

Ballineaspig Bulletin



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK

8th February, 2015

The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

No: 1243

**MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS
FOR THE 23rd WORLD DAY OF THE SICK 2015 (11th February, 2015)**

Sapientia Cordis

"I was eyes to the blind, and feet to the lame" (Job 29:15)

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

On this, the twenty-third World Day of the Sick, begun by Saint John Paul II, I turn to all of you who are burdened by illness and are united in various ways to the flesh of the suffering Christ, as well as to you, professionals and volunteers in the field of health care.

This year's theme invites us to reflect on a phrase from the Book of Job: "I was eyes to the blind, and feet to the lame" (*Job* 29:15). I would like to consider this phrase from the perspective of "*sapientia cordis*" – the wisdom of the heart.

1. This "wisdom" is no theoretical, abstract knowledge, the product of reasoning. Rather, it is, as Saint James describes it in his Letter, "pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, without uncertainty or insincerity" (3:17). It is a *way of seeing things infused by the Holy Spirit* in the minds and the hearts of those who are sensitive to the sufferings of their brothers and sisters and who can see in them the image of God.

2. *Wisdom of the heart means serving our brothers and sisters.* Job's words: "I was eyes to the blind, and feet to the lame", point to the service which this just man, who enjoyed a certain authority and a position of importance amongst the elders of his city, offered to those in need. Today too, how many Christians show, not by their words but by lives rooted in a genuine faith, that they are "eyes to the blind" and "feet to the lame"! They are close to the sick in need of constant care and help in washing, dressing and eating. This service, especially when it is protracted, can become tiring and burdensome. It is relatively easy to help someone for a few days but it is difficult to look after a person for months or even years, in some cases when he or she is no longer capable of expressing gratitude. And yet, what a great path of sanctification this is! In those difficult moments we can rely in a special way on the closeness of the Lord, and we become a special means of support for the Church's mission.

3. *Wisdom of the heart means being with our brothers and sisters.* Time spent with the sick is holy time. It is a way of praising God who conforms us to the image of his Son, who "came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many" (*Mt* 20:28). Jesus himself said: "I am among you as one who serves" (*Lk* 22:27).

4. *Wisdom of the heart means going forth from ourselves towards our brothers and sisters.* Occasionally our world forgets the special value of time spent at the bedside of the sick, since we are in such a rush; caught up as we are in a frenzy of doing, of producing, we forget about giving ourselves freely, taking care of others, being responsible for others. Behind this attitude there is often a lukewarm faith which has forgotten the Lord's words: "You did it unto me" (*Mt* 25:40).

5. *Wisdom of the heart means showing solidarity with our brothers and sisters while not judging them.* Charity takes time. Time to care for the sick and time to visit them. True charity is a sharing which does not judge, which does not demand the conversion of others; it is free of that false humility which, deep down, seeks praise and is self-satisfied about whatever good it does. Even when illness, loneliness and inability make it hard for us to reach out to others, the experience of suffering can become a privileged means of transmitting grace and a source for gaining and growing in *sapientia cordis*.

6. I entrust this World Day of the Sick to the maternal protection of Mary, who conceived and gave birth to Wisdom incarnate: Jesus Christ, our Lord.

O Mary, Seat of Wisdom, intercede as our Mother for all the sick and for those who care for them! Grant that, through our service of our suffering neighbours, and through the experience of suffering itself, we may receive and cultivate true wisdom of heart!

With this prayer for all of you, I impart my Apostolic Blessing.

FRANCIS

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N.B REMINDER—WEEKLY COLLECTION
ENVELOPES

2015 collection envelopes still available for collection from the **Parish Office** during opening hours 9.30am to 12.30pm weekdays.

NOTICE BOARD

Bulletins to the Home:

Bulletins will be delivered to all homes in the Parish next weekend—14th/15th February, 2015.

Lourdes Invalid Pilgrimage Fund:

The annual collection will take place at all Masses ***this weekend, 7th/8th February, 2015***, to enable invalids visit Lourdes.

Lourdes Pilgrimage 2015—Young Adult Helpers:

The Diocese of Cork & Ross invites Young Adult 18-30 year olds to come to Lourdes as helpers from the 11th to the 16th June. Helpers will assist with the sick who travel with the diocese and be involved in the full pilgrimage programme, there will be free time, time for prayer, for making new friends and sharing in the story of Lourdes. Limited numbers of places. For more details or to book a place contact Fr. Charlie Kiely (021) 4537603 or e-mail charliekiely@gmail.com.

The Alzheimer Society of Ireland:

Cork City Branch—Carer's Support Meeting on Wednesday, 11th February from 3pm to 4.30pm at Bessboro Day Care Centre, Cork. All welcome. Contact: (021) 4972504.

Alzheimer Society of Ireland—Saturday Club:

THERE WILL BE NO SATURDAY CLUB IN FEBRUARY. However, PURPLE POPS will perform on Tues. 17th Feb. at 8pm in the Cork Arts Theatre, Camden Court, Carroll's Quay. For further information contact (021) 4972504.

"Heart Throbs":

Bishopstown & Ballincollig Cardiac Support Group—next meeting Monday, 9th February, 2015 at the Bishopstown Library, Wilton Shopping Centre from 11am to 1pm.

Is Jesus Calling You?

Vocation afternoon on Saturday, 14th February, 2015 from 1.30pm to 4.30pm at the Poor Clare Monastery, College Road, Cork for women discerning a religious vocation. See www.poorclarescork.ie or e-mail: vocationspoorclarescork@gmail.com.

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

CONTACT DETAILS

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Fr. Tom Clancy
4347616

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4344452

Emergency Number:
087-251 9940



Wednesday, 11th February, 2015
Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes
World day of the Sick.

Blessing of the sick will take place at the **10.30am Mass on Sunday, 15th February, 2015.** The blessing is available to everyone, so bring a friend or neighbour along and join us in praying for our sick.



Give unwanted clothes a new home and help your local girls secondary school.

The Parents Association at Mount Mercy College are hosting a Clothes Recycling Drive. They are simply looking for people to donate their old clothes, shoes, ties, handbags, household linens & textiles. Unfortunately we are not allowed to accept duvets or pillows. People can drop their bagged donations into Mount Mercy College on Thursday, 26th February 2015 from 9am to 3pm. It really is such an extremely simple & easy way to raise funds for a local school.

Missionary Visit

Each year a Missionary Order visit the Parish to share with us the story of their life and work throughout the world. At each Mass next weekend, February 21st/22nd, a Sister from the Columban Sisters will speak and alert us to our duty to bring the Gospel to the whole world.

E-mail: holyspiritparish@eircom.net

Website: www.dennehycrossparish.ie

Weekend Psalm:

Fifth Sunday in ordinary time - Year B Patrick Killeen

M R D M R D T S L L

Praise the Lord who heals the broken heart-ed.