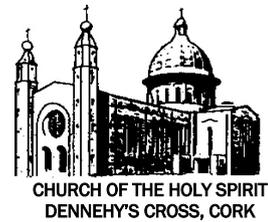


# Ballineaspaig Bulletin



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT  
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK

31st May 2009

Pentecost Sunday

No. 1009



*Tony O'Connell, Photographer*

## Very Rev. Denis Dean O'Connor

Last Friday afternoon the elected members of the Cork City Council, through its Lord Mayor, Councillor Bermingham, conferred on Dean Denis O'Connor the singular honour of Freeman of the City of Cork. This unique honour is reserved for very special people. The last great churchmen to receive the honour were perhaps Most Rev. Dr. Cornelius Lucey, the late Bishop of Cork, and Dean Bastable (Cope Foundation). This unique distinction is given to people who give exceptional service to the place and people entrusted to their care.

You know as well as I do that Dean Denis O'Connor doesn't want or expect recognition for his wonderful service to Jesus and his Church, but the City Council (and we all agree) wanted to give him the recognition he truly deserves. As a great Churchman he succeeded in bringing the message of the Gospel to many. While I am not going to list the many parishes in which he worked, I will say that he strode across the diocese of Cork and Ross like a colossus. For Dean Denis there was never a problem.

Many priests and many of the people turned to Dean Denis in their moments of need and difficulties. They found in him a wonderful Counsellor, a kind mentor and a ready listener. Many of us owe him a great debt of gratitude. The example of his life was an inspiration to many. Everywhere he went he was loved and cherished. We can say without fear of contradiction that he went about, as the Lord did, doing good. The gentle Dean called to see all whom he knew were sick or in hospital; not a day went by without visiting those who were dying. The hungry were never sent empty away. The homeless were always attended to. The mercy and the forgiveness of God were freely dispensed. Though he was an ordinary person he gave extraordinarily of himself, opening up for everyone a window into God's world.

I was very fortunate to have been drawn into his path during my priestly ministry. He was Administrator in the Cathedral when I arrived to work there in the parish. Later, with Bishop Murphy, he visited our mission in Peru. The poverty and misery of the people there were a cause a great pain to him, he wished he could only help.

We give thanks to God for Dean Denis and to Dean Denis for his service to God's people over a long number of years. We say thanks too to the Lord Mayor and the members of the City Council for the singular honour they have bestowed on our beloved Dean. For all that has gone we give thanks.

God bless and keep you, Dean Denis, now and always.

Monsignor Kevin O'Callaghan, P.P.

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

## Rest in Peace

Sheila Milner, Greenfields, Model Farm Road, died at Cork University Hospital on Saturday 23rd May. Sheila did not enjoy robust health for some years, but she always made light of her setbacks. She was a most gentle and loveable lady. In her person and her home perfection was second nature to her. Her home was her castle, and she was never happier than inside her own four walls. Her death came quite unexpectedly, but just as she would have wanted it - she did not want to be a burden to anybody - even her own family. We extend our sincere sympathy to her daughters Miriam, Frances and Yvonne, her son Paul, her brothers, sisters and extended family. May her gentle soul receive the reward of her goodness in her home in Heaven, which she longed for, and worked for.

## NOTICE BOARD

### Farranlea Area Mass

will take place on the green on Wednesday next  
3rd June at 7.30pm

### First Friday

Next Friday 5th June is the First Friday of the month. Calls to the sick and housebound on usual days.

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** next Friday from 10.30 to 7.30pm followed by Mass.

**St. Vincent de Paul** monthly collection at Masses next Sunday.

**St. Joseph's Young Priests Society** monthly meeting in the Parish Office at 3.00pm next Thursday 4th June.

**Out of the Depths: A Biblical Perspective on Suffering**  
Cork Theology Forum's summer event focuses on the human experience of suffering. Three short talks followed by workshops will explore different perspectives from the bible: Fr. Tom Riordan: Why Suffering? - a biblical perspective; Evelyne O'Callaghan: Exploring Pain in the Bible; Anne Francis: The Spirit as Companion in our Suffering (Romans 8), followed by a picnic and discussion. Coffee/tea & soft drinks supplied, please bring food to share. Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June, 7.30-9.30pm. Farranferris College. Registration Fee €15; Paid-up Members €10. All welcome. Contact: John Scanlan 4316812 [corktheologyforum@gmail.com](mailto:corktheologyforum@gmail.com) [www.corktheologyforum.org](http://www.corktheologyforum.org)

### Novena to St. Anthony

Thursday 4th to Saturday 13th June at St. Francis, Liberty Street. Mornings 10.30, evenings 7.30pm, Saturday 6.30pm. Mass for students' intentions on Friday 5th at 7.30pm. Preacher, Fr. Francis McGrath, O.F.M.

## Bible Corner



### PENTECOST 2009

The unfolding story of the Ryan report continues to evoke a deep sense of revulsion, anger and powerlessness in the face of evil. The anguished cry in many a heart is to even glimpse a way forward out of hopelessness. One temptation is to block it off from our own lives and let it to government and religious orders to make good the damage as if it had not grievously undermined the fabric of all our lives.

After the experience of the passion and death of Jesus, the disciples tried to cut themselves off from the reality and shut themselves up in the upper room for safety. Even the brief appearances of the Risen Lord did not restore their hope. But the miracle of Pentecost did just that. Jesus had promised them an Advocate, a helper, His own spirit to live among them. The promised spirit of truth transformed them. It empowered them to bring the message of Jesus to a beleaguered world.

This weekend, we, our church and our country need a new Pentecost as, perhaps, never before. Our need is as great as that of the early disciples. The hope of the future is to allow ourselves to be inspired by the spirit of the risen Jesus, guiding our judgments, healing our hearts, challenging self-righteousness, empowering our service, firing our generosity, encouraging our goodness, evoking forgiveness. Pentecost is a time to invoke the spirit and to be responsive to its coming among us.

"Send forth your Spirit, O lord  
And renew the face of the earth."

- Fr. Tom

### JUST A THOUGHT



A new life begins for us with every second. Let us go forward joyously to meet it. We must press on, and we shall walk better with eyes before us than with them ever cast behind.

- Jerome K. Jerome

### God's Word

Readings for Sunday 7 June

First Reading  
Deut. 4:32-34,39-40

Psalm 32

Second Reading:  
Rom 8:14-17

Gospel : Mt 28:16-20

### CONTACT DETAILS

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