

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



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

Sunday 21-January-2007

Third Sunday In Ordinary Time

We come together on Sunday to listen to the scriptures and to have them explained. Here it is God who speaks to us through his Son. His Spirit continues to work on us to inspire us with his message of freedom and encouragement for all in need.



**Christ Our Light
Innishmore**

The Good News for All

“.....to the Poor liberty to captives let the oppressed go free.....sight to the blind”

Is our church a place of welcome where there is good news for all? There all the baptized, regardless of skill level or current mood, are welcome.

There's the family with the noisy, needy baby boy. There's the 88-year-old who also has needs during Mass. Sometimes she begins to cough and is in distress until someone rises and leaves in search of a glass of water. The coming and going is a distraction: The rustle in the pew as someone climbs over, the click of heels on the floor as they walk out and back in. Yet hospitality demands that we care for the elderly.

Another member of our parish is a man with blindness who needs a guide dog that helps and guides him. Dogs in church are an uncommon sight, but hospitality demands that this man's needs be met.

There's a parishioner in the final stages of Alzheimer's disease. It seemed that the only thread holding him to his former life, his true life, was Communion. The problem arose when he began his desperate race each Sunday to receive the Eucharist. He would push others out of his way, even, elbowing roughly past already nervous children. He was not removed from the church. He belonged there, and we all knew it. Instead, special care was taken to address his needs, and Eucharistic Ministers knew to take communion to him first.

There are people in this parish who drool and who babble and there are people in the parish who weep and who talk to themselves. The lame and the blind and the deaf gather there with those of us whose infirmities are hidden, or disguised. We are all welcome to hear the Good News.

As God watches over us all, let us tend one another, caring for our brothers and sisters as God cares for us, feeding one another as we are fed.

NOTE : All people referred to in this article are fictitious, but they do illustrate for us a real sample of a congregation's needs.

Sean O'Driscoll

Reflection for Parents

Our children are really all the things listed in what Jesus read from Isaiah. They are poor because they really depend on us for their every material need. They are not free because they are too young and inexperienced to live on their own. While they're not completely blind, much of what they do see has been shaped by our own vision. When we think of all we do for our children, it becomes clearer all that Jesus is for us.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Priest

God desires our healing and wholeness. Let us confidently make known our needs.

Reader

That the Church may faithfully and constantly proclaim the Good News of Jesus.

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

That civil and religious leaders may use their influence to bring about justice and peace in our world.

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

That there may be an end to human trafficking and to other modern forms of slavery.

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

That human rights be upheld and that the resources of our planet be respected and preserved for the common good of all.

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

That the contribution of young people to Church and society may be recognised and welcomed.

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

That Christians and Churches may work and pray for full Christian Unity, and that this special week of Prayer for Church Unity may bear true ecumenical fruit in our parishes and communities.

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

Priest

Saving God, your Word is Spirit and it is Life. You desire Unity for the followers of Jesus. Hear our prayers for this Unity, and grant us what we need as we seek the way forward. This we ask in Jesus' name.

Amen.

Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life.

Visit Our Website: www.ballincolligparish.ie

BAPTISMS

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

Erika Ellen Lohen, Sarsfield Road, Youghal.
 Lauren Sophie McGill, 27, Innishmore Court.
 Donnchadh James Broderick, 15, Willow Grove, Coolroe Heights.
 Peter Daniel Hartnett, 146, Beech Park.

† **IN SYMPATHY** †

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

Peter Healy, Beech Park.

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

Pat & Kitty Sheehan, Coachford.
 Joe O'Leary, Ovens.
 Ellen Buckley, Bakers Road.
 Billy Greene, Station Road.
 Johanna Morrissey, Doneraile.
 Joseph Sheehan, Kilcorney.
 Bruen Murphy, Castletownbere.
 James Donalon, Galway,
 Martin Murphy, Rockchapel
 Paddy McCarthy, Castle Park.
 Jeremiah & Mary Buttimer, Kilmichael.
 Donal Coughlan, Schull.
 Mary cChaplin, Schull.
 Catherine O'Donnell, Drimoleague.
 Bill Cronin, Model Farm Road.
 Mary Sheehan, Douglas.
 Rita Fouhy, Glincool.
 John O'Leary, Brown Hills, Ovens.
 Daniel Cronin, Rathmore.
 Michael Carroll, Coolroe Heights
 Jack McCarthy, Ballintemple.
 Bernie O'Brien, Douglas.
 John & Kate Keohane, Glandore.
 Michael & Ellen O'Sullivan, Rosscarrbery.
 Jack Lynch, Kilmurphy
 Sonny & Sheila O'Mahony, Dunmanway.

Tax Rebate

Sincere thank to the parishioners of Ballincollig, parish for your generous support to the offertory collection each Sunday. I will be publishing the annual financial statement in a few weeks and that will give an account of the Income and Expenditure for 2006.
 The response to the Tax Rebate proposal is continuing, to date more than thirty parishioners have signed direct debits and some are opting to pay by cheque once a quarter.
 Each parishioner [who is a taxpayer] who contributes at least €5 a week and the parish has a record of that payment, will help the parish, as a charity, to claim money from the Department of Finance. Each parishioner that pays €5a week (or €250 a year) will enable the parish to claim at least €63 from the department of Finance at the end of the year. Presently, with more than thirty parishioners signed up, the parish will gain €1916, hopefully many others will also join up thus increasing the rebate. Meanwhile if you are not in a position to join this scheme, that is okay, just continue supporting the parish as you did previously. The money gained by the parish of Ballincollig from the Dept. of Finance will be used to help the young people of the parish to deepen their faith. This week more than one hundred sixth class pupils attended a retreat in preparation for their confirmation in a few months, the parish paid for the cost of this retreat. Direct debits forms are available today. Each person is guaranteed his or her confidentiality.
 Fr. George

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Third Week In Ordinary Time

21 Sunday Neh 8:2-6, 8-10. Ps 18. 1 Car 12:12-30. Lk 1:1-4, 4:14-21. Lect I: 841
 22 Monday Heb 9:15, 24-28. Ps 97. Mk 3:22-30. Lect II: 27
 23 Tuesday Heb 10:1-10. Ps 39. Mk 3:31-35. Lect II: 29
 24 Wednesday Heb 10:11-18. Ps 109. Mk 4:1-20. Lect II: 31
 25 Thursday Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22. Ps 116. Mk 16:15-18. Lect II: 928
 26 Friday 2 Tim 1:1-8 or Tit 1:1-5. Ps95. Lk 10:1-9. Lect II: 931
 27 Saturday Heb 11:1-2, 8-19. Ps 1k 1:69-75. Mk 4:35-41. Lect II: 37

Next Sunday's Readings 28-January-2007
 Jer 1:4-5, 17-19. Ps 70. 1 Cor 12:31-13:13. Lk 4:21-30. Lect I: 845

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

The week of prayer for Church Unity commenced on January 18th and continues to January 25th. This week is an opportunity for each of us to promote and pray for a better understanding of the various Christian traditions. Faith is a precious gift from God, let us be grateful for this great gift and learn to respect all people of Faith. This year an Ecumenical Prayer Service will be held in St Mary and St John's on Sunday 28th January at 6 pm. Please make the effort to come along and join our Christian brothers and sisters in prayer.

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity a worldwide movement of Christians of many denominations who are engaged in praying and working for the unity of Christians. Every year the dates are the same, 18 to 25 January, regardless of the days of the week. It is about being faithful to the prayer of Jesus Christ, as seen in John 17, *that they may be one*.

The theme for 2007 is "He even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak," based on Mark 7:31-37. The theme was chosen by the Churches of South Africa, at the request of the international committee, which represents Faith and Order of the World Council of Churches, and the Vatican's Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity. Faith is a precious gift from God, let us be grateful for this gift and learn to respect all people of faith.

Decision Time

This time of year Leaving Cert. pupils are busy completing their CAO forms. This is a particularly stressful time for students. Perhaps we could all make an effort to keep these young people in mind and in our prayers this week and indeed in the weeks ahead also.

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THE SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading: Nehemiah 8:2-4,5-6,8-10

We become witnesses to a Sabbath service at which Ezra preaches on the law and reminds the congregation to rejoice and celebrate the Lord's Day.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:12-30

Paul tells the people of Corinth that Jesus came to unite the entire world into one family of faith. He wants them to understand the special part given to each in the Body of Christ.

Gospel: Luke 1:1-4. 4:14-21.

The first part of today's Gospel introduces Luke's Gospel and Acts. Luke recalled for his readers that stories had been handed down by eyewitnesses and written down by others. He intended, however, to improve on the order of these earlier accounts. The lectionary moves us to another beginning and that is the beginning of Jesus' ministry. He had travelled throughout Galilee teaching in the synagogue. This day, he was in his home town of Nazareth where he unrolled a scroll and proclaimed the words of Isaiah. The Spirit of the Lord will come upon one who will free captives, favour the poor, and give sight to the blind. After Jesus rolled up the scroll, he told his listeners that those words had been fulfilled in him.

Report from Parish Pastoral Council Meeting of 15th January 2007

Parish Retreat:

- Fr George O'Mahony PP thanked all who were involved in the Parish Retreat in December 2006 and he also informed the meeting that a Parish Retreat will take place during Lent in the Church of Christ our Light on March 12th, 13th and 14th next.

Finance Committee:

- A number of parishioners have signed up for the direct debit offertory collection.

Sale of lands for Cemetery at St Oliver's:

- To date no contract has been received from Cork County Council regarding the sale of this plot of land.

Presentation from the Adult Faith Formation Group:

- A presentation was given at the meeting by the Adult Faith Formation Group, which was very well received and a follow up on this will be held on Monday next January 22nd at 8.00 pm in the Annex Room Community Centre. All are welcome.

Representation from the Western side of the Parish:

- Concerns have been raised in relation to the under representation of the Western side of the Parish and any person interested in getting involved in the Parish are more than welcome to come to the AGM of the Parish Pastoral Council or contact the Parish Office at 021-4871206.

Church Unity Week:

- An Ecumenical Service will be held in the Church of St Mary and St John at 6.00 pm on Sunday 28th January 2007. All welcome.

St Luke's Gospel:

- A talk by Fr. Sean O'Sullivan on St Luke's Gospel will take place on Tuesday 30th January 2007 in the Annex Community Centre. Ministers of the word and fellow parishioners are all invited to attend.

AGM of the Parish Pastoral Council will take place on Monday 19th February 2007 in the Annex Room Community Centre. Any person willing to serve in the parish are more than welcome to come to this meeting.

Mary Immaculate College, The Dominican Biblical Centre and the Presentation Brothers, Cork Present

Introduction to the Bible

6.30 – 9.30 p.m. in Mardyke House, Cork. for 9 Thursdays beginning 1st February 2007.

Includes *Lectio Divina Workshop*

by Fr. Brendan Clifford O.P. on three Saturdays from 10 am to 1 pm (24th March, 31st March, 21st April). This workshop may also be taken independently of the Thursday evening course.

Course can be taken for credit towards an Accredited College Certificate.

Limited places available.

Information from:

Fr. Eamonn Fitzgibbon, Mary Immaculate College.

Eamonn.Fitzgibbon@mic.ul.ie

Tel: 061 204379

Ballincollig Tidy Towns

Awards Ceremony (2006)

Oriel House Hotel

Friday 26th January 2007

8 pm Sharp

Cheese & Wine Reception from 7:30 pm

Guest of Honour Batt O'Keefe T.D

Minister of State,

Department of the Environment, Heritage

& Local Government.

Everybody Welcome

49th Cork Ballincollig Scout Group

The scouts travelled to the Barrs football club to take part in the County Quiz, after a neck and neck battle, Bishopstown won the day with Ballincollig coming a respectable second.

In all sections we are now beginning to look towards the coming of spring when we can get out and start lighting our fires, cooking and eating lots of carbon! We will also be checking all of our tents, making sure that all the pegs and poles are in place, (the number of times we have arrived to pitch a tent, and a pole missing, and no one to blame).

Lighting fires reminds me of a story I once heard. An axe, a saw, a Scout and as nice a heap of firewood as you ever did see came together in a camp kitchen. Said the axe, *I am difficult, dangerous, wasteful, inefficient and untidy. Use me at your peril.* The firewood that was quite impartial, agreed sadly with this statement. The saw offered no comment, but smiled his wide, toothy, self-satisfied smile. Whereupon the Scout picked up the axe and proceeded to knock the ***** out of the firewood, thereby proving the truth of everything that had been said.

Moral: Saws are strongly recommended, but it's the axe that gets used.

The trouble with playing bulldog is that there are no rules, so that it becomes impossible to break any. Hence its universal popularity with boys, who have no wish to have their characters trained, least of all by adults.

Muskerry Local History Society January 2007 Lecture

Subject: "The Great March"

An illustrated talk on O'Sullivan Bearas long trek from Dunboy Castle to O'Ruarke of Breffni, with many stories of Co Cork leg of trip.

Speaker:- Mr Ted O'Sullivan, Historian and Author of book on O'Sullivan Clan.

Venue: Ballincollig Rugby Club Function Hall

Date & Time: Tuesday 23rd January 2007 @ 8 pm

Admission : €2.00 for non members Everyone most welcome.

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

Jan-27 & Jan-28-2007

St. Mary & St. John Christ Our Light

6:00 pm (Vigil)
Ailish O'Reilly
Daniel McAuliffe
8:30 am
Elizabeth Daly
10:00 am
Sinead O'Connor
12:00 Noon
Tomas Miller
Niall Hartnett

8:00 pm (Vigil)
Rebecca Feely
Jessica Lingard
11:00 am
Lisa Madden
12:30 pm
Brian O'Donoghue
Lia Breathnach
5:30 pm
Phil O'Connell

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	8 pm (Vigil)

CONFESSIONS

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

BAPTISMS

4:30 pm **Saturday** 4:30 pm
Except First Saturday of Month First Saturday of Month
12:45 pm **Sunday**



MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

Jan-27 & Jan-28-2007

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 Murphy
Finbarr Murray

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

8:30 am Mary Buckley
Rita Murphy
Mary O'Keefe

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

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
Nora Hennessy

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. Sean O'Driscoll C.C. 021-4870434
Fr. Anthony O'Mahony



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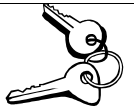
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Monday	Closed
Tuesday	9.30 – 5.00 pm
Wednesday	10.30 – 5.00 pm
Thursday	9.30 – 5.00 pm
Friday	9.30 – 5.00 pm
Saturday	9.30 – 12.30 pm

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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