

# THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



**St. Mary & St. John  
Station Road**

**Sunday 04-December-2005**

**Second Sunday Of Advent**

*When God comes, he comes with power but also with compassion restoring all things. We can prepare the way of his coming with lives of holiness.*



**Christ Our Light  
Innishmore**

## Repentance

64 years ago this week Nitsudo Fuchida led his squadron of Japanese planes to Pearl Harbour. Filled with hatred for the United States, he enthusiastically led his men to the American planes, ships and land targets. The United States had halted Japanese immigration in the 1930's and Fuchida was exacting his revenge on this nation.

A few years later, after the war had ended, Fuchida was still full of hatred for his conquering enemies. One day he heard of an American, Jacob DeShazer, who had been a prisoner of the Japanese during the war. DeShazer had forgiven his former guards and the whole Japanese people. In fact, DeShazer had returned to Japan as a missionary. Because of DeShazer's example of forgiveness, Fuchida began reading the Bible to see what caused him to do that. Fuchida read straight through the scriptures and finally came to the chapters about Calvary. There he read that Jesus, dying on the Cross, prayed for his enemies, "Father, forgive them, they know not what they do".

Fuchida was amazed at the quality of Christ's love. The former warrior turned his hatred over to God and found God's love and reconciliation through Christ. In the language of today's scripture, Fuchida repented and entered the Kingdom of Heaven. He turned to Christ and allowed him to change Fuchida's life.

For the rest of his life, Fuchida became a witness of the love and forgiveness of God through Christ. He travelled to many countries, including the United States, to tell his story and to proclaim God's forgiveness. Notice what happened to him. He heard of DeShazer's example. He then read about Jesus. He saw what was needed in his own life. He repented.

This is what John the Baptist wanted people to do...Repent!... to repent means to turn around and go in the right direction toward the right goal. John the Baptist wanted his fellow Jews to stop being apathetic towards God. He wanted them to have the kind of faith that would change their lives. Genuine faith was to make a difference in the way they worshipped God and the way they treated others.

Today the call is no different. The method may be. The means may be. We do not have too many people like John the Baptist in camel's hair clothing...pointing fingers at us. But God still speaks. Because Christ died upon the cross for us and rose again, the message of John is ever more relevant today. "Repent!" the Kingdom of Heaven is close at hand.

Let us look at a few of the circumstances that God uses today to help people hear this message. Some people hear the Gospel or listen to their conscience for the first time. They realise that they are doing wrong in God's sight and come to Him for forgiveness...and strength to do right. Other realise they are missing something and know that God is the only source of peace and joy. Some are having more troubles than they can cope with. They want God to be the Director of their lives. Others find life empty and unsatisfying no matter what they try, and they turn to God in desperation. Some, like Fuchida, see a living example of God's love...and thus became aware of their own self-centered style of living.

Repentance is not merely covering our needs with excuses or merely thinking about changing. Repentance is not even the same as feeling sorry. It may include that, but it goes farther.

The apostle Paul is another example when he repented of his wrong view of Jesus and attaching the Church. God called him to be an apostle. Paul found who Jesus was, and turned completely around. He spread the very gospel that he had attempted to destroy. Repentance always calls for positive action in the name of Jesus.

We must turn from our own cramped life style with all its negative attitudes and prejudices. We must allow God to tear down walls in our lives, walls put up because of pride and fear. Christ gives us the power to face life fully and completely.

Repentance means opening our lives to God and our awareness to the needs of others. Then God can show us a world we have never seen and work through acts of service we cannot do alone. Then we will stop living our lives out of habit... and begin living out of a sense of doing God's will.

John O'Donovan

## Second Sunday of Advent

Lord, may we be open to Your healing grace as we take another step, preparing for You in our hearts. "Let us see, O Lord, Your mercy, And give us Your saving Help"

## PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

### Priest

Let us bring our prayers with full confidence before our all-powerful and loving God.

### Reader

For all Christians, that they may be filled with joy as they prepare to celebrate the birth of our Redeemer, we pray.

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

For our Holy Father, Pope Benedict, that he may be inspired and guided by the Spirit of God, as he leads the community of the faithful in our time, we pray.

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

For all who serve in public office, and all who make decisions affecting peoples and nations, that they may act wisely and for the common good, we pray.

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

For all who suffer from illness of any kind, that they may find comfort and healing, we pray.

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

For all the displaced peoples of the world, for those who lost their homes and loved ones because of natural disaster or war, that they may be helped as they seek to rebuild their lives, we pray

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

For those who have died, that they may enter eternal life, we pray.

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

### Priest

God of all goodness, you fill us with joy as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus, your Son. Grant the prayers we now make in his name.

Amen



*Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help.*

**Visit Our Website: [www.ballincolligparish.ie](http://www.ballincolligparish.ie)**

**BAPTISMS**

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

Leah Carmel McCarthy, Raheen, Carrigrohane.  
Ali Julia O'Callaghan, 31, Berryfield, Classis Lake.  
Fay Elizabeth Hannigan, 12, Berryfield, Classis Lake.

**MARRIAGES**

**CONGRATULATIONS TO:**

Noel Patrick Mehigan, Inniskenny, Waterfall & Siobhan Patricia Crowley, Maple Lawn, Muskerry Estate, Ballincollig.

† **IN SYMPATHY** †

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

Mary Kelleher, Castleknock & Macroom.

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

Mary Anne Sheehan, Kilcorney.  
Deceased members of Organisation of National Ex Servicemen.  
David & Margaret Rea, Lower Glanmire Road.  
Jeremiah & Bridget Collins, Dunmanway.  
Timothy O'Leary, Farnanes.  
Deceased members Naughton family, Farranree.  
Derry Lynch, Windsor.  
Joe O'Leary, Ovens.  
John Cummins, Dublin.  
Sean & Ellen Mulroy, Farmers Cross.  
Deceased members Cummins & O'Regan families.  
Farrell Dunne, Thurles.  
John & Hannah O'Shea, Beaufort.  
Timothy Crowley, Coachford.  
Agnes Kavanagh, 12, Fr. Sexton Park  
Margaret & John Joe Hegarty, Ardfield.  
Daniel Coomey, Carriganarra.  
Anthony McCarthy, Castle Park.  
Dan & Ann Kenny.  
Liam Farrell, Maglin.  
David O'Leary, Magazine Road.  
Kitty & Patrick Fitzgerald, 83, Connelly Road.  
Daniel & Margaret Murphy, Knockburden.  
David & Mildred McCarthy, Union Hall.  
Tim & Eileen Keohane, Clonakilty.  
Mick Henigan, Station Road.  
Jennie & Michael Keohane, Bantry & Mallow.  
Deceased members of the Connell Family.  
Muriel & Denis Bowen, Glasheen Road.  
Mary O'Keefe, Maglin View.  
Jack, Essa & Ursula Lane, Blarney Street.  
Con Jeffries, Blarney St.  
Deceased members of the Kavanagh family.  
Thomas Farrell, Beech Park.

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Second Week Of Advent**

04 Sunday Is 40:1-5, 9-11. Ps 84.2 Pet3:8-14. Mk 1:1-8. Lect 1: 27  
05 Monday Is 35:1-10. Ps 84. Lk 5:17-26. Lect 1: 33  
06 Tuesday Is 40:1-11. Ps 95. Mt 18:12-14. Lect 1: 35  
07 Wednesday Is 40:25-31. Ps 102. Mt 11:28-30. Lect 1: 38  
08 Thursday Gen 3:9-15, 20. Ps 97. Eph 1:3-6, 11-12. Lk 1:26- 38. Lect 1: 1009  
09 Friday Is 48:17-19. Ps 1. Mt 11:16-19. Lect 1: 42  
10 Saturday Eccles (Sir) 48:1-4, 9-11. Ps 79. Mt 17:10-13. Lect 1: 44

**Next Sunday's Readings** 11-December-2005  
Is 61:1-2, 10-11. Ps Lk 1:46-50, 53-54. 1 Thess 5:16-24. Jn 1:6-8,

***Advent Programme***

The Advent Programme will take place on four consecutive Tuesday's, beginning on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November and ending on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December. It will be held in the upstairs room of the St. Vincent de Paul premises. Time 10.00 to 10.30 am. The programme is based on the readings for the coming Sunday. All are welcome.

***Advent Retreat***

**At St Dominic's Retreat Centre at Ennismore  
December 9 – 11 - Weekend Retreat**

“We wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Saviour Jesus Christ”

**Frank Downes OP**

***Preparation for Baptism***

Baptism is our first step on the journey of Faith, the sacrament of initiation into the Christian faith and the Life of Christ. It is also a sacrament of welcome into the Christian community. The importance of preparation for Baptism was highlighted at the Parish Council and also by some parents requesting help for themselves. For the past number of months a group of parishioners have come together to provide some resources and help for parents bringing their children to Baptism. I am glad to say that they are now in a position to begin this preparation. So beginning at 2.00 pm on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December and once a month thereafter parents who wish to have children baptised in the parish of Ballincollig will have an opportunity to prepare for the sacrament. I am confident that this presentation will be of benefit to parents and godparents in their role as Christian educators.

Fr. George O'Mahony, PP

**CROWLEY**

**FUNERAL DIRECTORS**

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

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***Diary to book Masses***

will be opened in each Sacristy on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December at 9.00.

Masses may be booked for January, February and March

**THE SUNDAY READINGS**

First Reading: Is. 40:1-5. 9-11  
The prophet Isaiah announces an important message about preparing the way.

Second Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-14  
The second reading gives us a glimpse of a new existence 'where righteousness will be at home'.

Gospel: Mark 1:1-8  
The Messiah is foretold in Second Isaiah and the words of John the Baptist continue the foretelling during Advent. Just as the Jewish exiles were filled with hope and led home, John the Baptist filled his followers with hope if they would only first repent and then share the Good News. He told the people to accomplish this by turning away from their sinful actions and words.



**SAINT OF THE WEEK**

**St. Nicholas 06-December-2005**

The true story of Santa Claus begins with Nicholas, who was born during the third century in Patara, a village in what is now Turkey. His wealthy parents, who raised him to be a devout Christian, died in an epidemic while Nicholas was still young. Obeying Jesus' words to "sell what you own and give the money to the poor," Nicholas used his whole inheritance to assist the needy, the sick, and the suffering. He dedicated his life to serving God and was made Bishop of Myra while still a young man. Bishop Nicholas became known throughout the land for his generosity to those in need, his love for children, and his concern for sailors and ships. Under the Roman Emperor Diocletian, who ruthlessly persecuted Christians, Bishop Nicholas suffered for his faith, was exiled and imprisoned. The prisons were so full of bishops, priests, and deacons; there was no room for the real criminals, murderers, thieves and robbers. After his release, Nicholas attended the Council of Nicaea in 325 AD. He died December 6, AD 343 in Myra and was buried in his cathedral church, where a unique relic, called manna, formed in his grave. This liquid substance was said to have healing powers which fostered the growth of devotion to Nicholas. The anniversary of his death became a day of celebration, St. Nicholas Day.

St. Nicholas is esteemed a patron of children, because he was from his infancy a model of innocence and virtue, and to form that tender age to sincere piety was always his first care and delight. To impress on the minds of children perfect sentiments of devotion, religion, and all virtues, with earnestness in all duties, is a task often as delicate as it is important. Instructions must be made sensible and adapted by similes, parables, and examples, to the weakness of their capacities. Above all, they are to be enforced by the conduct of those with whom children converse. They learn their maxims, imbibe their spirit, and are moulded upon their example. A child which sees those who are about him love their own ease and ever seek what best pleases their senses; still more, if he observes them to be choleric, peevish, vain, slothful, or impatient, will naturally cherish these passions and yield up the government of himself to them, instead of learning by traceableness, humility, meekness, and self-denial, to subdue and govern them. And so in all other points. Precepts and exhortations lose their force when contradicted by example; and whilst the infant sees everyone study to please himself in everything, in flat opposition to the rules of the gospel which he hears preached from their mouths, he seems tacitly persuaded that such a conduct is reconcilable with those very maxims which condemn it.

**Muskerry Local History Society**

December Lecture  
Subject:- Jerome Collins. The Meteorologist, journalist and explorer. His life, travels, death and funeral.  
Speaker:- Mr.J.A. Mulcahy; Local historian  
Venue:- Ballincollig Rugby Club Function Hall  
Date & Time:- 6th December 2005 @ 8pm  
Admission: - €2.00 for non members  
Everyone most welcome.

**Art Exhibition**

at Bru Cloumbanus Cardinal Way, Wilton  
Friday 2nd to 9th December from 11 am to 7 pm.  
Many professional and amateur artists exhibiting.  
Admission €5  
Please support this home from home accommodation for families of patients in Cork Hospitals and Hospices.

**Christmas Flower Arranging**

In aid of Inniscarra Community Centre  
At Ballyanly  
On Wednesday 7th December @ 8 pm.  
The Theme is Christmas arrangements for your home.  
Demonstrator; Norma Moylan .  
Admission €10.00 inc. refreshments.  
Door Prize Barry's Tea Hamper.  
All are welcome.

**Ballincollig Scout Unit - Annual Bazaar.**

This now famous Bazaar, will take place on **Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December in Ballincollig Community Centre** on Station Road. The doors will open at **2.30 pm**

If you are doing a Pre-Christmas clean, please remember the Ballincollig Scout Unit. They will gladly accept Books Briq a Brac, Toys that are in good condition, bikes etc. Unfortunately the Unit is not in a position to accept clothes. If you wish to donate any item towards the bazaar it can be organised by contacting any member of the unit or calling to the Scout Centre behind the Church of St Mary & St John on Station Road any Tuesday, Thursday or Friday night.

**Annual Toy Mass**

organised by  
Secular Franciscan Order  
Sunday 11th December 2005  
**at 11.00 am. in Christ Our Light Church**  
Do you have any new or nearly new toys you could do without? If so, we ask you to be generous this Christmas and bring them along to our Mass. Thank You.

**Trocaire**

Christmas time is time where we should think of others amidst the rush and the bustle. It is a time when we celebrate the birth of Our Lord in a stable and a chance for us to think of those who will not get to share in the Christmas cheer.  
**Global Gift** is an alternative and ethical Christmas Gift idea where you can buy a range of practical, life-changing gifts to be delivered to the most vulnerable families in the developing world in the name of your friends and family.  
This year there are eight inspiring and life-changing gifts available. Choose from animals, mosquito nets, midwives kits, clean water and houses. To order this special gift for Christmas phone Trocaire on **1850 408 408 (ROI)** or **0800 912 1200 (NI)** to order your gifts now.  
Or order it from their web site at [www.trocaire.org](http://www.trocaire.org)

**MINISTERS OF THE WORD**

Dec-10 & Dec-11-2005

**St. Mary & St. John**

**Christ Our Light**

6:00 pm (Vigil)  
Carmel Keane  
8:30 am  
Annette Collins  
10:00 am  
Elaine Murphy  
12:00 Noon  
Oliver O'Donovan

8:00 pm (Vigil)  
Fiona Feely  
11:00 am  
Cormac Manning  
12:30 pm  
Kay Carew  
5:30 pm  
Brian O'Donoghue

**MASS TIMES**

**St. Mary & St. John**

**Christ Our Light**

8:30 am, 10 am & 12 noon	<b>Sunday</b>	11 am, 12:30 pm & 5:30 pm
9:30 am	<b>Monday</b>	8:30 am
9:30 am	<b>Tuesday</b>	8:30 am
9:30 am & 6 pm (Vigil)	<b>Wednesday</b>	8:30 am & 8 pm (Vigil)
8:30 am, 10 am, 12 noon & 8 pm	<b>Thursday</b>	11 am, 12:30 pm & 6:30 pm
9:30 am	<b>Friday</b>	8:30 am
10:00 am & 6 pm (Vigil)	<b>Saturday</b>	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-10 & Dec-11-2005

**St. Mary & St. John**

**Christ Our Light**

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

8:00 pm Geraldine Lynch  
Charlie Vaughan  
Joan Stephenson  
11:00 am Marie Ui Chrualaof  
Neil Jeffers  
Eileen O'Donoghue  
Bridie O'Donnell  
Bridie Hanrahan  
12:30 pm Con O'Connell  
Denis O' Mahony  
Christine O'Mahony  
Tom Murray  
John O'Regan  
5:30 pm Patsy Galvin  
Bernard Curran  
Clare Curran

**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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Saturday 10:30 am - 12 Noon. Phone No. (021) 4871206**



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**Notice To Members**

Our new Sub Office in the Town Centre

Is now open

The hours of business in our offices will be



**Harrington Street**

**Monday Closed**  
Tuesday 9.30 - 5.00 pm  
Wednesday 10.30 - 5.00 pm  
Thursday 9.30 - 5.00 pm  
**Friday 9.30 - 5.00 pm**  
Saturday 9.30 - 12.30 pm

**New Town Centre Office**

Monday 9.30 - 5.00 pm  
Tuesday 9.30 - 5.00 pm  
Wednesday 10.30 - 5.00 pm  
Thursday 9.30 - 7.30 pm  
Friday 9.30 - 7.30 pm  
Saturday 9.30 - 5.00 pm