

Ballineaspig Bulletin



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK

13th January, 2013

The Baptism of the Lord

No: 1162

“A JOURNEY OF A THOUSAND KILOMETRES STARTS WITH ONE STEP”.

A journey of a thousand kilometres starts with one step and so it began on the 20th September, 2012 in Seville, Spain. The objective was to walk the Way of St. James along the Camino de la Plata to Santiago de Compostella. You carry everything in your rucksack staying in alberques or refugios at night. Access to the alberque requires a credential or “pilgrims passport”. A night’s accommodation costs €5 or €10. People tend to go to bed early with lights out at 10.00pm. There is a limit of one night and you have to be gone by 8.00am in the morning. The credential is stamped in the alberque. The stamped credential is necessary if you want to obtain a Compostella (certificate of completion) in Santiago. The minimum required to obtain a Compostella is you walk the last 100km into Santiago (or cycle the last 200km). So, starting at Sarria on the Camino Frances or in Ourense on the Camino de la Plata is very common. A plenary indulgence is granted to all who fulfil the conditions - Compostella, Sacrament of Reconciliation, attend Mass and visit the tomb of St. James. The indulgence may be gained on behalf of someone else and of the dead.

Three things determine how your feet bear up to the walk - how far and how fast you walk and what weight you carry. Typically I walked about 25km a day. There are those who will walk much more than this. From Seville you take accommodation when you find it, 15km to 30km apart. A day’s walk of 25km is about 5 to 8 hours depending on speed and breaks. I found it a good idea to start an hour before sunrise. This way I avoided the heat of the afternoon. While it was the end of September, the afternoon temperatures would easily have hit 35 degrees. In Galicia I experienced a temperature one morning of -7 degrees. You carry 10kg to 12kg, not including water or food. A few days I had to carry up to 4 litres as none was available along the path. It is difficult to walk in the summer time with the crowds and the heat. Winter time is also very difficult for the opposite reasons. I have walked in the spring and autumn and found these provide an ideal balance. Easter time is very busy as the Spanish come out in force. Every region e.g. Andalucia, Galicia is very distinct and fiercely independent, yet they all identify with, support and take pride in the Camino. If you take a wrong turn the next person you meet will put you right.

The standard menu of the day costs about €9 - €10 and consists of a large choice of starter, main course and dessert with a bottle of wine/water, bread, coffee and sometimes a digestive. Amazingly one’s appetite is diminished and living on menu of the day along with a snack, coffee and hot chocolate is what most people are happy with. The hardest part is the Spanish way of eating late in the evening.

The path is away from traffic apart from large towns and cities and is well marked. Nonetheless, a pilgrim has to be always aware so as not to go astray. In places it can be rough and very steep. What makes the Camino “interesting” is the people you meet along the way. When I reached thirty nationalities, I stopped counting! Typically, the first time walker is in a period of transition in their life, young people just finished college, people between jobs and lots of retirees. Many will be on their umpteenth Camino. The addictive attraction of the Camino for me is that after walking for ten days or so, I sink into a rhythm where I step out of time and live in the now. Days of the week disappear and the daily routine becomes independent of clock.

To walk the Camino is a privilege. To be able to step out for seven weeks requires the loving support of my wife, family, friends and neighbours. I am so fortunate on all counts.

Buen Camino and Ultreia!!

David Clifford
Chairman Pastoral Council.

NOTICE BOARD

Bulletins to the Homes:

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

Pastoral Council:

Next meeting will be held in the Parish Centre on Monday, 14th January at 8.15pm.

Liturgy Group:

Next meeting on Tuesday, 15th January at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre.

Tuesday Coffee Morning:

Will resume next Tuesday, 15th January after the 10.00am Mass in the Parish Centre. Please come and join us for a "cuppa & chat".

"Vigil for Life"

Vigil for life takes place on Saturday 19th January 2013 at 4.30pm at Merrion Square, Dublin. There are buses and coaches going from Cork. There is no set cost, it is a donation only service. Buses will arrive back in Cork at approx. 10.30pm on the 19th. Contact Mary Lynch at (085) 8328822.

Heart Throbs:- Bishopstown/Ballincollig Group

The next meeting will be held in the Bishopstown Library, Wilton Shopping Centre on Monday, 14th Jan., 2013 from 11.00am to 1.00pm. New members welcome. For further information contact (021) 4872626.

CIT Information Session for Mature Students:

Information Session for full-time undergraduate students will be held on Tuesday, 15th January from 6.30 to 8.30pm in IT2 Berkeley (Library) Building, CIT Bishopstown Campus. For further information contact Christine (021) 4335138 /email: christine.nolan@cit.ie.

Adult Education Bishopstown Community School:

Enrolments for Spring classes 2013 are now being taken on Wednesday 16th Jan. from 7-8pm. Book immediately for revision courses in Leaving Cert. Accounting and Oral Irish which are commencing next week. Contact (021) 4869310 or email added@bishopstown-cs.ie.

Bru Colimbanus:

A Church gate collection will take place next weekend 19/20th Jan. in aid of the above which provides accommodation to relatives of seriously ill patients at Cork Hospitals. Your support would be greatly appreciated. Contact (021) 4345754.

REMINDER!

The 2013 Collection Envelopes are available in the **Parish Office** after all Masses this weekend for those who have already signed on and those who wish to do so for 2013.

A member of the Finance Committee will be available to answer any questions you may have.

CHRISTMAS CROSSWORD

by Portia

Portia was delighted with such a large number of entries. Thank you!

We drew the following winners:

Aileen Murphy, Orchard Road
and
Eithne O'Halloran, Farranlea Grove.

Congratulations!



CONTACT DETAILS

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MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil
6.15pm

Sunday
9.00, 10.30,
12.15

Weekdays
9.00, 10.00

Holydays
9.00, 10.30 &
7.30pm

God's Word

Readings for
Sunday 20th
January.

First Reading:
Is 62: 1-5

Psalm: 95

Second
Reading:
1 Cor 12: 4-11

Gospel:
John 2: 1-11

Weekend Psalm:

The Baptism of the Lord - Year C

Patrick Killeen

