

Ballineaspig Bulletin



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK

15th April, 2012

Second Sunday of Easter

No: 1136

MASS TIMES

Sunday

9.00, 10.30, 12.15
Saturday Vigil 6.15pm

Weekdays

9.00, 10.00

Eve of Holydays

7.30pm

Holydays

9.00, 10.30 &
7.30pm

“MY DOUBTING FRIEND”



Sharing a name with him, made me very sensitive to how history has treated Thomas, the Apostle. He was unlucky not to be in the upper room when the Risen Jesus first called to Mary and the other Apostles gathered there. Actually, it seemed to me as a young boy that my hero was the only one brave enough to venture out and he the only one brave enough to ask for proof that Jesus was really risen.

At that stage of my life, proof was king. To be able to prove a mathematical theorem gave a sense of achievement and truth, a truth that brooked no dispute. Then, in the Seminary, some misdirected biblical studies sent us mining for quotations to prove the divinity of Jesus, His foundation of the Church on Peter, the rock, His institution of the sacraments, His ordination of the Apostles as Priests. Indeed, the Creed became a collection of doctrinal statements that could be proven and that one accepted or else. The emphasis was on proving rather than believing. Maybe I was a slow learner, but it took me a while to realise that faith is not just accepting a series of proven doctrines, but is a personal commitment to the person of Jesus, His values, to His way of life, to His love, graciously receiving it and generously sharing it.

In a short encounter, the Risen Jesus took Thomas from searching for proofs to such a faith commitment. **“Doubt no longer, but believe”**. For the rest of us, such a transition often takes a lifetime. Our doubts may seem like obstacles to faith, but in fact, they are opportunities. If Thomas did not voice his doubt, he would never have received personal attention and encouragement from the Lord. When the Lord offers us His hand in the time of our doubts, we need to be open in heart and mind to accept it.

Finally, doubts remind us of our human limitations. Nobody has a monopoly of wisdom. We need to be wary of certainty and the self-righteous intolerance it breeds and fosters. Doubts, Thomas's and our own, remind us of how much we need God's hand. Faith is about accepting that hand. It is the place to be. Thank you, Thomas!

Fr. Tom

God's Word

Readings for Sunday
22nd April.

First Reading:
Acts 3: 13-15, 17-19

Psalms: 4

Second Reading:
1 Jn 2: 1-5

Gospel:
Lk 24: 35-48

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

Email: holyspiritparish@eircom.net
Website: www.dennehyscrossparish.ie

NOTICE BOARD

Bulletins to the Homes:

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

Spring Dues:

Spring dues envelopes will be distributed to all homes shortly.

Pastoral Council:

The next meeting will be held on Monday, 16th April at 8.15pm in the CP Centre.

The Friendship Club:

The Friendship club will reopen on Monday 16th April at 2.30pm in the Parish Centre. New members welcome.

"Munster Survivors Support Services"

A concelebrated Mass of Remembrance and Reconciliation for deceased and living survivors of institutional and child abuse in Ireland will be held on Saturday 21st April at 2pm in Holy Cross Church, Mahon. The main Concelebrants are Bishop John Buckley, Cork & Ross and Bishop Bill Murphy, Bishop of Kerry. Everybody is most welcome to attend. For further enquiries contact 086-3473583.

Flower Festival:

A Flower Festival in St. James's church, Ballinora with official opening by Charlie Wilkins will take place on Friday, 20th Apr. at 7.30pm, Saturday, 21st Apr., 12 noon to 9pm and Sunday, 22nd April, 12 noon to 6pm. Admission €10 including refreshments.

REMINDER !

Completed Easter Crosswords due in by Sunday 22nd April, please.

A sincere thank-you to our Priests and all who worked so hard to make the Easter Ceremonies, Keeping Watch in the Crypt, and Watch and Pray so meaningful.

A special thank-you to the children who participated in the Good Friday Stations of the Cross.

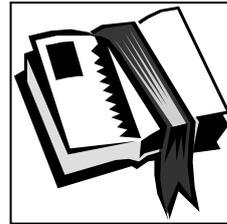
Also, a word of appreciation to those who assembled our Easter Garden as well as those who subscribed for the altar flowers which were arranged so beautifully.

IN SYMPATHY

We offer our sincere sympathy to the family and friends of **Jane O'Leary**, Farranlea Road, Victoria Cross, Cork who died recently.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a h-anam dilís.

BIBLE CORNER



UNCHANGING ESSENTIALS

Good summaries are long enough to cover the essentials and short enough to be interesting. The first sentence of the First Reading this weekend describes the four key activities of the first believers.

Firstly, they remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles about the life and message of Jesus.

Secondly, they took their responsibility of caring for each other seriously, remaining faithful to the bond between them.

Thirdly, the weekly Eucharist was central to their lives.

Fourthly, regular prayer nourished their faith and practice.

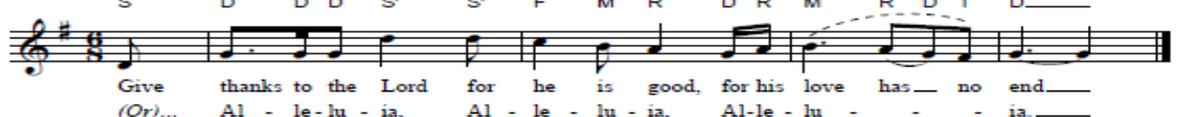
This fourfold summary must be reflected in how we as a parish live out our Christian vision. Maybe, there is one aspect in particular that needs our ongoing attention.

Fr. Tom.

Weekend Psalm:

Easter 2 - Year B

S D D D S' S' F M R D R M R D T D



Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.
(Or) Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia.

Patrick Killeen