

# Ballineaspig Bulletin



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT  
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK

17th January 2010

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

No. 1024

OUR PARISH PRIEST WRITES

## **"TO MAKE A PROPER SIGN OF THE CROSS IS ALREADY A GOOD START" (SAINT BERNADETTE OF LOURDES)**



A three year cycle consecrated to praying with St. Bernadette at Lourdes will begin in 2010, before praying the Our Father (2011), and the Rosary (2012). The Sign of the Cross is of particular importance in the life of St. Bernadette. From the very start of the Apparitions, the Blessed Virgin Mary taught her how to make this fundamental gesture. Her great love for Jesus was thus enlightened, nourished and given a special direction towards Jesus and Mary.

St. Bernadette's life became a paschal journey because she lived with Jesus in the mystery of the Cross. The life of all baptised people is placed under the Sign of the Cross from baptism to death.

Did St. Bernadette know how to make the Sign of the Cross properly when the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to her? Yes, her parents had taught it to her. After the first Apparition on the 11<sup>th</sup> of February 1858, Bernadette spoke of a little Lady in the hollow of the rock: "I wanted to make the Sign of the Cross, I couldn't raise my hand. It collapsed on me. Shock got the better of me. The vision made the Sign of the Cross, the fearful shock disappeared".

Why was St. Bernadette's hand paralysed? Very simply because she made that gesture with the intention of protecting herself. Bernadette said it herself: "I was afraid". She added that she managed to do it herself when the Lady herself made it. Mary, who does not need to protect herself makes the Sign of the Cross to signify that She, the Immaculate, is the fruit of the Cross of Christ. During his pilgrimage to Lourdes in 2008, Pope Benedict XVI said: "In the Sign of the Cross made by Mary and Bernadette is to be found the entirety of the message of Lourdes".

This year's Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes takes place from the 11<sup>th</sup> to the 16<sup>th</sup> of June. Due to the reduced numbers available to us this year, it is important to book early.

The World Day of Prayer for the sick takes place on the 11<sup>th</sup> of February.

### **CIRCLE OF PRAYER FOR FAMILIES**

Enrolment forms still available in Parish Office or church for anyone wishing to join in this Circle of Prayer for one hour on 25th day of each month.

If you know of neighbours who are housebound, maybe you could drop a form into them.

*Faith in Action Group*

### **Reminder !**

The 2010 Collection Envelopes are available in the Parish Office after all Masses this weekend for those who have already signed on, and those who may wish to do so for 2010.

A member of the Finance Committee will be available to answer any questions.

### **THANK YOU**

A very sincere thank you to all who donated unwanted Christmas gifts. Despite the inclement weather, etc., we had a very generous response.

The gifts were distributed to the following charities:  
St. Vincent de Paul, Edel House, Cuanlee and the Irish Cancer Society shop.

## NOTICE BOARD

### Liturgy Group

Meeting on Tuesday 19th at 7.30pm in Parish Office.

### Friendship Club

Reopens this Monday 18th at 230pm in Parish Office. New members are most welcome..

**Ballineaspig Gramophone Circle** monthly recital will take place on Wednesday next 20th January at 3.00pm in the crypt of our church at Dennehy's Cross. David McInerney will give the recital and an afternoon of great music is assured. Everybody is most welcome.

**Brú Columbanus** church gate collection will take place on 16/17th January to aid of our charity that provides accommodation to families of seriously ill patients at any of the Cork city hospitals and hospice. It is a purpose built facility located at Cardinal Way, Wilton. Your support would be greatly appreciated. For further details please contact 4345754.

### Male/Female Volunteers for Mentoring Programme...

**Big Brother/Big Sister Cork** needs male/female volunteers to become big brothers/sisters to young people aged 10 - 18years, some of whom have been waiting for over a year for a mentor. Volunteers are asked to spend 1-2 hours a week with their little brother/sister for one year. Together, you can decide on what activities you would like to do... from playing sport/computer games, to going to matches. It is a great opportunity to develop a friendship with a young person, share common interests and try new things. Contact Marie O'Mahony, Ógra Chorcaí 4502112 /087 9245498 for details on our Volunteer Information Meetings on 26<sup>th</sup> January and 10th February, or check out our website [www.bbbsireland.ie](http://www.bbbsireland.ie)

**Bishopstown I.C.A** will resume on Thursday 21st January a 8.00pm in the SMA Hall, Wilton. New members welcome.

#### CONTACT DETAILS

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#### God's Word

Readings for Sunday  
24th January

First Reading:  
Neh 8:2-6,8-10

Psalm 18

Second Reading:  
1 Cor 12:12-30

Gospel:  
Lk 1:1-4,4:14-21

## St. Catherine's News

- All classes in St. Catherine's took part in a beautiful Carol Service on December 17th. The church was packed as each class in turn acted out and sang the story of that first Christmas. A huge thank you to all involved - pupils, staff, parents, our priests and sacristan. We are looking forward to next Christmas already!
- John Spillane - our local singer & songwriter - took to the stage in St. Catherine's just before Christmas and entertained the whole school with his rousing renditions of songs both old and new. John had our hands clapping, feet tapping & voices singing. What an inspiration! Thanks to our parents for organising John's visit.
- Could we also extend our sincere gratitude to our neighbours and school community without whose assistance in gritting pathways and car park we could not have opened our school last Thursday.

And finally - our Open Morning for incoming pupils for September 2010 will be held on February 11th from 11am to 1.00 pm. Do drop in to see us as we work!

### CHRISTMAS CROSSWORD SOLUTION



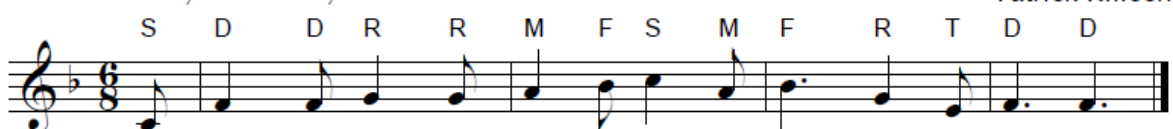
Portia would like to thank the many people who sent in entries for the crossword. The winners are:

**Carmel Murphy, Fastnet, Wilton Road  
Poor Clare Sisters, College Road**

### WEEKEND PSALM

Second Sunday in ordinary time - Year C

Patrick Killeen



Pro - claim the won - ders of the Lord a - mong all the peo - ples.