

Ballineaspig Bulletin



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK

22nd January, 2017

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

No: 1321

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

THE POWER OF PRAYER

Elizabeth Leseur could best be described as an Apostle of Faith in a world of unbelief, living in an environment which was indifferent and hostile to her religious beliefs. Elizabeth had two great loves, God and her husband Felix. Felix loved Elizabeth as well, yet to their mutual sorrow, he could not share his wife's belief in God and her Catholic faith.

Occasionally their life in upper class Parisian society was shattered by Felix's frustration and impatience. How could such an intelligent woman waste her time, as he saw it, with ignorant superstitions? Sometimes he and his friends would even ridicule and mock her faith. Realizing that confrontation and arguments were useless, she chose instead to keep quiet praying for Felix and not allowing their home to become an emotional war zone. In her secret diary, she recorded how he created many petty obstacles to the practice of her faith, insisting that they serve guests meat on Fridays in violation of the abstinence laws.

Elizabeth's life was one long illness. For years she suffered from a severe liver complaint, followed by an attack of typhoid fever. She was then struck down by a terrible malady until aged forty eight when she died of cancer in 1914 having been married for twenty five years. Felix was still an atheist.

Felix himself takes up the story. "After her death, when everything around me seemed to collapse, I came upon the spiritual testament she had written for me and her journal too. I read and re-read them and a revolution took place in my whole moral being. Then I discovered that Elizabeth had contrived with God a pact vowing to exchange her life for my return to the faith. I remembered that one day she told me with absolute assurance: "I shall die before you and when I am dead, you will be converted and when you are converted you will become a Priest. You will be Fr. Leseur".

"And so from her journal, I perceived clearly the inner meaning of Elizabeth's existence so grand in its humility. I came to appreciate the splendour of the faith of which I had seen such wonderful effects. The eyes of my soul were opened, I turned to God who called me. I confessed my sins to a Priest and was reconciled with the Church".

Ordained as a Priest in the Dominican Order in 1923, Felix served as a renowned preacher for twenty seven years. He passed away in 1950. Elizabeth's cause for beatification, which was disrupted by World War II, reopened in Rome in 1990.

Arthur O'Callaghan.

God's Word

Readings for **Sunday**
29th January, 2017

First Reading:

Zeph 2:3,3:12-13

Psalm: 145

Second Reading:

1 Cor 1:26-31

Gospel:

Mt 5: 1-12

CONTACT DETAILS

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NOTICE BOARD

Bishopstown Library Gramophone Circle:

The next recital will take place on Thursday, 26th January, 2017 at 3.00pm in the Bishopstown Library. The musical presenter will be Sean O'Suilleabhain. Admission is free with light refreshments provided. All welcome.

Anam Cara:

The national organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding a Bereavement Information Evening on Wednesday 1st February from 19.30 to 21.30 in the Clayton Hotel, Silver Springs, Tivoli, Co. Cork. This is a free event open to all bereaved parents. As Anam Cara will need to confirm numbers for the event, please RSVP to info@anamcara.ie before Tuesday 31st January, 2017 or call the Information Line on 085 2888888.

Cork Scripture Group:

Cork Scripture Group is pleased to announce a course on "The God of Revelation" presented by Mons. Ned Goad. It is open to anyone with an interest in Scripture. It will be held on Mondays, 13th, 20th, 27th February and 6th March, 2017 from 7.30pm to 9.30pm in the Scala Centre, Blackrock, Cork (opposite Blackrock Castle). Saturday workshop on the 4th March, 2017 from 10.00am to 1.00pm in the Sacred Heart Hall, Western Road, Cork with well known Scripture Scholar, Fr. Michael Mullins from Waterford, who has written many commentaries on the Bible and he will present the morning on **The Beatitudes: A key to Unlocking Matthew's Gospel.**

Cost €50 (for the 4 nights & Saturday workshop).

To book a place or find out more please e-mail corkscripturegroup@gmail.com or phone (021) 4295144 before the 3rd February, 2017.

The Cork Folklore Project:

The Cork folklore Project presents an evening of Cork Stories and Memories on Wednesday, 1st February, 2017 at 6.30pm at the North Cathedral. All welcome - Admission free.

The Lough Flower Club:

The Lough Flower & Garden Club will hold the AGM on Tuesday, 24th January, 2017 at 8.00pm in the S.M. A. Centre, Wilton, Cork. The meeting will be followed by "Meet and Greet" with Alice Taylor to which visitors are very welcome.

"Come and See"

Vocations afternoon for women discerning a religious vocation on Saturday, 18th February, 2017 from 2.00pm to 4.30pm at the Poor Clare Monastery, College Road, Cork.

Check out: www.poorclarescork.ie or email: vocationspoorclarescork@gmail.com

Vocations to the Priesthood Weekend:

An invitation is extended to men between the ages of 18 and 40 who are interested in the Diocesan priesthood as a way of life to join with others for a weekend from Friday, 17th at 6.00pm to Saturday, 18th February, 2017 at 3.00pm which will take place in Thurles, Co. Tipperary. There is no charge to attend the weekend - please contact Fr. Charlie Kiely on (021) 4537603 or at charliekiely@gmail.com for further details.



IN SYMPATHY

We offer our sincere sympathy to **Kathleen Lowney**, Kenley, Model Farm Road on the recent death of her mother, Annie Lowney (Castletownbere).

May she rest in peace.

BIBLE CORNER

THE YEAR AHEAD



Very often when I ask a person what brought them to live in Cork, the answer is "the job". Whether it was the professions, public service, construction, commercial or manufacturing, it was here the opportunity was for them when they were setting out in life. It was like that for Jesus too, when he left Nazareth and settled in Capernaum. It was in that seaside town that the best opportunity was to build up God's kingdom on earth by creating deeper awareness of God's loving presence through preaching and through gathering together a community of believers that we call church as we read this weekend's gospel.

Mathew's Gospel, which will be the backbone of our Sunday's gospels in 2017, has a vision of God creating a church, a community called to be a peacemaker, to always seek justice, to be poor in spirit. As he called Peter and Andrew, then James and John, he called each one of us to share in that vision, to live it, to bring its hope and love to the world of our daily lives. Throughout the year, Matthew's gospel will alert us again and again to that invitation and will nourish the vision in our hearts. Treat yourself to the text of Matthew's gospel.

Fr. Tom.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 2017 (JANUARY 18TH TO 25TH)

Prayer:

Triune God,
We thank you for this week of Prayer
That has brought us together as Christians
And that has enabled us to experience
Your presence in different ways.
Grant us ways to praise your holy name together
So that we continue to seek reconciliation and
grow towards unity.

Email: holyspiritparish@eircom.net

Website: wwwwww.dennehyscrossparish.ie