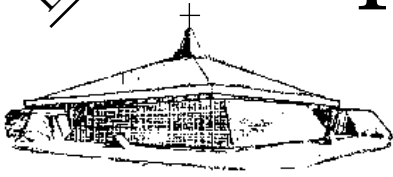


6 PAGE
EDITION

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



CHRIST OUR LIGHT
INNISHMORE



ST. MARY & ST. JOHN
STATION ROAD

SUNDAY 6TH MAY 2001

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (Vocations Sunday)

Like Paul and Barnabus, those whose vocations it is to preach the gospel, will meet opposition. Today we are encouraged by the thought that the Christ we serve knows his people intimately and promises them eternal life - no opposition can snatch them from the Father's love.

"COME FOLLOW ME"

Each year on this fourth Sunday of Easter we read the section of the Gospel in which Christ speaks of the Good Shepherd. Traditionally we pray on this day for vocations.

We are all concerned about the decline in the number of boys who are entering Seminaries to study for the priesthood. As courses of study go it is one of the longest, taking seven years of residential study. It is a long time for a young man to stay at college, to live without any income, to depend on his family for support. To an eighteen year old, the age of twenty-five seems a long way off indeed. Three years of the course are spent in the study of arts or science in Maynooth University leading to a Degree; the remaining four years are spent in the study of the Bible, Theology, Church Law and Moral Law.

Time was when six or seven priests were ordained each year for Cork and Ross. Often that was too many for the vacancies in the Dioceses so the young priests spent some time abroad in England or the United States. For many years after the death of Terence McSweeney and the funeral given him in the south London by the Bishop of Southwark many Cork priests went to work there in gratitude. In recent years an Ordination occurs at very infrequent intervals. Unless this trend is reversed our parishes will continue to be served by fewer and fewer priests.

The shortage of priests should not be seen as a problem for priests alone' it is a collective responsibility. Jesus said to pray that the Lord may send men into his harvest. In other words, vocations are an answer to prayer. Publicity, advertising and all other human means of recruitment are useless in this field if there is not a genuine recourse to prayer to the Lord.

The call to priesthood does not necessarily come to boys at Leaving Certificate age. It can come also later in life, during College years, perhaps, even later. Jesus himself looked people in the eye and invited them by name to become his followers. Some responded instantly. We read in the Gospel of one sad case where a young man did not accept because he was a man of great wealth. We should pray on this Good Shepherd Sunday that the Lord will call some young men this year and that they, in turn, will "leave all and follow him"

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

PRIEST

Let us bring our prayers to the shepherd who cares for all the flock.

READER

For the men and women who lead and serve in the Church, that they may always follow the example of Christ, the good shepherd.

Lord, hear us;

Lord, graciously hear us.

For young people, that many may consider serving in priesthood and religious life.

Lord, hear us;

Lord, graciously hear us.

For all who gather to worship God today, that we may learn to care for each other.

Lord, hear us;

Lord, graciously hear us.

For those in any kind of need, that they may know the tender support of our love

Lord, hear us;

Lord, graciously hear us.

For our friends who have died (especially those in our thoughts today), that they may be given a place before the Throne of Glory.

Lord, hear us;

Lord, graciously hear us.

FILLED WITH JOY AND THE HOLY SPIRIT (First Reading)

The number of seminarians in the world is rising. It is now almost twice what it was twenty-five years ago. Europe is the only continent where the picture is very different. Each of us has an inescapable responsibility to pray for and to foster vocations to the priesthood and religious life. We need not be afraid to present it is a life called to share the joy that filled the apostles even when the preaching of the Good News proved difficult.

Visit Our Website: www.ballincolligparish.ie

We are his people, the sheep of his flock.

BAPTISMS

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

Eoin Edward Sugrue, 10 Parknamore
Ellie Farrell, 17, Aylsbury
Ben Paul Murphy, 103, Leecourt



MARRIAGES

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Francis Halligan, 182, Rosewood, Ballincollig &
Anne Hegarty, 53, Castle Ave, Muskerry Est.



IN SYMPATHY

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF:

Denis O'Sullivan
Mrs. Margaret Brown, 187, Willow Court

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS OF

John Woods, Carriganarra
Tom, Eileen and Jim Madigan, East Gate
Neil Barrett, Dripsey
Fr. Dan O'Connell
Patrick & Margaret O'Mahony, Clash
Sheila Desmond, Dunmanway
Michael Maverley, Evergreen Street
Annie & Jeremiah Henchy, Carrigrohane
Mary Delaney, Maglin
Pat Lucey, Inchigeela
Cecelia Bogue, Carrigrohane
Daniel & Mary Deady, Cobh
Margaret Erangey, Boyces Street
John & Kate Murray, The Square
Dr. Jim O'Neill, Poulavone
Catherine Cunningham, Dillons Cross
Seamus O'Donovan, Muskerry Estate
Paul Wall
Michael O'Sullivan
Julia O'Sullivan
Helena Barry
Lillian Nagle
Dan & Margaret Lynch, Ballydehob
Kitty & Jerry Hallahan, Kilmichael & Wales
O'Keefe Family, Blackpool
Mrs. Kenneally, Aherla

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

6 Sunday Acts. 13:14. 43-52. Ps. 99. Apoc. 7:9,14-17. Jn. 10:27-30. *Lect I:493*
This is the Good Shepherd Sunday, a day of special prayer vocations to the work of service in the Church. There is the enduring command of Christ to his Church to go out and preach to all people. There is need for people of faith to respond to that command, people who are prepared to dedicate their lives to this work for the sake of the gospel.

7 Monday Acts. 11:1-18. Ps. 41. Jn. 10:1-10. *Lect I:496*
"The Church is, accordingly, a sheepfold, the sole and necessary gateway to which is Christ. It is also the flock, of which God himself foretold that he would be the shepherd, and whose sheep, even though governed by human shepherds, are unfailingly nourished and led by Christ himself, the Good Shepherd, Prince of Shepherds, who gave his life for his sheep." *Lumen gentium, 6*

8 Tuesday Acts. 11:19-26. Ps. 86. Jn. 10:22-30. *Lect I:499*
At Antioch the Good News is first preached to the pagans and the disciples are first called "Christians". Those who receive Jesus as their shepherd receive his protection and the gift of eternal life.

9 Wednesday Acts. 12:24-13:5. Ps. 66. Jn. 12:44-50. *Lect I:501*
Barnabus and Saul start their work together as they travel to Cyprus. Jesus in his last public message teaches that those who believe in him will be freed from darkness and liberated from sin, unbelief and separation from God.

10 Thursday Acts. 13:13-25. Ps. 88. Jn. 13:16-20. *Lect I:503*
Sharing in the life and dignity of Jesus means also sharing in his self-giving and humble service to others.

11 Friday Acts. 13:26-33. Ps. 2. Jn. 14:1-6. *Lect I:505*
"I am the Way, the Truth and the Life". Jesus encourages peace in our hearts in times of trouble. There remains for us a place of rest in his Father's house. Following him who is the Way, we come to the Father.

12 Saturday Acts. 13:44-52. Ps. 97. Jn. 14:7-14. *Lect I:508*
Prayer in the name of Jesus, animated by the Spirit, will lead us to think and desire as he does.

SAINTS THIS WEEK

Thursday 10th - St. Comgall, was born c. 516 in Co. Antrim. He established a monastery at Bangor c. 555-558 which attracted men like St. Columbanus. It is said that at one time there were 4,000 monks under his guidance. He also founded a monastery at Tiree in Scotland. After a long and difficult illness he died on the feast of Pentecost 602 or 605.

Saturday 12th - Sts. Nereus and Achilleus, died 304 under Diocletian as Roman soldiers who on conversion refused to serve. St. Pancras as a boy of 14 suffered at the same time. He is a patron saint of children

**MONTHS MIND MASS FOR THE LATE
PADDY KIRSTEIN, 3, SWEETBRIAR LANE
WEDNESDAY 9TH MAY AT 8PM
IN ST. MARY & ST. JOHN'S**

**SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
Monthly Collection
This Weekend
5th & 6th May 2001
PLEASE SUPPORT**

NAOMI

36, Washington Street, Cork
Tel: 021-4272213

NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION of the
OVULATION
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FOR INFORMATION ON

- *Pre-marriage Courses*
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Contact N.A.O.M.I., 36 Washington Street, Cork.
Tel: 021-4272213
Tuesday to Friday, Office Hours

BALLINCOLLIG SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER

The monthly Mass and Meeting of the Secular Franciscan Order will take place in the Church of St. Mary & St. John on Thursday May 10th 2001 at 11a.m. Rosary will be recited at 10.45a.m.
All members are welcome

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

The next meeting of the Council will be held on Monday 21st May 2001 at 7.45p.m. in the Community Centre
All members are requested to attend

SWIMMING

*NEXT 8-WEEK SESSION
BEGINS WEEK OF MAY 7TH*

Lessons for Adults and Children,
Beginners & Improvers
Lane Swimming for Adults & Children
THE GROVE LEISURE CENTRE
Cork Road, Bandon
Tel: 023-41643

MINISTERS OF THE WORD 12TH/13TH MAY

ST. MARY & ST. JOHN

CHRIST OUR LIGHT

6.00p.m. (Vigil) - Anne O'Sullivan	8.00p.m. (Vigil) - Christine Fitzsimons
8.30a.m. - Annette Collins	11.00a.m. - Clare Collins
10.00a.m. - Rebecca Lynch	12.30p.m. - Liam Hayes
12 Noon - Oliver O'Donovan	5.30p.m. - Eileen Nolan

MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST 5th/6th May 2001

ST. MARY'S & ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

SATURDAY 5TH
6p.m.

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

SUNDAY 6TH
8.30a.m.

Mary Buckley
Josie Halligan

10a.m.

Anne Cahill
Pat Lee
May Delaney
Seamus O'Neill

12.00 Noon

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



SATURDAY 5TH

8p.m.
Geraldine Lynch
Jim Cahill
Kit Cahill

CHRIST OUR LIGHT CHURCH

SUNDAY 6TH

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

12.30p.m.
Eileen Garvey
Sally Power
Lelia O'Brien
Breda Callanan
Marie O'Brien


5.30p.m.
Neil O'Donoghue
Patricia O'Donoghue
Nell Cantillion-
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 Mon-Fri: 9.30am Saturday: 10.00, 6pm, (Vigil)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ROSARY RECITED AT BOTH CHURCHES EACH SUNDAY 3.00P.M.</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 Mon-Fri: 8.30am 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 Before and after all Masses Sundays & Weekdays CHURCH OF ST. MARY & ST. JOHN</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- Mass Card Signing - Requests for Baptism/Marriage Certs etc. CHRIST OUR LIGHT - 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 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

STAMPS FOR THE MISSIONS

Have you had a letter today?

Will you help our Missions?

YOUR STAMPS CAN HELP:

- provide a home for many street children in the Democratic Republic of Congo and give them an education.
- teach to read and write many thousands of people - especially women in Africa and Asia - who never set foot in a classroom.
- to help so many poor people who live in subhuman conditions.

*So please send us
that stamp off today's letter
- and tomorrow's and the next!*

**SISTER MARIA, MISSION CENTRE,
 HANDMAIDS OF THE SACRED HEART
 UPPER KILMACUD ROAD, STILLORGAN,
 CO. DUBLIN
 TEL: 01-2889963**

Mount Mercy College:

Cúrsa Gaeilge 2001

One week Irish course

for Girls and Boys, 10-16 years

June 25-29th; 10am to 3pm

CATERING FOR FOURTH TO SIXTH CLASS PRIMARY

AND 1ST TO 3RD YEAR POST PRIMARY

SEISIÚIN TEAGAISC, DRÁMAÍOCHT, CÉILÍ

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Tel: 4542366; 10am-4pm (4968496, 6-8pm)



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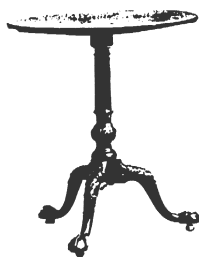
Home Heating Budget Payment Plan



Ballincollig Parish Fund Raising
To Reduce Parish Debt of £285,000
CHARITY AUCTION MAY 30TH

As there has been no door-to-door collection it is felt that parishioners will be happy to donate something for auction

SUGGESTED ITEMS



Furniture
Plate & Silver



Brass
Pictures
Ornaments
Jewellery

Sporting Equipment
Golf, Tennis

Cameras, Binoculars
Clocks



DROP POINT: COMMUNITY CENTRE, STATION RD.
CLOSING DATE FOR DONATIONS: SUNDAY MAY 20TH 2001
PHONE: 087-6483003 086-8369428 021-4871799

CORK COUNTY COUNCIL

requires

**GENERAL OPERATIVES
IN BALLINCOLLIG AREA**

Wages £274.55 (€348.61) basic per week
rising to £288.66 (€366.52) Male/Female

APPLICATIONS FORMS &

FURTHER PARTICULARS FROM:

Personnel Officer, Room 1404, County Hall,
Cork. with whom completed application
forms must be lodged not later than 5pm
on Friday May 25th, 2001

*'Prayer is a power that can move the world;
the lever that moves the fulcrum;
the invincible weapon that Jesus has given me
that can touch souls much better than words.'*

ST. THERESE OF LISIEUX

THANK YOU TO PIKE THEATRE

The ad hoc community group under the auspices of Ballincollig Enterprise Board that is cleaning up the military graveyard would like to thank sincerely the

Pike Theatre Group. On March 13th last a most enjoyable storytellers evening brought in the sum of approx. £600. We recommend their evenings every 2nd Tuesday of the month at the Rugby Club.

This is a super nest egg, which will allow us to get one with the employment of an archaeologist and for research purposes. Thank you to all who attended on the night and to those who contributed directly to the Graveyard account, Bank of Ireland, Ballincollig, no. 90 26 45 19552833

Work on the archaeological report for submission to Duchas is now in progress as is the basic maintenance work, courtesy of the Probation Office. Thank you to everyone for their continued support.

BALLINCOLLIG BASKETBALL CLUB

NOTES AND FIXTURES

Many congratulations to our Un-11 Girls who took first place in the Un-11 league Tournament in Parochial Hall last Saturday. Their first of four games was against Skibbereen C Team, who were no match for the Ballincollig girls, and we won convincingly, unfortunately, their second game was a much tougher affair against a very strong Bantry C Team. Although both teams were evenly matched, Bantry just managed to take the game by only 5pts. In the semi-final we met Bantry B Team. Again this was a close game up to half-time but in the second half Ballincollig pulled away to win by a good margin. But it was in the final that our girls really showed their guts and determination when they again faced Bantry C Team. They put their previous disappointment aside and gave an outstanding performance to win the game and the tournament! Well done to the team and coaches Orla Cotter and George and Nora Meade.

The Un-11 Boys also had their share of victory at the weekend, when they very convincingly beat Midleton on Friday night, here in B.C.S. They then went on to play against Mallow on Saturday in what turned out to be a very exciting match. Mallow took control of the game from the start forcing Ballincollig to play defensively for the best part of the match, but in the last quarter and 10 points down Ballincollig began pulling back to level the score and with only 18 seconds left on the clock Ballincollig got that vital basket and one point lead to win the match.

The Un-15 Boys had a well deserved win over Glanmire on Saturday, taking the lead early on in the game and maintaining it and leaving Glanmire with too much work to do.

Our Un-17's also had a good game against St. Colms of Limerick. Ballincollig had a bad start and did not look as if they were going to be able to close the gap, but in the second half they really worked hard and went on to win by 5pts.

NOTE: There will not be any training on the Bank Holiday Weekend.

Things are not always as they seem

We do not really see the sun rising in the morning or sinking slowly in the West each evening. Yet these daily occurrences never cease to increase our fascination with nature. After all, we know that the earth revolves around the sun (or do we?) And there are clusters of twinkling stars we admire each night and by which sailors and navigators plot their way across the seas and oceans of the world. To us, they appear without fail every night, they are always there. Yet, this is not true either: Some of the stars we "see" have vanished eons ago; what we see is merely the light from these stars which, despite the astonishing speed of light, has taken millions of years to reach the earth. The quarter or half-Moon that we romantically gaze on is the result of the shadow of the Earth coming between the moon and the sun. Truly, the natural wonders created by God are marvellous and may be considered awesome in their magnificence. The tidal surge of the mighty seas, the wonderful forms and shapes of the clouds chasing one another across the vast sky, the springtime return of the flowers to the fields and the never-ending cycle of nature's rebirth. All wonders of creation and all created by the one and only God. Why, then do some of us find it hard to believe? To embrace a firm and fruitful faith? If we can believe that our eyes and ears do not behold all the extraordinary things that exist in our universe, that our senses and understandings are limited, that we cannot really see beyond the horizon nor gaze at another galaxy (as it now exists), then we should have little doubt in believing that the Son of God did indeed walk on the same earth that we walk on today. And that even now, He is with us still.

E. Chandler

REJOICE

Let me rejoice always in the Lord,
 To show in my face the happiness
 That comes from serving Him.
 Let all the earth rejoice!
 That the Lord is their God
 And they are his people.
 His goodness and justice are
 The foundations of his creation.
 To be joyful where there is so much sorrow,
 is not easy, Lord.
 Deepen my faith,
 Gift me with a sense of humour.
 Grant me patience, to see.....
 That you, Lord are present,
 In the tenderness of your love,
 In the fullness of your sovereignty,
 In the pity of your compassion,
 Through all trials and sufferings.
 Thank you, Lord,
 That I have brought a smile to others.
 That I was the dawn of gladness
 For honest hearts.
 'May all who are godly be happy in the Lord.

Reflection from Psalm 97

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 14th May 2001
 at Jury's Hotel at 8p.m.**