

Ballineaspig Bulletin



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK

15th March 2009

Third Sunday of Lent

No. 998

OUR PARISH PRIEST WRITES

ST. PATRICK'S DAY THE HERITAGE OF FAITH



Tuesday is St. Patrick's Day. I pray the blessings of the Feast on each and every one of us.

This feast gives us all a chance to give thanks to God for the precious jewel that St. Patrick bestowed when he brought us the Christian Faith. We give thanks also for all those, clergy and laity, who brought that same faith to so many peoples throughout the world. We remember our own people who are working overseas, especially those who are finding the going hard.

Mass was broadcast for the first time from the top of Cruach Phadraig on the last Sunday of the month of July, and without doubt St. Patrick blessed the occasion. The weather was so fine, without a cloud in the sky and a lovely sight out onto the Atlantic Ocean. Fr. Michael Melvin (who has since gone to his eternal rest; may God have mercy on him and all the dead) and the Kairos team did a wonderful job with the broadcast. Archbishop Michael Neary in his sermon referred to the spiritual hunger that is in the heart of the human person, a hunger that cannot be satisfied by the money and wealth of this world. It was clear from the many people that viewed the Mass through the television or listened to it on radio that it had a great effect on the multitude throughout the world.

It is said that the one thing that worried St. Patrick at the end of his life was that the Irish people would return to their old ways and begin again to worship false gods.

The same danger is as strong today as it was in St. Patrick's time. We have completely forgotten about the things that gave meaning and strength to our ancestors – prayer and the Mass. Because of that we are discussing at present big problems like the misuse of drugs, an increase in violence, suicide and the likes. Human nature doesn't change too much as the years go by. We should return once more to that fresh well which St. Patrick left to us, that is, the Gospel of Christ, the life of the Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

To celebrate our Irishness on this St. Patrick's Day, the 10.30 a.m. Mass will be celebrated totally in Irish.

The term of office of the present Pastoral Council expires in May. An election to select a new Council will be held on Monday, 27th April. Full details will appear in the Bulletin nearer the time, and a nomination form will be delivered to each household in the parish on the weekend of 18th/19th April.

This may be a good time to remind ourselves of our parish mission statement:

*We are a parish community, rooted in the Gospel of Christ and the Eucharist.
Inspired by the Holy Spirit, we aim to build a truly Christian community.*

We pray that the Holy Spirit will guide us to fulfil our mission.

Rest in Peace

Mary Murphy, Wilton Road, died peacefully at St. Patrick's Hospital on February 27th. Born in Mooncoin, Co. Kilkenny, she trained as a nurse in England and worked there during the war as a Jubilee Nurse. Returning to Ireland she worked in Donegal and Blarney where she met her husband Timothy playing cards. They lived in Skibbereen until her husband's death when she returned to Cork. Mary was the first Public Health nurse for the city and her commitment to service was way above the call of duty. On retirement she continued to be in service. In the parish, she was a member of the altar society, a contact person for Wilton Road and a member of the Friendship Club. In the community she was with the Friends of C.U.H. and a volunteer in Edel House. Mary's greatest source of pleasure was Bridge and she was an active member of many local clubs where sincere friendships were formed. Mary had a great love of her roots, a strong faith and a love of family. The words spoken by her daughter Ann Marie at her funeral Mass and the hymns *Bring Flowers of the Rarest* sung out of love and *The Rose of Mooncoin* sung out of pride reflected this. Mary is remembered by family, close friends, relatives and colleagues for the generosity of heart, her warm and inviting welcome and her beautiful smile. She will be greatly missed and remembered with much affection and gratitude. We offer our deepest sympathies to her daughters Rosarii and Ann Marie, her son Denis, his wife and children and the wider family. Ar dheis Dé, go raibh a h-anam dílis.

Sympathy

We offer our sincere sympathy to **Arthur O'Callaghan** on the death of his brother, Christy.

JUST A THOUGHT

BIRDSONG



The early mornings are still dark. Things seem gloomy and anxious. Then, in the stillness I hear the glorious sound of birdsong. All of a sudden I agree with the poet:

*God's in his heaven.
All's right with the world.*

CONTACT DETAILS

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God's Word

Readings for Sunday 23rd March
First Reading: 2 Chron 36:14-16, 19-23
Psalm 136
Second Reading Eph 2:4-10
Gospel Jn 3:14-21

STATION OF THE CROSS NO. V

Although Simon was forced to carry Jesus' cross, we in turn are invited to that generosity of Spirit which grows through its service of others. This week let us be Simon for those too weak to help themselves, and for those unemployed who cry out for work but cannot find it. May we speak words of kindness and listen with attentiveness to those who claim our time.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY MASSES

Monday :
Vigil Mass at 7.30pm

Tuesday :
9.00, 10.30 as gaeilge, 12.15pm.



Spring Dues envelopes will be distributed in mid April.

Our Lady of Fatima Rosary Prayer Group in Cork invites you to walk with them in Cork's St Patrick's Day Parade. Assemble at Union Quay, Station 9 at 12.30 pm. Enquiries 086-3473583.



Baile'n Easpaig Gramophone Circle

Our monthly gramophone recital will take place on Wednesday next 18th March at 3.00pm in the crypt of our church, when Pat Lemasney will present glorious music, and everybody is most welcome to attend.

Bishopstown I.C.A. will celebrate its 50th anniversary this year. To mark the occasion Mass will be offered, followed by dinner on Thursday 23rd April at the Kingsley Hotel at 7.00pm. Past members and friends will be most welcome to join us on this wonderful occasion. Further details from Brenda at 087-7739787, or Kay at 086-2329333.



Fairtrade News

Congratulations to **JACKIE O'HERLIHY**, Model Farm Road, who has won the Fairtrade Hamper. Her entry was drawn from all the correct entries which had stated that this year's Fairtrade Fortnight focused on Fairtrade Bananas.

Cadbury Ireland and Fairtrade Mark Ireland have announced that the Cadbury Dairy Milk bar of chocolate will be converting to Fairtrade from Summer 2009. This is by far the biggest commitment to Fairtrade yet from an Irish company. This groundbreaking move will result in the tripling of sales of cocoa under Fairtrade terms for cocoa farmers in Ghana.