

# Ballineaspig Bulletin



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT  
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK

5th October 2008

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

No. 977

## God's Word

Readings for Sunday 12th  
October

First Reading Is 25:6-10

Psalm 22

Second Reading  
Phil 4:12-14,19-20

Gospel Mt 22:1-14

THE DEAN WRITES



## WHEN OUR BACKS ARE TO THE WALL - LOVE IS OUR ONLY REFUGE

Turmoil in financial markets round the world - fat cats of Wall Street scurrying for shelter (et cetera, et cetera - as the King of Siam might add).

In this Sunday's Reading St. Paul says: "There is no need to worry. If there is anything you need, pray for it."

Mind you, he is not suggesting that we do nothing. What then does prayer do? Prayer implies a willingness to do what we can, and then leave things in the hands of God, and accept whatever happens even though we may not understand it here and now.

Recently I visited a young relative of mine in hospital. She is very ill with cancer. I was trying to pray with her and tell her how precious she is to God, and how much he loves her. Her response was short and understandable. If he loves me so much why doesn't he cure me. This kind of situation calls for a huge act of trust and faith in God. And Jesus does understand - He has been there. When he was hanging on the cross the Jewish leaders taunted him.. "He trusted in God. Now let God come and save him." But he died - and only after death did he experience the joy and glory of the Resurrection..

We need to support people like this - and pray for them without ceasing - they need us - and it could well be that we are the ones who will need such support next. St. Paul again says: "Fill your minds with everything that is true, everything that is noble, everything that is good and pure - everything that we love and honour, everything that can be thought worthy of praise."

St. Paul was so filled with his experience of the love of God that anything else didn't matter. He would like us to be filled with this same love, which is beyond all understanding.

Prayer can help us, and others, to experience that same love which helps us to overcome all problems and difficulties.

"More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of."

## CONTACT DETAILS

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Ireland's First  
Fairtrade Parish



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or give it to a friend or neighbour

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## Rest in Peace

Brigid (Bridie) Fahy, Bishopstown Park, died at her daughter Mary's home on September 22nd in the loving care of her family, after a lengthy illness borne with serenity and peace. A native of West Donegal who settled in Cork nearly sixty years ago when her husband, the late Edward, joined the Physics Department in UCC, Bridie never lost her love for her native place, its people, its accent or above all its values of family, of friendship and of faith. These values permeated her whole life where gentleness was underpinned by strength and love was filled with wisdom. She will be greatly missed by family and friends in Cork, and Donegal especially. To her daughters Mary and Leonora, her sons Jack, Edward, Bill, Gerald and Stephen, and their spouses, to her grandchildren, nephews and nieces and many friends, we offer our sincerest sympathy. Fé choimirce Mhuire, go raibh sí.

## In Sympathy

We offer our sincere sympathy to Moira and Jerry O'Sullivan and Family, Rossa Avenue, on the recent death of their son John Paul.

The relatives of the late Fr. Michael O'Shea, O.F.M. who died in South Africa.

## NOTICE BOARD

### The Environment - Gift and Response

Faith in Action will host a talk in the Crypt on Thursday 9th October at 7.30pm. on the environment. It will be an opportunity for us all to discuss how we, as a community, can find ways of protecting the environment and be more aware of God's gift to us. All welcome. Refreshments afterwards.

### St. Paul - The Man and His Message

Series of reflective explorations led by Fr. Tom continues with St. Paul's letter to the Thessalonians on Tuesday at 8.00pm. in the Crypt. Bring New Testament. All Welcome.

### Alzheimer Society

Carer's support meeting on Wednesday 8th October in Bessboro Day Care Centre, Blackrock, from 3.00 to 4.30pm. All welcome. Contact number 4972504.

### PRAYER GROUP IN PARISH CENTRE

Our Monday morning group will commence next Monday 6th October after 10.00 Mass.

New members will be very welcome.

## Bible Corner



As every newspaper editor knows, a good visual has more impact than a thousand words. It is also true that a well crafted word image of a familiar scene can leave a lasting impression. Many of the great communicators of the bible were experts in creating such images.

As we read this weekend, Isaiah had the skill in a very simple but effective way. Vineyards were focal points in the Hebrew world of his time. A good vineyard was the pinnacle of achievement in a harsh and difficult terrain. It was difficult enough to find water and grazing for goats and sheep to provide the basic necessities. A vineyard required a special site, competent and dedicated care, akin almost to love. The sight of a well cultivated vineyard conjured up fantasies of the finer things in life.

For a people to be compared to the Lord's vineyard was a real compliment. But to be threatened with being abandoned by the owner of the vineyard was a fate worse than death. The ruthless wilderness would quickly overrun what had been built with such dedicated love.

Those listening to Isaiah got the message very quickly. If we fail to respect the gifts of the Lord and to live accordingly, then the ruthlessness of selfishness will destroy the true wine of life.

Fr. Tom

### DAY OF PRAYER AND REFLECTION

Explore the wonder and mystery of God's love in your life.

A day for single adults

Venue: Bon Secours Convent, College Road

October 11th : 10.00am to 2.00pm

Further information from Sr. Bridget O'Sullivan at 087 74167126

### Tuesday 7th October - Our Lady of the Rosary



Today's celebration urges us all to meditate on the mysteries of Christ, following the example of the Blessed Virgin Mary who was in a special manner associated with the incarnation, passion and glorious resurrection of the Son of God.