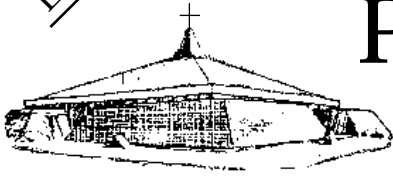


6 PAGE
EDITION

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



CHRIST OUR LIGHT
INNISHMORE



ST. MARY & ST. JOHN
STATION ROAD

SUNDAY 11TH MARCH 2001
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT



Today we are presented with two stories of God's appearance amongst us. They remind us that his presence is something awesome and mysterious, but for all that, it offers light for everyone at moments of crisis and doubt in life.

"Incredible!" "That's hard to believe!" "Unbelievable!" "Do you believe that!" These are common phrases that we use to express astonishment. Today's readings are about believing and the call to even go beyond the phrase, "Seeing is believing". Seeing is being invited to go beyond what we can see or understand to the leap of love called faith. We read from Genesis today about Abraham who is invited to look up at the stars and seeing them all is asked to believe that his descendants will be more numerous than all the stars in the sky. Abraham is also promised a great land to possess for him and his descendants. Promises, promises, the first to have children and the other to have land. Both of these are signs of God's abundant blessings, but Abraham and his wife are old and the prospect of having land seems remote. Believing is more than seeing. Is there such a thing as "blind faith?" Is not, perhaps, the necessity to see a form of blindness? Abraham trusts the Promiser and the promise and sees a covenant sign of sacrifice, which is part of the promise, but does not diminish the act of trusting the Covenant Maker. Today we hear Luke's account of what we call the Transfiguration of Jesus. Peter, James and John go up a hill with Jesus. These are the same three who follow Him into the Garden of Olives and fall asleep during His agony. They fall into a sleep of sorts here too. They witness a strange event. They see Moses and Elijah talking with Jesus about His "exodus" which would take place in Jerusalem. His "exodus" or passage through suffering to life, is being prepared for here. They come fully awake and propose staying there and not venturing any further into mystery. They want to build three tents. Instead of listening to their proposal, Jesus is enveloped in a cloud and a voice declares that this Jesus is the "chosen" and He should be listened to. Believing is more than seeing and more than hearing. The three followers have seen Jesus' glory, heard the ancient prophets speaking, heard the voice from heaven and will be asked to live out their seeing, hearing and believing, but they don't. Something louder, something blinding prevents them from living beyond what they have seen and heard. Believing, having faith, trusting is a form of loving. A child leaps into its parents arms from the edge of a swimming pool, but sometimes, that child might look at the deep water, the height, and then just sit down. The parent might wonder if the child does not know the love that promises that the child will be caught and not drowned. So the parent might talk to the child and try convincing the child to come and have fun. Leaping is loving, but sitting down is not a rejection of love; it is a self-protection device, which renders the child safe, but not having much fun. We have seen and heard enough, but we want to see more and hear more. Abraham see, hears and trusts though there is the evidence around him to the contrary. Trusting is the way we love God and it is all that God wants from us. As with the Apostles, our senses are bewildered and confused by certain transfigurations. They did not understand, evaluate and find easy explanations of what they saw and heard. We stand on the edge of certain pools of our lives and God invites us to jump. Our responses have the qualities of desire and disbelief. "Incredible!" "Unbelievable!" "Can you believe that!" Yes, kind of, most of the time, but God, keep calling and keep Your arms out, please!
"Remember your mercies, Lord, your tenderness from ages past".

THOUGHT FOR TODAY

It is wonderful for us to be here (Gospel)

The truth the disciples saw on the mountain was always there - Jesus fulfils the hopes and prophecies of the Old Testament (Moses and Elijah); he is God's beloved Son. God tells the disciples, and tells us, to listen to his Son. We need to recognise him in silent prayer.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

PRIEST

Let us bring our prayers to God, who is forever our light and our help.

READER

That all members of the Church may persevere on their Lenten journey, until they reach the joy that awaits them.

Lord, hear us;

Lord, graciously hear us.

That adults preparing to become part of the Church this Easter may daily grow in faith.

Lord, hear us;

Lord, graciously hear us.

That those for whom God is distant or irrelevant, may be touched by the inspiration of Christians' lives.

Lord, hear us;

Lord, graciously hear us.

That anyone in need may find help and relief, and that the sick may be comforted and healed.

Lord, hear us;

Lord, graciously hear us.

That God may help us in all our needs, particularly those we remember now.....

Lord, hear us;

Lord, graciously hear us.

Visit Our Website: www.ballincolligparish.ie

The Lord is my light and my help.

BAPTISMS

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

James Sean Conor Collins, Model Farm Road



IN SYMPATHY

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF:

Fr. Owen Daly, Wigan, England

Michael Maloney, Raheen, Carrigrohane

Nora O'Connor, Madonna House, & Caherciveen

John Lee, Inniscarra

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS OF

Jerry Desmond, Ovens Bridge

Daniel & Hannah O'Connor, Ballinagree

Michael Collins, Churchfield

The Daly Family, Ballinagree

Geraldine Daly, Coolroe

Ned Keating, Ballincollig West

William & Margaret McNamara, Ballincollig

Tom & Tommy Keane

Jim Huff, Blackrock

Joseph Fitzpatrick

Betty O'Regan

Dan Conway, Ovens

Raymond Nagle, Dublin

Finbarr Conway, Ovens

Joe & Tom Heeton, Pearse Place

Redmond Walsh, Wilton

Angela & Patrick O'Flaherty, Albert Place

Fr. Caheragh MacCarthy

Daniel O'Sullivan

Mabel Neenan

Joseph & Mary Le Van Nha

Nancy McCarthy, Coachford

Richard Goggin, Bishopstown

John Lee, Inniscarra

Michael Moloney Jnr. Raheen

Kathleen Dorgan, Powdermills

James Hourigan, Limerick

Dan & Ellen Dempsey, Carrigrohane

Tom Twomey, Raheen, Carrigrohane

Sheila O'Donovan, Rochestown

Jack Lucey, Station Road

Donal Walsh, Fair Street

Rena Down, Main Street & Muskerry Estate

Eileen Foley, Ballywilliam, Cobh

David Brosnan, Muskerry Estate

Jim Deasy, Aherla

Neil Langan, Donegal

Dave Barry, Mulgrave Road

Breda O'Callaghan

Owen Dwyer, Maglin

Tom McAuliffe, Chapel Lane

Marjorie O'Mahony

Patrick Pajoe Coughlan, Farranferris Avenue

James McSweeney, Classis, Ovens

Noreen DaSilva, Beech Park

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

11 Sunday Gen. 15:5-12, 17-18. Ps. 26. Phil. 3:17-4:1. Lk. 9:28-36. *Lect I:228*

The vision of Christ transfigured in glory is given to the three apostles, who will see him suffering in the Garden. This vision is also for our encouragement at the beginning of Lent. Through suffering and the cross we come to the crown of glory in heaven. A Lent well spent will bring us to a joyful celebration of Easter.

12 Monday Dan. 9:4-10. Ps. 78. Lk. 6:36-38. *Lect I:231*

Daniel sees the goodness and generous love of God and contrasts the wickedness and betrayal of the people. He recognises the community aspect of that sin that has brought punishment on all the people high and low. And only God can heal them for to him alone mercy and pardon belong.

13 Tuesday Is. 1:10, 16-20. Ps. 49. Mt. 23:1-12. *Lect I:232*

Lent meaning 'springtime' calls to mind new beginnings. Spring-cleaning destroys the dirt and grime of dark winter. The harrowing by penance and prayer prepares the Christian for the implanting of the seed that will bring an abundant harvest.

14 Wednesday Jer. 18:18-20. Ps. 30. Mt. 20:17-28. *Lect I:234*

"Save me in your love, O Lord." This prayer to be saved reminds us that salvation comes from God alone. The mother of the two apostles was looking for security for her sons. Jesus had to tell her that her understanding of such safety was wrong. He required abandonment to God's will as the best security.

15 Thursday Jer. 17:5-10. Ps. 1. Lk. 16:19-31. *Lect I:236*

The Gospel story of the poor man Lazarus is about the choice that each one has to make of life or death. It is a responsible choice because we have Moses and the prophets, and Jesus himself, to show us the alternatives.

16 Friday Gen. 37:3-28. Ps. 104. Mt. 21:33-43. 45-48 *Lect I:239*

Joseph is sold into slavery for thirty pieces of silver. The servants in the vineyard kill the heir. Jesus, son of God, is also sold and sent to death. But the stone rejected becomes the cornerstone.

17 Saturday Jer. 1:4-9. Ps. 116. Acts 13:46-49. Lk. 10:1-12, 17-20. *Lect I:1015*

SAINTS THIS WEEK

Saturday 17th - St. Patrick, was very probably born in the early years of the fifth century in Britain. He was taken captive at the age of 16 and brought to Ireland where he worked as a slave. His captivity had a very positive effect on his spiritual life. He escaped back to Britain at the age of 22, but it was obvious to him that God was calling him to return to convert the Irish. He studied probably in France, returned to Ireland about 457-61 and made a tremendous number of converts. He died in 491.

ENVELOPE REMINDER

THIS WEEKEND

Ballincollig Parish

CORK MARRIAGE

COUNSELLING CENTRE

MASS BOOKINGS

The Mass Book in
both Churches will open on
Saturday next 17th March 2001
for the months of
April, May & June



**LENT 2001:
IT'S TIME TO
ABOLISH SLAVERY.
AGAIN.**

In biblical times we know that people were often held in slavery. But slavery is not just a thing of the past.

Millions of women, men and children around the world are trapped in slavery today.

Today's slaves are held as bonded labourers in India, or forced to work as child soldiers in Sierre Leone, or taken captive and forced to work on large plantations in Brazil.

LENT IS WHAT YOU DO

**Ballincollig Lions Club
EASTER BAZAAR**

**Ballincollig Community Hall
on Sunday 8th April 2001 at 2.30p.m.**

Big Wheel, Tambola, Stalls, Raffles, Novelties, Cakes, Flowers, Toys, Electrical Goods, etc, etc.

GREAT VALUE!

Please Support

(p.s. We are also looking for unwanted/surplus quality goods for our Bazaar - check your garage/attic)

DROP TO COMMUNITY HALL OR

CONTACT FOR COLLECTION:

Statia @ 4870204 Elizabeth @ 4870354

Chris@ 70 Beech Park 4873614

SPRING DUES

Envelopes have now been distributed to each household. Please return it by placing it in the Basket at Mass. Spare envelopes are available from the back of the Church

MINISTERS OF THE WORD 17TH/18TH MAR

ST. MARY & ST. JOHN

CHRIST OUR LIGHT

6.00p.m. (Vigil) - Laura Moloney	8.00p.m. (Vigil) - Jacinta Jeffers
8.30a.m. - Marian Daly	11.00a.m. - Jack Dorgan
10.00a.m. - Jennifer Collopy	12.30p.m. - Marie O'Brien
12 Noon - Oliver O'Donovan	5.30p.m. - Sharon O'Connell

**MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST 17th/18th March 2001
ST. MARY'S & ST. JOHN'S CHURCH**

SATURDAY 17TH

6p.m.
Patsy Murphy
Breda Foley
Geraldine Graham
Jim Healy
Geraldine Hegarty
Cathy Horgan

SUNDAY 18TH

8.30a.m.
Theresa Lucey
Rita Murphy

10a.m.

Karina O'Mahony
Nancy Hogan
Tadhg Murphy
Mary Murphy

12.00 Noon

Michael Crowley
John Walshe
Noel Hennessy
Breda Linehan
Rena O'Connor
Eavan O'Donoghue



CHRIST OUR LIGHT CHURCH

SATURDAY 17TH

8p.m.
John O'Donoghue
Eleanor O'Donogue
Kathleen Daly

SUNDAY 18TH

11a.m.
Robert Wade
Mary O'Mahony
Margaret Brown
Lelia O'Brien

12.30p.m.

Brid Dolan
Peggy Sheehan
Pat Manning
Terry O'Driscoll
Bernie O'Driscoll

5.30p.m.

Garreth Irish
Shelia Curran
Statia O'Callaghan

ST. MARY & ST. JOHN	EACH SUNDAY	CHRIST OUR LIGHT
<p>Masses</p> <p>Sunday: 8.30, 10.00, 12.00 Mon-Thur: 9.30am, 8.00pm Fri: 9.30am, 6.00pm (Vigil) Saturday: 8.30, 10.00, 12.00 6pm (Vigil)</p>	<p>ROSARY RECITED AT BOTH CHURCHES EACH SUNDAY 3.00P.M.</p> <p><i>Everyone most welcome</i></p>	<p>Masses</p> <p>Sunday: 11.00, 12.30, 5.30pm Mon-Thur: 8.30am, 6.30pm Fri: 8.30am, 8.00pm (Vigil) Saturday: 11.00am, 12.30pm 8.00pm (Vigil)</p>
<p>Confessions</p> <p>Saturday: before 6pm Mass</p>	<p>ST PATRICK'S DAY Saturday 17th March 2001 St. Patrick was set apart by God to bring his word to the end of the earth. He brought faith in Christ to our land and the message of peace for those</p>	<p>Confessions</p>
<p>Baptisms</p> <p>Saturday: 5.00pm Sunday: 12.45pm</p>	 <p>who accept that faith. Today we thank God for Patrick who was true to his vocation and so made it possible for our names to be written in heaven.</p>	<p>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

36 A Washington St., Cork.
 Tel: 021-4271333 Fax: 021-4251642
 E-mail: alzheimercork@eircom.net

**THE ALZHEIMER
 SOCIETY of IRELAND**

CORK BRANCH

CARERS SUPPORT MEETING
Monday 12th March 2001
at Jury's Hotel at 8p.m.

Have you a story to tell?
**WHY NOT HAVE IT PUBLISHED IN
 "THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER"
 AND ON OUR WEBSITE.**

Over 3,200 Visitors to date from 25 Countries.

PLEASE FORWARD TO:
 parish@ballincolligparish.ie or send to
 Editor's Office, St. Mary's and St. John's,
 Sacristy, Station Road, Ballincollig

BALLINCOLLIG BASKETBALL CLUB

**Due to the on-going threat of
 Foot and Mouth disease,
 last week's games were temporarily
 suspended and the same will apply
 for this week. We would ask all members
 to keep in contact with their coaches
 as to the resumption of matches**

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THE FACE OF CHRIST

Sometimes our hearts may be troubled and we may worry about our future, not only in this life but also the eternal salvation of our souls. Everyday affairs and material concerns seem to almost overcome us as we strive to stay afloat in the turbulent waters of our daily life. The world may weigh heavily upon our shoulders as we search among a sea of crowded faces for a friendly countenance. We seek perhaps someone to talk to, to tell our troubles to, someone with whom we can share our problems, but sometimes we do not know where to turn. Our friends are too busy with their own lives, our relatives and neighbours have their own troubles, our husbands may be work-weary, our wives house-tired. What do we do? Where do we go for consolation? To whom can we confide our sorrows?



The answer may appear simple to one who knows. We turn to our eternal Father who has provided us with the necessary knowledge and wisdom to attain that serenity and peace of the soul that is ours for the asking, the spirituality that we can see (if we look) in the face of our fellow man, in the old, wrinkled face of a neighbour or stranger, or a child's face. Indeed, if we take the time to look closely, we will see the face of Christ. We will remember His promise of eternal life and the great love that he revealed to us by sending his only Son to die for our sake. He raised Him from the dead so that we should know and trust in Him who has provided an eternity in heaven. We should heed what Jesus said to a (doubting) Philip: "Have I been with you all this time....and you still do not know me? (John 14:1-12)

E. Chandler

COMPASSION

Remember all the Lord has accomplished for you.
He pardons all your sins and over body and soul
He extends his healing hands.

Your very bones will rejoice
As you feel the blessing of his mercy,
In the depth of your being.
He is merciful and tender towards
Those who don't deserve it.
He is slow to get angry and
Rich is his faithful love.
The Lord acts with integrity.
He is compassionate towards
All who are oppressed.

You will feel your youth renewed,
As the eagle's plumage is restored.
As far as the east is from west,
So far does he remove our offences from us.

'He is like a father to us.
He is tender and kind to those who honour him.

Reflection from Psalm No. 103

Are you interested in working with children?

Ballincollig YMCA has a vacancy for a part-time PAKT assistant under the Community Employment Scheme.

PAKT (Parents and Kids Together) is a Ballincollig based project which includes weekly children's activities, family events and occasional parent's activities. The role of the PAKT assistant is to help with the implementation of a range of children's activities e.g. art, games and computers. There will also be some general administrative duties.

For further information and an application form, please contact:

**HELEN JARY, Ballincollig YMCA,
Unit 2b, Rosewood Estate,
Ballincollig, Co. Cork
TEL: 021-4877771**

BALLINCOLLIG PARISH CONFIRMATIONS 2001

SCOIL EOIN

- Monday 2nd April 2001

SCOIL MHUIRE

- Tuesday 3rd April 2001

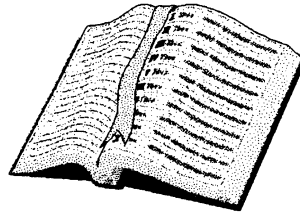
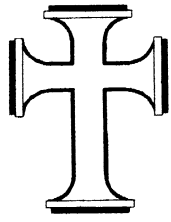
SCOIL BARRA

- Wednesday 4th April 2001

BREAD AND STONES

One temptation of the church is to change bread into stones. Jesus offers the bread of life: of compassion and forgiveness, of the generosity of God always feeding us, of the free gift of eternal life, of the hope always of repentance and of a freer life. We may, often through no fault of our own, see a God who is niggardly or vindictive, concerned to punish us for tiny offences, to remember offences forever and to be concerned about tiny areas of our life. A look through some Christian preaching will bear the truth of this. The bread of life has been changed into stones, or offered as hard crust. It takes courage to accept God as totally loving and forgiving. We need to reconcile ourselves and the church, to the truth about God.

*Lord, Help me to know you truly,
God of love and generosity,
offering care and love all the time.*



WEEK OF DIRECTED PRAYER

On the 25th March, 2001, we will again host a week of Directed Prayer. This week gives participants an opportunity to gain a deeper insight into the Bible, and their own prayer life. A team of trained guides from outside the Parish will direct the week. Each director will, on an individual and private basis, help the participant to pray, and to reflect on what God is saying to them in their lives.

All parishioners and prayer groups are asked to please pray for all those taking part in this week.

WHO CAN COME?

Anyone who would like help in prayer and anyone who can give the time
- 30 minutes each day for the week

WHERE?

Christ Our Light Church, meeting rooms, and private areas of the Church.

WHEN?

25th to the 31st March, 2001, inclusive.

HOW DO I APPLY?

Complete the section below and drop it into the Sacristy of either Church, before the 18th March.

ANY QUESTIONS?

Bernadette 4873839 - Clare 4871364
Angela 4873364 - Sr. Elizabeth 4870625

Please complete and return this portion as soon as possible to facilitate booking of sufficient prayer guides.

I would be interested in taking part in the Week of Prayer

Name.....

Address.....

.....

Phone No.