

Ballineaspig Bulletin



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK

14th December 2008

Third Sunday of Advent

No. 987

God's Word

Readings for Sunday 21st
December

First Reading
2 Sam 7:1-5,6-12,14,16

Psalms 88

Second Reading
Rom 16:25-2

Gospel
Lk 1:26-38

CONTACT DETAILS

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Parish Office
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Emergency Number:
087-251 9940

Reminder !

The 2009 Collection
Envelopes are available
in the Parish Office
after all Masses this
weekend - for those
who have already
signed on, and those
who may wish to do so
for 2009.

THE DEAN WRITES

"WAIT IN HOPE" That's the message on the Advent wreath so tastefully set up and so meaningful in our church for the past two weeks. That 'Hope' is about to be fulfilled for us next week in the celebration of Christmas. We wish each other a 'Happy Christmas' and even though it's an age-old greeting - and perhaps with an occasional spattering of cynicism - it's special - and rightly so.

Jesus said "I am the way, the truth and the life." And so he is. God knew we needed more than instruction to find our way to Heaven - we needed an example of what we aspire to be. We needed to see and feel the love of God for us. So he sent his Son. God is love. He was born in poor circumstances as a helpless infant. He turned so many things upside down to enable us to see the truth. At this wonderful time we get a glimpse of the reality - that God loves me just as I am - and wishes me to reflect something of that love in my own life.

So we have many extraordinary examples of Christmas love overcoming hatred in every generation:

- (a) The young soldiers of the German army and Allied troops - sent to kill each other - but leaving their trenches on Christmas Night 1915 and singing together *Silent Night* and exchanging little gifts as they played football on Christmas morning on 'no man's land'.
- (b) The really desperate prisoners in Siberian gaols sharing the little they had on Christmas Day.
- (c) Frank O'Connor's account in *An Only Child* of his visit to the Good Shepherd Convent in Sunday's Well, and giving his prized little toy to the Infant in the Crib, because the Child got no toys from Santa.

So in the coming week we think of all those coming home for Christmas - we welcome them and make room for them in our hearts and our homes.

We think of those away - and we pray for them.

We think of the poor - and we share with them.

We think of those we have hurt, and those who have hurt us - that we may be united in love.

We think of the Lord - and renew our friendship with Him in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

We think of all who were good to us.

For beautiful memories we treasure.

For friendship and laughter - we love you all.



ADVENT CAROL SERVICE

Please join us this Sunday 14th December at 7.00pm - Advent Carols, Readings and Ritual by Candlelight. Gift yourself some quiet time in preparation for Christmas. All welcome

Sympathy

We offer our sincere sympathy to

Mary O'Connor, The Orchard, Farranlea, on the death of her sister, Peggy O'Connor.

Catherine Duggan, Wilton Gardens, on the death of her father, Patrick Fitzgerald.

Helen Buckley, School Avenue, on the death of her brother Ted O'Riordan.

AUTUMN DUES

Our sincere thanks to the many parishioners who have sent in their generous Dues and to those who will do so.

A word of appreciation to our courteous distributors/collectors who facilitated the good work.

Happy Christmas to one and all.

- The priests of the parish

Give a unique Parish Gift this Christmas and help build and equip a health clinic in our twin parish in Turkwel, Kenya.

The sale of Christmas Gift Cards continues after weekend Masses, in the parish office during the week, and at the Advent Carol Service this Sunday 14th at 7.00pm

This week's **SPECIAL OFFER**:

- 1) In-Patient Bed and Examination Trolley worth €40 now €30.
- 2) Blackboard, clinic window, five building blocks worth €30 now €20.

We thank all who have supported this parish project - amount raised to date €9,590 - we are nearly there !

Children's Mass on Christmas Eve at 6.15pm

On Tuesday 16th December at 3.00pm we will have a preliminary gathering in the church of schoolchildren who wish to take part in the Christmas Eve Mass.

We need a number of willing parents to help with the smooth running of this event.

Please contact Fr. Tom at 4347616

North Cathedral Calendars available in the parish office and at weekend Masses. €5 each.

Charity Event with Billa and Friends

At the Flying Enterprise Bar, South Gate Bridge, at 10.00am on Monday 15th December, with teas, coffees, home baking and entertainment. Proceeds to St. Vincent de Paul and Cancer Research. All welcome.

Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

At St. Fin Barre's Cathedral on Sunday 21st and Wednesday 24th at 4.00pm. All welcome. Collections at both services will be shared between Cork charities.

Ministers of the Eucharist and Word

If you have not collected your new rota, please do so at the altar rails this weekend.

Superfluous Christmas Gifts

Have you received a Christmas gift that you do not really need? We will be happy to collect them from you at Masses on the weekend of January 3rd/4th 2009 for distribution to suitable needy recipients. Thank you and Happy New Year.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR CHURCH SERVICES

MASSES

Wednesday 24th - Christmas Eve

9.00, 10.00. 6.15pm (Family Mass), Midnight

Christmas Day : 9.00, 10.30, 12.15pm

Friday 26th : 10.00am

Saturday 27th : 10.00, 6.15pm

Sunday 28th : 9.00, 10.30, 12.15pm

Mon 29th to Thurs 1st January : 9.00 and 10.00am

First Friday 2nd January : 9.00, 10.00 and 7.30pm

Saturday 3rd January : 9.00, 10.00, and 6.15pm

Sunday 4th January : 9.00, 10.30 and 12.15pm

Monday 5th : 9.00, 10.00, and Vigil at 7.30pm

Tues 6th Feast of the Epiphany : 9.00, 10.30, 7.30pm.

RECONCILIATION SERVICES

Dennehy's Cross: Sunday 21st at 5 pm.

Sacred Heart Church: Monday 22nd at 7.30pm

Ballinora: Monday 22nd at 8.00pm

Wilton: Wednesday 17th at 7.30pm

Curraheen: Monday 22nd at 8.00pm

CONFESSIONS

Saturday 20th : 12.00-1.00pm, before 6.15pm Vigil Mass

Wednesday 24th : 12.00-1.00pm, 4.00-5.00pm, before and after 6.15pm Mass.

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