



Rumblings from the Bunker

SINEAD

I met Sinead about three months ago now, and even though I feel a bit strange telling 'rumbling readers this, the truth is I hav'nt really got over it. I suppose to say she was gorgeous is a real cliché, but I am trying to find words and, unusually for me, I am not having much success.

As it happened we were both waiting in Ciampino airport in Rome on the same plane, that ended up delayed for nearly four hours. As anyone who knows me will testify I could sleep on a pin head. True to form, once I knew there would be no movement for a while I settled down for a good sleep.

I really don't know how long I was sleeping when I became conscious of a smell I never had before. I think I had been pulling it into a dream and that I was in a field of these little delicate flowers. I now know the smell was a perfume called 'Daisy Love', which I had never heard of. I have smelt it twice since then and feel a little embarrassed to admit that on each occasion I looked around for Sinead. On both occasions I felt a little sickly heart twinge on realizing that some other girls have also discovered 'Daisy Love'.

My nose tickled and wrinkled as I battled the perfume and then even though only semi-awake I was becoming conscious of a light weight pressing against my right shoulder. As I opened my eyes ever so slightly I realized that a girl who had been sitting beside me had obviously, totally unintentionally, herself nodded off and was now sleeping against my shoulder.

What to do? I mean I had absolutely no problem with this lovely lady resting her head against me. I would say my growing concern was more around how she herself would react, would she be embarrassed? Angry? Maybe she might even blame me. The other part of me was wondering was it mean to pull away or push away, was it somehow ungracious? Was it unchivalrous? Surely providing a shoulder to sleep on, was similar to providing a shoulder to cry on. Was my shoulder not in the tradition of the gallant gentleman's cloak cast onto the mud for the lady to tip over to dry land. Yea that's it, I was a modern day Lancelot. Dilemma solved.

No sooner than I had calmed my mental see-sawing than there was a stirring beside me.

'Oh I am so sorry! My apologies. I completely conked out there. I am really sorry!'

I think at that point I was fairly bowled over by her smile, her eyes and her voice, and if the order matters then I think that'll do.

The next hour and a half went by very fast indeed.

'So how long was I sleeping on your shoulder?'

'Oh I dunno, I didn't notice until the weight of your head... and then the snoring and...I suppose about two hours'

'Oh my God I am so embarrassed!'

'Hey relax I am joking probably only about ten or fifteen minutes.'

I could see her noticing my black clothes.

'Oh my God, are you a priest, Oh Father I am so sorry!'

'Actually it's Your Grace'

'Sorry?' Please tell me your not a Bishop!'

We laughed at that and more. We talked and we talked and gradually the encounter went deeper.

Whilst Sinead and I did not celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation we certainly met in the realm of the sacramental and the sacred. I was privileged to hear both her joy and her pain. I was very conscious of her sacrifice, in her deep care of people in her life who surely need her. Yet with all this, I was struck by her loneliness and her hope for something more. We resolved to pray for each other, that she might be surprised by the Lord in finding a good husband and that I might with each passing year become a better priest.

MASS INTENTIONS

Tony Buttner	Matt Curran	Molly Curran
William Curran	May Doyle	Jack Doyle
Sean Doyle	Jason Dunne	John Dunne
Kathleen Furey	Billy Griffiths	Mary Griffiths
Ann Hawthorne	Dorothy O'Reilly	John O'Reilly
O'Reilly Family		

Recent Funeral: Bridget Sloan

MASS TIMES

St. Matthew's
Saturday: Vigil Mass 6.30
Sunday: 09.00, 10.30, 12.00
Convent Mass @ 9.45
Weekdays:
Mon, Thur, Fri: 10.00
Wed 7.00pm
Tuesday: 10.00 Prayer Service

Weekly Collections

	Oct 21
First Collection	€ 805
Second Collection	€ 665
Family Offering	€ 580

November
Altar List of the Dead
 Envelopes are now available.
 Please put the completed
 Altar Lists of the Dead
 into the box on the altar
 or leave them in the sacristy.

BOOK OF THE WEEK

BEST LOVED prayers and words of Wisdom
Compiled by Martin H. Manser
Collins London 2009 Pp. 292

I was given this volume as a present last week by a friend that I had not met for ages. I have been dipping in and out of it since. It really is a beautiful 'anthology'. Lots of favorite Scripture passages, material going back to Origen, Thompson's The Hound of Heaven and much more. I have decided to keep it on the kitchen table to peruse periodically.

FAITH MOMENT

We believe that the Church continues Jesus' healing ministry in and through the sacraments in general, and the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick in particular.

ANNUAL MASS

FOR THE DEAD

THURSDAY 8TH NOVEMBER
AT 7.30 PM

St. Matthew's
We are looking for unwanted gifts
to use as raffle prizes.

Table Quiz in Aid of St. Matthew's
Come along and have a bit of fun
Thursday 15th Nov @ 8.00pm
in the back chapel of St. Matthew's
Table of 4 — €25
Raffle on the night
and light refreshments available

CONCERT 30th NOVEMBER

with special guests
The Flukey Ukes, 
Dublin Gospel Choir, 
Mary Byrne, Matt Dodd, Donna Dunne
Girls St. Louise's School
 **Boys St. Lorcan's Palmerstown**
 In aid of
St. Matthew's Church &
The Peter McVerry Trust 
 For details see notice boards or
Phone Ken: 086 236 5288 

Family Offering Envelopes

The Family Offering envelopes will be available Sat/Sun in church and in the Parish Centre from Monday to Friday 9.30 to 1.30. Please make sure you take the envelope with your name and address on it.

Thank you for supporting this collection, a very important contribution to the financial upkeep of the parish.

Eucharistic Ministers

IF YOU ARE ONE OF OUR CHERISHED EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS, OR YOU WANT TO BECOME ONE PLEASE PUT THESE DATES IN YOUR DIARY:

Tuesday November 20th at 7.30 pm
 Short meeting with Fr Joe
 regarding this beautiful ministry

Sunday December 2nd 12 noon Mass will include a Ceremony of Commissioning or Re-Commissioning of Eucharistic Ministers.

GOSPEL READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon 05/11	Lk 14: 12-14	ST. MARTIN DE PORRES, RELIGIOUS 'When you have a party invite the poor, the crippled.'
Tue 06/11	Lk 6: 20-26	ALL THE SAINTS OF IRELAND 'Alas for you when the world speaks well of you'
Wed 07/11	Lk 14: 25-33	'So in the same way none of you can be my disciple unless he gives up all his possessions'
Thu 08/11	Lk 15: 1-10	'There is rejoicing among the angels of God over one repentant sinner'
Fri 09/11	Jn 2: 13-22	THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA 'stop turning my Father's House into a market'
Sat 10/11	Lk 16: 9-15	'You are the very ones who pass yourselves off as virtuous in people's sight, but God knows your hearts'.