

Ballineaspig Bulletin



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK

18th December, 2011

Fourth Sunday of Advent

No:1119

God's Word

Readings for Sunday
25th December.

First Reading:
Is 52:7-10

Psalm: 97

Second Reading:
Heb 1:1-6

Gospel:
Jn 1:1-18

EXTRAVAGANT LOVE



Christmas is a reminder and a celebration of the extravagance of God's generosity. Our planet with its wonderful variety of awesome beauty and challenging possibilities is the fragile backdrop for the high point of God's creation, our human family. We are the pinnacle of God's creation, made in his image and likeness, stewards of the resources of the planet. What more could God do? He loves us so much that he gives us his Son Jesus to share our human nature and so allow us to share in his inner life of love.

Secure in our identity as brothers and sisters of Jesus, we strive to live through love and we are able to admit our failure when we stumble. This inner security opens us to accept and to share a spirit of forgiveness in our relationships with each other and with God.

When insecurity about our self worth niggles us, we often deny our ability to forgive and our own need to receive forgiveness ourselves. We may resist basking in who we are, children of a forgiving God. We hesitate to accept the gift we do not deserve but for which we crave, the gift of being accepted and loved unconditionally.

Sacramental reconciliation is an opportunity to leave this insidious insecurity behind and together open our hearts to a new outpouring of God's healing love.

Why not join us this Sunday (18th) afternoon at 5.00 p.m. in the church here to celebrate this extravagance of God's love. Bring a loved one or a friend. It is a good way to celebrate .

Fr. Tom.

CONTACT DETAILS

Fr. Kieran Twomey, P.P.,
4346940

Dean Denis O'Connor
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Fr. Tom Clancy
4347616

Parish Office
4344452

Emergency Number:
087-251 9940

REMINDER - RECONCILIATION SERVICE TODAY - SUNDAY AT 5.00PM

THANK YOU VERY MUCH

We are coming to the close of our 4th year for the Parish Envelope Collection Scheme and I am pleased to tell you it has been a great success and continues to play a significant role in contributing to our parish finances. I would like to thank everyone who is partaking in the scheme. We recently secured a refund from Revenue of €18,751 for the year 2010. This was achieved without any cost to the parishioners involved in the scheme. The money is being used to help defray the cost of refurbishment to the Parochial House and ongoing expenses.

If possible, we would hope everyone in the scheme will be able to continue for the year 2012. We would be delighted to welcome new members. Boxes of envelopes for 2012 are now available for collection before or after the weekend masses.

May God bless you all for your generosity.

Fr. Kieran

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR CHURCH SERVICES

MASSES

Sat 24th - Christmas Eve

9.00, 10.00, 6.15pm (Family Mass), 9.00pm.

(Please note No Midnight Mass)

Christmas Day : 9.00, 10.30, 12.15pm

Mon 26th to Fri 30th : 10.00am

Saturday 31st December : 9.00, & 10.00, and 6.15pm

Sunday 1st January : 9.00, 10.30 and 12.15pm

Monday 2nd to Wed 4th : 9.00, 10.00

Thurs 5th: 9.00, 10.00 and 7.30pm Vigil Mass.

Fri 6th Feast of the Epiphany : 9.00, 10.30, 7.30pm

First Friday 6th January :

Exposition 11.30 to 7.30pm.

RECONCILIATION SERVICES

Dennehy's Cross: Sunday 18th at 5.00pm.

Sacred Heart Church: Monday 19th at 7.30pm

Curraheen Church: Wednesday 21st at 7.30pm

CONFESSIONS

Fri 23rd: 10.30-11.00am

Sat :24th : 12.00-1.00pm, 4.00 - 5.00pm



ADVENT CAROL SERVICE

Parishioners who braved the harsh wintry weather to attend the Advent Carol Service on Sunday, 4th December were well rewarded. A darkened Church, lit by candlelight, a choir looking resplendent in their beautiful robes, who sang superbly throughout the ceremony. Under the baton of choir Master, Paddy Killeen, the choir excelled in singing "O Tannenbaum" (O Christmas Tree). Our readers who brought us readings from the Old Testament were excellent. Isaiah's words of comfort, breathe the spirit of Advent.

Fr. Tom, who presided over the ceremony, blessed the candles and invited the congregation to bring them to their homes. As we journey through these dark days of Advent, the candle symbolises our belief that Jesus is the Light of the World. Following the reading of the Gospel (Luke 1-26.38), Fr. Tom imparted a solemn blessing on all present.

Arthur O'Callaghan.



NOTICE BOARD:

Donations for flowers for the Altar for Christmas would be appreciated. A box will be placed on the Altar rails for offerings **during Mass times only**. Thanking you in anticipation.

A Benefit Night for baby Jamie Higgins will be held in McCarthy's Tennis Village on Dec. 29th from 9pm to 12 midnight. Jamie has had a heart operation in Crumlin Hospital and will need three more in time. Tickets €10 each available from Paula at (087) 8324444.

Turkvel: Last weekend for Christmas Appeal. Cards available at Parish Centre before and after each Mass this weekend.

Children's Mass on Christmas Eve: On Monday 19th Dec at 3.00pm there will be a gathering of schoolchildren in the Church for those who wish to take part in the Mass. Contact Fr. Kieran 4346940.

THE EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS BELL We had the great privilege of hosting the Eucharistic Congress Bell this Advent heralding the International Eucharistic Congress next year, calling all to prayer and renewed faith and confidence in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. The Ceremony was very well attended and we pray it will bring many blessings on our Parish.

A Poor Clare Sister

AUTUMN DUES

Our sincere thanks to the many parishioners who have sent in their generous Dues and to those who will do so. A word of thanks to our courteous distributors/collectors who facilitated the good work. Happy Christmas to one and all.

The Priests of the Parish.

Christmas Message - The Pastoral Council

At Christmas time we celebrate the birth of Jesus and with the New Year we plan for and make resolutions for the year ahead. Every year brings its own challenges. How we deal with these challenges, how we support one another individually and as a community is what defines our Christianity and sets us apart.

The Pastoral Council wishes to thank all those people who contributed in any way during the past year, for without their faith and unstinting work we wouldn't have a parish. We thank the priests of the parish for their leadership, constant hard work, help and encouragement.

As we look forward to a New Year let us resolve to continue to support one another, to build on the achievements of the past and pass on the values we so believe in to those who come after us.

Ar scáth a chéile a mhaireann na daoine.

Beannachtaí na Nollag agus Ath Bhliain shona daoibh go léir.

WEEKEND PSALM:

S L D R F M R D L S S

I will sing for - ev - er of your love, O Lord.

A musical staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is written in a simple, rhythmic style. Below the staff, the lyrics are written in a spaced-out format: "I will sing for - ev - er of your love, O Lord."