

# Ballineaspaig Bulletin



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT  
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK

24th June 2007

The Birth of St. John the Baptist

No. 929

OUR PARISH PRIEST WRITES

## God's Word

Readings for Sunday  
1st July

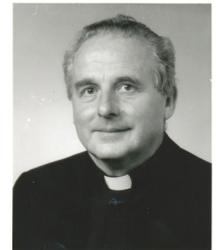
First Reading  
1 Kg 19:16, 19-21

Psalm 15

Second Reading  
Gal 5:1,13-18

Gospel  
Lk 9:51-62

## SOWING THE GOOD SEED



The end of another academic year has arrived.

The primary schools are about to close. Sixth class pupils are saying farewell to what has been their second home for eight years. Hopefully the holiday weeks ahead will be an enriching time for all these young children and their families.

Post primary schools have just wished the last of their examination candidates adieu and a calm descends until mid August results. In between, sports camps, casual jobs, language course, scout camps, intermingled with family holidays can be a glorious teenage time.

Most of our third level students have long since gone to travel the world. Some are showing extraordinary generosity and initiative in working to better the living conditions of the poorest of the poor. Others are earning to cover next year's expenses. Some are acquiring experience and new skills to enhance their chosen vocations. A few are in the privileged position of exploring the world and enjoying themselves. Hopefully all of them will be a credit to their families and to the communities that nurtured them.

Before the curtain comes down on another year, it is important that we take the opportunity to recognise the many wonderful strands that enrich our educational system. At its heart and at the coal face are the personnel involved, the teachers, special needs assistants, administrative and service staff, board members, parents' committees, all of whom contribute so much to the formation of the youth of today and the adults of the future. It is easy to highlight the limitations of our system, but it is more appropriate at this time to acknowledge with gratitude the living reservoir of talent and dedication that is the source of much lasting goodness in our society and in our church. Our schools are so consistently good that the danger is that we would take them for granted.

We in the parish are deeply aware of how indebted we are to our school personnel. We are happy to salute you, to thank you and to bless you.

Go fada buan sibh.

Fr. Tom

Ireland's First  
Fairtrade Parish



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

Email: [holyspiritparish@eircom.net](mailto:holyspiritparish@eircom.net)

Website: [www.dennehyscrossparish.ie](http://www.dennehyscrossparish.ie)

## Rest in Peace

**Patrick Keane**, Bishopstown Avenue West, died at St. Patrick's Hospital on the feast of the Sacred Heart, Friday 15th June. He had been unwell for quite some time, but was coping well with his illness until the early hours of Tuesday 12th when his condition deteriorated rapidly. Patrick was a native of Co. Clare, and a past pupil of St. Flannan's College in Ennis. There he honed his hurling skills and subsequently played for the Barrs in Cork. After the death of his father, the family moved to Cork and Pat worked for many years at Irish Steel. When that company faltered and closed he had to leave with many others. Then his life entered a new phase when he became assistant to our very competent sacristan, Charles Leahy, and continued with his esteemed successor, Gertrude Hurley. Soon everybody wanted part of our Pat - so he divided himself between our parish and the Poor Clares. Patrick treated everybody with respect and concern, and endeared himself to priests, church workers and the general public. To his sister Anne, his uncle Jack and aunt Maura, his nieces Aideen, Aoife and Rachel, and his many friends, we extend our sincere sympathy.

**Kevin Connolly**, Wilton Road, died in the C.U.H. on June 9th 2007 after a brief final illness, even though he had been in failing health since the death of his wife Mary a short time ago. Born in Friar's Walk, living his married life on Wilton Road, with a wallpaper and paint business on Barrack Street, Kevin was a real southsider, following the Barrs hurlers, and with an interest in all sport. After his retirement from business, Kevin, together with Mary was an invaluable helper in the sacristy and chapel at the C.U.H. where his gentle and faith-filled service helped many in times of anxiety, suffering and loss. The presence of the hospital chaplains past and present at his funeral acknowledged his wonderful contribution there. A kindly neighbour and a good friend, Kevin will be greatly missed. To his sister Irene, his sisters-in-law, his brothers-in-law, nieces and nephews, we offer our sincerest sympathies. Fé choimirce Mhuire, go raibh sé.

**Leo Michael Doherty**, Laburnum Lawn, died suddenly at home on the morning of 13th June 2007. A native of Mitchelstown, Leo worked in Canada and the U.S.A. where he met and married Eileen from Fermanagh. They returned to Cork where they had a public house on the Lower Road, then a shop in Wilton Gardens, before moving to Laburnum Lawn. A good neighbour, involved in community and sport, a loyal friend, a man of faith, devoted to his religious practices, a shrewd commentator on life around us, he will be greatly missed. To his wife Eileen, to Michael and Veronica, Mary and Jed, his brother William, sister Margaret, grandchildren Aoife and Barry, and to the wider circle of family and friends, we offer our sincerest sympathies. Ar ndeas Dé, go raibh a anam dílis.

## In Sympathy

We offer our sincere sympathy to **Barbara Carroll**, The Manor, Model Farm Road, on the death of her father, Bill Nolan.

## Bible Corner



### Birthday Boy, the Light of the World

When some people bemoan that our over-commercialisation of Christmas obscures its religious significance, it is well to remember that the winter solstice (23rd December) was a festival time long before Jesus was born. In many ways, it was the biggest festival for primitive peoples when the year turned. As the day began to lengthen again, there was new hope, new light and new life. The early Christians thought this was a most suitable time to celebrate the birth of Jesus, our new light. So they took over the winter solstice festival and called it Christmas.

So what about the summer solstice (23rd June)? It was the next most important festival in the pagan world. The Christians decided to link with another birth, the birth of John the Baptist. As they saw things, he was second only to Jesus himself. In fact, he was sent to prepare the way for the coming of his divine cousin, to become the light of the world. It fits in with the bonfire tradition.

John the Baptist was called to point out Jesus to his peers and to prepare for the building up of God's kingdom. It was a vocation in which we all share in different ways.

Fr. Tom Clancy

## Pastoral Council News

- A new water drain is now installed at the Model Farm Road gate to prevent water flowing over the footpath.
- The footpath to Wilton road is now repaired and the trip hazard removed.
- Toilet facilities are now available inside the entrance to the church at Our Lady's altar side.

### *My God in My Neighbour*

#### A Parishioner's Thoughts



A vital part of our spiritual growth is the effort we make to reach out and help others. If we see people as others we will probably treat them as we would treat the stones along the road. If we see others as our brothers and sisters they will become a part of us and will be treated accordingly.

## Notice Board

### St. Vincent de Paul Society

Please note that the monthly collection will take place on 7th/8th July.