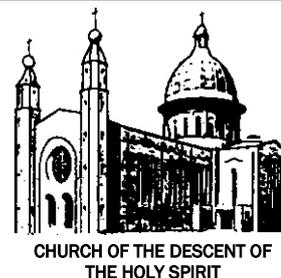


# Ballineaspaig Bulletin



17th October 2010

Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

No. 1070

THE DEAN WRITES



## God's Word

Readings for Sunday  
24th October

First Reading  
Eccles (Sir) 35:12-  
14,16-19

Psalm 32

Second Reading  
2 tim 4:6-8, 16-18

Gospel  
Lk 9:1-6

## CARDINAL JOHN HENRY NEWMAN - HIS LIFE AND TIMES

This extraordinary intelligent and holy man was beatified by Pope Benedict during his recent visit to Britain. Why should I be writing about an Englishman who died more than a century ago? And more to the point, why should I expect you to take an interest in what I write? Very briefly - he was a very saintly man who was known to his contemporaries as a genius but never lost the common touch. He was born into a typical middleclass English Protestant family in London. He entered Trinity College, Oxford, aged 16 years, and was appointed to the staff there at age of 23.

He was ordained to the Anglican priesthood that same year, and became famous for his sermons and his appeal to the student population, as well as his fellow academics. John Newman's whole life was directed by the search for truth and holiness. He sought the truth wherever it led and whatever it cost. He delved deeper into theology, history and personal prayer. This led him eventually into joining the Catholic Church. "Lead kindly light amid the encircling gloom, lead thou me on."

The news of his conversion sent shock waves through Oxford, and indeed the whole of England. He lost many friends and colleagues by so doing, but he accepted this in all humility.

He never doubted or regretted his decision to become a Catholic in spite of misunderstandings about his reasons for his conversion. He was subsequently ordained as a Catholic priest, and by his teaching and example transformed the lives of countless men and women, strengthened their faith, renewed their hope, and deepened their love for others. Conscience was his guiding light which he saw as a God-given gift to seek and find the truth.

He was appointed rector of Dublin's first Catholic University - not a great success for many reasons. Many of his guiding principles surfaced again in the teaching of Vatican II. And so I close with the words of his own prayer.

*May the Lord support us all the day long  
Till the shadows lengthen and the evening comes,  
And the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over  
And our work is done.  
Then in his great mercy may He give us a safe lodging  
A holy rest, and peace at last. Amen*

## PASTORAL COUNCIL

At our monthly meeting on 11th October, a vote of thanks was taken to express our sincere thanks to parishioners who contributed food for the reception in the Crypt after the Golden Jubilee Mass.

The night was a perfect example of community involvement in the parish for the common good.

Email: [holyspiritparish@eircom.net](mailto:holyspiritparish@eircom.net)

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

## In Sympathy

To Dr. Cathal Bredin, Court Cairn, on the death of his brother, Fr. Sean Bredin, who died recently in Killucan, Co. Westmeath, having spent more than forty years in ministry in Perth, W. Australia.

### Voluntary Envelope Collection System

*We are pleased to announce that we have received €23,351 as a tax refund for the year 2009. We thank most sincerely all parishioners who joined the scheme.*

*Refund will be used for parish expenses.*

## NOTICE BOARD

### Mission Sunday

Next weekend the annual collection for Missions will take place.

**Novena of Masses for the Dead** will commence on Tuesday 2nd November. Envelopes and prayer cards are available in the church.

**Annual Mass for Parishioners who died since last November** will take place this year on Friday 12th November at 7.30pm.

### St. Vincent de Paul

We once again appeal for donations to our fuel fund to help the needy of the parish. We would ask you to give generously, particularly in light of the substantial price increases for fuels in recent years. Our priests, the parish office (mornings) or any member of the Conference will gladly receive donations. Many thanks.

### Ballineaspig Gramophone Circle

Our monthly recital will take place on Wednesday next, 20th October at 2.30pm (note time) when Margaret Millar will give the recital. Everybody is welcome to attend.

### Simon Community

Annual church-gate collection will take place next weekend 23rd/24th October. Your support would be much appreciated.

## Bible Corner



### HIDDEN TREASURE

It happens every so often and it happened again recently. A very valuable painting came to public attention after decades of being unnoticed and unappreciated. Then, somebody with an understanding of the true value of the treasure brought it back into circulation.

Something similar happened at the Vatican Council. The Council fathers helped us to see again the true value of many spiritual and religious treasures that had remained cut off from the daily life of God's people.

The Bible as the Word of God was one such long lost treasure. Even in the Mass itself, the Bible was hidden under the dust of a dead language. The language has changed but, perhaps, not much else for many people.

Yet, as St. Paul tells Timothy in this weekend's second reading, the Bible is inspired by God and can be profitably used for teaching and guiding people's lives. However, if the word of God is to speak to us, to challenge us, to inspire us, we must listen, reflect, dialogue and apply it to our own daily lives.

The alternative is to leave the treasure of God's word gathering dust in the attics of our minds or the bookshelves of our homes. It deserves more.

Fr. Tom

### FEAST DAY - 18TH OCTOBER

## ST. LUKE

*St. Luke was a physician from a Gentile Christian milieu and author of one of the four gospels. Each brought his own slant to the task: Luke's unique angle is his keen eye for stories of Jesus' compassion. Maybe it was because he was a doctor that he appreciated one who could have empathy for suffering people. Luke's gospel is often called the gospel of mercy. Only Luke records the story of the prodigal son, the Good Samaritan, Zacchaeus and the good thief at Calvary. His soft spot for the poor and suffering adds a tenderness to the pages of his gospel. He was with St. Paul on his second missionary journey and during his imprisonment in Rome.*

*St. Luke is the patron saint of doctors, surgeons, butchers, bookbinders, notaries and artists.*

- B. Cotter

## WEEKEND PSALM

Twenty-Ninth Sunday in ordinary time - Year C

Patrick Killeen

D S S D' D' L S F S S L F F M R



Our help is in the name of the Lord who made heaven and earth