

Ballineaspig Bulletin



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK

19th January, 2014

Second Sunday in Ordinary time

No: 1202

MASS TIMES

Sunday

9.00, 10.30, 12.15
Saturday Vigil 6.15pm

Weekdays

9.30am only

Eve of Holydays

7.30pm

Holydays

9.00, 10.30 &
7.30pm

God's Word

Readings for Sunday
26th January, 2014

First Reading:
Is 8:23-9:3

Psalms: 26

Second Reading:
1 Cor 1:10-13,17

Gospel:
Mt 4: 12-23

CONTACT DETAILS

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Fr. Tom Clancy
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Parish Office
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Emergency Number:
087-251 9940

Migrant Sunday

Pope Francis, in a special address for Migrant Sunday, asks that we should welcome and respect migrants. We, in Ireland have lived with migration for centuries. 50,000 Irish nationals emigrated between April 2012 and April 2013. Most of us have relatives or friends who have emigrated, seeking better opportunities abroad. And we expect that they will be welcomed and respected in their new countries. We are also very aware of the many immigrants who have come to work in Ireland and on whom so many of our institutions and industries depend, especially hospitals, nursing homes, and the hospitality and building industries.

But asylum seekers are one group of migrants who receive very little awareness. These are people who have been forced to flee their home and country because of conflict, war or persecution, and who have come here to Ireland seeking asylum and refugee status. Under our legal system, asylum seekers are accommodated in "direct provision centres": accommodation centres where they receive their meals, and an allowance of €19.10 per adult per week. Currently there are just 4,370 people in 34 centres. Asylum seekers are not allowed to work, or to receive training.

This **direct provision system** was intended as a short-term arrangement for up to six months, while applications for refugee status were processed. However, in reality, it is taking years rather than months for decisions on the applications to be processed, and as a result, direct provision has become a form of inhumane, prolonged imprisonment. Individuals and families have been living from day to day in enforced inactivity, social isolation, and complete uncertainty about their future, some for as long as four, six and even nine years!

While many Irish people are supportive and welcoming of immigrants, refugees and asylum seekers, others are uncertain or uneasy. **On Tuesday next, 21st January, there will be an information meeting in the Crypt at 8pm on "Asylum seekers and Us". Speakers will include asylum seekers as well as those who work with them, and there will be plenty of time for discussion. All are welcome.**

At that meeting, and also at Masses next Sunday, we will have a petition for the Minister for Justice and Equality urging that asylum seekers, whose applications take longer than six months for a decision, should be allowed to work and/or receive training. If you agree with this, you may wish to sign the petition.

Faith in Action Group.



NOTICE BOARD

Public Meeting:

All Residents Associations and individual residents are invited to the next meeting of the Cork University Area Residents Forum in the Lough Community Centre on Wednesday, 22nd January, 2014 at 8.00pm. For further details contact Barry Keane at (087) 7903436.

A note for your Diary—Asylum Seekers and Us.

All are invited to participate in a discussion on “Asylum Seekers and Us”. Short presentations will be made by a number of people who have first-hand personal experience followed by a general discussion on Tuesday, 21st January, 2014 from 8.00pm to 9.30pm in the Crypt. All welcome. Faith in Action Group.

THE HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE 2014



A meeting will be held on **Friday, 24th January, 2014 at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre** for all those interested in travelling with our Parish to the Holy Land in October, 2014. All information will be provided on the night.

THANKS - FOR A JOY-FILLED CHRISTMAS!

Celebrating Christmas in our Parish Church was a joy-filled experience. It was lovely to see so many in attendance, visitors and regulars. The children's Mass at 6.15 on Christmas Eve with so many families gathered was extra special, seeing the children around the beautiful crib for the arrival of baby Jesus and the singing of Happy Birthday and Carols was uplifting.

Thanks to Fr. Bertie and Fr. Tom for their continued service to us and to the many who helped in the days leading up to Christmas, training the children, erecting the crib, arranging altar flowers, choir practice, all of which added to the celebration of the feast.

IN SYMPATHY

We offer our sincere sympathy to **Michelle O'Brien**, Kenley close on the death of her mother, Catherine (Kitty) O'Brien, Mitchelstown.

May she rest in peace.

BIBLE CORNER



I do not know what it cost St. Paul to send letters to Corinth, but he certainly got value for money. Two thousand years later, people are still reading them avidly. We will hear paragraphs from one such letter read over the next seven weekends. This letter was written within 25 years of Christ's death and so is particularly instructive.

Corinth was a key seaport on the trade routes of that part of the world. Its fame was based not only on its commerce, but on the debauchery of its people drawn from many places and races. It was a most irreligious place to start a Christian community, but Paul wanted to bring Christ to all for whom He had died.

After eighteen months preaching there, Paul moved on to other cities, but he never forgot his early converts and wrote back to them to strengthen their faith, to advise, instruct, coax and reprimand them.

Listening to his letter can do the same for us.

Fr. Tom

REMINDER!

The 2014 Collection Envelopes are available in the **Parish Office** after all Masses this weekend 18th/19th January, 2014 and on weekdays during Office hours (9.30am to 12.30pm) for those who are already signed on and those who might wish to do so for 2014.

Weekend
Psalm:

Second Sunday in ordinary time - Year A

Patrick Killeen

