

# Ballineaspig Bulletin



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT  
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK

17th May 2009

Sixth Sunday of Easter

No.1007

## God's Word

Readings for Sunday 24th  
May - Ascension Day

First Reading  
Acts 1:1-11

Psalm 46

Second Reading  
Eph 4:1-13

Gospel Mk 16:15-20

## OUR DUTY AND OUR JOY



Why come to Sunday Eucharist? The obvious drop in numbers going to weekly Eucharist prompts the question. In the past, many people went because they feared punishment by God if they did not go. But who could believe in a God of love if we have to be compelled by a threat to go and worship him? There must be better reasons.

For a growing number of people, religion is a private affair between my God and me and what happens in Church on Sunday is irrelevant. Our age is characterised as one of "believing without belonging".

Yet, we do belong. As believers in Jesus, as his disciples, we do belong to his family. As Jesus called his friends to sit and eat with him, he calls us to receive him. It would make no sense to practise a Christian spirituality and not share in the Eucharist, the cornerstone of our faith. On the night before he died, Jesus sat at supper with his friends. The little community was breaking up. Judas was about to betray him, Peter to deny him and the others to run away. It was at that very time he gave that motley crew his body to unite them for the future.

It was not a reward for devoted loyalty. It is food for life's journey.

It is not a response to our love of God. It is the embodiment of God's love for us.

It is not an assurance of success, but it is a guarantee of home security, God being at home in us and we being at home with God.

Barren ritual, poor community participation, inappropriate interventions, inadequate homilies diminish our Eucharistic experience but must not deter us from coming to receive Jesus. He is pure gift. He is risen from the dead. To receive him is our duty and our joy.

Alleluia.

Fr. Tom

## CONTACT DETAILS

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Please take a copy of  
the Bulletin home  
or give it to a friend or  
neighbour

## GOLDEN JUBILEE CONGRATULATIONS

Our Parish Priest, Monsignor Kevin O'Callaghan, V.G.  
will mark fifty years of priesthood next Saturday 23rd May.  
The Monsignor will celebrate the 6.15pm Mass that evening.

Email: [holyspiritparish@eircom.net](mailto:holyspiritparish@eircom.net)

Website: [www.dennehyscrossparish.ie](http://www.dennehyscrossparish.ie)

## Rest in Peace

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Margaret (Peggy) McCarthy** of College Road, who died recently. May she rest in peace. Margaret had a long and distinguished career in a field of service that few of us could even dream of. She came from her home countryside of Cloghroe, once her studies were completed, to work and eventually reside in Cork City. Barry's Tea became its most famous while she was in Peter Barry's office, making sure that the tea always tasted the best. She was also well known at the Cork dog track where she operated a most successful Tote. However, her most enduring memory and contribution lay in her work as a Legionary of Mary. Legion work brought her into contact with many patients in the hospitals where the kind and comforting words healed many a down-hearted soul. Her prayer life brought her into close contact with the Poor Clare Sisters and, though in great pain at the end of her life, she continued to attend her meetings and prayers. She received a lovely welcome-home to Heaven. Naturally, she is sadly missed by her sisters, Ellen and Nora, the in-laws, nephews and nieces and all her Legionary friends and many more. God rest her now, and all the dead.

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## ST. CATHERINE'S SCHOOL

Our Second Classes are currently preparing for their First Holy Communion on Saturday 23rd May.

The Annual May Procession will be held, weather permitting, on Monday 25th May. Many past pupils ask if it is still a feature of the St. Catherine's school year. Indeed it is now in its 50th year!

Our Sports Day was held last Wednesday, organised by our dynamic Parents' Association.

Well done to our traditional musicians who won First Prize in the schools competition at the recent Ringaskiddy Feis!

Please note! Our **Open Day will be held on Thursday 28th May** from 11.30a.m. - 1.00p.m. All children due to start next September will visit the school for an introductory tour. Prospective students and their parents are invited to come and see the school in action.

Our International Heritage Day on Friday 8th, was a huge success! Children and parents put on displays from over 30 countries. We enjoyed tasting new food and listening to ethnic music. It was wonderful to celebrate our heritage together.

Each class in St. Catherine's was visited by the Diocesan Advisor for Religious Education, at the end of April. The school received a highly complimentary report:

*"In this school there is a very high standard in the knowledge and living of Our Catholic Faith... The children are well versed in their prayers; stories and questions of the religion; they take great pride in their written work and in the singing of their songs. The walls of the school are beautifully decorated with the themes of lessons being studied and Sacred Space in their classrooms is frequently updated in line with the Church Calendar. Parents are encouraged to take an active part in their children's Faith Formation by listening to their oral home work and checking and signing their written home work.  
WELL DONE TO ALL."*

- Stella O'Keefe (Ms), Primary Diocesan Religion Advisor

## FREEDOM OF THE CITY

Next Friday 22nd May at the City Hall, the Lord Mayor and City Councillors will confer the Freedom of the City on **Dean Denis O'Connor**. **Sr. Eucharria**, Presentation Sister, will be awarded the same distinction that day also.

## NOTICE BOARD

### Spring Dues

The priests of the parish would like to say a sincere thank you to the many parishioners who sent in their Dues. A word of appreciation also to our distributors who facilitated the collection.

### Calling All Students

Mass will be celebrated on Saturday 30th May at 6.15pm for all students undertaking Leaving and Junior Certs at the beginning of June.

Being the feast of the Holy Spirit, we pray that all may be inspired with the gifts of the Spirit. All students and their families are welcome for the celebration of the Eucharist. A candle will be lit and remain lighting for the duration of the exams.

### Ballineaspig Gramophone Circle

Our final recital of the season will take place on Wednesday next, 20th May at 3.00pm when Dan Murphy will give the recital. Do join us for an afternoon of great music.

### Pre-Marriage Courses

At NAOMI, 119 Patrick Street, full day Saturdays, €90 per couple. Contact number 4272213, Mon-Fri. 9.30-1.00pm (office hours).

**SMA Novena/Retreat in honour of Our Lady.** Celebration of the Sacraments and Reflections, Friday 15th to Friday 22nd May at 7.30pm in SMA Church, Blackrock Road. Novena closes with National Pilgrimage to Knock on Saturday 24th. Contact 4292871.

**Bandon Summer Show** takes place this Sunday 17th at Showgrounds, Castlebernard. Music, cookery demonstration, fun dog show, baby show, arts & crafts and much more. A great family day out assured.

## TURKWEL CLINIC – RENEWED THANKS

The sum raised from the Coffee Morning in aid of the Turkwel Clinic continues to grow. It has now reached €18,808.40 thanks to the donations which have been handed in to the Parish Office during the week. Our thanks to all who baked, donated prizes, came to support, and to Mr. Michael O'Donovan of the Rendezvous Bar who generously hosted the event.

## PENTECOST INTER-CHURCH SERVICE

In the Crypt, Church of the Holy Spirit, at 8 p.m.

**on Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> May**

Residents of our parish who belong to other Christian Churches are especially welcome.