

Ballineaspig Bulletin



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK

6th December 2009

Second Sunday of Advent

No.1018

THE DEAN WRITES

God's Word

Readings for Sunday 13th
December

First Reading:
Zeph 3:14-18

Psalm: Is 12:2-6

Second Reading:
Phil 4:4-7

Gospel: Lk 3:10-18

THE HEALING POWER OF FORGIVENESS



If I had any sense I wouldn't dare to write on this topic. I should keep my head down and wait for the storm to pass, or at least calm down a little. But "fools rush in where angels fear to tread". What am I talking about? The Murphy Report, of course, on abuse in Dublin Diocese, which has been aired and regurgitated in every news bulletin and chat show for the past week. Innocents were hurt and damaged by the very people who should have saved and shielded them. Now there is frightful anger, resentment, hatred and calls for retribution for everyone who was even remotely implicated.

When Oscar Wilde was convicted and was being led handcuffed from court to jail, a large crowd had gathered outside who jeered and shouted obscenities at him, but one gentleman who stood on the verge of the crowd raised his hat as he passed. The prisoner never saw him before or after - this gesture saved his mind and soul. To quote him: "I had lost my name, my position, my freedom. I was a prisoner and a pauper, but I had my children. But, oh no, suddenly they too were taken from me. It was a blow so appalling, I flung myself on my knees, bowed my head, I prayed and wept and wept. What an ending, What an appalling ending." As time went on he changed and wrote later: "Had I been released earlier from prison I would have left the place loathing it and every official in it with a bitterness and hatred that would have poisoned my life for ever." What changed him? The spirit of love that permeated everything Jesus taught and did. He loved little children: "To them the Kingdom of God belongs - He put his arms round them and gave them his blessing." The Prodigal Son returned to a warm welcome and all is forgiven. To the woman who was a sinner: "Has no one condemned you? Neither do I." (her accusers filled with righteous anger and incredulity). On the cross as Jesus was drawing his last breath, he prayed: "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do."

This is an awful request to make, but it's true. The wounded will never know peace until they can find it in their hearts to forgive. This and the grace of God changes everything.

"Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us."

And remember, "Never push a man when he is going down hill."

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

INVITATION REMINDER!

to see the Clinic that you helped build in Turkwel, Kenya. Presentation and slides on the building by Fr. Ollie Noonan today after 10.30am Mass. Tea and coffee in crypt afterwards.

Email: holyspiritparish@eircom.net

Website: www.dennehycrossparish.ie

Rest in Peace

Mary Shaw, of Wilton Gardens, died on 14th November, having been in declining health for some time. She came to Wilton Gardens from Glounthaune with her widowed mother over forty years ago, when the latter had retired as head mistress of Glounthaune National School. Mary cared for her mother for many years with great solicitude. A graduate of U.C.C., Mary followed her mother into the teaching profession. A dedicated teacher, she spent almost her entire professional life at St. Angela's College, St. Patrick's Hill, where she taught Irish, Latin and singing. An accomplished musician, Mary played both the harmonium and piano and inculcated a love of Gregorian Chant and choral singing in her pupils. She was also involved in the organisation of Cor Fhéile na Scol in her earlier years. She was an enthusiastic member of the Gramophone Circle in this church, evidence of her abiding love of music. Mary was a lady of great faith. She was frequently to be found in her favourite place in the church, before the altar of the Sacred Heart. She was gentle, kind, friendly and will be missed by friends, neighbours and past pupils alike. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a hanam dhílis.

Sympathy

We offer our sincere sympathy to **Eileen Varian**, Rossbrook, Model Farm Road, on the death of her mother, Hannah Wolfe.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY



The Holy Spirit Conference of St. Vincent de Paul wishes to thank most sincerely all those who have contributed so generously to our Society during 2009. Your support and generosity is greatly appreciated.

Our Christmas collection will take place at all Masses

Saturday 12 and Sunday 13th December.

ADVENT CAROL SERVICE

Please join us this Sunday
6th December at 7.00pm.



Advent Carols and Readings by Candlelight.

All welcome

Formal inauguration and blessing of new choir stall and organ

Choir website: www.dennehycrosschoir.com

THE HOLY HOUSE OF LORETO



The Holy House of Loreto is one of the most revered Marian Shrines in the world. Since medieval times it is believed to be the very home in which the Virgin Mary lived, conceived and raised the young Jesus. A large Basilica has been built around the small shrine and the sacred site attracts millions of Catholic pilgrims and visitors each year. According to tradition, the house was moved by angels from Nazareth to modern-day Croatia and because of conflicts in Eastern Europe was moved to Loreto on the Adriatic coast of Italy.

In 1910 Our Lady of Loreto became the patron of pilots, because of the tradition of the house's flight from Nazareth. On 8th September, the traditional birthday of the Virgin Mary, pilots gather at the shrine to pray and participate in a colourful procession.

The feast of Our Lady of Loreto is 10th December.

NOTICE BOARD

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Next Tuesday, 8th is a Holyday of Obligation. Vigil Mass on Monday at 7.30pm and Tuesday Masses at 9.00, 10.30 and 7.30pm.

Advent Family Prayer

Come and join us in an hour of prayer for **YOUR** family on the 10th December at 7.00pm. at St. Francis Church, Liberty Street.

Liturgy Group

Meeting on Tuesday 8th December at 8.00pm in Parish Office.

Alzheimer Society

NO carers' support meeting in December.

Meeting of the Saturday Club, from 2pm to 4pm on Saturday 12th at Bessboro Day Care Centre. Christmas Carols with members of the Cork Operatic Society. Light refreshments provided. Free admission. All welcome. For further information contact 021 4972504.

25 Bliain ag Fás

To celebrate 25 years of Gaelscoil Uí Riada, a commemorative calendar for 2010 has been produced. Dedicated to all those currently or previously associated with the school, it features photographs of present and past pupils, staff and events. On sale at the school office, it retails for €10 for one and €5 each for additional copies.

WEEKEND PSALM

Thirtieth Sunday in ordinary time - Year B

Patrick Killeen

