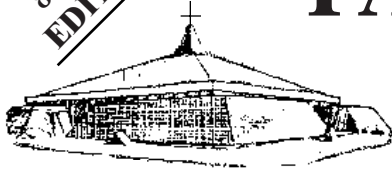


8 PAGE
EDITION

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



CHRIST OUR LIGHT
INNISHMORE



ST. MARY & ST. JOHN
STATION ROAD

SUNDAY 22ND DECEMBER 2002

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

*God's anointed was born by the power of God's Spirit. He is the Son of God and fulfills
God's promise of an everlasting kingdom for his people.*

CHRISTMAS - A TIME FOR SAYING "THANKS"

The priests of the parish would like to say a sincere "Thank You" to all the members of the Parish of Ballincollig for their support and fidelity to the Church during 2002. In a year of so many sad events in the life of the Church all over the world it was a source of great encouragement to see such faithful attendance at Sunday Mass, at the Sacraments and at the school ceremonies held in church such as pre-Confirmation Masses and children's Ceremonies of Reconciliation. There was no falling off in the numbers of young parents bringing their newly born babies for Baptism; the churches were packed for the First Communions and so many wished to attend the Confirmations that the Bishop had to come to the parish on three occasions as the churches would not hold the invited guests.

There is, however a greater test of Christianity than any of the above; it is the test that Jesus himself applied when he said: "I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, naked and you clothed me..." The sincerity of our belief in Jesus is ultimately tested by our generosity to those in need. The extraordinary response to the Christmas appeal of the St. Vincent de Paul Conference proved the sincerity of our parish's response to the words of Christ. Close on seventeen thousand euro was contributed at the Masses on that second weekend in December. This record contribution was given discreetly, anonymously and without any extra emotional appeals or promotions. It was simply a massive vote of confidence in the members of the local Conference.

In the funding of our parish also there has been no need for repeated appeals, special collections, raffles or sponsored activities. The weekly offertory contributions are adequate to fund all the heating, maintenance, insurance, electricity, printing and varied church requisites through out the year. The parish debt is well under control. Twelve hundred euro is being paid off each week. This, without any extraordinary appeals.

The list of those who contribute their time to parish activity is too long to mention here. Choirs, Altar Societies, Parish Council, "Parishioner", Offertory Collectors, Counters, Envelope Distributors, Legion, S.V.de P., Ministers, Servers, Parish Organisations and Boards, etc. etc. are all volunteers who work for God and the parish. You will not see their pictures in the Newspapers. You may not know their names. But you do see the results of their contribution in the liturgical, educational, cultural and social life of our community.

Our wish is that the Lord will reward you all with a happy and holy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Paul O'Donoghue, John O'Donovan, Michael O'Mahony, Leonard O'Brien.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Priest:

God's love for us endures forever, so we present our needs with confidence.

Reader:

For all who profess the Christian faith, that with open hearts they may embrace the grace of our Saviour.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For the Jewish people, descendants of the great King David, that God's promises to them may be fulfilled.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For the members of all religions, that they may grow in tolerance and respect of each other.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For members of our community who feel they lack courage, that they may be inspired by Mary's trust in the word of God.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For our relatives and friends coming home for Christmas, that they may travel safely and find rest here in their native place.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For those who have gone before us in faith, and for all the people who have died in road accidents since last Christmas, that they and all the dead may find a place in God's house.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

Priest:

O God, your love for your people endures forever. Hear our prayers and send us your help, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

We are about to take our final step in preparation for our Christmas meeting with Christ. In the Gospel we hear the words spoken to Mary: "Do not be afraid".

Let us place our trust in God, who is very near us.

With open hearts may we embrace the grace of our Saviour.



Best Wishes for a Happy and Peaceful Christmas

The priests of the parish join in sending their Christmas greetings to all members of the parish and to all readers of the Ballincollig Parishioner. We thank you all for your help and co-operation during the past year.

You will be remembered in our Christmas Masses.

Leonard O'Brien, Michael O'Mahony, John O'Donovan, Paul O'Donoghue

BAPTISMS

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

James Daniel Noonan, 54 BeechPark
Sean Pierce O'Flynn, 66, Wyndham Downs



IN SYMPATHY

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF:

Peggy Curran, Roscommon
Kate O'Brien, 6 Rosewood
Máire McCarthy, Bishopstown

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS OF

David Spillane, Magazine Rd
James Prendiville, Castle Park
Ted Roche, Inniscarra View Est.,
Kate Durrán, Churchtown, Co Mayo
The O'Sullivan & Hallissey Families
Noreen O'Driscoll, Castle Pk
Paul Allen, Beech Pk
Cecily O'Sullivan, Beech Pk
Christy Burns, St Lukes
Elizabeth Fouhy, East Gate
Pat O'Donovan, The Crescent
Patricia Dennehy, Ballygorman
The O'Brien Family
Dan Cronin, Ballylickey, Bantry
David Brosnan, Muskerry Est.
John Corkery, Aherla
Ted Corkery, Aherla
Seamus O'Domovan, Maple Lawn
Callanan Family, Ballincollig
William Tracey
Tommy Daly
Paul Wall
Sean & Geraldine Daly, Coolroe
Coughlan & Daly Families, Ballinagree
John & Josephine Cuddihy, Tipp
John & Mary O'Leary, Ovens
Jeremiah & Mary Keohane, Rossmore
Christy Byrne
Paddy O'Connor, Gurranabraher Ave
Thomas Ahern
Cora Byrne
Patrick & Margaret O'Mahony
Paddy O'Connor, Gurranabraher
Jonathan Knight, Bandon
John & Mary Lucey, Coolroe

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Fourth Week of Advent

22 Sunday 2 Sam. 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16. Ps. 88. Rom. 16:25-27. Lk. 1 :26-38. *Lect 1:70*

23 Monday Mal. 3:1-4, 4:5-6. Ps. 24. Lk. 1 :57-66. *Lect 1:90*
St John Kanty, 1390-1473, loved the academic life in the university of Cracow, Poland, where he taught Sacred Scripture. He gave away all he possessed, ate little, slept on the floor and walked everywhere, even to Rome on four pilgrimages.

24 Tuesday 2 Sam. 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16. Ps. 88. Lk. 1:67-79. *Lect 1:92*

SEASON OF CHRISTMAS THE BIRTH OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

Vigil Mass Is 62 1-5 Ps 88 Acts 13 16-17,22-25 Mt 1 1-25 *Lect 1:99*

25 Wednesday Christmas Day

Midnight Mass Is. 9:1-6 Ps. 95. Tit. 2:11-14 Lk. 2:1-14 *Lect 1:104*
Dawn Mass Is. 62:11-12. Ps. 96. Tit. 3:4-7. Lk. 2:15-20. *Lect 1:107*
Mass during the Day: Is. 52:7-10. Ps. 97. Heb. 1:1-6. Jn. 1:1-18. *Lect 1:109*

26 Thursday Acts. 6:8-10. 7:54-59. Ps. 30. Mt.10:17-22. *Lect 1:125*
St Stephen, the first Christian martyr, was one of those in charge of the poor and needy. He is outstanding for his forgiveness of his enemies. Patron of deacons, stonemasons and bricklayers

27 Friday 1 Jn. 1:1-4. Ps. 96. Jn. 20:2-8. *Lect 1: 127*
St John, brother of James, son of Zebedee, the disciple whom Jesus loved, is traditionally said to have died at Ephesus. He is considered to be the author of the fourth Gospel, the Book of Revelation and three Letters. The Letters especially teach the law of love; he is said in his old age to have preached only one message - Love one another.

28 Saturday 1 Jn. 1:5-2:2. Ps. 123. Mt. 2:13-18. *Lect 1:129*

CHRISTMAS COLLECTION FOR THE PRIESTS OF THE PARISH

According to the Diocesan custom, the collection at Christmas Day Masses is one of two occasions during the year when the offertory collection goes to the priests of the Parish.

CROWLEY FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Bothar Saclay, Ballincollig, Co. Cork
Tel: 021-4874777 Mobile: 087-2759254

*Complete Funeral Arrangements
24 Hour Service Embalming Service
Member I.A.F.D.*

Golden Charter Funeral
Pre-Planning Available



**NO
EVENING MASS
ON
CHRISTMAS DAY**

CHILDREN'S MASS

The Children's Mass will be celebrated at 6pm Christmas Eve in the Church of Christ Our Light

The Editorial Team of the Parishioner and the Website would like to thank all our advertisers for their support and wish them and all our readers a very Happy Christmas

May the Child Jesus rest at the inn of your heart this Christmas

MINISTERS OF THE WORD DEC 24TH/25TH/26TH
CHRIST OUR LIGHT

Christmas Eve 6.00p.m. - Children 8.p.m. - Joy O'Driscoll Midnight - Con O'Connell	Christmas Day 11am - Maura McNamara 12.30 - Phil O'Connell St Stephens Day 9am - Tom Reck
--	---



**MINISTERS OF THE
EUCHARIST
24th/25th December 2002**



**St. Mary & St. John Christ Our Light
Christmas Eve Christmas Eve**

6.00pm: May Delaney
Rita Ahern
Eleanor Seymou
Rose Doyle
Ita Walshe
John Walshe
10.00pm Sr Mary Carmody
John Jeffers
Mary O'Regan
Tony O'Leary
Cathy Horgan
Michael Crowley

6.30pm: Mary Breen
Statia O'Callaghan
Bridie O'Donnell
Phil O'Connell
Margaret Brown
8.00pm Geraldine Lynch
Jim Cahill
Kit Cahill
Charlie Vaughan

Midnight Geraldine Keohane
Catherine Green
Sheila Curran
Siobhan Burke

Christmas Day
8.30am Rita Murphy
Steve Wills
Geraldine Hegarty
10.00am Pat Lee
Christy Roche
Maureen Roche
Christina Walsh
Betty Casey
12 noon Mary McLean
Ellen O'Sullivan
Imogen Ryan
Oliver Delaney
Breda Linehan
Peter Reilly

Christmas Day
11am Mary O'Connell
Seamus O'Connell
Lelia O'Brien
Mary Green
Eileen O'Donoghue
12.30am Mary Twomey
Marie O'Brien
Neil Jeffers
Sally Power
Con O'Connell

MASS TIMES - 22ND-28TH

ST. MARY & ST. JOHN Sunday: 8.30, 10.00, 12.00 Mon: 9.30am Xmas Eve: 9.30am, 6pm, 10pm Xmas Day: 8.30am, 10, 12 noon Thurs-Fri: 9.30am Saturday: 10.00am, 6pm (Vigil)	CHRIST OUR LIGHT Sunday: 11.00, 12.30, 5.30pm Mon: 8.30am Xmas Eve: 8.30am, 6pm, 8pm, Midnight Xmas Day: 11am, 12.30pm Thurs-Fri: 9.00am Saturday: 9.00am, 8pm (Vigil)
---	---

CONFESSIONS

ST. MARY & ST. JOHN Xmas Eve: 11am - 1pm Tuesday: 3pm - 4.30pm Saturday: after 10am Mass before 6pm Mass	CHRIST OUR LIGHT Xmas Eve: 11am - 1pm Tuesday: 3pm - 4.30pm Saturday: after 10am Mass
---	---

BAPTISMS

ST. MARY & ST. JOHN Saturday: 5.00pm Sunday: 12.45pm	CHRIST OUR LIGHT Saturday: 7.15pm
---	---

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Priest:
Let us bring our prayers to God, proclaiming the help we receive every day:

Reader:
For all who follow Christ, that this Christmas may bring them deep joy and true peace.
Lord, Hear us,
Lord, graciously hear us.

For the people for whom Christmas has little meaning, that they may at last hear the Good News, of the Word made flesh.
Lord, Hear us,
Lord, graciously hear us.

For women who find themselves pregnant and alone, that they may be aware of the support of our community.
Lord, Hear us,
Lord, graciously hear us.

For newly-born babies and all our children, that they may know the friendship of Jesus throughout their lives.
Lord, Hear us,
Lord, graciously hear us.

For those who have died, and for those we have known who have died since last Christmas, whom we remember now, that they may rise with Christ to glory.
Lord, Hear us,
Lord, graciously hear us.

For our own needs and for each other, we pray
Lord, Hear us,
Lord, graciously hear us.

Priest:
O God, we proclaim your help day by day: hear our prayers and grant us your grace, through Christ Our Lord.
Amen.

CHRISTMAS DAY

A baby wrapped in swaddling clothes (*Gospel Midnight*)
The angels tell the shepherds not to be afraid - the baby is a sign for them.
The God of infinite majesty and limitless power comes as a tiny baby.
There could be no more eloquent revelation of God's tender love.



SUNDAY 29th DECEMBER 2002

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

The Feast of the Holy Family: we are reminded today that a holy family will be a happy one because everything is based on God's will of love...a love that shows itself in patience, forgiveness and sincere gratitude. The spirit of such a family will be the Spirit of God who brings peace.

MINISTERS OF THE WORD JAN 2003 4TH/5TH ST. MARY & ST. JOHN CHRIST OUR LIGHT

6.00p.m.(Vigil) - Sandra Walsh	8.00p.m.(Vigil) - Tadgh Murphy
8.30a.m. - Marian Daly	11.00a.m. - Jack Dorgan
10.00a.m. - Declan Chalmers	12.30p.m. - Bernard Vallely
12.00 noon. - Oliver O'Donovan	5.30p.m. - Brian o'Donoghue



MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST



4th/5th January 2003

St. Mary & St. John Christ Our Light

6.00pm: Mary O'Donoghue Steve Wills Mgt. O'Sullivan Rita Aherne Rose Doyle Jim Walsh	8.00pm: Anne O'Regan Marion O'Sullivan Finbarr Murray
8.30am: Mary Buckley Rita Murphy	11.00am: Seamus O'Connell Mary O'Connell Alan O'Riordan Geraldine Keohane Pat Manning
10.00am: Maureen Roche Chris Walshe Peter Reilly Mary Collins Christy Roche	12.30pm: Maura Lombard Jackie Sheehan Mary Green Michael O'Leary Lelia O'Brien
12.00 noon: Oliver O'Donovan Barbara Kelly John Jeffers Mary McLean Ellen Seymour Ita Walshe	5.30pm: Catherine Green Mary Breen Siobhan Burke

MASS TIMES - 4th/5th JAN

ST. MARY & ST. JOHN	CHRIST OUR LIGHT
Sunday: 8.30, 10.00, 12.00, 6pm(Vigil)	Sunday: 11am, 12.30, 5.30pm, 8pm(Vigil)
Mon: 8.30, 10.00, 12.00, 8pm	Mon: 11am, 12.30, 6.30pm
Tues - Fri: 9.30am	Tues - Fri: 8.30am
Saturday: 10.00am, 6pm (Vigil)	Saturday: 9.00am, 8pm (Vigil)
6th JAN	
Mon: 8.30am, 10, 12, 8pm(Vigil)	Mon: 11am, 12.30, 6.30pm

CONFESSIONS

ST. MARY & ST. JOHN	CHRIST OUR LIGHT
Saturday: after 10am Mass before 6pm Mass	Saturday: after 10am Mass

BAPTISMS

ST. MARY & ST. JOHN	CHRIST OUR LIGHT
Saturday: 5.00pm	Saturday: 7.15pm
Sunday: 12.45pm	

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Priest:

As members of God's family, we bring our prayers to the Lord, whose love surpasses all others:

Reader:

For all Christian families, that values like patience, understanding and tolerance may be their hallmark.
Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For families in difficulty, that they may have the support they need.
Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For grandparents and all older people, that, like Simeon and Anna, their hopes for the next generation may be fulfilled.
Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For single people of all ages, that their Christian commitment may be seen in gentleness and concern for others.
Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For those who have endured suffering in family life, because of abuse or addiction or illness, that healing and hope may be God's gift to them in the New Year.
Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For all the members of our families who have died, whom we remember now: for those who died recently and for the people from our community who died during 2002, that they may see the face of God.
Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

Priest:

O God, you remember your covenant forever, hear the prayers of those who seek your help, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS OF

Patrick Sheehan, Kilmurry
Dermot Barry-Murphy, Carriganarra
Hannah & Dan Dempsey, Carrigrohane & Model Farm Rd
Bridget & Michael O'Regan, Carriganarra
Billy Green, Station Rd
Jack & Claire Horgan, Gurranabraher
O'Connell & O'Leary Families
Bridget, Vincent & Frank Moran, England
Jean & Eddie Murphy, Powder Mills
Daniel & Ellen O'Halloran
O'Shea & Wrenne Families, Castletownbere
John Coleman, Coolroe
Michael & Mary Naughton
Eileen Cronin, Skibbereen
Sheila Harrington

THOUGHT FOR TODAY

The child grew to maturity (Gospel)

By far the greater part of the life of Jesus was lived in obscurity. He is present with us not only in the great achievements and the great sorrows of life but also in the routine that may seem unimportant even to ourselves. The family life of Nazareth is a call to grow closer to him day by day in our family life.

He, the Lord, is our God. He remembers his covenant for ever.

MINISTERS OF THE WORD DEC 28TH/29TH

ST. MARY & ST. JOHN CHRIST OUR LIGHT

6.00p.m.(Vigil) - Geraldine Murphy 8.30a.m. - Annette Collins 10.00a.m. - Margot Twomey 12.00noon. - Tony Lynch	8.00p.m.(Vigil) - • Jacinta Jeffers • 11.00a.m. - • Maura McNamara • 12.30p.m. - • Marie Groarke • 5.30p.m. - • Michelle Beamish
--	---



MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST



28th/29th December 2002

St. Mary & St. John Christ Our Light

6.00pm: Aisling Kelly Tony O'Leary Eileen Murphy Ted Nelligan Angela Murphy Ann O'Connell	8.00pm: John O'Donoghue Eleanor O'Donoghue Kathleen Daly
8.30am: Helen Kelly Roddy Martin	11.00am: Mary O'Mahony Margaret Brown Rose Cotter Billy Barry Nell Cantillon-Murphy
10.00am: Miriam Maunsell Mary Buckley Breda Ring Jerry O'Connor Mary O'Regan	12.30pm: Mary Twomey Peggy Sheehan Pat Manning Terry O'Driscoll Bernie O'Driscoll
12.00 noon: Louie O'Leary John Walshe Pat Kelleher Irene O'Brien Ellen O'Sullivan Imogen Ryan	5.30pm: Garreth Irish Sheila Curran Bridie O'Donnell

MASS TIMES

ST. MARY & ST. JOHN Sunday: 8.30, 10.00, 12.00 Mon-Thurs: 9.30am Fri: 9.30am, 8pm Saturday: 10.00am, 6pm (Vigil)	CHRIST OUR LIGHT Sunday: 11.00, 12.30, 5.30pm Mon-Thurs: 8.30am Fri: 8.30am, 6.30pm Saturday: 9.00am, 8.00pm (Vigil)
--	--

CONFESSIONS

ST. MARY & ST. JOHN Saturday: after 10am Mass before 6pm Mass	CHRIST OUR LIGHT Saturday: after 10am Mass
---	---

BAPTISMS

ST. MARY & ST. JOHN Saturday: 5.00pm Sunday: 12.45pm	CHRIST OUR LIGHT Saturday: 7.15pm
--	--------------------------------------

PARISH CLERGY

CHURCH NO. 087-2479140
Fr. Leonard O'Brien P.P. 021-4871206
Fr. Michael O'Mahony C.C. 021-4877161
Fr. Paul O'Donoghue 021-4876055
Fr. John O'Donovan C.C. 021-4870434

BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY NEW YEAR

The priests of the parish join in sending New Year greetings to all members of the parish and to all readers of the Ballincollig Parishioner.

IN PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

To celebrate Noelle's 10th birthday on Monday 23rd of December '02

Fr Leonard O'Brien, P.P., Ballincollig, will celebrate Holy Mass at 11am at Noelle's home:- 37 Parknamore Hts.

You are all very welcome.

Noelle is sponsoring a poor man on Death Row, Zambia, awaiting execution. Isaac has four children and desperately needs our help. If anyone would like to make a small contribution or help in any way towards this beautiful cause, it would be very much appreciated.

P.S.Holy mass for the healing of the family tree will take place in the Church of Christ Our Light, Innishmore, Ballincollig on Tuesday 31st December '02 at 8.30am. You are all most welcome. Full Irish breakfast will be served afterwards at 37 Parknamore Hts., Ballincollig



SUTTONS OIL HOME HEATING OIL

- Commercial
- Agricultural

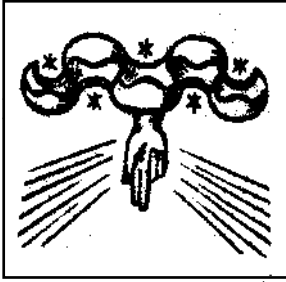
Centre Park Road, Cork

Tel: 021-4911700

Fax: 021-4911701

Home Heating Budget Payment Plan





SUNDAY 5th JANUARY 2003

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

For many the New Year is a time for making resolutions, to alter personal and material ways of their life. We are called to renew our commitment to follow - :The Word made flesh" - full of grace and truth.

MINISTERS OF THE WORD JAN 2003 11TH/12TH
ST. MARY & ST. JOHN CHRIST OUR LIGHT

6.00p.m.(Vigil) - Muireann Nelligan	8.00p.m.(Vigil) - Michael Greene
8.30a.m. - Martha Barry	11.00a.m. - Phil O'Connell
10.00a.m. - Elaine Murphy	12.30p.m. - Martyn O'Connor
12.00 noon. - Miriam Maunsell	5.30p.m. - Margaret Murphy



MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST



11th/12th January 2003

St. Mary & St. John Christ Our Light

6.00pm: Vera Allen Ber Bell Oliver Delaney Betty Casey Frank Riordan Siobhan Riordan	8.00pm: Geraldine Lynch Charlie Vaughan Joan Stephenson
8.30am: Mary Buckley Theresa Lucey	11.00am: Maire Uí Chrualaoi Neil Jeffers Eileen O'Donoghue Mary Coleman Dan Coleman
10.00am: Anne Cahill Pat Lee May Delaney Seamus O'Shea John O'Donovan	12.30pm: Con O'Connell Denis O'Mahony Christine O'Mahony Tom Murray Maura Lombard
12.00 noon: Joan Barrett Sheila Carroll Marsie Curling Will Casey	5.30pm: Patsy Galvin Bridie O'Donnell Phil O'Connell

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Priest:

Let us bring our prayers to God,
who in Jesus was made flesh.

Reader:

For those who claim the name of Christian, that they may accept the mystery of Jesus, human and divine.
Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For the people for whom God seems distant and uncaring, that they see the full beauty of God,
revealed in Jesus.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For the nations where war and strife cause much suffering, that this New Year may bring them peace.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For all of us, in this two thousand and third year of our Saviour, that we may have the grace and courage to make a new start.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For those who have died,
that perpetual light may shine on them.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For our own needs, which we remember quietly...

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

Priest:

O God, your Word reveals your care and compassion: Receive the prayers we make,
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS OF

William O'Dwyer, Kilmichael
Denis Murphy, Fr Sexton Pk
Maureen Calnan, West Village
Sheila Murray, Leemount
Aidan Burke, 38 Beech Road
John Ring, Dungourney & Australia
Thomas Quinn,
Liam Walsh, Wolverhampton,
Abina Carroll, Cloduv
John Barry-Murphy
Mary & Daniel Cullinane, Greenfield
Mona & Richard V. Hourigan, Limerick
Jeremiah & Mary Buttimer, Kilmichael

Patrick Barry, Ardarostig
Rita Fouhy, East Gate
Josephine Deady, Buttevant
Maureen Callanan, Ballincollig
Sean Crowley, Poulavone
Dan & Maureen Sheehan, Cahirciveen
Frank O'Kelly-Lynch, Dublin
Joe & Mona Thullier, Kinsale
James & Catherine O'Sullivan, Kilmichael
Michael Hickey, Greenfield

THOUGHT FOR TODAY

We saw his glory (Gospel)

The familiar words of the Gospel challenge us - have we really seen the glory of Christ? In him, in human flesh, we recognise the Word, who was with God in the beginning and through whom all things were made.

The Word was made flesh, and lived among us

**Upstairs
Downstairs**

**HOME FURNISHINGS
& INTERIORS**

**CORK'S NEWEST
FURNITURE STORE
NOW OPEN IN
BALLINCOLLIG**

*Bedroom, Dining Room
and Occasional Furniture
in Solid Mahogany, Walnut and Teak*

SEEING IS BELIEVING!!!!

Westside Retail Park,
(behind cinema),
Ballincollig, Co. Cork

Telephone: 021-4876164

OPENING TIMES:

Monday-Wednesday: 9.30am-6.00pm

Thursday & Friday: 9.30am-7.00pm

Saturday: 9.00am-5.30pm

Sunday: 2.00pm-6.00pm

Gift Tokens Available

**WISHING ALL OUR CUSTOMERS
A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS
AND NEW YEAR**

THANK YOU

*John, Nancy Hogan and Family,
5, The Crescent, wish to thank you
most sincerely for your get well
messages, Mass offerings
and prayers for Nancy during
her recent illness.*

*We trust that this acknowledgement
will be accepted as a token of our
deep gratitude.*

*The holy sacrifice of the Mass will
be offered for your intentions*

*May we take this opportunity to wish
you all a happy Christmas and a
peaceful and healthy New Year.*

THE ROSARY

*On New Year's Eve, December 31st,
2002, The Fifteen Decades of the
Rosary will be recited at 3pm in the
Church of St Mary and St John,
Station Road.*

All are welcome.

*For the month of January 2003 the
Rosary will be recited, Monday to
Friday, at 6.30pm in the church of
St Mary and St John,
for peace in the world.*

Come and pray the Rosary with us.

FATIMA APOSTOLATE.

**FATIMA
APOSTOLATE GROUP**

The monthly meeting of the
Apostolate will be held on
Monday 6th January 2003
at 7pm in the Youth House,
Station Road, Ballincollig.

*Present members and new members
are all welcome to attend*

**THE VOICE OF THE
LEGION OF MARY**

*The praesidium of the Legion of
Mary wishes to inform their
Auxiliaries and all the
Parishioners of Ballincollig that
the Rosary will be recited at the
Crib in the town at noon on
Christmas Eve.*

*All are welcome and a Happy
Christmas to one and all.*

THE ORIGIN OF 'SILENT NIGHT'

A holy night, a silent night, with Mother and child, all is calm, all is bright. This inspiring hymn came to us because an organ in Germany broke down about one hundred years ago. Without an organ the parish priest in a small country church said it would be a 'Silent Night'. The organist would compose a melody. The priest would write the lyrics and the choir would just sing the soft praises of this hymn for Midnight Mass. That is all it was meant to be, just a simple hymn sung once and forgotten. Then a snowstorm prevented the man who fixed the organ from coming until the snow melted in the spring. After he finished he noticed the music left on the organ since Christmas night and took it back to Munich. the rest is history. "Silent Night" has reverberated throughout the ages. With its quiet sounds of love and peace it has inspired millions and millions, touching the lives of countless people.

Ballincollig Entertainment Theatre present
this year's Pantomime

"Jack & the Beanstalk"

Ballincollig Community Hall Theatre
Saturday 28th December to Sunday 5th
January.

Shows are nightly at 8pm with matinees
at 3pm on 28th, 29th, 1st, 4th & 5th.

There will be no shows on New Years
Eve and no 8pm show on the 5th

Admission: Adults €5.00;
Children & OAP'S €3.00
Family rates available.

WEEKLY OFFERING ENVELOPES

Boxes of 2003 envelopes for the weekly offering are available from both churches.

Please take one home

*May the Child Jesus and His Mother
watch over you this Christmas and
throughout the coming year.
As once they came to the stable of
Bethlehem, may they come to you
and bring you all the desires of your
heart.*

AT THE GATE OF THE YEAR

And I said to the man,
who stood at the gate of the year:
Give me a light that I may tread safely
into the unknown.
And he replied:
Go out into the darkness,
and put your hand into the hand of God.

So I went forth and found the hand of God,
trod gladly into the light.
He led me towards the hills
and the breaking of the day in the East.

So heart, be still!
What need our life to know,
if God hath comprehension?
In all the dizzy strife of things,
both high and low,

A CHRISTMAS WISH

I cannot hope to thank you, dear
For all you've done for me.
My thoughts they lie too deep for words
Where none can ever see.
Your gracious gift has meant so much
That only He above
Can e'er repay or hope to match
A heart that so can love.
May the King of Crib
and the Virgin Queen,
look down and o'er you bend.
May they repay with gifts unseen,
Your dearest self, my friend.

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER

*Notices, articles, etc. for publication in
our next issue should be handed in on
Tuesday 7th January 2003*

AULD LANG SYNE

The song, "Auld Lang Syne", is sung at the stroke of midnight in almost every English-speaking country in the world to bring in the new year. At least partially written by Robert Burns in the 1700's, it was first published in 1796 after Burn's death. Early variations of the song were sung prior to 1700 and inspired Burns to produce the modern rendition. An old Scotch tune, "Auld Lang Syne" literally means "old long ago", or simply, "the good old days".

MARY'S DREAM

'I had a dream, Joseph. I don't understand it, but I think it was about a birthday celebration for our son. The people in my dream had been preparing for about six weeks. They had decorated the house and bought new clothes. They'd gone shopping many times and bought many elaborate gifts. It was peculiar though, because the presents weren't for our son. They wrapped them in beautiful paper and stacked them under a tree. Yes, a tree, Joseph, right inside their homes! They'd decorated the tree with sparkling ornaments. There was a figure like an angel on the top of the tree. Everyone was laughing and happy. They gave gifts to each other, Joseph, not to our son. I don't think they even knew him. They never mentioned his name. I had the strangest feeling if our Jesus had gone to this celebration, he would have been intruding. How sad for someone not to be wanted at his own birthday party! I'm glad it was only a dream. How terrible, Joseph, if it had been real!