

Ballineaspaig Bulletin



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK

17th February 2008

Second Sunday of Lent

No.952

A REFUND FROM THE TAXMAN



God's Word

Readings for Sunday
24th February

First Reading
Ex 17:3-7

Psalm 94

Second Reading
Rom 5:1-2,5-8

Gospel Jn 4:5-42

Dear Parishioner,

Did you know that parishes can claim a tax refund from Revenue on donations from PAYE donors of €250 or over in any one year, without any extra cost to the donor? Eligible donations can be once off or by regular instalments - as long as they can be receipted, **all** amounts contributed by an individual may be added together, including dues, the weekly contribution towards parish funds, or any other contributions made to the priests or the parish within a given tax year.

Under the scheme, tax relief can potentially increase the value of contributions from PAYE donors by up to 69%. In the case of donors who are self assessed (or partially self assessed), the individuals themselves are entitled to claim the tax benefit.

As you are probably aware, the Easter and Christmas dues collections provide the priests' income, while the offertory collections at the weekend Masses fund the ordinary day to day running expenses of the parish. The combined weekly and dues contributions made by a great many of our parishioners exceed €250 per annum. However, under our present system the amounts received in the offertory collections cannot be counted as they cannot be attributed or receipted to the donors.

We are therefore proposing to introduce a new voluntary envelope collection system with effect from April 2008. Full details will be available nearer the time. This proposed collection system, which will be entirely optional and strictly confidential, will have enormous benefits for the parish. All tax refunds received will be used for parish expenses. As we approach our jubilee year, we are conscious that our beautiful church needs some refurbishment. By ensuring that we are eligible to claim the maximum possible tax rebate, we hope to fund a considerable portion of the cost without having to impose further on your generosity.

Summary explanatory leaflets about the tax rebate scheme are available at the Church doors. If you would like the full Revenue leaflet (CHY2), please ask at the Parish office, or you can download it from the Revenue website: <http://www.revenue.ie/leaflets/chy2.pdf>

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Ireland's First
Fairtrade Parish



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FINANCIAL REPORT 2007
Presented by the Parish Finance Committee

Expenditure		Income		Special Collections 2007	
	€		€		€
Wages & PRSI/Tax Returns	50,971	Sunday & Holy Day Collections	137,419		
Heating & Lighting	19,457	Shrines	14,156		
8% Levy to Diocesan Office	15,974	Bank Interest	505		
Insurance	7,976	Directories, pamphlets, etc.	754	Lourdes Pilgrimage Fund	645
Pastoral Council Formation	451	Rents - Crypt & Parish Centre	8,840	Holy Places	840
Office supplies/Booklets/ Bulletin/calendars	6,556	Donations	8,340	Episcopal Commissions	701
Eucharistic Procession Fund	700	Tax Refund	290	Parish Pastoral Services	802
Church Requisites	7,003	Total	170,304	Peter's Pence	1,214
Repairs & Maintenance	5,341	Summary		Priesthood Education	1,166
Rose window, external lighting	6,958			South American Mission	3,520
Repairs to draining of car park	7,661			CMCC	669
Electrical upgrades	8,774			Trócaire	9,588
Cleaning & Gardening	9,160	Balance 1/1/2007	37,138	Peru Earthquake Relief	4,071
Telephones	707	Income	170,304	Turkwell	11,291
6% Diocesan Retirement Levy	7,984	Total	207,442	Peru Collection Boxes	1,656
Bank Charges	1,051	Expenditure 2007	156,785		
Equipment	61				
Total	156,785	Balance 1/1/2008	50,657		



Baile'n Easpaig Gramophone Circle

Our monthly recital will take place on Wednesday next, 20th February, at 3.00pm. when Fr. Michael Murphy will give the recital, and everyone is most welcome.

LENTEN CORNER

Sacred Space



Prayer, penance and almsgiving are the cornerstones of our Lenten observances. As well as almsgiving, think about 'Time-Giving' - call to a neighbour living alone, offer to take someone shopping, visit a sick person, write a letter to a family member living abroad. This week put a little clock in your 'Sacred Space' symbolising the giving of your time.

We pray: "Teach us Lord to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost."

St. Catherine's School

Now that it is Lent we are studying the excellent material received from Trocaire. This year's focus is on the importance of water in people's lives. As we have close links with a project in Kenya, the project is very relevant for us.

We connect with this issue too through our efforts to improve the environment as we work towards the Green Flag award.

Congratulations to our ceoltóirí groups who came 1st, 2nd and 4th in Feis Maitiu recently, and to Draíocht, our senior group who won the County Final of Scór na n-Óg.

Happy those who mourn: they shall be comforted.

PASTORAL COUNCIL NEWS

- A number of parking spaces designated for people with restricted mobility is being investigated - four at the Wilton Road side door and two at the Model Farm Road side door.
- The Mass and anointing of the sick was very much appreciated. The singing and the lighting at Our Lady's altar brought everyone closer to the Lourdes celebrations.
- Thanks to the Finance Committee for their annual report and best wishes for the success of their new initiative for the proposed optional voluntary envelope collection.

Rest in Peace

We wish to extend our sympathy to Maeve Minihaue and family Rossbrook, on the recent death of her mother Frances (Fran) Collier. A native of Tramore, Fran met her late husband in America but they returned with their young family after a number of years to live in Baltimore in West Cork. On retirement she moved to Rossbrook to be near her daughter Maeve. Fran was a great lover of music and all types of sport, both of which were a great consolation to her during her later years of poor health. During the long years of declining health, she was loved and cared for by her daughter Maeve. Fran will be greatly missed by Maeve and by her other daughter Geraldine (England), her son in law Denis and much loved grandchildren Laura, David, Conor and Shane. Reception prayers and Requiem Mass were attended by many of Fran's neighbours and friends in addition to members of her extended family, some of whom travelled from England and America to wish her well on her final journey. Ar dheis De go raibh a hanam.