

Ballineaspig Bulletin



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
DENNEHY'S CROSS, CORK

12th January, 2014

The Baptism of the Lord

No: 1201

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

THE MYSTERY OF THE EPIPHANY

This week the Church celebrated the great Feast of the Epiphany, the Adoration of Jesus by the Wise Men (The Magi). Some time ago, Pope Benedict in an article on the Mission of the Wise Men, reflected on their story and journey to Bethlehem.



The Wise Men from the East embody the men and women in every age who set out on the way which leads to Bethlehem. These men who journeyed into the unknown were of men restless hearts, driven by a restless quest for God. God had placed a yearning in their hearts to find a deeper meaning to life and to our existence on this planet. These were men who sought God and were ultimately on the way towards him. They were seekers after God.

The Wise Men, were above all, men of courage and humility, born of faith. Courage was needed to grasp the meaning of the star as a sign to set out, to go forth towards the unknown, the uncertain paths filled with hidden dangers. We can imagine their decision was met with derision and scorn. Anyone who took off on such a journey, on the basis of such uncertain promises, risking everything could only appear ridiculous. But for the Wise Men, seeking the truth meant more than the taunts of the world, they followed the star and thus came to Jesus, to the great light which enlightens everyone coming into this world. With great joy, they pay homage to the Prince of Peace, offering Gold to proclaim Christ's Kingship, Frankincense to adore His Godhead and Myrrh to acknowledge His mortality. As pilgrims of faith, the Wise Men themselves became stars shining in the firmament of history and they show us the way.

Arthur O'Callaghan.

CONTACT DETAILS

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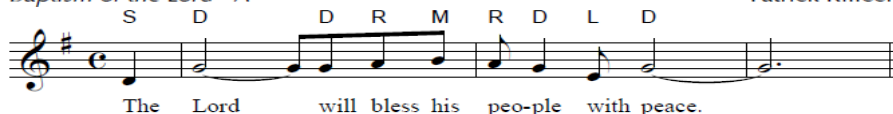
Parish Office
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Emergency Number:
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Weekend Psalm:

Baptism of the Lord - A

Patrick Killeen



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

NOTICE BOARD

Bulletins to the homes:

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

"Heart Throbs"

Bishopstown & Ballincollig Cardiac Support Group—next meeting on Monday 13th January, 2014 at Bishopstown Library from 11.00am to 1.00pm. New members always welcome. Contact: (021) 4872626.

Alzheimer Society of Ireland—Cork Branch

Next meeting of Saturday Club on Saturday, 18th January, 2014 from 2pm to 4pm at Bessboro Day Care Centre..

Turkvel Christmas Appeal:

Sincere thanks to all who responded so generously to our Christmas appeal for food for children in our sister parish in Turkvel, Kenya. A total of €2,228 was donated. Thank you!

A note for your Diary: - Asylum Seekers and Us

All are invited to participate in a discussion on "Asylum Seekers and Us". Short presentations will be made by a number of people who have first-hand personal experience followed by a general discussion on Tuesday, 21st January from 8.00pm to 9.30pm in the Crypt. See next week's bulletin for further information. Faith in Action Group.

Bishopstown Community School:

Bishopstown Community School Adult Education are now taking enrolments for spring 2014. Our enrolment night will take place on Wednesday, 15th January, 2014 from 7.00pm to 8.00pm. Old customers welcome.

Lourdes 2014—Young Adults.

For the fourth year we are inviting young adults 18-35 to come to Lourdes with the diocese in our "Come and see and be a helping hand" programme. They will assist with the sick who travel with the diocese and be involved in the full pilgrimage programme as well as time for prayer, for making new friends and sharing in the story of Lourdes. For more details/to book a place contact: Sr. Karen at (021) 4537601.

Communion Pyx:

Are you in possession of a Pyx that you no longer use? If so, could you please return same to the Sacristy during Mass times.

REMINDER!

The 2014 Collection Envelopes are available in the **Parish Office** after all Masses this weekend for those who are already signed on and those who might wish to do so for 2014.

BIBLE CORNER



A Baptismal Invitation:

A good leader can present the most demanding challenge as a privileged invitation to courageous service. There is no stamping the ground or no issuing threats of calamity or punishment. There is a guarantee of unfailing support. The predicted outcome is filled with hopefulness.

Such qualities are also found in Isaiah in this weekend's First Reading as he foretells what Jesus the Messiah will achieve. He will bring true justice to the nations". "He will serve the cause of right". "He does not quench the wavering flame" and so on.

As he begins these enormous tasks, Jesus is first baptised by John. Then endowed with the Holy Spirit, Jesus is equipped for the calls ahead. But Jesus is not the only one so called. Each of us, you and I, are called in baptism to face the same challenges. Each one is to be a servant in whom God delights, to bring justice to our world, to open the eyes of the blind.

It would be more comfortable to think that what Isaiah said applied only to the Messiah, but it applies to you and me and all the baptised. Such is our privileged calling. Dare we shirk the calling!

Fr. Tom.

CHRISTMAS CROSSWORD

by Portia

Portia was delighted with such a large number of entries. Thank you!

We drew the following winners:

Susan Ahern, Greenfields

and

Rosaline O'Keeffe, Laurel Bank.

Congratulations!

