

Ballineaspig Bulletin



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK

23rd March, 2014

Third Sunday of Lent

No: 1210

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**
30th March, 2014

First Reading:
1 Sm 16:1, 6-7, 10-13

Psalms: 22

Second Reading:
1 Eph 5: 8-14

Gospel:
Jn 9: 1-41

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The Benefits of Religious Practice

Professor Patricia Casey, one of Ireland's best known Psychiatrists, has compiled a very important report on "The Benefits of Religious Practice". Its conclusion is that religion makes us healthier and happier!!

In the last ten years, a large and growing number of studies investigating the effects of religious practice, involving up to 40,000 people have been carried out. These studies show that religious believers, on average suffer less from depression and other mental illnesses than non believers. They are less likely to abuse alcohol or drugs, less likely to suffer marital breakdown and less likely to be involved in crime and so on. However, the report is not saying that religious practice is a guarantee against any of these things.

Religion gives us a sense of meaning and purpose in life. It involves us in community and encourages us to think of others and not just about ourselves. Religion, of course is not primarily about making its adherents happier and healthier. Christianity, for example, is about forming a relationship with God made known through Jesus Christ, a relationship which is nurtured by prayer and the sacraments especially the Eucharist.

As we journey on life's pilgrimage, all of us encounter difficulties, anxieties, fears, worries, sadness and many other problems. We need God's help. He has promised such when he says, "Come to me all you who labour and are heavily burdened and I will refresh you". The Lord will never refuse us grace, courage and strength. Our human words always fall short of the mystery of God. In faith we place our trust in Him when we choose to do so — we will not be disappointed.

Arthur O'Callaghan

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PLEASE TAKE A COPY OF THE BULLETIN
HOME OR GIVE IT TO A FRIEND OR
NEIGHBOUR

IN SYMPATHY

We offer our sincere sympathy to the family, relatives and friends of our parishioners who died recently.

Alison Moynihan, Leesdale.

Brian Hurley, College Road.

Mary Jones-O'Leary, Model Farm Road.

May they rest in peace.

NOTICE BOARD

Bishopstown Gramophone Circle:

Next meeting on Thursday, 27th March at 3.00pm in the Bishopstown Library. The presenter is John Hendrick.

"Thank You"

A big thank you to all who supported the Pancake Day in aid of the Cork City Hospitals Children's Club. €2,700 was raised on the day.

"The Spring Garden"

The Lough Flower & Garden Club are hosting a talk on "the Spring Garden" by Willie Grainger at the S.M.A. Wilton on Tuesday, 25th March at 8.00pm. All welcome.

To the Parish Council, the Liturgy Group, Fr Bertie, Fr Tom and parishioners of Ballineaspig.

On behalf of Dean Denis's extended family, I would like to offer sincere thanks for all your expressions of kindness and appreciation at Dean Denis's first anniversary Mass on Sunday 9th March. The new sculpture by Mike Wilkins is a beautiful memorial to Dean Denis and I know that he would have been deeply touched and honoured by it and the lasting affection from Ballineaspig parish that it conveys. All of us in Dean Denis's family were very pleasantly surprised and delighted to see the sculpture for the first time; it was a very well kept secret! We hope and trust that all who knew him in this life will think fondly and joyfully of Dean Denis each time they stop and admire the sculpture. Dean Denis's family was also delighted to see the publication of a selection of his contributions to the parish bulletin, compiled and edited by Anne O'Riordan; it is a lovely tribute to Dean Denis for those who appreciated his writings.

With heartfelt thanks,
Denis O'Mahony (nephew).

A request from Pope Francis !

Pope Francis has asked that a Church in each diocese throughout the world would be designated for continuous confessions from **Friday evening, March 28th to Saturday evening, March, 29th, the eve of Laetare Sunday.**

In the Diocese of Cork and Ross, St. Francis Church, Liberty Street has been designated for this purpose and priests will be available throughout the day and night to hear confessions there.

Confession is an important part of the Lenten observance and is a Sacrament of welcome and mercy for the penitent.

The **Parish Liturgy Group** acknowledges the many compliments received relating to the sculpture in memory of our late Dean Denis O'Connor.

The celebration of his Anniversary Mass followed by the Blessing of the memorial, was a fitting tribute to a man who gave great service to his parishioners.

We thank all who supported us in this project and should anyone wish to contribute towards the cost, the fund will remain open until Easter Sunday, through the Sacristy or Parish Office.

Creation Matters **Earth Hour 2014**

Earth Hour is a symbolic event, in which all but essential electric light is turned off in cities and towns worldwide. This is to remind us of our **carbon footprint** and the fact that our current use of natural resources exceeds the regenerative capacity of the Earth, **depleting the very resources on which biodiversity and human life depend.**

**Join us in the Crypt on Saturday 29th
March for Earth Hour, from 8.30 to
9.30 pm for music, poetry and readings by
candlelight**

LENTEN CORNER



Eighth Station of the Cross: The Women of Jerusalem weep for Jesus.

Even in His own personal suffering, Jesus still took time to meet and console the women of Jerusalem.

Lord, help me to follow your selfless ways. When I feel the personal overload of life, let me be awakened to the suffering of others which makes my anguish seem trivial.

*(A reflection on "Making time for others" from the
Trócaire Lenten Resource Booklet).*

Weekend

Lent 3 - Year A

Patrick Killeen

Psalm:

D M S L L L S S M R M F M D R D



O that to - day you would list - en to his voice! Hard - en not your hearts.