

Ballineaspaig Bulletin



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK

13th December, 2015

Third Sunday of Advent

No: 1276

MASS TIMES

Sunday

9.00, 10.30, 12.15
Saturday Vigil 6.15pm

Weekdays

9.30am

Eve of Holydays

7.30pm

Holydays

9.00, 10.30 &
7.30pm

God's Word

Readings for **Sunday**
20th December, 2015

First Reading:
Mic 5: 1-4

Psalm: 79

Second Reading:
4 Heb 10: 5-10

Gospel:
Lk 1: 39-44

CONTACT DETAILS

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WHERE WILL I FIND HIM ?

The Christmas story reminds us once again that it was not man's idea that the Son of God should be born in a stable. Indeed, the first thing we learn from Jesus' birth is that the Lord will not always be where we expect to find him.

We tend to look for our God in the nice, the clean and the warm. We expect him to be in Churches and in the Scripture, in hymns of praise and in Christmas cards. If these are the only places we search for the Lord, then we're not looking in the stable. This reality is expressed with dramatic force in these lines from Michael Quoist's book, "Prayers":

"I am not made of plaster, nor of stone, nor of bronze. I am living flesh throbbing, suffering. I am among people and they have not recognised me. I am poorly paid. I am unemployed. I live in a slum. I am sick. I sleep under bridges. I am in prison. I am oppressed. I am patronised. I sweat blood on all battlefields. I cry out in the night and die in the solitude of battle and yet I said to them: "Whatever you do to my brothers or sisters, however humble, you do to me". That's clear, the terrible thing is that they know it, but don't take it seriously".

"Lord, give me eyes like yours that I may see. Give me your heart that I may reach out to others".

Arthur O'Callaghan.



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NOTICE BOARD

Bulletins to the homes:

Bulletins will be delivered to homes in the parish next weekend, 19th/20th December. Distributors please collect your bulletins on Friday, 18th.

Pastoral Council:

Next meeting on Monday 14th December, 2015 at 8.15pm in the Parish Centre.

St. Vincent de Paul:

The Christmas collection in aid of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul will take place at all Masses this weekend, 12th/13th December, 2015. Your generosity would be very much appreciated.

Bishopstown Library Gramophone Circle:

Final recital of the year on Thursday, 17th December, 2015 at 3.00pm in the Bishopstown Library. Admission free. Light refreshments available.

SHEP - Social Health & Education Project:

Supported by the H.S.E. this is an organisation which promotes wellbeing and empowers people in their daily lives through short and often free courses, training and low cost counselling in Ballincollig and Blackrock. For further information contact (021) 4666180.

Heart Throbs:

Bishopstown and Ballincollig Cardiac Support Group next meeting on Monday, 14th December, 2015 at the Bishopstown Library from 11am to 1pm. Speakers: Siobhan Duggan, H.S.E. and Sgt. Chris Cronin, Bishopstown Gardai. For further information contact (087) 2874106.

Youth 2000 Christmas Retreat:

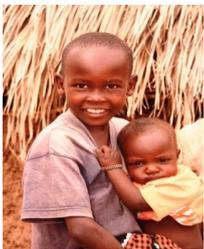
Youth 2000 invites all young adults between ages of 16-35 to a Catholic weekend retreat taking place from the 18th to 20th December, 2015 at Newbridge College, Co. Kildare. This will be an exciting weekend attracting over 600 young people from all over the country. For further information contact (01) 6753690.

Found:

Found a sum of money in the Church on Tuesday, 8th December, 2015. Please contact the Sacristy during Mass times.

Trocaire Gifts:

Help overseas struggling communities to work their way out of poverty by buying a Trocaire gift. For further details on the gifts visit <https://www.trocaire.org/gifts>.



CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2015 FOR
THE FEEDING PROGRAMME IN
OUR SISTER PARISH IN
TURKWEL, KENYA

Christmas Cards and gift vouchers
are now available in the Parish
Office after 9.30am Mass on
weekdays and after the weekend
Mass on 19th/20 Dec.

JUBILEE BELLS ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT

at
Church of the Descent of the Holy Spirit
on
Thursday, 17th December, 2015 at

7.30pm

featuring

Liam O'Leary, winner over 60's competition
Polyphonics Barbershop Chorus
Champagne Cork.



Hosted by: The Jubilee Bells.

Free entrance : Exit donation to
Cork Simon Community.

TRUST, THANKS, LOVE, FORGIVENESS:

Some months ago, I shared in preparing young children for their first experience of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. It was a privilege to share with parents and teachers in helping young children to focus on unconditional love and on our response to such love. The key response is thanks for the love even when there is regret for failure to live up to its invitations. Hopefully, it is at home and in school that children first experience and gradually advert to this extraordinary gift and then are led to an awareness of God's real relationship with them. The twin loves, human and divine, intertwine comfortably for children as they thrive in the pervasive reassurance. Such trust is a fragile plant. It needs to be nourished by affirmative truth and shielded from negative threats (e.g. God will not love you if).

Sometimes, we adults concentrate on our failures, our sins, our selfishness and lose sight of the foundational relationship of the Lord's unconditional love. It is only when we appreciate that gift that we are open to forgiveness. Forgiveness is a key aspect of love. It is a gift freely given by the lover and cannot be earned but only accepted and celebrated. Do not try to bargain with God. Trust Him as the children do. Their wisdom is contagious. Risk imitating them.

Next Sunday's *Reconciliation Service on the 20th December* at 5.00pm will be an opportunity to celebrate the loving kindness of our God.

Fr. Tom

Weekend Psalm:

Third Sunday of Advent - Year C

Patrick Killeen

L D R M M L' S D D R M S M R D R D T L L L

Sing and shout for joy for great in your midst is the ho-ly one of Is-ra-el.