

Ballineaspig Bulletin



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK

25th April 2010

Fourth Sunday of Easter

No. 1036

OUR PARISH PRIEST WRITES



God's Word

Readings for Sunday 2nd
May

First Reading
Acts 14:21-27

Psalm 144

Second Reading
Apoc 21:1-5

Gospel
Jn 13:31-35

GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

TODAY IS KNOWN AS GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY and the Gospel Reading is that from the 10th chapter of St. John's Gospel where Jesus speaks of himself as the GOOD SHEPHERD.

In today's Gospel Reading Jesus stresses the self-sacrificing moment of his own life: "The Good Shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep." He contrasts the Good Shepherd who owns the sheep to someone who is simply hired to look after them. The hired man thinks first and foremost of his own safety and, if he sees a wolf coming, he takes off, leaving the sheep to be attacked and scattered in fear and terror. Jesus, on the other hand, will not be like a hired person: "I lay down my life for my sheep." he says.

Secondly, the Good Shepherd knows his sheep and they know him. There is a mutual bond of love and intimacy. Jesus compares that love to the deep mutual relationship that exists between Himself and his Father. "My own know me just as the Father knows me."

Jesus again says: "Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children, and that is what we are."

Thirdly, the Good Shepherd deeply desires that many other sheep should come and identify themselves with him. "There are other sheep I have that are not of this fold, and these I have to lead as well." Jesus' greatest desire is that "there will be only one flock and one Shepherd", that the whole world will be united together with God. This is the meaning of the Kingdom which is at the heart of the Gospel message. This is a goal which preoccupies us still today. And all of this is specifically linked with the second theme of this Sunday. Not only is it Good Shepherd Sunday, it is also "VOCATIONS SUNDAY". On this day we are especially asked first of all to pray that the Church may be provided with the leaders needed to do its work of spreading the Gospel.

We know that at this time there is a critical shortage of such leaders, at least in the traditional sense – priests and religious. But, while we may earnestly pray that our Church may be supplied with the priests and religious needed, there can be a tendency among us to pray that OTHERS may answer the call. We do not see ourselves as included. We may pray earnestly for more young people to offer themselves as priests and religious but clearly exclude our own children. PLEASE, INCLUDE YOUR OWN.

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

In conjunction with the Cork International Choral Festival, we will host the
Westminster Chamber Singers of Utah, USA, Director - Dr. Christopher Quinn
They will sing the 12.15 pm Mass on Sunday 2nd May. A real choral treat in store

In Sympathy

We offer our sincerely sympathy to **Pat Rohan**, Wilton Gardens, on the death of her sister, Olivia Nagle, Dublin.

To **Fr. Patrick Walsh**, on the recent deaths of his brother, Gerard, and his mother, Mollie.

NOTICE BOARD

St. Vincent de Paul

The Holy Spirit Conference wishes to thank all those who contributed so generously to our Easter collection. The May collection will take place on Saturday and Sunday 1st / 2nd May.

Car Boot Sale

Highfield Rugby Club are holding a car boot sale this Sunday 25th April starting at 9.00am. Set up your own stall for €10. Contact 087-2272324.

Wedding Flowers

The Lough Flower & Garden Club will host a demonstration by Gene O'Riordan on Tuesday 27th April at 8.00pm. at the SMA Centre, Wilton. Adm. €7. All welcome.

Knock Summer Festival - 25th-27th June 2010

Walk by Faith

For all people between the ages of 18-35 years. Over the three day festival there will be talks, workshops, drum, dance, prayer, music and reflection. A great opportunity to step out of the busyness of life to question, explore, ignite and celebrate your faith.

The festival costs €70 but this includes food, accommodation and access to all that is happening. Music by Elation Ministries. For information contact 094-9388100/094-9375035 or visit www.knockshrine.ie/youthfestival

TRÓCAIRE has extended its sincere thanks to all of those who gave to their Haiti Emergency Appeal after the earthquake on January 12th 2009. Thursday marked 100 days since the disaster and Trócaire's work continues thanks to the kind donations of parishes all over the country. In all over €6 million was given and already, working with the Caritas network, 900,000 people have been provided with shelter. Over one million have been given health care and one-and-a-half million have been given regular food supplies or hot meals. Over 200,000 people have already been given access to clean water or have been provided with hygiene kits. None of this could have been possible without your help. Go to www.trocaire.org to find out more about where your money is being spent. Go raibh míle maith agaibh!

PARISH PRAYER FOR FAMILIES

Remember our **CIRCLE OF PRAYER** this weekend Sunday 25th.

You may like to include Mass as part of your hour.

Forms still available at church
(name only for enrolment)

WEEKEND PSALM

Easter 4 - Year C

Patrick Killeen



We are his people: the sheep of his flock.

EASTER CROSSWORD

by Portia



Portia was very pleased with the large number of entries that were sent in. The winners are: **Mary Gould**, 7 Kenley Avenue
The Lennon Family, Ilfracombe, Laburnum Park