

Ballineaspaig Bulletin



13th April 2008

Fourth Sunday of Easter

No.960

OUR PARISH PRIEST WRITES

YEAR OF VOCATION - APRIL 2008 TO MAY 2009



God's Word

Readings for Sunday
20th April

First Reading
Acts 6:1-7

Psalm 32

Second Reading
1 Pet 2:4-9

Gospel: Jn 14:1-12

For the twelve months between this Sunday the 13th of April, Vocations Sunday, and the 3rd of May 2009, Vocations Sunday, every effort will be made to raise awareness of the common vocation we all share through Baptism as expressed in witness, love and service. There is a special dignity attached to each vocation: married and family life, ordained priesthood, religious life and the single life.

Vocation to religious life and priesthood has reached crisis stage in Ireland and other European countries. While the numbers of students studying for the priesthood worldwide is at an all-time high, the crisis still deepens in our own country. On Friday 1st February, the Pope spoke to the students of Rome's Major Seminary: "Because the gift of being adoptive children of God has illuminated your lives," the Pope told the seminarians, "you have felt the desire to share this with others. This is why you are here, to develop your vocation and prepare yourselves for your future mission as apostles of Christ."

In his address to the parents of the seminarians, the Pope said, "You are probably the most surprised of all about what has happened and is happening to your children. You had perhaps imagined for them a mission different from the one for which they are now preparing. Look to Mary. The Gospel helps us to understand that she too asked herself many questions about her son Jesus, and reflected on him for a long time."

"It is inevitable that the vocation of children in some way also becomes the vocation of the parents," the Pope added. "Indeed, although it may appear that a priest's life does not attract the interest of the majority of people, in reality it is the most interesting of adventures and the most necessary for the world. It is a very demanding adventure and could not be otherwise because a priest is called to imitate Jesus."

Offering a final word of encouragement, Pope Benedict said: "Follow your journey at the seminary with your hearts open to truth, to transparency and to dialogue with those who guide you and this will help you to respond simply and humbly to the One who calls you, freeing yourselves from the risk of pursuing a personal project of your own."

Ireland's First
Fairtrade Parish



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

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Website: www.dennehyscrossparish.ie

Our Church Choir (dir: Patrick Killeen)

will be joined by

St. Joseph's Choir (Dir. Scott Rutledge)

Rome - New York - USA

at 10.30am Mass Sunday 13th

and in a

Concert of Sacred Music

on Monday 14th at 7.30pm

including trumpet concerto, harp, flute,
piano and handbell choir.

NOTICE BOARD

Bulletins to Parish Homes

Bulletin will be delivered next week to all homes in the parish.

Pastoral Council

Monthly meeting this Monday 14th at 8.15pm in Parish Centre.

Trócaire would like to sincerely thank everyone for their support and generosity during its Lenten Campaign and throughout the year. The contributions received make a huge difference in Trócaire's work building long-term solutions to poverty overseas. Please remember to return your box if you have forgotten to do so.

Alzheimer Society - Cork Branch

Carers' support meeting on Wednesday 9th April, 3.00-4.30pm at Bessboro Day Care Centre. All welcome. Tel. 4972504.

Sunday's Well & District Flower Club

Eleanor Barrett of the Lough Flower Club will demonstrate 'April Showers' on Wednesday 16th April at 8pm in St. Vincent's Parish Centre. New members welcome.

Lunchtime Concert

On Thursday 17th April at 1.05pm. in the Curtis Auditorium, Cork School of Music, admission free. Taking part will be Deirdre Moynihan - soprano, James Taylor - harpsichord and Conor O'Connell - Recorder. Music by Purcell, Bach, Vivaldi, Handel and Dowland.

Car Boot Sale

In aid of Marymount Hospice Building Fund at Bishopstown GAA Club, Sunday 20th April, 9.00 to 4.00pm. Bring your goods. Tell your friends. Terrific bargains.

St. Catherine's Young Scientist Exhibition

Tuesday 15th April, 10.30 - 1pm in the school hall. Children from Junior Infants to 6th class will have a variety of experiments which they will demonstrate. All welcome.

Bible Corner



WHO WILL LEAD US ?

Jesus was the great storyteller. The Good Samaritan and the Prodigal Son evoke a response whenever they are told. The image of Christ as the Good Shepherd is not quite so universal or so enduring. In this part of the world, we are more accustomed to drovers than to shepherds. Drovers goad from behind with the stick. Shepherds lead in the front with trust, confidence and personal relationship. And yet, for the people of his own time and place, the image of shepherd enabled Christ to point out that his role was to lead people to the Father, to point the way to what is best. It is a role that he handed on in a particular way to the bishops and priests of every age.

Jesus saw this leadership role as crucially important among his people. It is even more important today. Genuine leadership towards God and the things of God is what we pray for today as we listen to this weekend's gospel with open hearts. Who is open to such a relationship with Jesus and his people?

Fr. Tom

In Sympathy

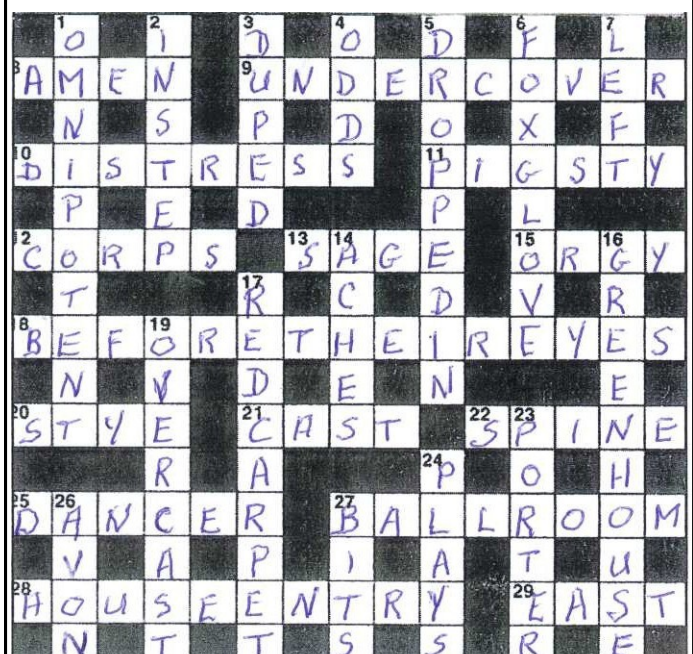
We offer our sincere sympathy to:

Nell Long, Liam Lynch Park, on the death of her son, Stephen.

Daniel O'Mahony, Greenfields, on the death of his sister, Patsy Coughlan.

Terry O'Keefe, Laurel Bank, on the death of his brother, Jim.

EASTER CROSSWORD ANSWERS



Portia would like to thank all the parishioners who sent in entries to our Easter Crossword. From the many correct solutions submitted, we drew the following for a prize:

Rosaline O'Keefe, Treelands, Laurel Bank
Kieran Power, Gwenrose, Laburnum Lawn