THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER

Sunday 05-October-2003

Emigrant Sunday

The original relationship of man and woman in marriage was to be that of perfect union, a union brought about by God himself. In today's gospel, Jesus restates this ideal understanding of marriage and calls for it to be taken seriously.

St. Mary & St. John Station Road



Christ Our Light Innishmore

The Sanctity of Marriage

We are all aware that God's creation includes marriage, sex, and family life. The words of Jesus in the Gospel, acknowledge that family life is part of God's plan for us, from the beginning.

We are inclined to think that in the area of family life, man is supreme but this of course is not true, we need God, in order to find happiness in the areas of marriage, sex, and family life. After all our human nature was designed by God our creator.

It is true that so many of us live by social pressure, by conformity, by absorption into the general culture? Many of us simply think in accord with what others around us think? Many of our thoughts are, formed by the world of media, school, and friends yet we often think of ourselves as autonomous, as free, as independent agents, with our own ideas and values. Every generation does this, and every generation is deceiving itself.

In fact, we need to rely more on God, through His Word in Scripture, and on His wisdom expressed in our common faith and practice. In fact, we must decide that we rely either on the general culture that surrounds us or on the Church, St. Augustine tells us ''we live in the City of God or in the City of Man'', but in the real world, we live in both cultures; and as both influence us, we experience tension, confusion, and doubt.

In view of today's Gospel, we consider the question of marriage and divorce. Note what Jesus says in the Gospel. His teaching is the practice of the Church. Neither husband nor wife can divorce the spouse and marry someone else.

Now, suppose two people cannot live together. They just don't get along, at all. They have serious reasons for separating. As far as the Gospel is concerned, yes, they can separate, but they remain married and so cannot marry again, while the spouse is living. But As the Lord tells us elsewhere, 'Let him who is without sin cast the first stone'' and let us be merciful and supportive to those who find themselves unable to continue in marriage.

Today, let us pray for all married couples, for all families, for all people approaching marriage, and particularly for those who are in difficult marriages, that they will be blest with wisdom, maturity, grace, and with patience and perseverance.

Thought for Today

By the very title "parent" we are accustomed to doing and giving, mostly for our children, but certainly for others as well. That is why the notion of today's gospel is probably one of the hardest for parents to accept. Jesus clearly lets us know that the Kingdom of God is a gift, given to us freely by God. It isn't something we can volunteer for, clip coupons for, or negotiate. Our children, if we let them, will show us how freely and innocently we can accept this gift. Pay special attention to your child(ren) over the next few days and see if you can pick up any of their wisdom about the gift God offers each of us.

May the Lord bless us all the days of our life.

Visit Our Website: www.ballincolligparish.ie

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Priest

Let us make our prayers known to God our creator

Reader

For those called to witness to Christ in today's world, that the Spirit may be powerfully with them. Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For all those filled with the Spirit at Baptism and Confirmation that the same Spirit may sustain them in difficult moments.

Lord, Hear us, Lord, graciously hear us.

For people who want so much to believe, but find it hard, that the gift of a strong faith may be given them.

Lord, Hear us, Lord, graciously hear us.

For our emigrants and all who are away from home, that our support may remind them of God's care for them. Lord, Hear us, Lord, graciously hear us.

For all who have died in Christ, that they may be part of God's flock forever. Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For our own needs, for those who have asked our prayers, whom we remember in silence. Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

Priest

O God you are our rock, you made us and know all our needs, listen to our prayers, through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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BAPTISMS

WE WELCOME TO OUR COMMUNITY ALL THOSE WHO WERE BAPTISED RECENTLY :

Michael Robert Duncan, The Green, Coolroe Meadows. Amy Mary Kathleen Coleman, 45 The Willows, Classis Lake. Katie Mary Downey, 29 Innishmore Grove. Sophie Mary O'Driscoll, 52 Rosewood Estate.

MARRIAGES

CONGRATULATIONS TO: Niall Langan, 9 The Elms, Classis Lake & Ann Mary Dempsey, Classis Lake. Thomas Delaney, Rathduff, & Selina Murphy,184 Rosewood.

† IN SYMPATHY **†** PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF THE RE-CENTLY DECEASED :

Cecelia Leahy, Carrigrohane Christine Cody, Rosewood

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS OF THE FOLLOWING WHOSE ANNIVERSARY OCCURS:

Mary & Patrick McGrath, North Mall William & Julia Burke, Vicarstown John Lucey, Gillabbey Street Eileen Walsh, Cathedral Road Rosena Collins Sheila & Dan O'Donovan Deceased members McCarthy family, Carriganarra Marie Deasy, Bandon. Tony McMahon, Mallow Road. Thomas and Mary O'Mahony, Ballydehob. Con Murphy, Macroom. Michael Barry Murphy, Carriganarra. Patrick and Margaret Kelly, Inchigeela. Dan Buckle, Whitechurch. Francis Mitchenson, Bermingham. Alice & Mick Bolger, Wexford. Liam Farrell, Maglin. Finbar Kearney. Bernard Boylan, 55 Maple Lawn. Mary O Mahony, Clash Road. Paddy Fitton, Ballyshoneen Donor & Special intentions

Cork Craft Network

In association with **ISPCC**

Presents Craft and Healing Fair At Ballincollig GAA Club Sunday 5th October 11 am to 6 pm Free Craft Workshops, Trade Stands Organic Café, Tarot, Healers, Face Painting Raffle Entrance €2 Children €1 Proceeds to ISPCC Info Helen Stone 021 7437940

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

TWENTY SEVENTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

05 Sunday Gen. 2: 18-24. Ps. 127. Heb. 2:9-11. Mk. 10:2-16. Lect 1:807

06 Monday Jon. 1: 1-2: 1, 11. Ps. Jon. 2:3-8. Lk. 10:25-37. Lect ll:350

07 Tuesday Jon. 3:1-10. Ps. 129. Lk. 10:38-42. Lect ll:353

08 Wednesday Jon. 4:1-11. Ps. 85. Lk. 11:1-4. Lect ll:355

09 Thursday Mal. 3: 13-20 Ps. I. Lk. 11 :5-13. Lect ll:357

10 Friday Joel 1:13-15. 2:1-2. Ps. 9. Lk. 11:15-26. Lect ll:359

11 Saturday Joel 4:12-21. Ps. 96. Lk. 11:21-28. Lect ll:362

Ballincollig Parish Pastoral Council

The 41st meeting of the council will be held in the Community Centre, on Monday October 6th at 7.45 pm

Lectio Divina

Fr. Michel de Verteuil, the renowned Lectio Divina teacher from Trinidad, will be in Cork from October 13th to 16th, 2003. He will conduct four sessions entitled "Deepening your Lectio Divina Practice" from Monday, October 13th to Thursday, October 16th, 2003 each evening from 7.30 pm to 9.30 pm.

The venue will be St Aloysius School, Sharman Crawford Street, Cork. For further details, please contact Sr. Elma Coakley, Tel: 021-4811453.

Suicide Helpline 1800 742 745

6 to 10 pm daily

The Southern Health Board will provide advice, support and assistance to individuals who are feeling suicidal and to family members, friends, professionals and others who know someone who is showing symptoms of depression, anxiety or who is threatening suicide or self-harm.

Mass Book

Reserving Masses for October, November & December St. Mary & St. John fully booked Some bookings still available for Christ Our Light.

CROWLEY FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Bóthar Saclay, Ballincollig, Co. Cork Tel: 021-4874777 Mobile: 087-2759254 Complete Funeral Arrangements 24 Hour Service Embalming Service Member I.A.F.D. Golden Charter Funeral Pre-Planning Available

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THE SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading: Genesis 2:18-24

Here is the origin of marriage. Man and woman are created to be partners. Man and woman are created different, by the hand of God. Man and woman are united, in one body.

Second Reading: Hebrews 2:9-11

In today's reading, Jesus Christ is described as our leader. Since we have the same father as He does, we are His brothers and sisters.

Gospel Mark 10:2-16:

Marriage is the core topic in today's readings. Marriage is the greatest vocation in life and it demands a generosity and commitment that are almost too much for us mere mortals. There are marriages that are failures, which break up, bringing in their train deep and painful wounds. The marriage rituals says" In becoming husband and wife you give yourselves to each other for life. You promise to be true and faithful, to support and cherish each other, so that your years together will be a living out in love of the pledge you now make. May your love for each other reflect the enduring love of Christ for his people. " Lord bless all married couples trying to live this commitment. Today we might keep in our prayers and thoughts all those people who are bereaved by death or separation.

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SAINT OF THE WEEK

Our Lady of the Rosary 07-October-2003

At the end of the fifteenth century Islam was the great threat to Christian Europe.(Thinking of September eleventh one might ask: "Does anything ever change?".) In 1498 the Turks occupied the Greek city of Lepanto directly East of the toe of Italy. This Islamic presence just across a narrow sea from Southern Italy remained in place until 1571 when a combined Papal, Spanish, Venetian and Genoese fleet under Don John of Austria set out to defend Italy and the rest of Western Europe.

On the first Sunday of October 1571, huge Rosary processions took place in Rome asking Our Lady's protection for Christianity. On that very day, October 7th., the Christian forces gained a spectacular victory over the Turkish fleet. Fifteen Turkish ships were sunk and 177 taken. 15,000 Christian rowers, slaves on the Turkish galleys were liberated. It was the first great defeat of Islam at sea.

Pope St. Pius V ordered that a commemoration of the Rosary should be made on that day and some 200 years later after another victory over the Turks in Hungary the Pope extended the Feast of the Holy Rosary to the universal Church. Pope Leo XIII added to the Litany of Loreto the invocation "Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, pray for us."

There was nothing new about the Rosary on the day of the Battle of Lepanto. A century before that the Dominican Order had been organizing the Confraternity of the Holy Rosary all over Europe. Catholics both in England and Ireland made the Rosary their particular devotion always turning to the Mother of God at times of special need. For those who love the Rosary in life it becomes a symbol of their Faith entwined in their dead fingers at the end of life.

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER

NAOMI

National
Association of the
Ovulation
Method of
Ireland Ltd.

FOR INFORMATION ON Pre-marriage Courses, Natural Family Planning, Achieving a Pregnancy Menopause Counselling Contact N.A.O.M.I., 36 Washington Street, Cork. Tel: 021-4272213 Tuesday to Friday, Office Hours

FATIMA APOSTOLATE BALLINCOLLIG.

The monthly meeting of the apostolate will be held on Monday 6th October 2003, at 7pm in the Youth House, Station Road, Ballincollig.

Meetings are held on the first Monday of each month. Do come along to our meeting to obtain more information about the apostolate.

Present members and new members are all very welcome

The Ten Commandments

I am the Lord your God, you shall have no other gods besides me.

Do I worship God in spirit and truth and give God the praise due him? Do I make a god out of my work, my possessions, or my image in the eyes of others so that these rule my life instead of God? Have I tried to grow in the knowledge of God through daily prayer and scripture reading? Have I ever dabbled in the occult or given credence to horoscopes, ouija boards, channeling, tarot cards, or fortune telling? Have I taken time to teach my family about the ways of God and to pray with them?

(Next week a reflection on the second commandment)

EMIGRANT SUNDAY

On this Emigrant Sunday, let us send greetings to all the natives of Ballincollig who live abroad. We hope that they are happy in their new lives and that they keep in contact with a family and friends at home. They are always welcome back to their native parish to arrange weddings or baptisms or even Confirmation for their children if they are living in a country where it may be difficult to arrange these sacraments. For many years the Irish Bishops' Commission for Emigrants and the Irish Commission for Prisoners Overseas have been working for Irish emigrants abroad. In Britain there is a network of Chaplaincy centres, immigrant counseling, Alcohol recovery projects, hostels, marriage preparation, etc. Similar services are provided in the United States with centres in Boston. Washington, New York, San Francisco, Atlanta, Los Angeles and San Diego. On continental Europe there are Irish priests based in Paris, Belgium, Copenhagen, Lisbon, Munich and Rome. For those who are planning to live abroad for some time there is an Emigrant Service located at 34, Paul St., Cork where information is offered as well as advice and counseling for emigrants and their families. The staff there will help with visa applications. An easy way for our emigrants to keep in touch with their native parish is to bring up the parish website:

www.ballincolligparish.ie.

Each week "The Parishioner" is carried on the website.

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