

# THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



St. Mary & St. John  
Station Road

Sunday 10-May-2009

Fifth Sunday of Easter

*Part of the great revelation of the New Testament is the notion that God is coming among us to make all things new; that means removing all the causes of guilt and grief in human life. We show our acceptance of this renewal of our lives by our love for one another.*



Christ Our Light  
Innishmore

## Remaining Branches of the Vine

We may feel encouraged by today's readings and want to live a more fully Christian life, but ask ourselves what are we supposed to do, tied down as we are by all the things required to be done in our day-to-day lives. St John tells us that whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him (or her). And Jesus tells us that whoever remains in him, and he in them, bears plenty of fruit. We may say that sounds wonderful, but what do we do, on Tuesday for instance? Well, perhaps an answer, or a start anyway, is to pray, to renew (or restart!) a prayer life. Simple, but in practice not that easy.

We struggle at times to pray at all. People say God knows what we need, so why do we have to ask. Well without any communication it would not be much of a relationship. And asking is not the only type of prayer, there is also thanking, adoration, listening, acknowledging our sins and so on. But asking is an important part, and not just for "holy things." Jesus tells us to ask the Father for what we need; God wants to hear from us about all that weighs on our hearts. Jesus expects his followers to pray, he says to us "when you pray", not "if you pray." As we experience answers to prayer, our faith and our relationship with God grows. There are times when our prayers seem unheard, not every request for a new Mercedes gets answered. God only promises "good gifts," he loves us and knows what is best for us. He will answer "No" if what we ask would not be good for us, or for others, "directly, indirectly or ultimately." The answer to our prayer may be: yes, no or wait; and there will be times when we just don't understand.

Whilst there are many reasons for praying, prayer itself is a life giving activity which keeps our faith alive, it is the way in which we develop a relationship with God. Jesus prayed, and taught us to pray. We can pray whenever and wherever we are in an ongoing conversation, on the bus, in the car, on a bike, walking along the road, in bed in the middle of the night. But it is helpful to have a set time with God when you know you are simply meeting to talk. Some people like to combine Bible reading with prayer, at the beginning of the day. This depends on circumstances and our particular make up. But it is good to have a pattern. Prayer is that vital activity which enables us to remain part of the vine, as Jesus says. As we remain close to him in prayer we are nourished and our relationship goes deeper, he guides us by his Spirit in the circumstances of our lives and develops in us a oneness of outlook with him and with his Father. He refreshes our soul, and gives us his peace.

Billy O'Sullivan

## Grief and Loss (3)

Grief can absorb all our energy, affecting all areas of our life, including emotional, physical and spiritual reactions. It is often accompanied by periods of fatigue; difficulty eating or sleeping; loss of concentration; loss of motivation or interest in things that were once enjoyable. It may be a struggle to do everyday things, like cooking, going to work, shopping, meeting people. We may experience anxiety, isolation, fear. Because it can be difficult to name or talk about these feelings, we may be inclined to isolate ourselves. These reactions are a normal part of grieving and it does help to talk about them with someone you trust. While we may even feel God has abandoned us, He is there with us. We pray for all who are experiencing grief today and who struggle with the many feelings and questions surrounding the death of a loved one. Sr Colette

## PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

### Priest

In the Second Reading we hear that whatever we ask God, we shall receive. With confidence let us present our needs to the Lord.

### Reader

For the leaders in the Church; that they may follow the example of Paul and preach fearlessly in the name of the Lord.

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

For those in positions of power and influence in our society; that they make decisions based on the common good.

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

We pray for vocations; that men and women who are filled with the Holy Spirit and with wisdom will answer God's call to follow the One who is the true vine.

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

We pray for those who struggle to make ends meet and for whom each day brings a challenge to put food on the table.

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

We pray for those who are bereaved that the Lord may comfort them in their loneliness. We pray also that, as in the First Reading, Christian communities will care for those who live alone.

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

We pray that those who have died may enjoy eternal rest in the Father's house.

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

### Priest

God, our Father, hear the prayers we make before you this day confident that you will hear them. We make these, and all our prayers, through our Lord, Jesus Christ, your Son who is the true vine.  
Amen.

*You, Lord, are my praise in the great assembly.*

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

**BAPTISMS**

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

Elizabeth Emer Schmidt, Coopers Grange, Old Quarters.  
Millie Erin Ryan, The Elms, Bridewood Classes Lake.  
Holly Ella Costello, Rivers Edge, Fionn Laoi.

**MARRIAGES**

**CONGRATULATIONS TO:**

Nicholas Quinlan, Waterford & Niamh Reilly, Muskerry Estate.  
Brian Murphy, Rosewood & Linda O'Donovan Innishmore Grove.

† **IN SYMPATHY** †

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

Lena Ford, Tarelton.  
Robert Hanly, Castletownbere & Bristol.  
Given Healy, Bishopstown.

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

Timothy O'Leary, Togher.  
Patrick O'Mahony, Clash.  
Paddy & Kathleen Troy, Glanmire.  
Noel Murphy, Model Farm Road.  
Kitty O'Driscoll, Coppeen.  
Jerry & Kitty Hallahan, Kilmichael & Wales.  
James Murphy, Knocknagree.  
Thomas & Nora Lynch, Carrignavar.  
James, Breda & Denis O'Donoghue, West Village.  
Dr. Jim O'Neill, Rowan House, Ballincollig.  
Neill Barrett, Dripsey.  
Corena Crowley, Greenfield & Switzerland.  
Trevor Kelleher, Rosewood.  
Frances Murray, Ballincollig & Douglas.  
Kitty McCarthy, Kilbrittian.  
Deceased members of Comhaltas.  
Kathleen Cuthbert, Douglas.  
Jeremiah Henchy & Family, Hill Farm.  
Michael O'Regan, Shamrock Drive.  
Albert & Maureen Donovan, Clonakilty.  
Mary Cotter, Kilmichael.  
Hannah & John Haynes, Greenmount.  
Nellie Sheehan, Douglas.  
Eugene & Frances O'Callaghan, Inniscarra.  
Kathleen Cronin, Inniscarra.  
Nell McSweeney, Ovens.  
Daniel & Mary O'Mahony, Bandon.  
Rose Mary Hannan, Australia.

**Focus**

A 12 month full time training programme will commence shortly in Macroom for persons with mental health difficulties. It is being run by National Learning Network and offer offers people the opportunity to enhance personal development skills, improve their physical and mental health and explore future options. Call 087 6674282

**St. Padre Pio**

The annual Thanksgiving Mass is on in Parish Church, Enniskeane on Monday May 25th at 8.30 pm. The chief celebrant this year is Fr. Angelus O'Neill O.F.M. Cap. Confessions will be heard by the visiting Capuchin Priests from 6.30 pm. The blessings with the relics of St. Pio will be given immediately after Mass.

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Fifth Week of Easter**

- 10 Sunday Acts 9:26-31. Ps 21. 1 Jn 3:18-24. Jn 15:1-8. Lect I: 514
- 11 Monday Acts 14:5-18. Ps 113B. Jn 14:21-26. Lect I: 519
- 12 Tuesday Acts 14:19-28. Ps 144. Jn 14:27-31. Lect I: 522
- 13 Wednesday Acts 15:1-6. Ps 121. Jn 15:1-8. Lect I: 524
- 14 Thursday Acts 1: 15-17. Ps. 112. Jn. 15:9-17. Lect I: 1023
- 15 Friday Acts 15:22-31. Ps 56. Jn 15:12-17. Lect I: 528
- 16 Saturday Acts 16:1-10. Ps 99. Jn 15:18-21. Lect I: 531

**Next Sunday's Readings 17-May-2009**

Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48. Ps 97 1 Jn 4:7-10. Jn 15: 9-17. Lect I: 536

***Faith – Hope - Love***

**Weekend Seminar in Castleisland** on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May at 7.15 pm and Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> at 10.15 am. **Venue** is Presentation Convent Primary School Hall, Mart Lane. **Topics include** Addiction, Suicide, Relationships, Our Faith in Challenging Times, The Importance of Unity and Coping with Unemployment. All speakers are experts in their fields. **Special guests speakers are Anne the Lay Apostle and Sr Consilio.** Support services will attend. Prayer ministry will be available. Seminar concludes with concelebrated Mass. All welcome. Contact Tom or Kathleen at 066 7142300 or 086 1982188.

***Fund Raising***

Bishopstown Community School is holding a Fashion Show fundraiser on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2009, at 19:30. This is to raise funds for a young 15 year old girl, Karen Long, who has Spina Bifida and Scoliosis. The event is been organised by the TY Class and will be held in the school on the night. Raffle Tickets will be sold and a Glamorous Granny competition will be also held. Please come along to support this worthy cause. Tickets are available from the school, ph 021 454431. Ticket prices €8.00 for adults (€15.00 for two adults). €5.00 for students, under 12's and OAP's.

***The Pyke Theatre Group***

Will start their Monthly Social on May 12<sup>th</sup> with Mass at 8 pm celebrated by the parish priest Most Rev. George O'Mahony. PP for Deceased members, relatives and friends of The Pyke Theatre Music by Pat Clohessy. All are welcome. See you at the Rugby Club at five to eight.

**CROWLEY FUNERAL DIRECTORS**

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

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**THE SUNDAY READINGS**

First Reading: Acts 9: 26-31

When St. Stephen was stoned to death because of his preaching Paul (then known as Saul) was in charge of the execution. Now, however, after his conversion on the road to Damascus, he returns to Jerusalem and takes up where Stephen left off: preaching the same message. Again this preaching arouses the same fury and the Disciples, fearing for his life, sent him away to his home town of Tarsus.

Second Reading: 1 John 3: 18-24

Love of God and of the neighbour are inseparable. In practising either we must not rest satisfied with expressions of devotion and good will. Only when charity is active does conscience assure us that we are leading sincere Christian lives. Two things sum up what is most pleasing to God; faith in the divine personality of Jesus Christ and brotherly love according to Christ's instructions.

Gospel: John 15: 1-8

In this allegory the cultivation of the vine is attributed to God the Father. A fruitless branch is lopped off like Judas. The pruning clean of the Apostles is the result of the words Jesus spoke to them. A separated vine branch is useless. It is destined for the fire. Fruitfulness and discipleship go together.

**Respond Housing Association.**

“Respond! Housing Association, a registered charity, have recently acquired 24 newly built apartments at Bridgefield Close, Curraheen. We are inviting applications from *elderly persons* for these apartments.

Potential applicants should be registered on the Cork County Housing List. For further information, please contact  
*The Allocations Office,*

*Respond! Housing Association, St. Francis Gardens,  
Thomas Davis St, Blackpool, Cork or telephone 0818 357901*

**Ballincollig Scouts**

Survival of the scout leader at summer camp is not a matter of physical well being. It is a matter of dignity and status. Scouters are of course privileged; they have been entrusted with the fond offspring of doting parents who probably have never previously let them stray from the family nest. Whilst mother entrusts her little darling to the leader's tender care, father watches with a lump in his throat as his son and heir staggers off to his first camp, he expects his son will return with the same strength of character and imagination of B-P. The scout leader will instil this in him.

It is of course vital that the Scout Leader should pass this searching examination and return with his dignity and status unimpaired. I would go so far as to say that the whole year ahead is firmly based on the leader's reputation. It is therefore vital that he not only survive Summer Camp but return with enhanced charisma. The Scout leader is regarded by his scouts with affection and respect. If he is lucky they also may regard with awe and wonder. Once a year at summer camp he lays all these virtues on the line, for it is then that he must be seen to live up to these qualities. If he fails his days as a Scout Leader are numbered.

In my experience I venture to suggest that there is one simple straightforward philosophy be applied- **be second!** It can be proved without too much difficulty that all of history's great achievements and inventions came from the men who came second. For example the first successful aeroplane was certainly not the first one, because the first one either crashed or never got off the ground. Ask people what did Dr. Livingstone do? Ask them what was Stanley famous for, and everyone will know that he found Dr. Livingstone and said “Dr. Livingstone I presume”. So it is with summer camp if you are not first to arrive it is much easier to offer advice. Some of the pitfalls a leader may encounter include the fire that won't light, the knot that slips, and the compass that points east; there is only one safe answer- stay out of it.

**Bulletin Board**

**Parish Account Balance 2008**

On the notice boards of both Churches is a breakdown of the income and expenditure of the Parish Account for 2008. One page an account of income for the year and the other the expenditure under various headings. We spent more this year due to water drainage at Christ Our Light, Piped Organ at St Mary & St John and a once off payment to schools. Thankfully there is a reasonable credit balance. Our thanks to you all for your generosity and support.

**First Holy Communion**

Scoil Barra Saturday 16th May 2009  
Our Lady of Good Counsel Saturday 16th May 2009

**Mass Envelope Collection**

This Weekend 9th & 10th May for Parish Pastoral Services

**New Ministers of the Eucharist**

Presently in Ballincollig Parish we are inviting parishioners to volunteer to become Ministers of the Eucharist. You are invited to minister in either Christ Our Light Church or St Mary & St John Church approximately once a month at a week end Mass (rota will be provided). The requirements are that you are:

- A person 18 years or over
- A person with faith in the Eucharist and are anxious to deepen own faith through ministry
- A person willing to serve and minister to others.

You are also invited to nominate a friend or neighbour as a Minister of the Eucharist. (please give full name, address and contact no.)

There will be a preparation for all those interested in becoming ministers.

**Fr. George**

**Ballincollig Secular Franciscan Order**

The monthly Mass and meeting of the above will be celebrated on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May at 11.00 am in the Church of St Mary & St John.

Rosary will be recited at 10.40 am sharp.

**Enable Ireland – Action on Disability**

Volunteers required for their Church gate collection on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> May & Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2009.

Phone: Kerry Mac Mahon 021 4294434.

**Cardiac Support Group**

The next meeting of the Cardiac Support Group will be held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May, 2009

Venue: Bishopstown Library, Wilton Shopping Centre

Time: at 11.00 am to 1.00 pm

Topic: Relaxation. All are welcome.

**Missionaries of the Sacred Heart  
Celebrating 100 years in Ireland.**

Centenary Mass: Cathedral of St. Mary & St. Ann  
(North Cathedral)

3.00 pm Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May.

Refreshment afterwards in St. Vincent's Convent Hall.

Everyone Welcome.

**Marymount Hospice**

**Collectors required in the Ballincollig area.**

Do you have an hour or two to spare?

Marymount Hospice are seeking help for their Sunflower Collection days 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> June 2009.

For further details contact Carmel at 021 4870880 or 0872901351 if you can help.

**MINISTERS OF THE WORD**

May-16 & May-17-2009

**St. Mary & St. John Christ Our Light**

**6:00 pm (Vigil)**  
Aine Sheehan  
Mark Prendergast  
**8:30 am**  
Pat Fennell  
**10:00 am**  
Margot Twomey  
Jordan Crowley  
**12:00 Noon**  
Miriam Maunsell  
Evan Smith

**7:30 pm (Vigil)**  
Rebecca Feely  
Jessica Lingard  
**11:00 am**  
Cormac Manning  
Marie Ni Niada  
**12:30 pm**  
Kay Carew  
Jane O'Leary  
**5:30 pm**  
Emily Hardman

**MASS TIMES**

<b>St. Mary &amp; St. John</b>		<b>Christ Our Light</b>
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	<b>Wednesday</b>	8:30 am
9:30 am	<b>Thursday</b>	8:30 am
9:30 am	<b>Friday</b>	8:30 am
10:00 am & 6 pm (Vigil)	<b>Saturday</b>	7:30 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**

May-16 & May-17-2009

**St. Mary & St. John Christ Our Light**

**6.00 pm** Steve Wills  
Margaret O'Sullivan  
Rita Aherne  
Danny Farrell  
Jim Walsh  
Frances O'Brien

**7:30 pm** Anne O'Regan  
Mairead Murphy  
Finbarr Murray  
Lettie Kelly  
**11:00 am** Seamus O'Connell  
Mary O'Connell  
Alan O'Riordan  
Geraldine Keohane  
Gerard Murray

**8:30 am** Mary Buckley  
Rita Murphy  
Denis Healy

**12:30 pm** Lucy O'Callaghan  
Jackie Sheehan  
Mary Green  
Michael O'Leary  
J.P.O'Leary

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

**5:30 pm** Noelle Buckley  
Mary Breen  
Siobhan Burke

**12 Noon** Oliver O'Donovan  
Barbara Kelly  
Sean Hennessy  
Mary McLean  
Ellen Seymour  
Nora Hennessy

**PARISH CLERGY**

**Priest on Duty 087-2479140**  
**Fr. George O'Mahony P.P. 021-4871206**  
**Fr. Michael O'Mahony C.C. 021-4877161**  
**Fr. Billy O'Sullivan C.C. 021-4876171**  
**Fr. James McSweeney 021-4873308**



**Ballincollig Hardware**

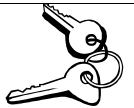
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**Parish Office, The Presbytery, Ballincollig is open Mon - Wed from 9 am - 1 pm & 2 pm - 3 pm. Sat 10:30 am - 12 Noon. Phone No. (021) 4871206, Office Secretary Catherine Crowley.**

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\*Terms & conditions apply. Ballincollig Credit Union Ltd is regulated by the Financial Regulator.