



Bandon Parish Bulletin

Parish: www.bandonparish.ie

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Sunday 28th April 2019 No. 2520

Second Sunday Of Easter Divine Mercy Sunday

Long years ago, when I was studying for the priesthood in the Irish College in Rome, we had the occasional presence of Monsignor Hugh O'Flaherty at the top table, and after dinner the tales and legends of his exotic activities during World War Two would be recalled and examined. The war had ended ten years previously, but all around us there were reminders of the deprivation and the sacrifices that everyone had endured, so we listened to the adventures of Mgr O'Flaherty with a certain admiration and at the same time with the cynicism that youth brings to every account of the past.

Year's later, the monsignor went on to achieve international acclaim, with a full scale Hollywood movie depicting his adventures and exploits during the war years, with Gregory Peck in the leading role. But that still lay in the future. To us, he was an official of some kind in the Vatican - which in itself lent him a certain prestige - but there was nothing exotic beyond that. He had rescued various Allied soldiers from the Gestapo during the war by hiding their identity in the bureaucracy of the Vatican, or by disguising them as anything from nuns to cardinals, but the war years were rife with tales of heroism and derring-do.

He continued as an official of the Vatican - known as a Notary - and in 1959, whether through conviction or obedience, I cannot say, he put his name to an official document which prohibited 'the spreading of images and writings advocating devotion to the Divine Mercy in the form proposed by Sister Faustina.' As a result there followed almost twenty years of utter silence, until eventually Pope John Paul II stepped in.

The irony of the situation is that in the intervening years Sister Faustina's doctrine of Divine Mercy has flourished, especially in Ireland, whereas few indeed can recall the name or the exploits of Mgr Hugh O'Flaherty.

Fr Michael Collins, Derry

FIRST READING

Acts 5:12-16

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

The numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily.

The faithful all used to meet by common consent in the Portico of Solomon. No one else ever dared to join them, but the people were loud in their praise and the numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily. So many signs and wonders were worked among the people at the hands of the apostles that the sick were even taken out into the streets and laid on beds and sleeping-mats in the hope that at least the shadow of Peter might fall across some of them as he went past. People even came crowding in from the towns round about Jerusalem, bringing with them their sick and those tormented by unclean spirits, and all of them were cured.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 117:2-4.22-27

R. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.

1. Let the sons of Israel say:

‘His love has no end.’

Let the sons of Aaron say:

‘His love has no end.’

Let those who fear the Lord say:

‘His love has no end.’

R.

2. The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.

This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes.

This day was made by the Lord;
we rejoice and are glad.

R.

3. O Lord, grant us salvation;

O Lord grant success.

Blessed in the name of the Lord
is he who comes.

We bless you from the house of the Lord;
the Lord God is our light.

R.

SECOND READING

Apo 1:9-13.17-19

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse.

I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever.

My name is John, and through our union in Jesus I am your brother and share your sufferings, your kingdom, and all you endure. I was on the island of Patmos for having preached God’s word and witnessed for Jesus; it was the

Lord's day and the Spirit possessed me, and I heard a voice behind me, shouting like a trumpet, 'Write down all that you see in a book.' I turned round to see who had spoken to me, and when I turned I saw seven golden lamp-stands and, surrounded by them, a figure like a Son of man, dressed in a long robe tied at the waist with a golden girdle. When I saw him, I fell in a dead faint at his feet, but he touched me with his right hand and said, 'Do not be afraid; it is I, the First and the Last; I am the Living One. I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever, and I hold the keys of death and of the underworld. Now write down all that you see of present happenings and things that are still to come.'

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 20:29

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus said: 'You believe because you can see me.

Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Jn 20:19-31

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

Eight days later, Jesus came.

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.' After saying this he breathed on them and said: 'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.' Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you', he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him: 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.' There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Tribute to Bishop John Buckley

Bishop John Buckley has served our Diocese as Bishop of Cork and Ross since his appointment in 1998. Bishop Buckley hails from the Parish of Uigh Loire (Inchigeela) Co. Cork. He studied for the Priesthood in St. Patrick's College, Maynooth and was ordained in 1965.

Bishop Buckley is a keen follower of sport and often attended sporting events in the Diocese and spent many evenings on the bowling roads of West Cork.

He is known for his pastoral care of the sick and frequent visits to those in hospital.

Bishop Buckley placed great importance in the involvement of Lay People in our Diocese and believed "*everyone should have a spoon in the soup*". He has valued and affirmed the contribution of every part of the Church.

In the words of St. Augustine "For you I am a bishop, but with you I am ... a Christian." Bishop Buckley has been both of these to us. Many can testify to his pastoral care and kindness in difficult times. Many are thankful that he has been a Bishop to the whole Diocese, frequently visiting parishes to join with them in thanksgiving and celebration.

All of us are grateful that, as our Bishop, he has prayed for us and cared for us.

*Thank you, Bishop Buckley and every good wish to you
from all in Bandon Parish.*

Bishop Fintan Gavin becomes our Bishop on June 30th.

From Saturday May 4th there will be only one evening weekend Mass. This will be at 6:00pm.

PRAYER MEETING Every Wednesday night at 8:00pm in St. Michael's Centre. All are welcome Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet.

MAY ROSARY Please join us as we pray the Rosary on Thursday nights at 8:00pm at the Grotto in New Road.

PUBLIC ROSARY Will be recited at the Grotto at Ardán every Tuesday at 7:30pm during the month of May.

GRAMOPHONE CIRCLE Monday April 29th at 8:00pm in Gateway Hall, Bandon.

CIT CAO INFORMATION EVENING Cork Institute of Technology will be holding a CIT CAO Information Evening on Thursday 2nd May from 6:00-8:00pm in the Nexus Hall, Student Centre, Bishopstown Campus.