

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER

Sunday 30-March-2003



St. Mary & St. John
Station Road



FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Jesus came among us to light our way to true humanity, our way to God. Our reaction to him is a sign of the kind of people we are. It is also a sign of what our future will be. Our judgement will depend on our faith in him.



Christ Our Light
Innishmore

THE HOUND OF HEAVEN

One of the best known religious poems in the English language is The Hound of Heaven. It was written by Francis Thompson, who tried to run away from God. He compares God to a hound, yes, a hound dog chasing a soul. It is the story of Thompson's own life. As a boy he intended to become a priest but his laziness led his father to enroll young Francis in a medical school. He contracted the opium habit that almost wrecked his mind and body. He became a beggar, slinking about the slums, earning a lean living by shining shoes, selling matches, and holding horses. Through the kindness of a poor girl, Thompson met Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Meynell, who recognised his talent and inner goodness. They helped him get caught by God's love. How he tried to run away from God, how God "hunted" him, how divine love caught up with him - these are the themes of this stirring poem. The outstanding proof of God's love for us is expressed in today's Good News: "God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life." The heavenly Father proved His love for every one of us by sending His precious Son to win us back. Like Francis Thompson, souls run away from God. Like a hound running after a rabbit, God runs after every soul. Unlike the hound, God wants to save that soul, not destroy it.

How can we get some idea of how much The Hound of Heaven loves us? In his letter to the Ephesians (3: 18), St. Paul suggests that we think of the "breadth and length and height and depth" of God's love for us.

God's love for us is broad. It extends to every human being, to pagans, Sinners, even to His enemies. God wants everyone to share in His goodness.

God's love for us is long. I have loved thee with an everlasting love" (Jer. 21:3).

Before the world began God loved you. God's love stretches from eternity to eternity.

God's love for us is high. It reaches from the throne of the Almighty in the highest heavens. The height of His love is shown in His gifts to us. What could be more sublime than sharing the very life of God through the sacraments? What love could be higher than giving His own all-good, all-holy Son to us in Holy Communion?

God's love is deep. He humbled Himself from highest heaven to the lowly stable at Bethlehem, to the slums and jungles, to the least of men, to the shame of a cross, to the depths of a tomb.

Once we realize, as did Francis Thompson, as did all the saints, that God hunts our souls to the end of the earth, then we will try to return that love, we will try to "Grow in love".

During Lent we remember how Love gave His life for us. May the Hound of Heaven "catch" every one of us.

John O'Donovan

Thought for Today

We are God's work of art (Second Reading)

Human beings can seek the truth – learning about the beauty, love and power of God from the wonders of creation. But God has also invited us to enter into a personal relationship with him. We are made in the image of God who speaks to us as sons and daughters – the summit of the visible creation.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Priest

We bring our prayers to God, whose love for us has no end

Reader

For Pope John Paul, our Bishop John, and all who minister in the Church.

**Lord, Hear us,
Lord, graciously hear us.**

For those preparing to celebrate baptism this Easter time.

**Lord, Hear us,
Lord, graciously hear us.**

For peace and reconciliation in our country, and throughout the world.

**Lord, Hear us,
Lord, graciously hear us.**

For exiles and refugees, and all who travel in search of a better life.

**Lord, Hear us,
Lord, graciously hear us.**

For the mothers of this community and all who take a mother's role.

**Lord, Hear us,
Lord, graciously hear us.**

For mothers who have died and for all the dead, especially all those in our thoughts today.

**Lord, Hear us,
Lord, graciously hear us..**

Priest

God of love and mercy, your gifts to your people are boundless. Give us your grace, we ask in faith, and hear our prayers, through Christ our Lord.

Amen..

O let my tongue cleave to my mouth if I remember you not!

Visit Our Website: www.ballincolligparish.ie

BAPTISMS

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

Shane Robert Usher, Clash
 Kayleigh Mary Buckley, 16 Park Road
 Ryan Edward Buckley, 16 Park Road

† **IN SYMPATHY** †
PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF THE RECENTLY DECEASED :

Jack Nolan, Kanturk
 Thomas Flanagan, Castle Park

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS OF THE FOLLOWING WHOSE ANNIVERSARY OCCURS:

Dolly & Christine O'Carroll, Cork
 Gus & Vincent O'Connell, Ballinora
 John McAuliffe, Douglas
 Edward Keating, West Village
 Teresa Strahan, Dublin
 Timothy Harrington, Eyries
 Frances O'Donovan, Cloyne
 Kitty Barry, Hodder's Villas
 Kathleen Duncan
 Sean Finn
 Kevin Shields, Castleknock
 Stephen & Rose Spitere, Prosperity Square
 Sheila O'Connell
 Ellen O'Sullivan, Inniscarra
 Sean Murphy, Kilnamartyra
 Henry & Nora O'Brien, Sheare St.
 Rose O'Shea, Scotch Farm, Model Farm Rd.
 Eugene & Mgt. Teahan, Killarney
 Tadgh & Ellen O'Donovan, Killarney
 Michael & Agnes O'Connor, Limerick
 Deceased members of the Hickey Family, Limerick
 Christy Crowley, Glasheen
 John Corkery, Aherla
 Edward Fouhy, Model Farm Road
 Chrissy Walsh, Mountmellick
 Mary & Denis Lucey, Ballingearry
 Peggy O'Riordan, Kilnamartyra
 Brian McCullogh, Carlow
 Des McGreevy
 Pat Power
 Dan Desmond, Farran
 Annie Knight, Bandon.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

FOURTH WEEK OF LENT

30 Sunday 2 Chr. 36:14-16, 19-23. Ps. 136. Eph. 2:4-10. In. 3:14-21. Lect 1:287
 31 Monday Is. 65:17-21. Ps. 29. In. 4:43-54. Lect 1:290
 01 Tuesday Ex. 47:1-9.12. Ps. 45. In. 5:1-3,5-16. Lect 1:292
 02 Wednesday Is. 49:8-15. Ps. 144. In. 5: 17 -30. Lect 1:294
 03 Thursday Ex. 32:7 -14 Ps. 105 In. 5:31-47. Lect 1:297
 04 Friday Wis. 2:1,12-22. Ps. 33. In 7:1-2,10,25-30. Lect 1:300
 05 Saturday Jer. 11: 18-20. Ps. 7. In. 7:40-53. Lect 1:303

THE APOSTOLATE OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA, CORK MONTHLY DEVOTIONS, MASS AND HOLY HOUR

IN REPARATION TO
The Sacred Heart of Jesus and
The Immaculate Heart of Mary

ST. MARIES OF THE ISLE CHAPEL

Date: Monday 31st March 2003

Time: 7.30 p.m.

Conducted by:

Rev. Jeremiah Cremin C.C. The Glen

All Welcome

"IN THE END MY IMMACULATE HEART WILL TRIUMPH"

[OUR LADY OF FATIMA]

BALLINCOLLIG LIONS CLUB

EASTER BAZAAR Sunday 27th April 2003

We are looking for unwanted /surplus Quality Goods
 Check your garage/attic.

Drop to Community Hall or contact for collection:
 Statia @ 4870204 / Elizabeth @ 4870354 /
 Chris @ 70 Beech Park

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THE ALZHEIMER SOCIETY of IRELAND

THE ALZHEIMER SOCIETY OF IRELAND (CORK BRANCH)

CARERS SUPPORT MEETING

MONDAY, 14TH APRIL, 2003, IN JURY'S HOTEL AT 8P.M.

THE SUNDAY READINGS

FIRST READING: 2 Chronicles 36: 14-16, 19-23

The Sacred Writer sees the misfortunes of God's people as a well deserved punishment for their infidelity and sins. The King of Babylon (present day Iraq) conquered them, burned the Temple and took them away to his country between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers where they languished for seventy years. God, however, did not abandon his people. He brought about their liberation when the Persians came to power (present day Iran) and liberated them.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 2: 4-10

Just as God liberated and purified his people by sending the King of Persia to help them so he sent his only Son Jesus to liberate us from our sins. We did nothing to deserve this great gift. We are God's work of art.

GOSPEL: John 3: 14-21

Salvation not judgement is the direct purpose of the mission of the Son of God. Men make their own judgement by their attitude to him. He who believes incurs no damnation. The unbeliever is already in a state of damnation because he has established himself as an unbeliever in the mission of Jesus. The person who confesses and accuses his sins is already on the side of God.



SAINT OF THE WEEK

SAINT ISIDORE 04-APRIL-03

Saint Isidore lived around the year 600 A.D. He became Bishop of Seville in Spain which country was at that time experiencing the challenges of disintegration and transition. The ancient institutions and classic learning of the Roman Empire were disappearing. In Spain a new civilisation was beginning to evolve from the blending of the new races living there, which included the barbarous Goths, whose contempt for learning threatened civilisation. Through the influence of Isidore a decree was published commanding all bishops to establish seminaries in their cathedral cities where the study of Greek, Hebrew, the liberal arts, law and medicine were encouraged. Among the extensive writings of the saint was a compendium of universal knowledge, which became a textbook for all Spanish students during the Middle Ages. He was regarded by his contemporaries as a man raised by God to save the Spanish people from the tidal wave of barbarism that threatened to inundate the ancient Christian tradition.

**BALLINCOLLIG /SACLAY / MECHTERSTADT
TWINNING PARTNERSHIP**

GERMAN STUDENT : Part of the twinning concept is student exchanges / work experience for students. This summer two students come to Ballincollig, one from our twinning partner, Saclay in France and one from Mechterstadt in Germany, a town we hope to twin with in the future. Both lads are at 3rd Level colleges and will be involved in work here relevant to their College degree. The French student will be with us for 9 weeks, However the German student will be in Ireland until December. To help with his expenses he is anxious to pick up extra pocket money over the weekends and evening by giving German language lessons. If you are interested in availing of this you may contact him direct at Robert.Specht@web.de or contacting Barry O'Mahony @ 4873098 (h) or 4902456 (w)

DON'T WASTE TIME CURSING THE DARK



PRIESTHOOD IN CORK & ROSS

Talking, listening, discussing, praying and reflecting will help you explore whether you want to fan the flame. It is still your decision.

INFORMATION DAY

about becoming a priest in Cork and Ross

Date: Saturday April 12th, 2003

Venue: Ennismore Retreat Centre, Cork

Cost: Free Time: 11-5 (lunch provided)

Should you attend? What if you can't that day? Want to find out more?

In confidence, telephone Fr. Aidan O'Driscoll at (021) 4303015 or Fr. Bertie O'Mahony at (021) 4393815 or send an email to priesthood@corkandross.org

PILGRIMAGE

Our Lady Queen Of Peace House Of Prayer Achill, Co. Mayo on Sat 12th April 2003.

Coach Departs:

6.00am Kinsale; **6.15am** Belgooly;
6.30am Riverstick; **6.40am** Five Mile Bridge;
7.00am Parnell Place;
Stop at Commons Inn & Mallow.

Phone: Margaret Murphy
087-7400163 / 021-4771606

THE WIDENING GAP

Lenten Seminars at SMA Centre, Wilton
(Organised by the Cork Alliance for Justice & Social Care)

Tues. 8th April at 8.00pm

Margo Hayes (Community Development Worker) & Liam Fitzpatrick (Society of St. Vincent de Paul), on current Responses to Poverty & Exclusion.

**Friday 4th April 2003
(First Friday)**

**Church of St. Mary & St. John
EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACREMENT**
Following 9.30am Mass, concluding with Rosary, Benediction at 7.45pm and Mass 8.00pm.

**BALLINCOLLIG PARISH
CONFIRMATIONS 2003**

Scoil Eoin - Monday 7th April 2003

Scoil Mhuire - Tuesday 1st April 2003

Scoil Barra - Wednesday 7th May 2003

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

Apr-05 & Apr-06-2003

St. Mary & St. John

Christ Our Light

6:00 pm (Vigil)
Sandra Walsh
8:30 am
Martha Barry
10:00 am
Margot Twomey
12:00 Noon
Miriam Maunsell

8:00 pm (Vigil)
Tadhg Murphy
11:00 am
Phil O'Connell
12:30 pm
Marlyn O'Connor
5:30 pm
Michelle Beamish

MASS TIMES

St. Mary & St. John

Christ Our Light

8:30am, 10am & 12 noon	Sunday	11am, 12:30pm & 5:30pm
9:30 am & 8 pm	Monday	8:30 am & 6:30 pm
9:30 am & 8 pm	Tuesday	8:30 am & 6:30 pm
9:30 am & 8 pm	Wednesday	8:30 am & 6:30 pm
9:30 am & 8 pm	Thursday	8:30 am & 6:30 pm
9:30 am & 8 pm	Friday	8:30 am & 6:30 pm
10:00 am & 6 pm (Vigil)	Saturday	9:00 am & 8 pm (Vigil)

CONFESSIONS

After 10:00 am Mass & before 6:00 pm Mass **Saturday** After 9:00 am Mass

BAPTISMS

5:00 pm **Saturday** 7:15 pm
12:45 pm **Sunday**

MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

Apr-05 & Apr-06-2003

St. Mary & St. John

Christ Our Light

6.00 pm Vera Allen
Bernadette Bell
Oliver Delaney
Betty Casey
Frank Riordan
Siobhan Riordan
8:30 am Mary Buckley
Theresa Lucey
10:00 am Anne Cahill
Pat Lee
Seamus O'Shea
John O'Donovan
12 Noon Joan Barrett
Sheila Carroll
Marsie Curling
Will Casey

8:00 pm Geraldine Lynch
Charlie Vaughan
Joan Stephenson
11:00 am Marie Ui Chrualaof
Neil Jeffers
Eileen O'Donoghue
Mary Coleman
Dan Coleman
12:30 pm Con O'Connell
Denis O' Mahony
Christine O'Mahony
Tom Murray
Maura Lombard
5:30 pm Patsy Galvin
Bridie O'Donnell
Phil O'Donnell

PARISH CLERGY

Priest on Duty 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

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL MONTHLY COLLECTION

Next Weekend
6th & 7th April 2003 PLEASE SUPPORT

Community Games

The Cork County Community Games Swimming finals will be held in Leisure World Bishopstown on Saturday April 26th next.

All girls and boys in the U/8 to U/16 age groups wishing to represent Ballincollig in the county finals should contact Rick O'Mahony at 087-2358347. Contact must be made with Rick by Friday next April 4th at latest

"The Wounded Healer"
April 11th -13th

St. Dominic's Retreat Centre, Ennismore, Montenotte, Cork.

A time for healing our woundedness, uncovering the hidden life scripts that have kept us imprisoned. Through the gentle process of meditating on the story of Christ's journey towards Easter, working with imagery, colour, music, clay etc, you will be guided towards healing and rediscovering the hidden treasure of what you once perceived as weakness.

8.00p.m. Friday 11th-Sunday 13th (lunchtime).

Cost: Residential €110 Non residential €70

Directed by Martina Lehane

Information - Booking - 087-2439302 / (021) 4502520

PRAYER FOR MOTHERS

God our Father, full of compassion for all who turn to you in their hour of need, you gave Saint Monica the wonderful grace of holiness as wife and mother. Through prayer and perseverance, she won for you, Lord, her husband and wayward son, Augustine. Grant to all mothers the same patience and prayer-filled concern, so that your Son's love may become more evident in the family.

"Best wishes to all Mothers for Mother's Day today"



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