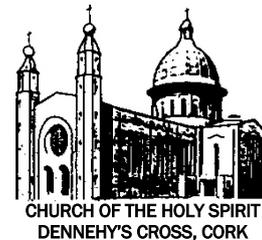


Ballineaspaig Bulletin



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK

29th April 2007

Fourth Sunday of Easter

No.921

God's Word

Readings for Sunday
6th May

First Reading
Acts 14:21-27

Psalm 144

Second Reading
Apoc 21:1-5

Gospel
Jn 13:31-35

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THE DEAN WRITES

DON'T WRITE ANYBODY OFF - JESUS DIDN'T

We all know that Peter denied he ever knew Jesus on Holy Thursday night. He was challenged by a little girl working in the palace of the High Priest, Annas. She kept at him, and Peter got very agitated and cursed and swore he never even saw Jesus. Then Jesus was led out bound like a criminal. He looked painfully at Peter. Peter broke down, ran from the hall and wept bitterly. As we know, Jesus appointed him head of his Church a few weeks later. He never denied Jesus again - in fact he gave his life for him.

What caused this transformation in Peter's life? The answer is very simple, but profound. Peter learned a wonderful truth about Jesus - that in spite of his weakness and denials, Jesus still loved him. It was that love that brought Peter back to life. And it's that same love he has for each one of us. It's an amazing experience to be loved in one's weakness - summed up so many centuries later in the hymn "Amazing Grace" - written by a man who was not proud of his conduct in earlier life.

I witnessed a fine example of morale building over thirty years ago. The late John Henrick was chairman of the Barrs Hurling Club at the time. A member of the minor panel was serving a sentence at St. Patrick's Institution (Junior Mountjoy) for a rather trivial offence. John decided the young lad needed to regain a little self-respect. He got the authorities to release him for a weekend to play for the club. He sent me and a pal of the young prisoner to meet him off the train at Glanmire station, bring him out to the Club where he was received by John and his fellow officers, and given a hearty supper. He got a place on the team, though his skills scarcely merited it. He was sent back to St. Patrick's on Monday to serve out his sentence.

He never got into trouble again. I thought it a fine example of building trust and self-respect in a practical way. Just like the Lord did for Peter.



ATTENTION! PLEASE NOTE!

The A.G.M. of St. Joseph's Young Priests Society will take place at 8.00pm on Thursday 3rd May, starting with Mass in the crypt. Members and friends are all welcome.

Alzheimer's Tea /Coffee Morning
at the parish centre next Thursday, 10.30-12 noon
hosted by the Friendship Club

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

Email: holyspiritparish@eircom.net

Website: www.dennehycrossparish.ie

Parish Pilgrimage and Picnic to Gougane Barra on Sunday 27th May

PARISH PILGRIMAGE



Coach departs church grounds at 1.30pm. Passes to the Forest Park will be available in the parish centre later on for parishioners wishing to travel by car.

EASTER CROSSWORD SOLUTION

Local Schools



We were delighted with the very large number of entries to our crossword. Sincere thanks to Portia for supplying these challenging crosswords every Christmas and Easter. The following winners were drawn:

Geraldine Fahy, Farranlea Grove

All the Fitzes, 26 Kenley Drive

Pastoral Council News

Plans for a Special Welcoming Mass to be held in October are well advanced. Details later.

The hearing-assist loop which is fitted above the cross aisle in the church is proving to be very effective.

A special word of thanks was offered to all involved in making the Easter Ceremonies so prayerful and enjoyable.

Notices

First Friday

Next Friday 4th May is the First Friday of the month. Calls to sick and housebound on usual days.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Next Friday 4th from 10.30am to 7.30pm followed by Mass.

St. Vincent de Paul Society

Monthly collection next weekend at all Masses.

Fresh Food and Wine Fair

Organised by Bishopstown Lions Club and the Irish Red Cross, and sponsored by Herlihy's Centra, Curraheen Road, the Fair will be held on Wednesday 2nd May, 7.30 to 9.30pm at Bishopstown G.A.A. Club. with hot and cold food tasting, cookery demonstrations and wine tasting. All proceeds will go towards the purchase of an ambulance for the local branch of the Irish Red Cross to provide first aid cover for local public events. Tickets €10 available from Herlihy's, Lions Club members and will be available at the door on the night.

ST. CATHERINE'S: Our 5th/6th Class recently organised a cake sale for Trócaire and the funds raised will help to raise awareness of the plight of women in developing countries, especially Malawi.

Congratulations to Éadaoin McDonagh (Kenley) on winning All-Ireland titles in Fiddle and Piano at the Sligo Feis and also to Máiréad Hickey who won an All-Ireland title in Senior Fiddle. Ceoltóirí Chaitríona continue to impress and we look forward to further success at the Midleton Feis in May.

Well done to Cathy O'Rourke (Woodleigh) on winning a Munster medal in squash, and to Jessica Sweeney on winning an All-Ireland relay medal in Nenagh at Easter. Ciara Clarke came sixth in Ireland in the Trampolining competition held in Wicklow at Easter.

Our Open Day will be held on Thursday 3rd May. All prospective pupils and their families are welcome between 11.30 and 1.00 to come and see us as we work.

On Friday 11th May we will have the Official Opening of our Extension and refurbished building at 10am. We cordially invite our neighbours to attend.

MOUNT MERCY: Well done to our Senior Hockey squad who finished 4th overall in the European Championships during Easter. Leaving Cert student Karen Olden was 'Goalie of the Tournament'.

Growing in Faith Together programmes (G.I.F.T.) A number of students took part in the GIFT programmes in the Church of the Real Presence during Holy week including Holy Hour on Holy Thursday and the Stations of the Cross on Good Friday. Their efforts made both occasions very meaningful for all present.

"As you did it to one of the least of these brethren, you did it to me" (Matt 25:40)

Sunday the 29th April marks a Global Day for Darfur and seeks to draw international attention to a crisis at breaking point.

The magnitude of human tragedy cannot be captured by the figures of 200,000 thousand dead, 2.5 million displaced and 4 million reliant on international aid that are used to depict the conflict there. Civilians continue to be attacked, killed, raped and forcibly displaced from their homes, and humanitarian access is imperilled due to this severe insecurity. Today let us remember the people of Darfur, and also their neighbours in Eastern Chad who are facing a similar fate as violence targeted against civilians escalates across the region.

Let us pray for peace and reconciliation and that international leaders be guided by God in a quest for justice and security..

Trócaire works with local church groups in Darfur providing food, water and healthcare as well as advocating for a political solution, which is critical to resolving this crisis.

In Sympathy

We offer our sincere sympathy to Sister Bernadette, Poor Clares, on the death of her mother, Mrs. Nan Cotter.

My God in My Neighbour

A Parishioner's Thoughts



People are all the same in that we all feel hurt and pain. We experience joy and sadness no matter who we are or where we come from. It is good to meet with understanding and kindness as we journey along. We get so much from our Divine Lord, so much love, so much grace to help us it is easy to pass it on to each other.