

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



St. Mary & St. John
Station Road

Sunday 28-November-2004

First Sunday of Advent

Christ was born into the world to be the light of all people on their through life. Today we renew our dedication to live as He has shown us, so that when He comes again we will be ready to receive him.



Christ Our Light
Innishmore

Advent 2004

Welcome to Advent 2004, this marks the beginning of another church year. Advent is a period of four weeks when the church asks us to wait for the Saviour. During each week we spend some time waiting; sometimes for the bus, on other occasions for that phone call, parents wait for the children, many will wait for that hoped for card during the coming weeks but as Christians we are asked to wait for Emanuel – not easy to wait so we might ask for help with our waiting.

The readings this weekend carry a message of hope. The desire to reach forward to grasp a better future is an intrinsic part of human nature. Without such a desire no one would make plans of any kind. This aspect of our nature persists even if we expect that the future will contain its share of difficulty, even agony, fear or pain. Hope is not confined to personal life. The idealism that prompts people to see to build a new and better world is the product of human willingness to put energies into building the future. Part of the contribution that Christian hope makes is the belief that the future is of God's making.

The enemies of hope are many, there can be a tendency to look back, to wallow in a supposedly golden age when all was in order; there is a danger also of being prophets of doom. Today we might listen to St. Paul's call "the time has come, you must wake up now; the night is almost over. Let us arm ourselves and appear in the light." May this Advent be a time when we will try to wait, wait for the Saviour to come to each of us and our families.

George O'Mahony

Reflection for Parents

There is more work for parents to do in a day than will ever get done. Some of us work outside our homes while some stay at home. In either case there are always bills to pay, laundry to wash, meals to prepare, errands to run and things to fix. Unless we deliberately set aside time to prepare ourselves and our families for Jesus' return, we will continue with the busyness of everyday life like the people of Noah's time and the workers in the field and at the mill. Especially at this time of year, it is easy to get caught up in the demands centred on Jesus' birth rather than his return.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Priest

With confidence in God, we bring our petitions before him.

Reader

That all who bear the name of Christian may be united in preparation for the season of Christ's coming.

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

That children and young people may be led in ways of goodness and truth.

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

That we may be more conscious of the needs of those around us, and help in every way we can.

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

That those who work for peace may not give up for lack of resources or support.

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

That those who come to us from other nations and cultures may find a welcome among us.

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

That all who have gone before us on the path of life may enter the joy of their heavenly home.

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

Priest

Faithful God, you never forget your people. Hear the prayer we make this day in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, who is Lord for ever.

Amen

I rejoiced when I heard them say: 'Let us go to God's house.'

Visit Our Website: www.ballincolligparish.ie

BAPTISMS

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

Zac Finbar Hutchinson, 5 The Lawn, Coolroe Meadows.
 Shannon Christine Margaret Prenderville O'Brien, Brompton House, The Cloisters.
 Alan Lee Dineen, 31 Innishmore Court.
 Leah Caroline Ryan, 8 Old Court Drive, Greenfields.
 James Denis Crockett, 24 Old Court, Greenfields

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

Margaret Lehane, Farranree.
 Margaret Pinfield, Blarney.
 Margaret Sweeney, Church View.
 Kevin Ryan, 55 Westcourt.
 Maura Horgan, Popes Road, Cork

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

Deceased members of the Ahern Family, Fr. Sexton Park.
 Eileen, Frank & Eddie O'Donovan, Raheen.
 John Ring, Australia & Dungourney.
 Deceased members of Ballincollig Credit Union.
 Kathleen Murphy, Glounthaune.
 Michael Gilleran, Rosewood.
 Dan Murphy, Clash.
 Jim Campbell, Galway.
 Teresa & Michael Gilleran, Ballinlough.
 John & Catherine McKechnie, Tower.
 Barbara Lambe, Derby.
 Jack & Claire Horgan, Gurranabraher.
 Johanna O'Shea, Skibbereen.
 Josephine Foley, Newcestown.
 Agnes Kavanagh, 12 Fr. Sexton Park.
 Stephen Spitere, Glasheen.
 Deceased members of the Mitchell Family.
 Kevin McCarthy, Rosewood.
 Con Jeffries, Blarney Street.
 Phil Coughlan, Tower Street.
 Theresa Devane, Annascaul, Co. Kerry.
 Deceased members of the Reilly & Hanney Families.
 John Lucey, Station Road.
 Dan, Kathleen, Michael, & Donal Hallahan, Greenfields.
 Deceased members of the Callanan Family.
 Johanna & Michael Hennigan.
 Tommy Daly, Leemount.
 Deceased members of the Forde Family, Station Road.
 Sean & Geraldine Daly, Coolroe.
 Marjorie O'Mahony, Bandon.
 Deceased members of the Coughlan Family, Dripsey.
 Agnes Kavanagh, Crescent.

Bookshop – Christ Our Light

Now in stock Christmas cards, candles, cribs, rosary beads, crucifixes, CD's, tapes, children's bibles, books and a variety of religious objects.

Why not give a religious gift this Christmas!
 Shop open weekends before and after all masses.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

First Sunday of Advent

28 Sunday Is. 2:1-5. Ps. 121. Rom. 13:11-14. Mt. 24:37-44. Lect 1:3
 29 Monday Is. 2:1-5. Ps. 121. Mt. 8:5-11. Lect 1:10
 30 Tuesday Rom. 10:9-18. Ps. 18. Mt. 4:1 8-22. Lect II:1279
 01 Wednesday Is. 25:6-10. Ps. 22. Mt. 15:29-37. Lect 1:15
 02 Thursday Is. 26:1-6. Ps. 117. Mt. 7:21 .24-27. Lect 1:18
 03 Friday Is. 29:17-24. Ps. 26. Mt. 9:27-31. Lect 1:20
 04 Saturday Is. 30:19-21, 23-26. Ps. 146. Mt. 9:35-10:1,6-8. Lect 1:22

Next Sunday's Readings 05-December-2004
 Is. 11:1-10. Ps. 71. Rom. 15:4-9. Mt. 3:1-12. Lect 1:24

Confirmation 2005

Tuesday 30th November the parents of Gael Scoil Uí Ríordán with pupils preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation are invited to a pre-Confirmation meeting. The meeting will commence at 7.30pm at the Gaelscoil..

Toy Mass

Sunday 12th December at 11.00 am Mass in Christ Our Light, families are invited to encourage their children to bring a new toy or game to Mass so that less fortunate children and families can be remembered and helped for Christmas.
 Thanking you Fr. George

Hymns This Sunday

12 noon Mass St. Mary & St. John
 Please join in with the Cantor.

Entrance	“O Lord My God”	15
	“Irish Alleluia”	
Offertory	“I am the Bread of Life”	7
Communion	“As I Kneel Before You”	19
	“Be Thou My Vision”	
Final Hymn	“Morning has broken”	

Innishannon Food Fair

12 noon on Sunday 5th December.

CROWLEY

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THE SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5
The Prophet Isaiah speaks of a time when all the nations will hear the Word of God and be united.

Second Reading: Romans 13:11-14
St. Paul issues a wake-up call for this Advent season.

Gospel: Matthew 24:37-40, 44.
The emphasis of today's Gospel is on the second coming of Jesus. Matthew refers to three events that show we do not know when Jesus will return, but the message is clear: we are to be ready! The first reference Matthew makes is to Noah and the flood. People were occupied with their daily lives / eating, drinking, and marrying. In the second example, men were working in the field and women were grinding at the mill. Some were taken and some remained. In the final example, the master of the house could have prevented the robbery if only he had known when the thief would come. This Gospel is a stern caution for each of us to live in preparation for Jesus' return.



SAINT OF THE WEEK

St. Francis Xavier 3-December-2004

St. Francis Xavier: 1506-1552, one of the first seven Jesuits. He was sent to India by St Ignatius. It is extraordinary that one man in the space of ten years could have visited so many countries, preached the Gospel to so many nations and converted so many infidels. His initial journey from Lisbon to Goa in a sailing ship was in itself a tremendous undertaking. From India he travelled on to the island of Ceylon. In 1549 Francis Xavier landed in Japan where he spent a year learning the language. When he was able to express himself he began preaching Christianity but the political authorities had him expelled from the city. Bravely he continued to preach in other Japanese cities and towns building up the nucleus of a Christian community. During this time he heard much of the Celestial Empire of China and eventually he arrived on a small island off the coast of that great empire. While planning the best means of reaching the mainland he was taken ill and died in a rude hut built to shelter him. In these wretched surroundings, the greatest missionary since St. Paul passed to his reward.

A native of the Basque country, born in the castle of Xavier (or Javier) in Navarre, he met Ignatius of Loyola in Paris and was one of the original group who took vows in 1534 to form the beginnings of the Jesuits. In 1541 he sailed to Goa on the West coast of India, for many centuries a Portuguese colony, to evangelise the Indies. His journeys took him to Malaya and Ceylon; everywhere he lived a life of extreme simplicity and made many converts from low-caste natives. In 1549 he reached Japan and wanted to meet the Mikado, but tradition required that he offered a present which he could not possibly afford, so the meeting never took place until, with the support of his Order, he was able to come dressed in finery and with suitable gifts. He sowed the seeds of Japanese Christianity which in the 17th Century were to grow and resist savage persecution. He longed to visit China, but fell ill and died in 1552 on the island of Chang-Shuen-Shan off the Chinese mainland. His shrine is in Goa, though some of his relics are in the Gesu in Rome. He was declared Patron Saint of the Foreign missions in 1927.

L'Arche Christmas Crafts Fair
Sunday 5th December
10.00am – 5.00pm
L'Arche Community Centre, Togher

Parish Council

During May and June 2004 the process of nominating members to the incoming Parish Council was put in place. The new council had its first meeting in September and there are over fifty members on the council with most areas in the parish represented.

Sr. Mairéad an Infant of Jesus sister facilitated the meeting; the emphasis was on getting to know one another. The second meeting was devoted to listening and exploring our understanding of 'Parish Council'. Many and varied views were expressed. A core group of eight were asked to prepare items for the next meeting. The third meeting was held on Monday 22nd November. The core group reported back and a frank discussion took place on possible ways to move forward. The meeting agreed to proceed at our next gathering and put officers in place and look at ways of supporting and encouraging sub-groups. I have found the meetings very encouraging and the level of energy, commitment and enthusiasm is heartening. Prayer and reflection is an important part of each meeting.

Parishioners are very welcome to make suggestions or express opinions that will be considered by the council.

TY/LCA 2004 Retreat a Treat

During the month of September the R.E. Department provided the opportunity for TY and LCA1 students to take time out of their busy schedule, by going on a day of retreat.

Over the past number of years our Retreat days tended to be more in-house and formal, so it was decided this year to take a different and more prayerfully active approach to which end we decided to begin at Ballyvourney and to experience the 'Rounds' at St. Gobnait's settlement, which dates back to 7th Century AD and which holds onto several religious traditions. The 'Rounds' themselves take approx. 2 hours. This was a new and enriching experience for both students and teachers.

Once the rounds had finished it was then onto Gougane Barra where the outdoor celebration of the Eucharist took place. A brief explanation of St. Finbarr's (the first Bishop of Cork) settlement and the traditions attached therein were given to the students. It was enriching to see how the students genuinely took ownership of their day of retreat.

Fr. Paul

Get Ready For Christmas

Early morning prayer for Advent
Starting Monday 29th November – 6:00 am.
Crying Room, Christ Our Light Church.
All Welcome.

Friday 3rd December 2004

First Friday
Church of St. Mary & St. John
EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
From 10 am to 7:30 pm
Hour of Prayer commences at 7 pm
Mass 8:00 pm.

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

Dec-04 & Dec-05-2004

St. Mary & St. John

Christ Our Light

6:00 pm (Vigil)
Sandra Walsh
8:30 am
Triona Collins
10:00 am
Margot Twomey
12:00 Noon
Tony Hegarty

8:00 pm (Vigil)
Joy O'Driscoll
11:00 am
Liam Hayes
12:30 pm
Marie Groarke
5:30 pm
Michaela O'Connor

MASS TIMES

St. Mary & St. John

Christ Our Light

8:30 am, 10 am & 12 noon	Sunday	11 am, 12:30 pm & 5:30 pm
9:30 am	Monday	8:30 am
9:30 am	Tuesday	8:30 am
9:30 am	Wednesday	8:30 am
9:30 am	Thursday	8:30 am
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

Dec-04 & Dec-05-2004

St. Mary & St. John

Christ Our Light

6.00 pm Steve Wills
Margaret O'Sullivan
Rita Aherne
Rose Doyle
Jim Walsh
Frances O'Brien

8:00 pm Anne O'Regan
Mairead Healy Murphy
Finbarr Murray

8:30 am Mary Buckley
Rita Murphy

11:00 am Seamus O'Connell
Mary O'Connell
Alan O'Riordan
Pat Manning
Geraldine Keohane

10:00 am Christina Walsh
Peter Reilly
Mary Collins
Christy Roche
Katie O'Shea

12:30 pm Lucy O'Callaghan
Jackie Sheehan
Mary Green
Michael O'Leary

12 Noon Oliver O'Donovan
Barbara Kelly
John Jeffers
Mary McLean
Ellen Seymour

5:30 pm Noelle Buckley
Mary Breen
Siobhan Burke

PARISH CLERGY

Priest on Duty 087-2479140

Fr. George O'Mahony 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



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Monday	10:30 - 5:00 pm
Tuesday	9:45 - 5:00 pm
Wednesday	9:45 - 5:00 pm
Thursday	9:45 - 5:00 pm
Friday	9:45 - 7:00 pm
Saturday	9:45 - 12:00 pm

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