

# Ballineaspaig Bulletin



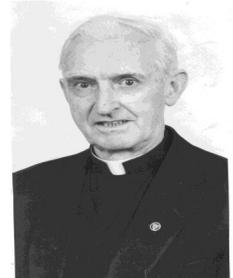
CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT  
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK

10th January 2010

The Baptism of the Lord

No. 1023

THE DEAN WRITES



## God's Word

Readings for Sunday 17  
January

First Reading: Is 62:1-5

Psalm 95

Second Reading:  
1 Cor 12:4-11

Gospel: Jn 2:1-11

## NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS

Here we go again - it's that time of year again - New Year - New Decade. Some media people have a problem! Should we call it Two Thousand and Ten or Twenty Ten - coming down in favour of latter term - cheers - one problem solved - another coming up.

What is it this time? New Year Resolutions - oh no! We have broken enough of these already, so it's easier to ignore the fact that the sands of time are running out. For me personally I was reminded of this during the week when somebody asked me if I could remember the snowfalls of January 1962, and another brave heart asked if I could recall the early spring of 1947. I have great reason to remember both. So, with so much history behind us we might be inclined to dismiss any effort to turn a new leaf with such well-worn responses as "We tried that before and it didn't work."

But the fact is that, apart from moaners and depressives, achievers consistently make new beginnings. They strive to make dreams come true (like Donncha Ó Dulaing on Saturday nights). Otherwise a friend of mine would not have finally ditched the smoking bug after repeated failures and breathlessness, and another kicked the habit of making his daily call to the pub on his way home from work when he knew that what went into the till was sorely needed to put a shirt on his child's back.

We all need to made new starts and we need never be put off by past failures - this could well be the year when we turn a new leaf - and get there. This time next year you could well look back on January 2010 and remember it, not because it was so cold, but, thank God, because it was the start of something very special and fulfilling in your life, something beautiful you thought you could never achieve.

So here's to Twenty Ten - and every blessing for the year ahead.

## CONTACT DETAILS

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

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

## Rest in Peace

We offer our sincere sympathy and prayers to the families of the following parishioners who died during the week. May they rest in peace.

Derrick Keily, Leesdale, Model Farm Road

Bill Moriarty, Linaro Avenue, Magazine Road

Noreen Donnelly, Glasheen Road

Mary Josephine Leahy, sister of our former Sacristan, Charlie.

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## FR. DAMIEN - LEPER PRIEST

*(Continued from last week's bulletin)*

For the following sixteen years he laboured often alone and unaided. He cleaned and bandaged wounds, amputated gangrenous limbs, built more than 300 simple homes, erected a church and several small chapels, laid a pipeline to bring fresh water to the settlement. In addition to this he made hundreds of coffins, dug graves and buried the dead.

A deeply spiritual man, he would spend the first hours of each day in prayer. Damien saw and served the person of Christ in the wasted bodies of those poor unfortunate people. In his final few years he contracted leprosy. Help came from four volunteers who arrived to help the ailing missionary - a priest, a soldier, a male nurse and a nun. Damien knew death was near, yet continued to work enlarging the orphanage. He died of leprosy on 15th April 1889, aged forty-nine. His last wish was to be buried with his beloved lepers to await the day of Resurrection.

Mahatma Gandhi claimed that Damien was a great hero who had inspired him in seeking freedom for the people of India. In 2005 Damien was chose by the people of Belgium as 'The Greatest Belgian'.

St. Damien, is patron saint of all who suffer from leprosy. H.I.V. and AIDS.

Arthur O'Callaghan

## NOTICE BOARD

### Bulletins to the Homes

Bulletins will be delivered to all homes in the parish next weekend.

### Pastoral Council

Meeting this Monday 11th in the Parish Office at 8.15pm.

### Parish Liturgy Group

Meeting on Tuesday 12th in Parish Office at 7.30pm. Anyone interested is welcome to attend.

### Crypt Bridge Club

Re-opens on Tuesday 12th January at 2.00pm. sharp. We hope all our members had a happy and peaceful Christmas and we wish you all a happy and safe New Year.

### Church of the Real Presence, Curraheen

Mass times have been changed as follows:

Daily Mass at 10.00am. Saturday Vigil Masses at 6.00 and 7.30pm. Sunday Masses at 10.00 and 11.30am.

### CURA

Would you be interested in becoming a volunteer? The organisation caters for people with crisis pregnancy and is in the process of recruiting new volunteers for their service in 34 Paul Street, tel. 4277544 or email cork@cura.ie. Come and meet with some of our volunteers at our information meeting which will be held on Monday 18th January at 11.00am. No experience necessary as full training will be given.

### Alzheimer's Society Cork Branch

Carers' support meeting on Wednesday 13th January, 3.00-4.30pm. At Bessboro Day Care Centre, Blackrock. All welcome. For further information please contact 497250, e-mail address: southernregion@alzheimer.ie Meeting of the **Saturday Club**, from 2pm until 4pm on Saturday 16th January. Music provided by the Sun Wind Quintet. Light refreshments provided. Free admission. All welcome. Contact for further information 4972504.

*Don't mind criticism.  
If it is untrue - disregard it;  
if it is unfair - don't let it irritate you;  
if it is ignorant - smile;  
if it is justified - learn from it.*

### The Baptism of the Lord - Year C

Patrick Killeen

WEEKEND  
PSLAM

