

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



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

Sunday 12-February-2006

Sixth Sunday In Ordinary Time

A leper was an outcast, an untouchable. The love of Christ brought such people back into the community. We who follow Christ are called never to ostracise another, never to isolate those who don't fit into our ways. Our task is to help them along.



**Christ Our Light
Innishmore**

Jesus and the Leper

The gospel this weekend has two characters, Jesus and the leper. Yet it is a story that is familiar. We all know what an army tank is like, it is definitely a show of strength and it is a monument to destructive power. We know certain people who seem to live their life as a tank. They do not pay attention to what is going on around them. They go their way without pity or compassion. Each one of us is now and then like a tank. We can pretend not to hear when another is pleading. We can act as if I did not see when a hand was outstretched to me. You remained strong, because you said to yourself; let me not become soft.

Today's gospel presents Jesus with a similar problem. There was that man who blocked his way, pleading in front of him; 'Please, if you want to, you can cure me'. A voice in Jesus must have said don't do it, he will tell the others and there will be no end to your trouble. You will have no rest anymore. Don't give in, Don't get soft, be strong, don't see, don't hear! But he did see, he did hear and he did have pity on him and he said; of course I want you to be cured, and he stretched out his hand and touched the skin of the man; the leprosy left him, there then he was cured. Then Jesus added to make up for his lack of strength, to make up for his weakness, to protect himself; don't tell anyone!

It was the weakness in Jesus that made him to deliver himself to the people around him. It was that weakness in Jesus that made him find the real centre of his interest outside himself. It was always the other in need; he never acted like a closed-up, powerful destructive tank. It was that weakness that constituted his love, his outgoing love that made him identify with the sick, the hungry and the downtrodden.

Don't clatter through life like a tank; He didn't do that either.

George O'Mahony

Reflection for Parents

Not many things break the heart of a parent so quickly as seeing their child rejected by another person. Sometimes children are cruel and shun others or exclude them. Even more difficult are circumstances where adults or someone once trusted turn away from a child. Most of us don't witness these acts in our lives personally, but we certainly read about them in the paper or hear about them on the news. We get just a small glimpse of what it might have been like for the leper in today's gospel who was not even allowed to live with healthy people. We also better understand the courage and compassion of Jesus who touched the man and accepted him.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Priest

Let us pray to God for our brothers and sisters who are ill and for all who devote themselves to caring for them.

Reader

We pray for our Church, that we may become more and more a community that cares for those who are weak and vulnerable among us.

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

As we travel on our roads that we may have regard for others and ourselves: encourage safety, care and respect for all road users.

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

We pray for those who are suffering or carrying heavy burdens of any kind, that they may receive strength and encouragement from the support of their brothers and sisters.

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

We pray for those who care for the sick and suffering, that they may be blessed in their work, and bring healing and compassion to those they serve.

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

We pray for those who care for loved ones at home, that they may receive the strength and support they need.

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

We pray for those in our country and throughout the world who suffer from Mental Stress or Disability, that they may find the care and help they need.

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

Priest

God of compassion, you are always with us. May we always be aware of your presence and your power, your care and your love, so that we may always place our trust in you. We ask this through Christ Our Lord.

Amen.

You are my refuge, O Lord; you fill me with the joy of salvation.

Visit Our Website: www.ballincolligparish.ie

BAPTISMS

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

Samuel Joseph Power, Inniscarra View.
 Rosanna Marie O'Dwyer, Coolroe Heights.
 Rhea Michelle O'Sullivan-O'Flynn, Greenfields.
 Sebastian Philip O'Brien, Greenfields.
 Daniel Anthony Holson, Greenfields.

† **IN SYMPATHY** †

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

Thomas Reck R.I.P., Innishmore.
 Mourned by his mother Rose and father Tom and brothers and sisters.
 Ciara Mounihane R.I.P., Rylane.
 Denis Foley R.I.P., New York and late of Newcestown.
 Mourned by Breda Foley, Shamrock Drive.

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

Alice Bolger, Wexford.
 Bridget O'Leary, Fair Hill.
 Charlie & Ellen Tobin, Ballyphehane.
 Denis & Elizabeth Deasy, Evergreen St.
 Edward & Joan Murphy, Powdermill.
 Elizabeth & Humphrey Murphy, Nuns Walk.
 Ellen Murphy, Windsor, Ovens.
 Ellen O'Sullivan Glanmire.
 Frances & Margaret O'Farrell, Station Road.
 James & Mary McCarthy, Ballymacoda.
 James Greene, The Square.
 Jerry Desmond, Ovens Bridge.
 Joan, Berard Meehan, Dublin.
 John & Mary Kelleher, Beaufort.
 John Duggan, Dunmanway.
 John Quinn, Beech Park.
 Martin Ginnane, Shanakiel Road.
 Mary Sheehan, Douglas.
 Michael Bobby Linehan, Inniscarra.
 Molly Murray, Quaker Road.
 Robert Barrett, Bishopstown.
 Tom & Winnie Holloway, Galbally.
 William & Julia Burke, Vicarstown.

Week Of Directed Prayer

Would you like to learn more about the Bible and to pray with Scripture?
 Help is at hand, in our forthcoming week of directed prayer, which begins on Sunday 5th March 2006.
 This week gives participants an opportunity to gain deeper insight into the Bible and their own prayer life.
 A team of trained guides from outside the Parish will direct the week.
 Each director will, on an individual basis, help you to pray, and to reflect on what God is saying in your life.

“For God so loVed the world,
 That he gAve
 His onLy
 BegottEn
 SoN
 That whosoever
 BelievetH In Him
 Should Not perish,
 But have Everlasting life.”

John 3:16

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sixth Week In Ordinary Time

12 Sunday Lev 13:1-2, 44-46. Ps 31. 1 Cor 10:31-11:1. Mk 1:40-45. Lect I: 750
 13 Monday Jas 1:1-11. Ps 118. Mk 8:11-13. Lect II: 525
 14 Tuesday Acts 13:46-49. Ps 116. 1k 10:1-9. Lect II:957
 15 Wednesday Jas 1:19-27. Ps 14. Mk 8:22-26. Lect II: 529
 16 Thursday Jas 2:1-9. Ps33. Mk 8:27-33. Lect II: 531
 17 Friday Jas 2:14-24, 26. Ps 111. Mk 8:34-9:1. Lect II: 533
 18 Saturday Jas 3:1-10. Ps 11. Mk 9:2-13. Lect II: 535

Next Sunday's Readings 19-February-2006
 Is. 43: 18-19, 21-22, 24-25. Ps. 40. 2 Cor. 1: 18-22. Mk. 2:1-12. Lect I: 752

Viatores Christi

Viatores Christi is the only Catholic lay missionary association in Ireland. It recruits, trains and places ordinary people who are called to share their life and professional experiences in areas of need all over the world. The association, which celebrated its 45th anniversary last year, gives people an opportunity to share their skills and lives in another culture.

There is an ongoing need in several countries for lay missionary volunteers, in particular for doctors, nurses, teachers, trades people of all kinds, agriculturists, lab technicians, pastoral workers, youth workers, community development workers and administration staff.

For those interested in working overseas, Viatores Christi provides its own preparation training programme which is a series of five weekend workshops delivered, over a period of five months, at their centre at 38-39 Upper Gardiner Street, Dublin.

The programme covers subjects such as Community Development and Leadership, Challenge, Commitment and Conflict, Cultural Adaptation, Health and Global Awareness. Viatores Christi are holding an information session on Tuesday 14th February 2006 in The SMA Parish Centre, Wilton, Cork at 7.30pm.

Contact us on +353 -1-8749346 or email info@viatoreschristi.com for further details

Fatima Pilgrim Tour

Depart 13th June from Cork
 7 nights F.B./En Suite
 Guided Tours
 Contact: Tony O'Neill (021) 4501667

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THE SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading: Leviticus 13: 1-2, 44-46
 The Hebrews always regarded leprosy as a contagious disease and perhaps as a punishment by God. This explains both the isolation of the diseased person and the necessity of ceremonial purification. In some societies AIDS is similarly regarded today.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 10: 31- 11:1
 This is a cry for tolerance at a time when Christians who had come from the Jewish tradition tried to impose their customs on converts from paganism. The scrupulous are not entitled to impose their scruples on others. Tolerance and kindness must be mutual.

Gospel: Mark 1: 40-45
 Lepers were compelled to lead an isolated life, wearing a special garb, and giving notice of their approach by crying out: "Unclean", in order to prevent contagion. Jesus cured the man but spoke sternly to him because he had violated the prudent regulations by coming into contact with others who might receive the contagion.



SAINT OF THE WEEK

St. Valentine 14-February-2006

Valentine's Day is celebrated in honour of Saint Valentine, a Christian priest who was executed on February 14th, 270 A.D., by the Roman Emperor Claudius II. Though there is nothing romantic about his death, legend has it that Valentine was quite a romantic soul while he was alive. Apparently Claudius II was concerned about the declining number of soldiers in the Roman Army. The soldiers were refusing to leave their wives and sweethearts, so Claudius thought he could solve the problem by outlawing marriage. But as the saying goes, love will find a way. Young lovers found their way to Valentine, who took pity on their predicament and performed marriages for them in secret. When Claudius found out, he had Valentine beheaded. Another legend says that Valentine was imprisoned for performing these secret marriages, and that while he was serving his time, he fell madly in love with the jailer's daughter. He would send her love notes inscribed with the words "From your Valentine" - a tradition we still carry on today.

St. Valentine's Day has its roots in an old Roman festival called the Lupercalia, which was held each year on February 15. The festival involved a lover's lottery, where girls' names were written on slips of paper and put into a jar. Each young man would draw a name and that girl would then be his companion for the following year. The Christians found this custom immoral, so they created their own February festival in honour of the romantic St. Valentine, who helped love last a lifetime by sanctifying it with the sacred bond of marriage.

Saints are not supposed to rest in peace; they're expected to keep busy: to perform miracles, to intercede. Being in jail or dead is no excuse for non-performance of the supernatural. One legend says, while awaiting his execution, Valentinus restored the sight of his jailer's blind daughter. Another legend says, on the eve of his death, he penned a farewell note to the jailer's daughter, signing it, "From your Valentine."

St. Valentine was martyred in Rome and was buried on the Flaminian Way. He is the Patron Saint of affianced couples, bee keepers, engaged couples, epilepsy, fainting, greetings, happy marriages, love, lovers, plague, travellers, young people. He is represented in pictures with birds and roses.

Envelope Collection

Lourdes Pilgrimage Invalid Fund
 This Weekend 11th & 12th February 2006

Alpha Training Day

Cork: Saturday 18th February, 2006
Venue: SMA Centre, Wilton, Cork.
 10.00 am – 1.00 pm Cost €5.00

Speaker: Fr. Pat Collins, Conference Speaker and Member of Alpha Ireland Management Executive.

Cork & Ross Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2006

11th to 16th June – 5 nights – Full Board Accommodation
BOOKING FORMS AVAILABLE FOR THE PILGRIM SECTION FROM

Joe Walsh Tourist, 117, Patrick Street, Cork
 Phone: (021) 4277959 or (021) 4277120

Enquiries for Special Invalid Section to:
 The Pilgrimage Director, Monsignor Kevin O'Callaghan,
 Parochial House, Bandon, Co Cork.
 Phone: (023) 43794

Ballincollig Parish Pastoral Council

The AGM of the council will be held in the Annex Room, Community Centre on Monday February 20th at 7.45 pm

For those using the Lectio Divina or interested in joining the Lectio Divina group

A day of Scripture

Will be held on Saturday 18th February
 Venue: Sacred Heart Hall, Western Road
 Time: 10.30 am – 4.00 pm
 Speaker: Fr. Seamus O'Connell, Scripture Professor in Maynooth.
 Tea provided. Bring a packed lunch and your bible.
 Admission €10.00

Bishopstown Lay Dominican Chapter invite you to join in

A Day of Reflection and Prayer.

Date: Saturday February 25th, 2006
 Venue: St. Dominic's Retreat House.
 Offering (including lunch and coffee breaks) €28.
 Contact: Rose O'Luasa (021) 4874545

Dates of Passover and Easter

The Feast of Passover is celebrated 13 April 2006 (15 Nisan 5766), beginning the previous evening and ending 19 April. Easter is celebrated on the Sunday following the first full moon after the spring equinox. Using the calendar as revised in the Gregorian reform, named after Pope Gregory XIII (1582), the date this year is 16 April 2006. The Eastern date, using the Julian calendar, is one week later, 23 April 2006.

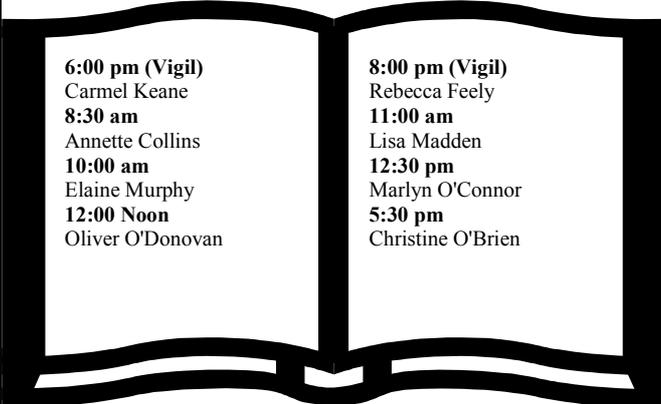
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MINISTERS OF THE WORD

Feb-18 & Feb-19-2006

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)
Rebecca Feely
11:00 am
Lisa Madden
12:30 pm
Marlyn O'Connor
5:30 pm
Christine O'Brien

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	Friday	8:30 am
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

Feb-18 & Feb-19-2006



St. Mary & St. John Christ Our Light

6.00 pm	Eileen Murphy Ted Nelligan Angela Murphy Ann O'Connell Sheila Walshe Betty Sheehan	8:00 pm	John O'Donoghue Eleanor O'Donoghue Kathleen Daly
8:30 am	Helen Kelly Annette Murphy Mary O'Connor	11:00 am	Mary O'Mahony Mona Bowen Billy Barry Mary Aylward
10:00 am	Miriam Maunsell Mary Buckley Breda Ring Mary O'Regan John Henchy Martin O'Leary	12:30 pm	Mary Twomey Terry O'Driscoll Bernie O'Driscoll Maura O'Driscoll Mary Lehane
12 Noon	John Walshe Pat Kelleher Irene O'Brien Ellen O'Sullivan Chris Cotter Sally Crowley	5:30 pm	Garreth Irish Sheia 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



Ballincollig Hardware

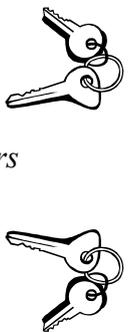
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**Parish Office, The Presbytery, Ballincollig is open Monday - Thursday from 9 am - 3 pm.
Saturday 10:30 am - 12 Noon. Phone No. (021) 4871206**

Ballincollig Credit Union Ltd.

Harrington Street
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Fax: 021-4872532



New Town Centre Office
Tel: 021-4208300
Fax: 021-4872532

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

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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