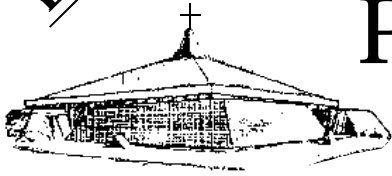


6 PAGE
EDITION

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



CHRIST OUR LIGHT
INNISHMORE



ST. MARY & ST. JOHN
STATION ROAD

SUNDAY 10TH DECEMBER 2000

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



When God comes, he comes with power, but also with compassion restoring all things. We can prepare the way of his coming with lives of holiness.

BETTER-OFF ARE NOT SEEING THE PROBLEMS OF THE POOR

Christmas Warning by Charity Organisation

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul will be making its annual Christmas Collection at all Churches in Ballincollig this weekend. This week the Society published its annual national report and warned that there was a classic difference evident this Christmas from any previous Christmas when it sought help from the public for those who are not well-off.

“Those who have been fortunate enough to do well from the economic growth of the past few years are no longer seeing the problems for those left behind. But those who have not benefited can see all the things they do not have and have little hope of achieving. This is the classic gap between the ‘haves’ and the ‘have-nots’. If we do not address this gap and close it to benefit those who are deprived, we have a serious social situation ahead.” This was the warning of the Society which in the past year has spent £3 million on relieving social deprivation in Cork. It visits people in their homes, runs hostels for the homeless, youth groups and has a number of ‘special works’ Conferences dealing with activities such as debt management advice, job creation and repairs to homes, as well as Conferences which engage in prison and hospital visitation.

In Ballincollig there are three parish Conferences. They deal with home visitation, running the Family Centre at Station Road and the Youth Club and support services which include a creche and a shop.

“The public has always been very generous to us and we look forward to this continuing,” according to the SVP who will hold their collection at all Masses in Ballincollig this weekend.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

PRIEST

My brothers and sisters,
God our Father
wants all mankind to be saved.
To prepare ourselves properly
during this holy season of Advent,
let us now turn in prayer to him
for the needs of our Church
and our world.

READER

For the Church,
may she rejoice at the Lord's nearness
so that, filled with joy,
she may prepare the world for the
saving power of the gospel.
Lord, hear us;
Lord, graciously hear us.

For the leaders of our society,
may they not rely solely on their own
strength, but begin to understand
more fully, the power and wonder
of Christ's saving message,
which alone brings joy to the world.
Lord, hear us;
Lord, graciously hear us.

For those who are sad or oppressed,
may they rediscover the joy of the
gospel, so that the clouds of darkness
may disappear, and the brightness
of Christ fill their lives again.
Lord, hear us;
Lord, graciously hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

For this community,
may we encourage each other
to live lives full of joy,
guided by the light of the gospel.
Lord, hear us;

Lord, graciously hear us.

Visit Our Website: www.ballincolligparish.ie

What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.

BAPTISMS

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

Thomas Joseph Jennings, 24, Rosewood
James Kieran Twomey, 80, Manor Hill
Kenneth Thomas McCoy, 30, Innishmore Square



IN SYMPATHY

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF:

Denis Cullinane, Innishannon

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS OF

Connor Healy
Eugene & Ellen Mohally, Lough Road
Dan Lucey, The Crescnet
John Woods, Carriganarra
Mary Chapling, Schull
Derry Hourigan, Pouladuff Road
John & Mary O'Leary, Brownhill
The Aherne Family, Fr. Sexton Park
Ellen Healy, Tralee
Mary Lucey, Carriganarra
Beatrice Shanahan, Fr. Sexton Park
Denis Hallahan, Ballygully
Annie & Jack Gunnan, Kilbrittian
James & Nora Greagh
Daniel O'Riordan, Tower
Maurice O'Connor, Castlegregory
Michael, Julia, Jim & Frank Harrington, Castletownbere
Brendan Whelan, Elm Lawn
John McNamara, Ardnacrusha, Co. Clare
Nancy & William Murphy
Tim Cullinane, Muskerry Estate
Cummins & O'Regan Families, Kinsale
Morla & Joe Thullier, Kinsale
Jim & Kathleen Doyle, Westcourt
Cornelius McMahon, Model Farm Road
Jim & Peg Cotter, Ballingearry
Patrick & Nora Barry, Redemption Road
Pat Barry, Mayfield
Michael, Mary & Ann Naughton, Farranree
Máirtín De Nogla, Wyndham Downs
Tommy Daly, Leemount
Jim Butler, Chetwynd
Susan O'Driscoll, Carrigdena

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

10 Sunday Bar. 5:1-9. Ps. 125. Phil 1:3-6. 8-11. Lk. 3:1-6. *Lect 1:30*
God's promises to us are fulfilled in Jesus Christ. We look forward to the Kingdom when, pure and blameless, we will reach the perfect goodness which Christ produces in us.

11 Monday Is. 35:1-10. Ps. 84. Lk. 5:17-26. *Lect 1:33*
The marvellous vision of God's saving love is expressed in some of the most poetic language of the prophet. This vision is realised in the life and works of Jesus Christ.

12 Tuesday Is. 40:1-11. Ps. 95. Mt. 18:12-14. *Lect 1:35*
Isaiah's words of comfort breathe the very spirit of Advent. The nation's slavery is ended and God will lead his people in a new Exodus. The road must be prepared for God to travel on.

13 Wednesday Is. 40:25-31. Ps. 102. Mt. 11:28-30. *Lect 1:38*
The people are not to grow weary and tired, thinking that the Lord has deserted them. Those who hope in him will renew their strength, they will sprout wings like eagles'. Jesus promises rest to the weary and overburdened.

14 Thursday Is. 41:13-20. Ps. 144. Mt. 11:11-15. *Lect 1:40*
From today the Gospel passage are about St. John the Baptist and the first readings either continue the Isaiah readings or are chosen in relation to the Gospel.

"St. John the Baptist is the Lord's immediate precursor or forerunner, sent to prepare his way. 'Prophet of the Most High'. John surpasses all the prophets, of whom he is the last.

15 Friday Is. 48:17-19. Ps. 1. Mt. 11:16-19. *Lect 1:42*
The people of Jesus' own time have acted in a self-willed way, never consistent nor satisfied, and have refused the offer of salvation. Neither the ascetical John nor Jesus with his free and easy way at table with sinners, can bring them to faith.

16 Saturday Sir. 48:1-4. 9-11. Ps. 79. Mt. 17:10-13. *Lect 1:44*
Going before Jesus in the spirit and power of Elijah, John bears witness to Christ in his preaching, by his Baptism of conversion, and through his martyrdom.

SAINTS THIS WEEK

Monday 11th - St. Damasus I, b. c. 304, d. 11 December 384, pope 366-384. He insisted on the apostolic foundations of the Roman See and was active in suppressing Arianism and other heresies. He commissioned St. Jerome to prepare the Vulgate version of the Bible.

Tuesday 12th - St Finnian studied in Idrone (Co. Carlow) and later in Wales and on his return to Ireland he settled in Clonard, Co. Meath, around 520, where he established a famous school. His pupils, among whom were Canice, Colum Cille, and Brendan, were the initiators of the great monastic expansion in Ireland. He died in 549 and is remembered as the tutor of the saints of Ireland.

St Jane Frances de Chantal 1572-1641, was left a widow with six children at the age of 29. With the support and direction of St. Francis de Sales, she had founded more than eighty convents of Visitation nuns by the time of her death.

Wednesday 13th - St Lucy died 304 in Sicily, is invoked for eye trouble. she suffered much for her desire to remain consecrated to Christ alone. She was martyred by a sword thrust through her throat.

Thursday 14th - St John of the Cross 1542-91, a Carmelite who suffered much in his work of spreading the reform of the Carmelites. He was a man of prayer, an outstanding poet and spiritual writer. Declared Doctor of the Church.

THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR DECEMBER

General: That the celebration of the Jubilee may lead men and women of good will to a new commitment to protect human life.

Missionary: That respect for the dignity of children may bring an end to all forms of abuse

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

The next meeting of the Council will be held on Monday 11th December 2000 at 7.45p.m. in the Community Centre
All members are requested to attend

NOTICES

**CIRCLES OF
LIVING ROSARY
PRAYER GROUP AND FAMILY
APOSTOLATE GROUP**

**PLEASE NOTE
THE FOLLOWING DATES:
The Rosary will be recited in the
Church of St. Mary & St. John
on the following dates and times**

DECEMBER 24TH

- Christmas Eve - The Birth of Jesus

**The Rosary will be recited at 9.40p.m.
prior to the 10p.m. Mass**

DECEMBER 31ST

- New Year's Eve

**The 15 Decades of the Rosary
will be recited at 3p.m.**

All are welcome

BOOKING OF MASSES

for

January, February & March

**The book for masses at
both Churches will
be open on and from
Saturday 16th December**



TOY MASS

ORGANISED BY S.E.O.

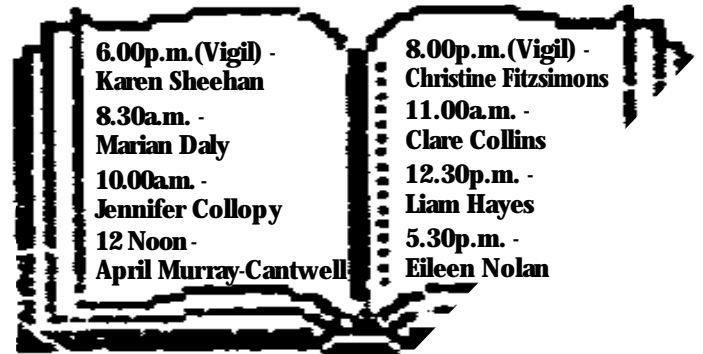
Sunday 10th December at 11a.m.

CHRIST OUR LIGHT CHURCH

**Please help to make Christmas happier for
some child by giving them a gift of a toy
that you would like to receive yourself.**

Only good toys please. Thank you

MINISTERS OF THE WORD 16TH/17TH DEC
ST. MARY & ST. JOHN CHRIST OUR LIGHT



6.00p.m. (Vigil) -
Karen Sheehan

8.30a.m. -
Marian Daly

10.00a.m. -
Jennifer Collopy

12 Noon -
April Murray-Cantwell

8.00p.m. (Vigil) -
Christine Fitzsimons

11.00a.m. -
Clare Collins

12.30p.m. -
Liam Hayes

5.30p.m. -
Eileen Nolan

ST. JOSEPHS YOUNG PRIESTS SOCIETY

Monthly meeting of the

**St. Joseph's Young Priests Society
will be held in the Community Hall
on Monday 11th December at 8p.m.**

All members and subscribers welcome

**MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST 16th/17th December 2000
ST. MARY'S & ST. JOHN'S CHURCH**

**SATURDAY 16TH
6p.m.**

Vera Allen
Bernadette Bell
Oliver Delaney
Betty Casey
Frank Riordan
Siobhan Riordan

**SUNDAY 17TH
8.30a.m.**

Mary Buckley
Josie Halligan

10a.m.

Anne Cahill
Pat Lee
May Delaney
Seamus O'Shea

12.00 Noon

Pat Keenan
Joan Barrett
Sheila Carroll
Marsie Curling
Brendan Daly
Mary Daly



SATURDAY 16TH

8p.m.
Geraldine Lynch
Jim Cahill
Kit Cahill

CHRIST OUR LIGHT CHURCH

SUNDAY 17TH

11a.m.
Maura McNamara
Angela Cunningham
Laurence Cunningham
Bridie O'Donnell

12.30p.m.

Eileen Garvey
Sally Power
Lelia O'Brien
Moira O'Keane
Breeda Callanan

5.30p.m.

Neil O'Donoghue
Patricia O'Donoghue
Neil Cantillon-Murphy

ST. MARY & ST. JOHN	EACH SUNDAY	CHRIST OUR LIGHT
<p style="text-align: center;">Masses</p> <p>Sunday: 8.30, 10.00, 12.00</p> <p>Mon-Fri: 9.30am</p> <p>Saturday: 10.00, 6pm, (Vigil)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ROSARY RECITED AT BOTH CHURCHES EACH SUNDAY 3.00PM.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Everyone most welcome</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Masses</p> <p>Sunday: 11.00, 12.30, 5.30pm</p> <p>Mon-Fri: 8.30am</p> <p>Saturday: 10.00am, 8.00pm (Vigil)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Confessions</p> <p>Saturday: after 10am Mass before 6pm Mass</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">SACRISTY SERVICES <i>Before and after all Masses Sundays & Weekdays</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">CHURCH OF ST. MARY & ST. JOHN</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- Mass Card Signing - Requests for Baptism/Marriage Certs etc.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CHRIST OUR LIGHT</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- Mass Card Signing -</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Confessions</p> <p>Saturday: after 10am Mass</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Baptisms</p> <p>Saturday: 5.00pm</p> <p>Sunday: 12.45pm</p>		<p style="text-align: center;">Baptisms</p> <p>Saturday: 7.15pm</p>

PARISH CLERGY

CHURCH NO.  087-2479140

Fr. L.O'Brien P.P.  021-4871206

Fr. E. Crowley C.C.  021-4870434

Fr. P. O'Donovan C.C.  021-4872808 Fax: 021-4872808 Fr. Paul O'Donoghue  021-4876055

MORNING PRAYER
DURING ADVENT

Monday - Friday at 6a.m.
Christ Our Light Crying Room

All Welcome

I.C.A.
INNISCARRA
-BALLINCOLLIG
GUILD

A Christmas Fayre will be held
in the Old Library, Station Road
on Sunday, December 10th from
10a.m. to 5p.m.

This is an excellent opportunity to
get those special gifts for Christmas.

TEA AND COFFEE AVAILABLE
RAFFLE WITH A VARIETY OF PRIZES

Don't miss it!



SUTTONS OIL
HOME HEATING OIL

Commercial · Agricultural

Centre Park Road, Cork

Tel: 021-4911700

Fax: 021-4911701



Home Heating Budget Payment Plan

LIFE ASSURANCE

*Friendship is a lovely jewel,
very precious.*

*And like all valuable possessions,
should be insured
against misuse.*

*But true friendship is priceless.
And like a good insurance policy,
will always be there when needed*

Sr. Mary Michael

CHRISTMAS CONFESSION

Going to confession for Christmas has been part and parcel of Irish Catholic life for generations. Older people will recall long slow-moving queues at the confessionals on Christmas Eve. Even today when attitudes have changed Catholics still see a close connection between the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the celebration of the birth of Christ.

The old style Confession was an ordeal for many people: they found the slow queuing unnerving, they were afraid the priest might be deaf and that his questions and comments might be overheard by those waiting in line; they were afraid that if they were kept in longer than usual it might embarrass them. Children also were afraid that they might 'get stuck' in the Act of Contrition.

Perhaps it is because of all these considerations that the Reconciliation Service, the modern form of the Sacrament has taken on so well. In the new communal celebration we prepare ourselves together for confession and give thanks together for the forgiveness received. There are readings, a homily, an examination of conscience conducted in common, a shared request for forgiveness and a thanksgiving in common. Central to the ceremony is the opportunity given to each person to come up to the priest of their choice and make a brief confession of their sins. At the Reconciliation Ceremony there may be some people who for one reason or another do not wish to make a confession. These may ask the priest for a blessing and no one will know whether or not they have made a confession.

The confession of sins, in a sense, frees us from the power sin had over our lives. By telling his sins to the priest, man looks squarely at the sins he is guilty of, takes responsibility for them, and thereby opens himself again to God and to the communion of the Church in order to make a new future possible. Being open to the communion of the Church refers, not to Holy Communion or the Blessed Eucharist but rather to our sense of belonging to the parish community. Sin damages or even breaks brotherly friendship in the family, in the neighbourhood or in the wider community in which we live. To steal, to aggress others, to hate, to insult, to drive drunkenly - all such actions offend God but they also offend against other people. Sin is an act of aggression against our fellow man as well as against God. The Sacrament of Penance repairs and restores our union with our fellow man. Because the Reconciliation Service is shared publicly with our neighbours it expresses our desire to admit our sin and our desire to 'make up' with our families, our neighbours and all of God's children throughout the world.

THE CHRISTMAS RECONCILIATION SERVICES WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY NEXT

Church of Christ Our Light: Thursday December 14th 6.30p.m.

Church of St. Mary & St. John: Thursday December 14th 8.00p.m.

SLEEPING BEAUTY

It's that time of the year again.

**Ballincollig Entertainment Theatre are presenting
their 4th Pantomime and this year it's Sleeping Beauty.**

Much effort has gone into making this the best Panto ever.

The Panto will start it's run in Ballincollig Community Theatre

on 1st January 2001 and runs until 7th January

Programme starts at 8p.m. each night and there will be matinees

at 3p.m. on the 6th and 7th of January

ADMISSION TO THIS GREAT SHOW IS £3 FOR ADULTS

AND £2 FOR KIDS AND SENIOR CITIZENS.

**BALLINCOLLIG BASKETBALL CLUB
NOTES & FIXTURES**

MEN

The Boys Un-11 continued on their successful run of wins on Friday 1st December here in Ballincollig with a well deserved win over Skibbereen. The boys have been very consistent in their games and the numbers turning up for the games ensures plenty of support on the bench.

The Un-13's were very unlucky not to have won their match against their Skib opponents. However, as it is a relatively new squad their coach Cyril O'Leary is very pleased with their progress.

Our Un-15's were only narrowly beaten by Skib in what was a very close game.

The Div. 2 Mens proved far too tough for Skib and won their game very decisively.

Saturdays 10 o'clock match for our Un-13's was cancelled.

The Un-11's once again proved their dominance in their league with a good win over Glanmire. The boys were in a determined mood after their previous nights win and even though Glanmire have improved greatly, they were no match for Ballincollig. This win now puts the Un-11's on the top of their league table with Neptune and Midleton.

LADIES

Just one league game to report on this week which was our Jun. 1 Ladies who played Glanmire last Thursday. Ballincollig dominated the game from the start and won the match easily.

The Un-17 Girls went to Waterford and took part in the Un-17's Tournament last Sunday. All the team played very well and enjoyed the day.

UPCOMING FIXTURES - LADIES

Thursday 7th December - Mallow		
6.15pm	Mallow v Ballincollig	U-14
7.15pm	Mallow v Ballincollig	U-16
Thursday 7th December - Parochial Hall		
6.15pm	Donoughmore v Ballincollig	U-12
7.15pm	Leopards v Ballincollig	U-14
8.15pm	Cobh v Ballincollig	Inter

UPCOMING FIXTURES - MEN

Friday 8th December - Parochial Hall		
6.30pm	Blue Demons v Ballincollig	U-13
Saturday 9th December - Parochial Hall		
10.00am	St. Colms, Limerick v Ballincollig	U-17
12.00pm	Ballincollig v Tramore	U-17
2.00pm	Midleton Coasters v Ballincollig	U-17
Tuesday 12th December - Mallow Youth Club		
8.00pm	Mallow v Ballincollig	U-15



**THE ALZHEIMER
SOCIETY of IRELAND**

CORK BRANCH

36 A Washington St., Cork.

Tel: 021-4271333 Fax: 021-4251642

*The Alzheimer Society of Ireland
(Cork Branch)*

CARERS SUPPORT MEETING

Monday 11th December, 2000

at Jury's Hotel at 8p.m.

Time: 8.00p.m.

**SOCIETY OF
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**

*Annual Christmas Appeal
and Church Collection*

*at all Masses on Saturday 9th
and Sunday 10th December*

Once again, the local Conferences ask for your extra help at this time of peace and reconciliation on behalf of the needy in our parish.

SOME FACTS REGARDING THE SOCIETY

- Last year the Society spent £16.5 Million fighting poverty
- It has 9000 members nationwide and operates the largest social housing and hostel accommodation, providing help for 1140 people every night of the year
- Members visit the needy, at home, in hospital and in prison
- The society provides education grants to students from disadvantaged backgrounds as well as breakfast clubs to feed school going children from deprived areas.
- It also runs self-help educational programmes, youth clubs and summer breaks for needy children