4:8-12

Psalm 117

Second Reading:
John 3:1-2

Gospel:
John 10:11-18

CONTACT DETAILS

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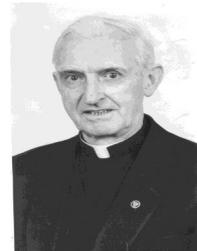
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THE DEAN WRITES

“HAPPY ARE THOSE WHO HAVE NOT SEEN AND YET BELIEVE”



I was listening to Vincent Browne and some of his friends on the radio one night last week. They had a problem about the Resurrection of the Lord on Easter morning and honestly, I thought they were like children playing “Blind man’s bluff”. Now don’t get me wrong. I have no problem with people who have honest doubts in matters of faith. As the poet, Tennyson once wrote: “There lives more faith in honest doubt than in half belief.” I met a man during Holy Week who was suffering awful mental anguish – he said to me “Is there any God there?”

The one person who knew most about the problems of Faith in the Resurrection was Jesus himself. So he arranged to show himself to a wide variety of people. He spoke with them, had meals with them, and of course his encounter with Thomas as related in last Sunday’s Gospel was meant as a support for us all. When the other disciples told Thomas that the Lord had called on Easter Sunday while he was out for a walk – his response was, “Don’t be silly. Unless I can see the holes that the nails made in his hands, and put my finger into the holes, I refuse to believe.” When Jesus called later and Thomas was present he was gentle and understanding with him, and invited Thomas to see and touch his body wounded by the nails. You might ask why didn’t he appear to Pontius Pilate and the Jews who clamoured for his crucifixion? Of course I don’t know. But I do recall the old adage: “There are none so blind as those who will not see.”

The truth is we have to accept the fact of the Resurrection on faith. We weren’t there to see or touch for ourselves. But faith doesn’t mean foolishness or unreasonableness. The great French scientist Pascal wrote: “There is enough light for those who want to see.” Apparently the great Einstein had no problem in accepting the reality of the Resurrection either. And a highly respected commentator by the name of Westcott wrote: “Taking all the evidence together there is no single historic incident that is better supported than the Resurrection of Christ.”

“Happy are we who have not seen and yet believe.” Alleluia, Alleluia.

**Please take a copy of the Bulletin home
or give it to a friend or neighbour**

Email: holyspiritparish@eircom.net

Website: www.dennehycrossparish.ie

NOTICE BOARD

Alzheimer's Tea Day
Thursday 4th May : 10.30 to 12 noon
Parish Centre
Please come and join us

First Friday

Next Friday, 5th May, is the First Friday of the month. Calls to the sick and housebound on usual days.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Next Friday 5th from 10.30 to 7.30 p.m. followed by Mass.

St. Vincent de Paul Society

Monthly collection next weekend.

S.M.A. Jubilee Year Pilgrimage to Knock

Saturday 27th May. For details please contact Wilton Parish Office, or Fr. Denis Collins, at 4346165

Action Breast Cancer Charity Fundraiser Lunch

Organised by Mount Mercy Transition Year students, at Maryborough House Hotel on Sunday 9th May. Champagne reception at 12 noon followed by lunch at 1.00 p.m. There will also be entertainment, including a fashion show by Assets Models, speakers and classical music played by a quartet. Tickets €50 available from Mount Mercy.

ATTENTION!

The A.G.M. of St. Joseph's Young Priests Society will take place in the crypt of the Church of the Holy Spirit on Thursday 4th May at 8.00 p.m. Mass will be celebrated by Dean O'Connor. All members and friends are welcome

In Jesus I Live

A day of Prayer and Reflection will be held at the Sacred Heart Hall, Western Road, on Saturday 6th May, 10.30 to 6.00 p.m. presented by Galilee Prayer Group. Speaker: Fr. Eamonn O'Driscoll, OFM. Please bring a packed lunch; tea and coffee provided.

The Jesus of Mark

Fr. Silvester O'Flynn, Capuchin, and experienced Retreat Preacher, Spiritual Director and author of a commentary on Mark's Gospel, will give a talk on Mark's portrayal of Jesus at Mount St. Joseph (Presentation Brothers), Blarney Street, on Monday 1st May at 7.30 p.m. All are welcome.

Trócaire

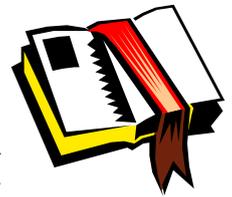
Thank you for your very generous Lenten donations. Your support this year will help the world's poorest people especially many young people in Nicaragua who are forced to work to help their families. The support of this parish will make a real difference and your generosity and help is much appreciated

St. Catherine's News

We are busily getting ready for the official opening of our newly extended and refurbished school and want to say a huge thank-you to our kind and patient neighbours. We look forward to welcoming you all to the opening and will be in touch once the date is confirmed.

Bible Corner

JESUS, OUR SAVIOUR



The second reading at Mass is sometimes obscured by a powerful gospel story. This could happen during this Easter time and that would be a great loss when the second reading is from the first letter of St. John. Unlike Peter's preaching which reprimands the Jews who crucified Jesus, John's letter is directed at believers in Jesus, especially those who fail to take on the full implications of what the coming, death, and resurrection of Jesus means. It is at once a challenge and an exhortation. The challenge is to acknowledge that Jesus is truly divine and how much we needed Jesus to free us from our selfishness and sinfulness. Without his sacrifice, we would not be saved. The exhortation is to grow in an awareness of how awesome God's love for us really is and to live morally out of that love in our care of each other.

Read the letter in full in your Bible to appreciate the encouragement as well as the correction in these Sunday snippets.

Fr. Tom Clancy

BRÚ COLUMBANUS



What is it?

Situated in Cardinal Way, near the SMA church in Wilton, Brú Columbanus provides accommodation for families of long-term and critically ill patients in any of the Cork hospitals and hospice. It is the first of its kind in Ireland. Already families from France, Germany, Poland, Spain, the UK and many parts of Ireland, who have been referred by hospital staff, have stayed there since it opened in September 2005.

What facilities does it have?

The word hostel, with its connotations of dormitories and bunk-beds, is a complete misnomer. This striking and spacious purpose-built building, designed by parishioner Bertie Pope, more closely resembles a four-star hotel. Families can stay in 24 en-suite bedrooms, each with its own phone for direct contact with the relevant hospital. They have the use of a chapel, living and recreation rooms and well-equipped kitchen, dining and laundry facilities. The Brú also has meeting rooms for hire by companies and organisations.

How much does it cost?

Families pay nothing, although most give a donation. It is estimated that the annual running costs will be €500,000. Brú Columbanus is an independent charity which relies totally on donations and fund-raising. It has only two paid employees: the House Manager and the Fundraiser. Without the invaluable help of volunteers (including many from our parish) the Brú could not operate.

If you would like to give a donation or support one of the fund-raising events contact Breda Kenny (021-434 5754). Forth-coming events include 6 May: Lady Golfers' Walk; 28 May: Gala Concert at Ballyvolane House.