

# Ballineaspaig Bulletin



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT  
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK

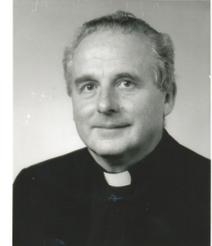
15th February 2009

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

No.995

FR. TOM WRITES

## “UNITED WE STAND... ..”



Over the last ten years, the widening gap between the very wealthy and the less well off has seriously undermined the respect and trust that holds us together in communities sharing this little island. More recently, scapegoating and allotting blame for the crisis we are in has deepened divisions between employers and employees, between private and public sector workers, between government and the governed. Fanning such divisions for one's own agenda is highly irresponsible. Arson wherever it occurs is always destructive.

The justifiable anger and sense of betrayal that pervades in our country could well spill over into serious civil unrest. This is an underlying fear and anxiety in many hearts.

It is the responsibility of government to lead with integrity and transparent fairness in ways that will evoke courage and co-operation, generosity and gentleness, vision and hope, wisdom and strength. Openness and truth are cornerstones of community. Patronising platitudes from the powerful poison the potential of our young people.

Our own responsibility is not very different. Each of us, by how we speak and live, influences the health of our relationships. Each day we either deepen respect for the truth or undermine it. Truth is the touchstone of trust. As such it is a pearl of great price. We must protect it and nurture it by what we do and say each day.



### CELEBRATE FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT

In the Crypt after 6.15 p.m. Mass on Saturday, 21st February and 10.30 Mass on Sunday 22nd. Enjoy Fairtrade tea, coffee and banana-flavoured smoothies and cakes, highlighting this year's focus on Fairtrade bananas. All welcome. Free of charge.

#### WIN A FAIRTRADE HAMPER!

Return to the Parish Centre by Sunday, 1st March or e-mail your answer to [fairtrade parish@gmail.com](mailto:fairtrade parish@gmail.com)

Complete the sentence: This year's focus is on Fairtrade \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact number: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Saturday the parish celebrated **WORLD DAY OF THE SICK** with Mass, Blessing of the Blessed Sacrament and Anointing with Holy Oils. It was an occasion when our three Priests linked our prayers with those present, the sick at home and in hospital. Our Lady's Altar was beautiful with flowers and candles, their flames lighting up our lives and offering our intentions to Mary, Our Mother. As part of the celebration, we were joined by our Organist and Cantor and Bell Ringers.

Tea and cakes were provided by our Hospitality Group in the Crypt afterwards and was enjoyed by all. It was a very special and grace-filled celebration and sincere thanks to everyone.

### JUST A THOUGHT

#### HOPE



When somebody gives us **HOPE** we are filled with **TRUST**, especially if the person has shown us **LOVE** and **CONCERN** - and keeps **PROMISES**. Can we pass on a message of **HOPE**? Do we **CARE** enough?

**FINANCIAL REPORT 2008**  
**Presented by the Parish Finance Committee**

Expenditure	€	Income	€	Special Collections 2008	€
Wages/PRSI	42,978	Sunday & Holy Day Collections	143,406	Lourdes Pilgrimage Fund	880
Heating & Lighting	23,734	Shrines	15,894	Holy Places	580
8% Levy to Diocesan Office	5,664	Bank Interest	1,070	Episcopal Commissions	712
Insurance	7,561	Directories, pamphlets, etc.	804	Pastoral Services	1,155
Pastoral Council Formation	920	Rents - Crypt & Parish Centre	8,568	Peter's Pence	1,590
Office supplies/booklets/ Bulletin/calendars	8,514	Tax Refund	436	Priesthood Education	1,647
Eucharistic Procession Fund	700	Total	170,178	South American Mission	3,041
Church Requisites	6,730	<b>Summary</b>	<b>€</b>	C.M.C.C.	820
Repairs & Maintenance	5,101	Balance 1/1/2008	50,657	Trócaire	6,455
Cleaning & Gardening	9,730	Income 2008	170,178	Peru Collection Boxes	1,295
Telephones	765	Total	220,835		
6% Diocesan Retirement Levy	8,245	Expenditure 2008	125,463		
Bank Charges & Government Duty	984	Transfer - maintenance reserve fund	<u>60,000</u>		
Equipment	2,487	Balance 1/1/2009	€35,372		
Cathedral Renovation Fund	1,350				
<b>Total</b>	<b>€125,463</b>				

The above is a summary of our finances for the past twelve months. You will see that we have transferred €60,000 into a maintenance reserve fund as work needs to be done to the church building in the coming few years. The envelopes system introduced last year will also help with this fund. Parishioners who participated will have received their communication from us and we thank those who returned their forms so promptly.

It is not too late to join in the envelope scheme for 2009 and we again point out that there is no additional cost to you; it is of huge benefit to the parish as we can claim a tax refund from Revenue on donations from PAYE donors of €250 or over in any one year.

We thank all our parishioners who have been so supportive of the Church over the past twelve months.

Monsignor O'Callaghan. P.P.

**NOTICE BOARD**

**Senior Citizens' Party** on Friday 20th February in Bishopstown GAA Hall at 8.00pm organised by Bishopstown Lions Club. Everyone welcome - no charge.

**Cork Heritage Projects** by the pupils of Gaelscoil Uí Riada are on display at the school hall from February until the start of March. All welcome. Details from 4342027.

**Viatres Christi Lay Missionary Development Workers**  
Would you like to use your skills to make a difference abroad and at home? Information evening at 7.30pm on 17th February in SMA Parish Centre, Wilton.

**Baile'n Easpaig Gramophone Circle** will meet on Wednesday next 18th February at 3.00pm. in the crypt when Jim Ahern will give the recital. An afternoon of great music is assured. Bí ann.

**BIBLE CORNER**

**A LIFE SENTENCE**



The Hebrews were a very practical people, struggling to survive in tough times. They knew from experience that leprosy was contagious and incurable. To avoid picking it up, they adopted a simple self-defence mechanism. They refused to let those who got leprosy to live anywhere near them. They forced the lepers to live in isolated places away from all communal services. A leper's family would occasionally leave food at a prearranged place well away from their own home. This eased the family's conscience without risk of contact. It was easy to justify their position.

Are there any modern day outcasts in our lives?

Fr. Tom

**God's Word**

Readings for Sunday 22 February  
First Reading: Is 43:18-19,21-22,24-25; Psalm 40  
Second Reading: Cor 1:18-22; Gospel Mk 2:1-12

**CONTACT DETAILS**

Mgr. Kevin O'Callaghan, PP. 4346818/086-8916191  
Dean Denis O'Connor 4542972; Fr. Tom Clancy 4347616  
Parish Office: 4344452; Emergency Number: 087-2519940

A big **Thank You** for all those who attended and contributed so generously to the Mount Mercy transition year students' coffee morning held in Ber Healy's house last Saturday 7th in aid of the HOPE Foundation charity based in Calcutta.. The sum of €3621 was collected and will go towards funding an educational project for street children.