

Ballineaspaig Bulletin



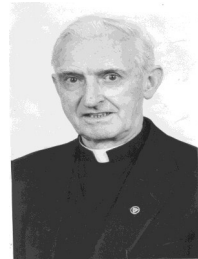
CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK

22nd April, 2012

Third Sunday of Easter

No: 1137

The Dean Writes:



Room 103,
St. Joseph's Hospital,
Mount Desert,
Cork.

My dear friends at Ballineaspaig,

It is just five months since I last wrote the front page for your parish Bulletin and I can assure you I feel very privileged to get this opportunity to write to you again.

In the course of his public preaching, Jesus met ten men afflicted with the horrible disease of leprosy. They cried out in desperation - "Jesus have pity on us - cure us". And that's exactly what he did. Nine out of the ten went home with glee and just one returned to give thanks to God. Jesus said, "Were not ten made clean, where are the other nine?" Is there nobody found to return and give thanks to God except this foreigner?" He was a Samaritan, a non-Jew and much could not be expected from him. You will note that Jesus was not expecting any thanks for himself personally, but for God.

Taking my cue from this incident in the Gospel, there are so many to whom I owe a lot of thanks at this moment. I can truly state - never has one person owed so much to so many.

1. Firstly, I thank God and His Blessed Mother for bringing me back from the brink - when I came so near to going over (three serious operations within two weeks).
2. I thank God for the skill and expertise of the medical staff at C.U.H. and St. Finbarr's Hospital which was delivered with such care and concern and, indeed with much humour.
3. To my sisters, nephews and nieces who dragged me off to their homes for a day's respite when it would have been quite a sensible thing to let me where I was and avoid a lot of stress for themselves and a lot of inconvenience for their spouses and families.
4. To my colleagues, Fr. Kieran and Fr. Tom, who constantly encouraged me and willed me back to health.
5. Finally to you, the good people of Ballineaspaig, who stormed heaven on my behalf with Masses offered and made private prayers for a speedy and safe recovery. I'm not quite there yet, but am well on the way. I appreciate your care and concern and will forever hold in my heart your warm good wishes and affection. I have offered several Masses for your intentions and I know God will reward you for your goodness to me. I couldn't write to each of you individually, but I trust you accept this expression of my gratitude as written specially for you.

And for those who have written, phoned or called from far-away places with strange sounding names, but will never read this acknowledgement of your goodness, I will try to contact you personally to express my debt of gratitude. I was so touched just a few days ago when a middle-aged gentleman arrived here to see me - I hadn't met him for over 50 years- and he hired a taxi to come and visit me.

God bless you and keep you all and it's a source of great satisfaction to me to realise that there are so many good and loving people all around me and especially in the Parish of Ballineaspaig.

Dean Denis O'Connor.

NOTICE BOARD:

Diocesan Office & Initiatives Fund:

The quarterly collection for the above will take place at all Masses next weekend (28th/29th April).

Children's Liturgy:

The Cork & Ross Diocesan Liturgy Commission will hold an evening for Parishes to share on Children's Liturgy on Tuesday 24th April, 8.00 to 9.30pm in Ovens Parish Centre. The evening will provide an opportunity for parishes to share their experiences and plan towards a September training for Children's Liturgy of the Word. The meeting is free of charge and will include a "cuppa". All welcome. For further information contact Fr. Christy Fitzgerald at (087)2675275 or liturgy@corkandross.org.

Communion Pyxes:

If you have a Communion Pyx at home which you are no longer using, could you please return same to the Sacristy. Thank you.

SPRING DUES:

Envelopes for Spring Dues are being distributed through the courtesy of volunteer helpers to whom we are very grateful. If our distribution system does not reach you, please let us know (Parish Office 021-4344452 - mornings). Some of you have already contributed using an envelope from the box of weekly envelopes. Thanks and please ignore this other envelope.

In these difficult times, we know that some people who contributed generously in former years may not be able to do so this time around. Do not feel under any obligation. We are sure that those who can afford it will do so. We are very grateful for your many encouraging words, your prayers, your presence and every support. God bless you all.

Fr. Kieran and Fr. Tom.

CONTACT DETAILS

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MASS TIMES

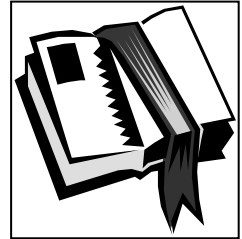
Sunday
9.00, 10.30, 12.15
Saturday Vigil 6.15pm

Weekdays
9.00, 10.00

Eve of Holydays
7.30pm

Holydays
9.00, 10.30 &
7.30pm

BIBLE CORNER



"NOT TO BE MISSED"

In his preaching in the First Reading this weekend, Peter tackles the Jewish religious leaders head on. He reminds them that when Pilate wanted to release Jesus, they insisted that He be crucified. Peter pulls no punches telling them that the One they crucified is the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, their three great ancestors of whom they were so proud. Still, they did not know any better at the time but now they have a chance to repent.

Something similar often happens in life. We do not fully realise the consequences of our selfishness or of our sins. But God in his own way and in his own time, brings us to see things in the light of the next life. It is an opportunity to repent and to make a fresh start. Such a moment is for grace, not for guilt. It is an opportunity that is lost unless it is grasped and acted upon promptly. It is offered again this weekend to some. Do we recognise it when it is offered to us?

Fr. Tom

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING:

A joint meeting of the outgoing and incoming Pastoral Councils took place on Monday 16th April. All the nine new nominees were declared elected to the Council.

The other item on the Agenda was to review the work done in the last three years. Fr. Kieran was fulsome in his praise and thanks for the work and commitment of the outgoing members. He welcomed the new Council and wished them well for their term.

Mary Murphy, on behalf of the outgoing members, thanked David Clifford, Tom O'Donovan, Fr. Kieran and all outgoing members for their interest and support.



We remember in our prayers all those who are receiving the gifts of the Holy Spirit in the Sacrament of Confirmation and all preparing to receive Jesus in First Holy Communion this year.

Weekend Psalm:

Easter 3 - Year B

Patrick Killeen



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