

Ballineaspaig Bulletin



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK

13th March 2011

First Sunday of Lent

No .1090

OUR PARISH PRIEST WRITES

God's Word

Readings for Sunday 20th
March

First Reading
Gen 12:1-4

Psalms 32

Second Reading
2 Tim 1:8-10

Gospel Mt 17:1-9

LENT



Last Wednesday was Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent - our annual time of preparation for the Feast of Easter. The word Lent comes from the Saxons and refers to the days 'lengthening' in the Spring. The Jews, led by Moses, left Egypt about 1000BC and spent 40 years in the desert. Jesus fasted for 40 days in the wilderness after his baptism. For us, Lent is 40 weekdays from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday. The early Christians did not fast on the Sundays, the Lord's Day.

The day before Ash Wednesday is called Shrove Tuesday. In medieval times church bells were rung letting the people know a priest would hear confessions before Lent. The bells for that day were called Shrove Bells as the people were shrove or scraped of their sins. In Shakespeare's play, Hamlet is concerned his father did not have his sins 'shrove' before his death.

The day before Ash Wednesday is also called Pancake Day. Lent is a time of fasting and all the flour, eggs and cream were eaten. Eggs were saved during Lent and eaten on Easter Sunday, giving expression to Easter Eggs. Pancakes were tossed three times in honour of the Blessed Trinity.

We 'spring clean' our homes after the Winter. Lent is known as the *Springtime of the Soul*. The Ashes used on Ash Wednesday are made from the Palms blessed on Palm Sunday of the previous year. People **give up**, make sacrifices for Lent. Maybe this year we might go a step further and **do something** as well.

Lent is like a journey. We journey with Jesus and each other. What we save financially by our sacrifices maybe we could share with those in need. At the end of this Lent may we be more Christ-like, more sensitive, caring people through our fasting, prayers, Masses and giving.

May God bless us this Lent.

CONTACT DETAILS

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

On this first Sunday in Lent, **Trócaire** is asking people to stand in solidarity with those in the developing world who are living in fear and in danger simply because they are poor. Please take a **Trócaire Box** home with you today and remember the world's poor this Lent. For more information on the campaign visit www.trocaire.org/lent or call 1850 408 408

Email: holyspiritparish@eircom.net

Website: www.dennehyscrossparish.ie

Rest in Peace

We offer our sincere sympathy on the death of our parishioners

David Walsh, Bendemeer Park, to his son Jim, daughters Marjorie and Joan, and his sister Eileen.

John McCarthy, 85 Leedale, to his wife Joan, sons James and Alan, and his daughter Karen.

NOTICE BOARD

St. Patrick's 's Day

Vigil Mass at 7.30pm on Wednesday 16th, Thursdays Masses at 9.00, 10.30 and 12.15pm.

Bulletins to Homes

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

Church Collection Rota

Please collect your copy in the Sacristy.

Le Chéile

If you are over 20 year of age and have a few hours to spare each week, why not think about becoming a volunteer mentor? Mentors work with young people involved with the Probation Service. Information nights are being held during March in Cork City. for more information, please contact Adelle on 086 2003419, email adelle@lecheile.ie or visit website on www.lecheile.ie

Massed Bands in Concert

Bands of the Defence Forces featuring guest artist Fiona Murphy in City Hall on Friday 1st April at 8.00pm. Booking at City Hall ticket office, Riverside entrance, 28th March to 1st April, 10.00 to 5.00pm daily. No telephone or credit card bookings.

Dominican Sisters - Seek, Pray, Share

We are involved in a wide range of ministries and invite you to come and visit us. Please contact Sr. Kathleen Fitzsimons OP, Coordinator of Vocations Ministry, Cabra, Dublin 7. Tel. 018299708, email kathleenfitzsomons@Dominican sisters.com

Alzheimer Society Cork Branch

Meeting of the Saturday Club on 19th March at Bessboro Day Care Centre from 2pm until 4pm. A talk entitled **Communication and Dementia** will be given by Julia Horgan from St Luke's. Light refreshments provided. Free admission, all welcome. For further information contact 4972504

Lenten Retreat at The Lough Church on 21st, 22nd and 23rd March. Sessions at 8.30am, 10.00am and 8.00pm conducted by Fr. John Hanna, Redemptorist,

BIBLE CORNER



LENTEN GOSPELS

Lent is a call to reality. It is an opportunity to be open to a deepening appreciation of the reality of God made known to us through Jesus Christ. The Sunday gospels in Lent recount key moments in the life of that same Jesus Christ. Hear them as six linked episodes in the greatest story ever told.

This weekend's gospel is dramatic, packed with vivid images of the struggle between Jesus and the powers of evil which marked his whole life.

Matthew's entire gospel focuses on God's choice of the Jewish race to be His chosen people to whom he promises a Messiah, a Saviour Leader. Jesus is this Messiah and his life task is to bring salvation to all people through the Church.

Matthew is very orderly in recording the life and teaching of Jesus. Set between His baptism and the beginning of His public life task, Sunday's story of the temptations highlights Jesus as Son of God, the Messiah, and as a Jewish boy from Nazareth faced with choices about pleasure, privilege and popularity. As Beloved Son, he chose wisely not to take advantage of his position despite his hunger and his vulnerability. Such is the power of love.

Fr. Tom

LENTEN CORNER



Having created a 'Sacred Space' in our homes as suggested in last week's bulletin, this week we will add to it either a small bottle of water or a little bowl of rice. When we light the candle, we pray for the people in Honduras who this year are the focus of the Trócaire campaign.

Lord, open our hearts to the needs of others. Grant justice and peace to all our brothers and sisters who suffer inequality, poverty and hunger in many parts of the world.

SPRINGTIME OF THE SOUL

Explore and be guided by God's Word proclaimed in the Sunday liturgies of Lent with Fr. Tom in the Crypt on Tuesday nights at 7.30pm. Bring a bible or a copy of St. Matthew's gospel if convenient.

Bring a friend. All Welcome.

WEEKEND PSALM

Lent 1-Year A

Patrick Killeen

