

Ballineaspaig Bulletin



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK

5th April 2009

Palm Sunday

No. 1001

OUR PARISH PRIEST WRITES



GOOD FRIDAY

Next Friday is Good Friday, one of the holiest days of the year, and one of the strangest and most unusual. There are several reasons for this: It is a Friday, and many Christians go to Church, not where people usually are on Friday afternoons. People go to Church on Good Friday that we do not usually see at Mass with us on Sundays. That makes it unusual. The thing that makes it most unusual – most special, and therefore holy – is that much of the business world closes down for a few hours in the afternoon. For a short while, the need to think about God surpasses the need for money.

From Isaiah the prophet we read: "Through his suffering my servant shall justify many and their guilt he shall bear." This role of suffering for others is the opposite of what the world teaches. In the words of Isaiah, there is no claim to "my rights" by Jesus. There is only willingness to suffer for others and submission to the will of God.

Good Friday is not just the memory of what happened long ago. It is the reality of what is happening all around us, all the time. When we see the suffering of others, they are, like Jesus, paying the price for sin in the world and for our sins. Children play with their food at school, while other children in the world go hungry. A cup of coffee is cheap because of the near slave-labour of the Third World workers. The anguish of people around the world who only hope for shelter cries out to God more loudly than our complaints. The fear of Palestinian mothers whose children may not come home from school drowns out the whines of our students who protest because they may have to pay something towards their education.

Jesus offered himself as a victim so that we would not have to be victims ourselves. Jesus paid the price for our sins so that we would not have to do so. There will always be people who do not care about God, or Jesus, or us.

There will always be those who will choose not to observe Good Friday, or any other religious feast. What matters is that we understand Good Friday. As we hear the words of the Good Friday ceremonies and reverence the body of Jesus on the Cross, then we are saying that we are willing to do what Jesus did; to go the distance for others.

In a society that takes a dim view of any inconvenience, much less of any sacrifice, in a society that cannot take no for an answer, the words of the Bible are in danger of being lost. And the death of Jesus on the Cross is in danger of being forgotten, of becoming nothing more than an ornament of gold around someone's neck.

Crosses and Good Friday go together. They have meaning for those who believe. They tell us that God is on our side that God understands.

HOLY WEEK CEREMONIES

Holy Thursday

7.30 pm.

Mass of the Lord's Supper
Please bring Trócaire Boxes
Keeping Watch in Crypt

9.00 - 10.00 pm.

Good Friday

11.00 am.

Stations of the Cross by children for children.

12.00 noon

Stations of the Cross for all.
Celebration of the Passion of the Lord, Veneration of the Cross, Holy Communion.

3.00 pm.

8.30 – 9.30 pm.

Watch and Pray.

Holy Saturday

9.00 pm.

The Easter Vigil.
N.B. No Vigil Mass at 6.15pm.

Easter Sunday: 9.00, 10.30 and 12.15pm.

Easter Monday: 10.00am.

Weekday Masses: 9.00 and 10.00am.

RECONCILIATION

Penitential Services

Dennehy's Cross: Sunday 5th at 5.00pm

Sacred Heart: Monday 6th at 7.30pm

Wilton: Tuesday 7th at 7.30pm

Confessions

Good Friday: After ceremonies & 7.30-9.30pm

Holy Saturday: 12.00-1.00; 4.00-5.00; 7-8.30pm

REMINDER ! RECONCILIATION SERVICE TODAY SUNDAY 5TH AT 5.00PM

Email: holyspiritparish@eircom.net

Website: www.dennehycrossparish.ie

Rest in Peace

Jeremiah (Derry) Foley, Model Farm Road, died at C.U.H. very unexpectedly on 29th March. He was making great progress towards being able to come home but it was not to be. May he rest in peace. A native of Roches Buildings, Derry spent a few years in Britain in the late forties, where he served in the R.A.F. before returning to Cork and coming to his wife Margaret's (nee Sexton) family home. He worked in Fords but found his real niche when he went as a bus driver for St. Gabriel's special school. His respect and kind care for his child passengers endeared him to them and them to him. Indeed his ability and willingness to develop enduring friendship was a hallmark of the man. He will be missed by many but especially by his family which was the focus of his life and the source of his joy. To his loving wife Margaret, his son Alan, his daughter Sarah, son-in-law Sean, daughter-in-law Linda, his grandchildren we offer our sincerest sympathies. Fé choimirce Mhuire, go raibh sé.

JUST A THOUGHT

"The lines on people's faces are lines of the face of Jesus: the lines of tension and of worry looking for a job, parents' faces lined with anxiety over a family, a teenager's face lined with loneliness and rejection.



Jesus' face is lined with the passion of his people: hunger and thirst burrowed into African faces, homelessness and exile into the faces of refugees; rejection and fear on the faces of the poor. Jesus' face is lined by the suffering of his people...."

Fr. Donal Neary, S.J.

Dear Bulletin Team,



As someone who was there in the heady days from 1985 onwards may I offer my congratulations to all concerned in producing 1000 editions of the Ballineaspig Bulletin. What a wonderful achievement. It seems unbelievable that the bulletin is heading for its 25th anniversary. Since moving from the parish I am no longer involved but Eileen and I look forward to reading it every week. To echo the last line of your article, here's to the next 1000 editions and to celebrating your Silver Jubilee in 2010. Well done everyone.

With kindest regards and blessings,
Pat Lemasney.

STATION OF THE CROSS NO. XII

We see the dying Christ, tormented beyond endurance, commending his mother and his friend to each other's care. Only love can produce such anguish and only love can heal life's hurts.

May the Cross of Christ protect us from danger and harm.

May the Cross of Christ guide us on the path of selfless love.

May the Cross of Christ give us the power to always speak the truth.

BIBLE CORNER



A HIDDEN GEM

Between the symbolism of the Palm and the drama of the Passion story, the second reading this weekend could be lost. That would be a serious loss.

This reading was originally a hymn of praise of Jesus that Paul took over and included in his letter to the Philippians. It is a synopsis of our faith, the cornerstone of our hope. It must not be hurried. Indeed, each phrase must be savoured. Take it for prayer for each day of Holy Week. Read it quietly to yourself. Read it aloud to let it echo in your heart. Let it enrich you beyond measure.

Fr. Tom

NOTICE BOARD

Dues Envelopes will be delivered in mid April.

Chrism Mass at the Cathedral on Holy Thursday, 9th April at 10.00am. Parishioners are invited to attend.

Holy Places Special Collection on Good Friday.

Alzheimer's Society Carers' support meeting on Wednesday 8th in Bessboro from 3.00 to 4.30 pm. All welcome.

Cardiac Support Group next meeting on Monday 6th April at Bishopstown Library, Wilton Shopping Centre, 11.00-1.00pm.



CONFIRMED IN THE SPIRIT

Forty-seven girls from St. Catherine's School committed themselves to being active members of the Church at our parish Confirmation ceremony on Thursday 25th March. It was a joyful and happy occasion for the girls themselves, their families, teachers, priests. The chief celebrant was Archbishop White. Patrick Killeen coordinated the beautiful musical input. The party provided in the crypt afterwards by the Parents' Committee was deeply appreciated by one and all.

We wish the girls themselves every blessing.

God's Word

Readings for Sunday 12th April

First Reading: Acts 10:34,37-43

Psalm 117

Second Reading: Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6-8

Gospel: Jn 20:1-9

CONTACT DETAILS

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or give it to a friend or neighbour**