

Ballineaspaig Bulletin



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK

11th December, 2011

Third Sunday of Advent

No: 1118

MASS TIMES

Sunday

9.00, 10.30, 12.15
Saturday Vigil 6.15pm

Weekdays

9.00, 10.00

Eve of Holydays

7.30pm

Holydays

9.00, 10.30 &
7.30pm



J.M.J. + F.C.C.

Poor Clare Colettine Monastery,
College Road,
Cork.

PRAISED BE JESUS CHRIST!

"O marvellous humility! O astonishing poverty! The King of Angels, the Lord of Heaven and earth, is laid in a manger". These words of St. Clare take a special meaning for us at this time of year. Like nature we too slow down! Our parlours are closed since the beginning of November until after Christmas, a tradition that dates back to St. Clare's own time - a sort of extended Advent which gives us a little extra space to prepare for the Birth of Christ - 'a space in the heart where everyone is called to union with Christ'.

It leaves a more silent atmosphere about the monastery though not an empty silence but one that's filled with expectancy, hope and the promise of God's eternal Son. We look forward to our annual three day retreat usually given by a Franciscan. Our daily routine is much the same, but we try to do everything with greater attentiveness, watching and waiting for God's gentle Presence, taking Mary, our Mother as our perfect model. It's a bit like those who play gaelic or soccer, while keeping one eye on the ball you're always heading towards the goal! Of course our goal is union with Jesus!

Our preparation for Christmas takes place mainly in and through the Liturgy, (*Holy Mass, the divine Office, pondering God's Word, Eucharistic Adoration, the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the Rosary*) which brings Jesus into our lives as individuals and as a community and even far beyond the enclosure walls.

The Crib, of course, is central to our celebration of Christmas. The Love of God, our Father, revealed in the gift of His divine Son greatly inspired and influenced the lives of Sts. Francis and Clare. "I wish to do something that will recall to memory the little child who was born in Bethlehem and set before our bodily eyes some of the inconveniences of his infant needs... how he lay upon the hay where He had been placed". (*St. Francis*) and so the First Crib came into being. After the celebration of Holy Mass on Christmas Eve, we keep an all night vigil before our Eucharistic King in the Blessed Sacrament, with our Lady and St. Joseph, where we remember you, your family and friends and people in need all over the world.

During the Christmas Season, we enjoy our family visits catching up on family news and on Santa too!

In union with our Lady we pray that Jesus, the Prince of Peace, will reign in your hearts and homes this Christmas.

A Poor Clare Sister

God's Word

Readings for Sunday
18th December

First Reading:

2 Sam 7: 1-5,8-
12,14,16

Psalm; 88

Second Reading:

Rom 16:25-27

Gospel:

Luke 1:26-38

CONTACT DETAILS

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NOTICE BOARD

Bulletins to Homes:

Bulletins will be delivered to all homes in the parish next weekend.

Pastoral Council:

Next meeting on Monday, 12th December at 8.15pm in the Parish Centre.

Ballincollig/Bishopstown & District Cardiac Support:

Next meeting on Monday, 12th December at Bishopstown Library, Wilton Shopping Centre from 11am to 1pm. For further information contact (021) 4872626.

Parish Reconciliation Service

NEXT WEEKEND

SUNDAY 18TH AT 5.00PM

Prepare the Way of the Lord

*Give yourself a gift of peace for Christmas
A Parish celebration of healing,
forgiveness and God's love.*

Children's Mass on Christmas Eve at 6.15pm

On Monday 19th December at 3.00pm we will have a gathering in the church of schoolchildren who wish to take part in the Christmas Eve Mass. We need a number of willing parents to help with the smooth running of this event. Please contact Fr. Kieran at 4346940.



At the invitation of "Jubilee Bells"
Ballineaspig



*"Come all ye faithful"
Young and Old
Welcome the Christ
Child
In Music and Song*

*featuring local childrens' groups,
"Polyphonics" and "Champagne Cork"
Congregational singing of much loved
carols*

*Church of the Descent of the Holy Spirit
Friday December 16th 2011 at 7.30pm
Donations to Soc. Of St. Vincent Paul appreciated*



**Weekend
Psalm:**



BIBLE CORNER



"PROMISE THE SPIRIT"

This weekend's First Reading is part of a song "Songs of the First Return", written immediately after the Hebrews return to a devastated Jerusalem. With words from this song or poem, Jesus announced that the messianic era had come. "Spirit" always signals a stupendous work of God. The Spirit had been promised to the Messiah and later was assured to all his followers. The spirit creates God's new paradise.

The word "anointed" in the Reading is linked with the preaching and the hearing of the word of faith. It means a getting to know God's word and a strengthening to follow it.

Metaphors are abundant but the basic idea looks to the total salvation of God's people - bodily, spiritually, individually and morally.

Fr. Tom

The Eucharistic Congress Bell



The Eucharistic Congress Bell is presently travelling through our Diocese. Last Sunday evening it was brought to the Poor Clare Chapel in time for Rosary and Evening Prayer. It was a privilege for me to be invited to take part in the reception ceremony.

The Bell was taken in procession by four people, followed by four others bringing the four new beautifully written icons:- Our Lady of Refuge, Pantocrator, The Prophet Elijah and Pentecost. As a Parishioner from the Church of the Descent of the Holy Spirit, it was an honour to take the Pentecost icon. The Bell is normally kept by the Dominican Sisters in Portstewart and was last rung in Glendalough for the Jubilee Year 2000. The significance of the Bell on pilgrimage around Ireland is calling God's people to prayer and to communion with Christ and one another in preparation for the Eucharistic Congress in June 2012.

Mary O'Herlihy

2012 COLLECTION ENVELOPES

Please collect your weekly offering envelopes for 2012 at the back of the Church before or after the weekend Masses on 11th/12th December. If you are not already participating, you are welcome to join the scheme. Explanatory leaflets are available in the Church, from the Parish Office or from any of the Priests.