



IRELAND. From Kennedy Airport to Shannon is 3,400 miles, and it takes only six hours. Ireland is five hours ahead of us in time. Our Courier-Journal group of 27 arrived at Shannon at 7:30 a.m. Irish time. It was Sunday. Passport control and customs were done. Our courier, a 50-year-old bachelor, Kevin Ryan, met us. His job was to take care of the bus, the baggage, hotels, meals and the tour schedule. Our bus took us off through storied Limerick, Adare, Tralee, and at 1 p.m. we were settled at our attractive Dunloe Castle Hotel near Killarney.

Wise travellers, after a long flight, take a steaming hot bath and go to bed for a couple of hours to adjust the body. That we did. At 6 p.m. Father Lane set up for Mass in a private dining room. After Mass, off to Great Southern Hotel in Killarney village for dinner at 8 p.m.

Great Southern Hotel is old, sprawling and attractively genteel. Across the road is a Franciscan Friary and Church. Adjacent to both is a "public convenience."

A few years ago, I had need of the convenience and was dismayed by the obscene graffiti and art on the walls within; quite different from the sole graffiti at another place, which read, "Say the rosary every day." To reform this condition became a challenge to my soul. On returning to the States, I wrote to the Killarney Town Council requesting they take steps to restore the walls to Christian decency. Mr. Sean Ashe, town clerk, replied, assuring me that the proper custodian had been instructed by the Town Council to keep the walls painted and decent.

I have little patience with people who begin a campaign and then lose interest. So each Christmas I send \$10 to the Franciscans to give that custodian. While our people were being settled for dinner, I dashed over to inspect the public convenience. Deo gratias! The walls were immaculate with heavy gray paint, and no obscenities.

So I popped over to the Franciscan Church, about 70 yards away, to give thanks to God. The regular Sunday evening service was concluding with Benediction. The Latin Tantum Ergo Sacramentum is still held in honor there.

The Ireland trip proceeded with the traditional jaunting cart ride, the Ring of Kerry beauties, the Blarney Castle stone kissing, six miles from Cork City. One night several of our group went to the local pub which is the social center of tiny Blarney village, and danced and sang with the villagers. They returned to our Blarney Castle Inn exhilarated by the fun.

While they were at the pub, I met with Mr. Sean Herley, a travel agent from nearby Dripsey. He is a Cork

man, about 40, handsome, intelligent, with a quiet wit. I asked him bluntly, "What kind of a Catholic are you? I admired his answer: "I suppose average. I believe every man needs a religion. I love the Mass but don't get involved with much else." Of President Carter, he said, "We Irish are fascinated by him, especially by the fact that an unknown could become President of the most powerful nation in the world."

All Ireland is about the size of Maine. The tragedy of North Ireland does not affect the Irish Republic greatly. Leon Uris's book, Trinity, gives the key to Belfast's troubles. However, if you want to see and feel the Ireland of sentiment and repartee, you should go there soon.

At the Burlington Hotel in Dublin, we had a late dinner and were served by a charming pixey, a boy about 15. A motherly woman said, "You should come to the United States." With a big smile, he shot back, "Many Americans say that, but no one gives me an address!"

Ireland is progressing materially, but not spiritually. Nevertheless, there is still strong faith, wit and humor, and a generosity of character which makes for "Ireland, Terrible Beauty."

FRIENDS, INC.

Friends, Inc., a social organization for single people, will sponsor an evening of square dancing June 24, beginning at 8 p.m. in the St. Charles Borromeo recreation hall, 64 Maiden Lane. Further information is available through 663-3230.

Retirement Party Planned For Father Fennessy

Father Robert H. Fennessy, retiring pastor of Holy Cross Parish, Rochester, will be guest of honor at a retirement party given by his parishioners beginning at 1 p.m. on Sunday, June 26. Father Fennessy, who is recovering from a heart attack at St. Ann's Home, has served as pastor since 1955.



FATHER FENNESSY

being sent, Mrs. McLaen said. Holy Cross parishioners and other friends of Father Fennessy are welcome.

The festivities, described by Kathleen McLaen, a Holy Cross Worship Team member, as a "small parish-family affair," feature a Mass in honor of the Sacred Heart, concelebrated by Father Fennessy and two other priests followed by a "small, informal outdoor reception."

No formal invitations are

Missionary Assigned To Korea

Maryknoll Sister Mary Lou Herlihy, a Rochester native, plans to leave for Korea this July following a brief visit with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas F. Herlihy of Reliance Street. This will be the second trip to Korea for Sister Mary Lou. She served there in 1969.

Sister Mary Lou, a graduate of Our Lady of Perpetual Help and Our Lady of Mercy High School, has recently completed a three year assignment in the U.S. where she trained as a clinical pastoral educator.

In Korea she hopes to work with young people and expects to live in a low-income area with other Maryknoll nuns. She said



SR. MARY LOU HERLIHY

she believes that to be a Christian is to "live in faith, mindful daily of Christ's words that we are to be leaven, salt and light."

THE OPEN WINDOW



Fr. Louis Hohman

Dear Father Hohman,

Why do we now say "Holy Spirit" instead of "Holy Ghost"?

The word ghost is an old English word which through the years began to have a meaning quite different from its original one. The word ghost is now associated with goblins and weird phenomena and haunted houses, etc. The word spirit comes from the Latin word for breath or life and therefore is able to convey much more richly the idea of the divine life which is the spirit of God. As a kind of breath or sigh it could much more aptly convey the idea of love which the Holy Spirit is. There is nothing at all wrong with the use of Holy Ghost but it has just seemed to be more appropriate to use the expression Holy Spirit. For those who like to remain rooted in the past, I would say "Go ahead, pray to the Father, Son and Holy Ghost".

Can a Catholic with children ever get an annulment?

First of all, the proper word or proper expression for annulment in the Roman Catholic Church is "declaration of nullity". This means that the Church declares that a particular

marriage never really existed right from the beginning because some essential element to the marriage was lacking. The Church does not nullify a previously existing marriage. That is basically the same as divorce. The fact of children being involved has really nothing to do with a declaration of nullity since the declaration is merely a statement of fact and if it is a fact that the contract is null and void that fact is simply stated. Declarations of nullity generally rest upon the fact that the form was defective or that the consent was not free. This lack of freedom of consent may be due to force or fear or simply immaturity the basic inability on the part of one or both of the partners to make a mature commitment to marriage.

FEAST DAY

Ss. Peter and Paul parishioners will celebrate their patronal feast day June 26 with a special 10 a.m. Mass that will include an installation ceremony for the Parish Council. Afterward, in the school hall, there will be refreshments, music and presentations from the archives. Former parishioners are invited to join in the celebration.

BIBLE SCHOOL

Our Lady of Mercy Parish School at 600 Denise Road is taking registrations this month for an ecumenical Bible School scheduled for Aug. 8-19. Details may be obtained through 865-2917 or 865-0775.

RUMMAGE SALE

Van Etten — The people of St. Pius X parish will hold a rummage sale June 16, 17 and 18 in the church hall. Hours are 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday and Friday, 9-noon Saturday.

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