

Ballineaspig Bulletin



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK

9th March, 2014

First Sunday of Lent

No: 1208

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**
16th March, 2014

First Reading:
Gn 12: 1-4

Psalms: 32

Second Reading:
Tm 1: 8-10

Gospel:
Mt 17: 1-9

CONTACT DETAILS

Fr. Bertie O'Mahony,
P.P.
4346940

Fr. Tom Clancy
4347616

Parish Office
4344452

Emergency Number:
087-251 9940



LENT

WHEN THE GRACE OF GOD CALLS US TO FULL RECONCILIATION A REAL CHANGE OF HEART



On Ash Wednesday when we received the ashes on our forehead, we were reminded of two things — our need for repentance and our mortality — "Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel". In those sober and serious realities, there is a great sense of joy and expectation as we move through Lent towards the rejoicing of Easter Sunday. The Jesuit Priest and Poet, Gerard Manley Hopkins was correct when he declared, "We are an Easter people".

Lent is, therefore, a time to renew, refresh, reflect and yes, repent and turn back to God. It is a penitential season during which we embrace disciplines such as prayer, fasting and almsgiving to help us free our spirit and focus on God. The season that stretches out before us invites us on a journey of interior renewal and change.

Some time ago, Pope Benedict caused a stir when he suggested that Agnostics (those who believe that the existence of God is not provable and are constantly exercised by the question of God), "these are closer to the kingdom of God than believers whose life of faith is routine and who regard the Church merely as an institution, without letting their hearts be touched by faith". Tough and challenging words — especially for those whose life of faith is "routine" and as the prophet Isaiah put it, "who honour me with their lips while their hearts are far from me". (Isaiah 29:13).

One Lenten recommendation is that we carve out time for prayer. Not always easy, distractions can be expected — even the Saints were distracted, but their perseverance and strong belief in God endured. "Prayer is the raising of ones mind and heart to God, or the requesting of good things from God" (St. John Damascene). So finding time — making time for prayer during Lent is important.

Arthur O'Callaghan.

E-mail: holyspiritparish@eircom.net
Website: www.dennehyscrossparish.ie

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HOME OF GIVE IT TO A FRIEND OR
NEIGHBOUR

NOTICE BOARD

Bulletins to the homes:

Bulletins will be distributed to all homes in the Parish next weekend.

Pastoral Council:

Next meeting on Monday, 10th March at 8.15pm in the Parish Centre.

Liturgy Group:

Next meeting on Tuesday, 11th March at 7.30 in the Parochial House. New members welcome to attend.

The Alzheimer Society of Ireland:

Next Carer's Support Meeting on Wed. 12th March from 3pm to 4.30pm at the Bessboro Day Care Centre, Blackrock, Cork. All welcome. Contact (021) 4972504.

A series of talks for Lent:

A series of 3 talks and reflections for the Season of Lent will take place in Frankfield Parish Centre, 8pm to 9.30pm beginning on Tuesday 18th March with the theme "Lent, our journey to Baptism". The talks will be led by Fr. Christy Fitzgerald P.P. Diocesan Director of Liturgy. All welcome and there is no admission charge.

"Voice of Joy"

Friar Alessandro in concert at St. Francis Church, Liberty St. Cork on Saturday, 22nd March at 7.30pm. Family tickets: €20, Adult ticket: €7 and OAP/Students: €5.

Heart Throbs:

Next meeting Mon 10th March 11am to 1pm Bishopstown Library. New members welcome. Phone: (021)4872626.

"Do you feel let down in your Life?"

Come and experience the joy Pope Francis speaks of at 8pm on Sundays and Wednesdays at the Sacred Heart Centre, Western Road, Cork. Everybody welcome.

On the 1st Anniversary of our beloved Dean being called to his heavenly home, we remember him at the 10.30am Mass on Sunday, 9th March.

During his time among us, Dean O'Connor demonstrated how the commitment of love is to be put into practice. Each year at our Holy Thursday celebration of the Last Supper, he washed the feet of his parishioners. A sculpture, the cost of which was met by many people, will be blessed after the 10.30am Mass and will be a memorial of what we particularly remember him for, serving us with love and humility.

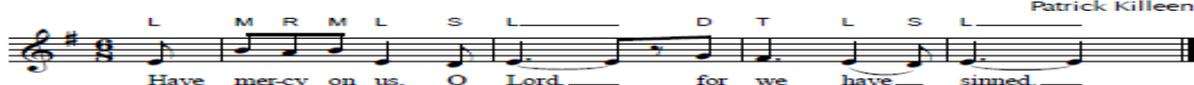
The sculpture is the work of Mike Wilkins, The National Sculpture Factory, Cork.



On the Anniversary of Dean O'Connor's death, a Booklet of some of his writings in past bulletins has been compiled and is available in the Parish Office.

Weekend Psalm:

Lent 1- Year A



Patrick Killeen

St. Patrick's Weekend Masses



Saturday 15th March - Vigil Mass 6.15pm
Sunday 16th March - 9.00am, 10.30am & 12.15pm
Monday 17th March - 9.00am, 10.30am (As Gaeilge) & 12.15pm
(St. Patrick's Day)

BIBLE CORNER



To Know Christ Jesus

The three readings for each of the Sundays of Lent together weave a tapestry that can draw us into a deepening understanding and appreciation of God's plan for our salvation through the coming of Jesus.

The first readings recount highlights of how God prepared the Hebrew people to be his people and to receive the promised Messiah. Each Sunday this Old Testament reading forms a backdrop for the Gospel reading of the particular Sunday. For example, this weekend Adam's temptation is a foil for the story of how Jesus coped with temptation. In between, the second reading highlights how it is through the response of Jesus to the Father's call that we are restored to God's friendship.

While each weekend's readings are a unit in themselves, there is also a progression each week towards Passion and Resurrection at Easter. Make space to be enriched by the overall story.

Fr. Tom

P.S. A "map" of these Readings is available at the Altar rails.

LENTEN CORNER

First Station of the Cross: Jesus is condemned to Death.



How could Pilate, a man of honour and integrity, sentence an innocent man to death?

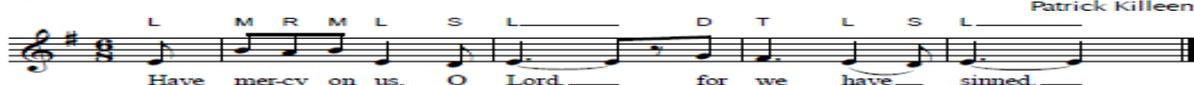
Public pressure and popular opinion swayed his decision whereby he chose to release a notorious criminal over an innocent human being.

We too, like Pilate, often wash our hands of guilt and condemn others to suffering and death when we squander the world's resources.

(A reflection on Injustice from the Trócaire Lenten Resource Booklet).

Weekend Psalm:

Lent 1- Year A



Patrick Killeen