

Jesus loves us unconditionally, as we are with all our sins

THE good news about Jesus Christ was conveyed to me in a Limerick accent. My parents taught me my prayers, brought me to Mass, and by their example showed me how to live. The teachers in n Henry Street and C.B.S. schools continued this formation. So did the Fathers in the Confraternity of the Holy Family. That is how I got my idea of Jesus Christ. Where did you get your idea of Jesus Christ?

Gerard W. Hughes, S.J., in his book, *The God of Surprises*, says: "When we try to pray, we must have some idea of God in our minds, and this idea will influence how we pray and whether we pray."

As a university chaplain he heard students speak about their own understanding of God.

For them God was a family rela-

tive, admired by mam and dad, who described him very lovingly, a great friend of the family, very powerful and interested in all of us. Eventually, we are taken to visit Good Old Uncle George.

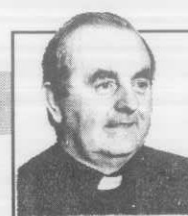
He lives in a mansion, is bearded, gruff and threatening. At the end of the visit, Uncle George says: "Now listen, dear," he says crossly, "I want to see you here once a week, and if you fail to come let me show you what will happen to you."

He takes us to the mansion's basement. It becomes hotter and hotter as we descend, and we hear unearthly screams. In the basement there are steel doors. Uncle George opens one. "Now look in there, dear," he says.

We see a nightmare vision, blazing furnaces with little demons, who hurl into the blaze those men and women

THOUGHT FOR LENT

with Fr. Gus Hourigan



and children who failed to visit Uncle George or to act in a way he approved.

"And if you don't visit me, dear, that is where you will go," says Uncle George. He then takes us upstairs to meet mam and dad. As we go home, mam leans over us and says, "And now, don't you love Uncle George with all your heart and soul, mind and strength?"

At a tender age religious confusion develops. We tell Uncle George how much we love him and that we want

to do what pleases him. We observe what we are told are his wishes, and dare not admit to ourselves that we hate Uncle George.

Uncle George is a caricature. We can make a God who is an image of our tyrannical selves.

This notion of God is inadequate and distorted. Intellectually we may know that God is not like Uncle George, but it is our feelings about God which determines how we approach him. Our feelings do not change as easily as our ideas.

Uncle George is not easily exorcised from our emotions. We may know that God is not like that. We may still experience a strong aversion to him, without knowing why, and find a thousand reasons for not praying.

We have to pray constantly to be rid of "our Uncle George notion" of God. We have to beg God to teach us Who He Is, for no one else can. God is known by God alone.

We are praying not merely for an intellectual knowledge but a felt knowledge of God, which affects our whole being and, therefore, affects the way we see ourselves, other people and the world around us.

This felt knowledge of God changes the way we think and the way we act. It breaks open the

cocoon of our minds and hearts and free us from the restrictions which our upbringing imposed on us.

Why not look at the Crucifix and ask yourself these questions: "Is Jesus Christ who died for you exactly like Uncle George? Are the nailed hands of Jesus Christ ready to strike you? Will the nailed feet of Jesus Christ walk away from you. Is His Sacred Heart full of hate for you as yours is full of hate for Uncle George?"

We focus on the love of Jesus Christ and not on ourselves. The red letter day comes for us when we realise at that Jesus loves us unconditionally, as we are with all our sins. This is the foundation stone of our spiritual lives.

(Father Gus Hourigan is a Passionist priest based in Collooney, Sligo.)

Bishop Magee delivers homily

By PADDY MORONEY

BISHOP Newman died on the 69th anniversary of his reception into the Church in baptism, it was revealed at the removal of his remains, on Wednesday evening.

The Apostolic Administrator of Limerick, Bishop John Magee, delivering the homily to a large congregation at St John's Cathedral this Wednesday, said that they gave thanks for a lifetime of devoted service to the Church by Jeremiah Newman.

"The name of the Father is glorified who live in Christ Jesus," said Bishop Magee, "who love in Christ Jesus, and who render a service in Christ Jesus."

"Bishop Jeremiah went through a life of 69 years. He reached his hour on the



**DR JEREMIAH NEWMAN:
1926-1995**

the life of baptism was sown in his soul."

He continued: "Indeed, we gather round the remains of Bishop Jeremiah, this evening, rendering thanks to God for all he has accomplished in Bishop Jeremiah, in those 69 years of Christian living."

He said that Bishop Newman had, in almost 21 years as Bishop, served the local church of Limerick with dedication: he had served faithfully the total Church in Ireland, and went beyond that to the missionary Church around the world.

A large crowd had already gathered at the Cathedral, mainly inside, by the time the remains left St John's Presbytery at 7.30 pm.

The ceremonies began outside the front door of the

Castlemahon, read the prayers.

The casket was then borne the 100 yards to the adjacent cathedral across the cathedral grounds by relatives of the late Bishop, all cousins: Seamus and John O'Sullivan, as well as Brian Collins and Tom, Ben and Gerard Cronin.

Seamus O'Sullivan was also the reader in the cathedral later.

Dorothy Cantrell, another cousin, was behind the casket. She had been present when the Bishop died.

The procession was led by civic and institutional dignitaries, including Mayor Sadlier, and the president of the University of Limerick, Dr Edward Walsh, with a heavy contingent of the staff from Mary Immaculate College of Education.

Regional Technical College, which was represented by P J McDonagh, the Chamber of Commerce and Trinity College, Dublin, represented by Prof Martin O'Donoghue, were in the procession to the church, which was flanked on either side by members of the Garda Síochána.

The president of the Incorporated Law Society, Paddy Glynn, and former MEP, Tom O'Donnell, now with the Peace Institute at the university, were among the dignitaries present.

Also there were papal knights, Tom Sheahan and John Harrington, whose appointments Bishop Newman had confirmed just before he went to the United States for treatment last year.

Mr Sheahan had, on that occasion, been elevated from being a Knight Commander of the Order of St Gregory to being a Knight Grand Cross of the Order, and Mr Harrington had been confirmed as a Knight Commander of the

the door of the cathedral by Archdeacon Michael Manning, PP, VG, St Munchin's, and the Gospel was read by Monsignor Liam Boyle, PP, VG, VF, Newcastlewest.

Former Maynooth classmates of the late Bishop read the Prayers for the Faithful — Patrick Canon Kelly and Fr Charles O'Neill.

After the ceremonies, which lasted three-quarters of an hour, concluding with the singing of the Salve Regina, the general public filed past the open casket before the high altar.

The casket was flanked by a guard of honour of pupils from St Munchin's College, and later, until 10pm when the cathedral doors closed for the night, by the St John's Ambulance Brigade.

Parade meeting

THE annual general meeting of the Adare St Patrick's Day Parade will take place at the Village



The remains of Dr. Newman are borne to St. John's Cathedral.



The name of the Father is glorified who live in Christ Jesus," said Bishop Magee, "who love in Christ Jesus, and who render a service in Christ Jesus."

"Bishop Jeremiah went through a life of 69 years. He reached his hour on the anniversary of his day of baptism 69 years ago, when

the world. A large crowd had already gathered at the Cathedral, mainly inside, by the time the remains left St John's Presbytery at 7.30 pm.

The ceremonies began outside the front door of the presbytery, when Dean Michael Kelly, PP,

by civic and institutional dignitaries, including Mayor Sadlier, and the president of the University of Limerick, Dr Edward Walsh, with a heavy contingent of the staff from Mary Immaculate College of Education.

Members of the City and County Councils, the

occasion, been elevated from being a Knight Commander of the Order of St Gregory to being a Knight Grand Cross of the Order, and Mr Harrington had been confirmed as a Knight Commander of the Order.

Bishop Newman's remains were received at

Parade meeting

THE annual general meeting of the Adare St Patrick's Day Parade will take place at the Village Hall, Adare, next Tuesday at 8pm.



Dr. Edmund Walsh, president, leads mourners from the University of Limerick.



At the obsequies.



Arrival at the Cathedral.

WEDDING PHOTOGRAPHY

by

NIAL ST JOHN

L.M.P.A.

97 GREENFIELDS
ROSBRIEN
LIMERICK

TEL. 061-303806

Member of I.P.A.A. & P.P.A.

LIMERICK RAPE CRISIS CENTRE

MID-WEST REGION
Registered Charity

Free and confidential counselling
and information service.

FREEPHONE 1800-311511

Monday to Saturday, 10 am - 5 pm

BARGAINS IN LIMERICK - BARGAINS IN LIMERICK - BARGAINS IN LIMERICK

THIS WEEK AND THE COMING WEEKEND

WE ARE LIQUIDATING

£100,000 worth of Machinery, Power Tools, and Hand Tools (don't miss out)

at the

CLEARANCE WAREHOUSE

(Old Thomond Supply Premises)

Clondrinagh, Main Shannon/Ennis Road (near Elm Motors)

Open late till 8 o'clock each night. Open this Saturday and Sunday.

Bargains - Bargains - Bargains - Bargains - Bargains - Bargains

Tool Prices - Tool Prices - Tool Prices - Tool Prices - Tool Prices

9" Angle Grinders . . . only £65.00
Jigsaws only £29.00
Circular Saws only £65.00
6" Bench Grinders . . . only £35.00
9.6 Volt Cordless Drill
in case only £49.00
12 volt Cordless Drill in
case only £59.00
VM 250 Sander only £45.00
Floor Drill (3/4 HP &
12 SP) only £199.00
Wet/Dry Grinder only £69.00
Drill Stands only £19.00
6" Planner Jointer . . . only £290.00
5 ton Bottle Jacks . . . only £15.00
10 ton Bottle Jacks . . . only £25.00
15 ton Bottle Jacks . . . only £29.00
20 ton Bottle Jacks . . . only £39.00

14" Cut Off Saws . . . only £129.00
Woodlathes only £129.00
Belt & Disk Sanders . . only £69.00
13mm Drill Press . . . only £69.00
16mm Drill Press . . . only £170.00
4" Vice only £20.00
6" Vice only £29.00
Multi-Purpose Machine
(Milling Machine and
Steel Lathe only £890.00
TCM Tile Cutter 450 . . only £29.00
TCM Tile Cutter 300 . . only £19.00
Chain Block 1T x 2.5m
only £45.00
14" Heavy Duty
Bandsaw only £299.00

Also in stock: Handtools, Hardware, Fancy Goods, Pottery, Bedding, 3 pce. Suites, Cane Furniture and many, many more.

**Note: All stock is new and carries a full guarantee. Open this Sunday.
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK - DON'T MISS OUT**

WOODTURNING EXHIBITION ALL DAY SAT. AND SUNDAY

BARGAINS IN LIMERICK - BARGAINS IN LIMERICK - BARGAINS IN LIMERICK

BARGAINS IN LIMERICK - BARGAINS IN LIMERICK - BARGAINS IN LIMERICK

BARGAINS IN LIMERICK - BARGAINS IN LIMERICK - BARGAINS IN LIMERICK