

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER

Sunday 14-March-2010



St. Mary & St. John
Station Road

Fourth Sunday of Lent

The Parable of the Prodigal shows us the power of the Father's forgiving love. The elder brother thinks of himself, and is begrudging. How often do we begrudge God's goodness to others? How many of us 'seek to use our good works as a means of monopolising God's love for ourselves.



Christ Our Light
Innishmore

Ambassadors

We are more than half way through Lent, looking towards Holy Week and Easter, towards our remembrance of the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus, the work of our redemption. We are reminded of this by the reading from the Book of Joshua about the ending of the manna. This tells of the first Passover festival in the Promised Land after the years in the wilderness, a festival which prefigured Christ's Passover in Jerusalem, which we will commemorate at Easter.

The parable of the prodigal son is familiar to us and yet like any true parable it is thought-provoking each time we read or hear it. It tells of God's loving response to our repentance, even when that results from absolute self-interest. We are never beyond the reach of God's kindness. He takes us back, again and again if need be, and does not hold our faults against us. We say "pray for us sinners," recognising our sinfulness and as we speak about repentance, we hope to do better. But is this enough? Repentance involves more than sorrow and regret, it means a change of hearts, a new attitude. It means admitting we were wrong and swallowing our pride.

We need to guard against the hard piety of the elder son, who resented his father's acceptance of the erring younger son. A hard-hearted false piety does not reflect the heart of our Father who loves all his children. God's heart is for his little ones, and for the lost. Jesus was criticised for associating with sinners, for being open to people of inappropriate lifestyle. As his followers, can the same be said about us? If not, are we failing to be truly Christ-like?

Our repentance and renewal is God's work, not ours. Reconciliation to God means more than repentance and forgiveness, it leads us to something greater, to our becoming signs of God's goodness in the world, living signs of his kindness and magnanimity. We are called to that role, to represent God. While we find it hard to accept this, in a sense it is easy, as it is all God's work, if we let him do it. St Pauls tells us we are indeed God's ambassadors in the world, bringing God's appeal to others, the appeal to be reconciled. God appeals, he does not force anybody to accept him, as he offers a peace that the world cannot give. We pray for a spirit of confidence in God, and a spirit of practical kindness to others so that we may indeed represent the goodness of God to a sceptical world

Billy O'Sullivan

History of Mother's Day in Ireland

The history of celebrating Mothering Sunday or Mothers Day in Ireland can be traced to the medieval practice where children from poor families were sent to work as domestic servants and apprentices to work with the rich. Once in the year in the middle of the Lent these children were given a day off to visit their 'Mother Church' and worship Virgin Mary. After visiting the Mother Church or Cathedral of their home town these children visited their mothers and presented them with flowers they picked along the way. Girls bake special Mothering Cake on the day. Pattern of living changed after the Industrial Revolution and Mothering Sunday celebration almost lapsed. The custom was revived after World War II. Americans too helped to bring back the charm of the festival in European countries as their tradition and way of celebrating Mothers Day spread far and wide.

"Best Wishes To All Mothers Today"

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Priest

The psalmist says: 'I sought the Lord and he answered me'. We present our needs to the same Lord with confidence.

Reader

We pray for the Church; that it may present the forgiving welcome of the father in the parable of the Prodigal Son to the world.

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

We pray for our parish; may it be a place of welcome for all.

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

We pray for those who are hungry; that they may receive food and be satisfied.

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

We pray for peace; that the Lord may turn hatred to love and conflict to peace.

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

We pray for families that have become distant from each other; that they may be reconciled.

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

We pray for those who have died; that the Lord may turn death to eternal life.

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

Priest

Father in heaven, you sent us your Word, your Son Jesus Christ who reconciles us to you. We make our prayer through the same Christ, who welcomes sinners and eats with them. Amen.

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Visit Our Website: www.ballincolligparish.ie

BAPTISMS

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

Eoin Patrick Lonergan, Grange Manor, Ovens.
 Erin Imelda O'Connell, Old Fort Gate.
 Aoibhinn Catherine Noonan, Aylsbury Lawn.
 Joshua Bradley McGill, Innishmore Lawn.
 Victoria Oluchi Machie, Westcourt Heights.
 Harry Olisa Machie, Westcourt Heights.
 Alisha Anne Burke, Rosewood.

† **IN SYMPATHY** †

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

Clare Dineen, Garyhesta & Classis Lake.
 Regina Brennan Nee Moloney, Church View, Raheen.
 Denis Green, Coachford.
 Anna-Marie Cardow, London.
 Ellen O'Mullane, Newmarket.
 Harry Walsh, Innishmore Park.

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

Ann Noonan, Westgrove.
 Eileen Feeney, Beech Road.
 John O'Donoghue, Kilmichael.
 William, Margaret & Kitty McNamara, Carrigrohane.
 Joe & Terry Butler, Inniscarra View.
 Jerry & Kitty Hallahan, Kilmichael & Wales.
 Donal O'Mahony, Wyndham Downs.
 Bridget Punch, Glincool.
 John Jo McCarthy, Ballydehob.
 Charles McCarthy, Ballydehob.
 Helen Kenneally, Beech Park.
 Gerry & Mary Dempsey, Inniscarra.
 Margaret & Timmy O'Mahony, Ballinora.
 Maureen & Billy Denieffe, Curraheen.
 Angela O'Rourke, Greystones.
 Brid Dolan, Classes Lake.
 Richard Krauss, Aishling Close.
 Nora Vaughan, Kilnamartyra.
 Kieran McNulty, Fr Sexton Park
 Joe & Tom Heaton, Ballyphehane.
 Eileen Walsh, Muskerry Estate.
 Nora Harrington, Carrigrohane, & London.
 Dec. members of the Twohig Family, Kilcrea Park.
 Eoin O'Dwyer, Ballyshoneen.
 Alan O'Callaghan, Aherla.
 Peg Kavanagh, Powdermills.
 Denis & Margaret Linehan, Inniscarra.
 Eugene & Margaret Teahan, Killarney.
 Una Keegan, Enniscorthy.
 Tim O'Leary, Sunningdale.
 Nancy Hogan, The Crescent.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Fourth Week Of Lent

14 Sunday Josh. 5:9-12. Ps. 33:2 Cor. 5:17-21. Lk. 15:1-3, 11-32. Lect I: 284
 15 Monday Is. 65:17-21. Ps. 29. In. 4:43-54. Lect I: 290
 16 Tuesday Ez. 47:1-9,12. Ps. 45. In. 5:1-3.5-16. Lect I: 292
 17 Wednesday
 18 Thursday Ex. 32:7 -14 Ps. 105 In. 5:31-47. Lect 1: 297
 19 Friday 2 Sam. 7:4-5, 12-14, 16. Ps. 88. Rom. 4:13, 16-18, 22. Mt. 1:16, 18-21 or Lk. 2:41-51 Lect I: 970 or Lect II: 980
 20 Saturday Jer. 11 :18-20. Ps. 7. In. 7:40-53. Lect I: 303

Next Sunday's Readings 21-March-2010

Is. 43:16-21. Ps 125. Phil. 3:8-14. Jn. 8:1-11. Lect I: 313

Trocaire - Fourth Sunday of Lent

"My Son, you are with me and all I have is yours..." (Luke 15:32)
 The parable of the prodigal son illustrates a parent's unconditional love for his or her children, as a father welcomes home a son who has strayed, while reassuring his other son that he is also loved dearly. On Mother's Day we realise, again, the depth of this parental love in our own lives. The little girl on the Trócaire box, Domitille, is lucky to have a mother to love and look after her. Often her mother, Triphonie goes without food to make sure her children get enough to eat. She tells Trócaire that there isn't always enough to go round and she will do whatever it takes to make sure they don't cry with hunger. Please support Trócaire's Lenten campaign this year in whatever way you can. Your support will help mothers like Triphonie all over the world.

Reflection for Parents

We try to divide the world into equal pieces for each of our children, but we know how very different each child can be. There are really no "one-size-fits-all" sets of expectations for families with more than one child. Today's Gospel helps us remember that we need to recognise the virtues of obedience and faithfulness, while we still love unconditionally and forgive the child who challenges us. Both brothers in this story considered themselves slaves, a feeling we work hard to prevent in our children.

Ennis Padre Pio Pilgrimage

Ennis Padre Pio Pilgrimage to San Giovanni, also visiting Rome and Loreto. Audience with the Holy Father. Leaving Cork Airport, September 5 - 15. Please contact Mrs. Maire Coll, 086 8804603.

Year for Priests

Augustinian, Capuchin, Dominican & Franciscan Religious Celebrations, Mass, Homily & Prayers
St Augustine's, Church, Washington St Cork
 Monday 15th March at 7.30 pm.
Holy Trinity Church, Fr Mathew Quay, Cork.
 Tuesday 16th March at 7.30 pm.
St Francis Church, Liberty St., Cork.
 Thursday 18th March at 7.30 pm.
St Mary's Church, Pope's Quay, Cork.
 Friday 19th March at 7.30 pm.
 Preacher: Fr Tomas Lane CM, All Hallows
 All Priests, Religious and Laity are welcome.

CROWLEY

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THE SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading: Joshua 5:9-12
The story of God providing manna in the desert, but only there, may tell us something about how God provides for us in our every need.

Second Reading: 2 Cor. 5:17-21
St. Paul gives a strong message today: We, each one of us, are ambassadors for Christ. That is something!

Gospel: Luke 15:1-3, 11-32
Today's Gospel is the well-known story of the prodigal son who begged for his share of the family inheritance. He took his fortune to a far away place and quickly spent all he had on his personal pleasures. He was completely broke when a serious famine struck the area and he was forced to tend pigs, an occupation prohibited to Jewish people. As he tended the pigs, he hungered for their scraps and realised that his father's slaves lived better than he did. It was then that he decided to return home, not as a son, but as a hired hand. So happy was the man's father when he saw his son return that he celebrated with all sorts of signs of honour. The father's older son, however, was very displeased with the way his father treated his brother, claiming that he had always been there working like a slave for his father. Never once had the father celebrated with this son. The father explained that the older son had always been with him and obedient. It was cause to rejoice, however, that his other son had been lost but now was found.

Scout News

Firstly the group would like to congratulate the Wednesday nights scouts on coming Second in the urban challenge which was held in Cobh. They now qualify for the National skills weekend, it was a very good result for a group, which is only in existence for 6 months.

The Thursday night scouts went on a hike to Ballypooreen, they were practicing for the forth coming Survival weekend, they first built shelters in the forest, 6 scouts had to fit in it, and it had to be water and wind proof. They then had to camouflage the shelter. The scouts then had lunch, and afterwards they had to light fires without matches or firelights, when they got the fires going they put charcoal on and when it turned to hot ash the scouts cooked chicken and veg. in tinfoil packages. When cooked the scouts polished off the lot. They then turned their attention to making a water collection device handy in case they ever get stranded. The scouts then cleaned up the site and dismantled the shelters and returned to the scout hall.

Troop meetings are the bread and butter of Scouting. Camping is the cake. Everything humanly possible should be done to ensure our Scouts are not deprived of the cake.



Happy St. Patrick's Day to all our Readers & Parishioners



St Oliver's Cemetery

The new extension to St Oliver's Cemetery is open. The Co Council is selling plots, anybody interested please contact Mr Lane the caretaker at St Oliver's phone: 021 4873709.



Please visit our website www.ij.s.ie

Bulletin Board

St Patrick's Day Masses

St Mary & St John

Vigil Tuesday 16th March – 8.00 pm

Wednesday 17th March - 8.30 am, 10.00 am & 8.00 pm.

Christ Our Light

Vigil Tuesday 16th March - 6.30 pm

Wednesday 17th March - 12.30 m (Irish) & 6.30 pm

Mass Book

Diaries to book Mass Intentions for April, May & June are now open in both churches.

Masses during Lent

For the duration of Lent there will be evening Mass in

Christ Our Light at 6.30 pm and St Mary & St John at 8 pm.

Priesthood in Cork & Ross

Annual Vocations Information Day at St Dominic's Retreat Centre, Ennismore, Montenotte, Cork on Saturday March 27th 2010 from 11 am to 5 pm.

Car Parking

Please follow white arrows displayed at Church of Christ Our Light and Church of St Mary & St John. Try to ensure the exits and accesses are not obstructed.

Fr. George

and now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem

Ballincollig Parish Pilgrimage

To The Holy Land

4th to 13th October, 2010

Spiritual Director: Fr. Billy O'Sullivan C.C.

Direct Flight From Cork

For Information and Booking contact Laurence Cunningham at 021-4873364

Cost: €1,095 p.p.s. including half board accommodation and all taxes

Booking Deposit €300

Tour Operator: Celebration Travel Ireland Ltd.

An information meeting for all who are considering coming to the Holy Land will be held in the Annexe Room, Ballincollig Community Hall, Station Road on Wednesday March 24th at 8.00 pm. Representatives of the Tour Operator will attend.

Living Your Life in The Spirit Of God

Do you want God's help in your life then come to hear the good news at

Mount St. Joseph's

Blarney Street, Cork

Every Wednesday at 8 pm

During Lent

St Mark's Centre

On Saturday 20th March, 2010 there will be a talk on Holy Week given by Fr Tom Clancy.

All Ministers of the Eucharist and Ministers of the Word are welcome to attend.

It will commence at 11 am until 3 pm

Early Morning Prayer for Lent

Take advantage of this special time of Lent, and begin your day and preparation for EASTER the best way possible with the MORNING PRAYER of the CHURCH. Taking place during Lent in St. Mark's Centre (opposite Christ Our Light Church) Mon- Fri. at 6 am. Everyone Welcome

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

Mar-20 & Mar-21-2010

St. Mary & St. John Christ Our Light

6:00 pm (Vigil)
Brendan Collins
Michael Collins
8:30 am
Pat Fennell
Susan Fennell
10:00 am
Margot Twomey
Lauree Hegarty
12:00 Noon
John Dorgan
Fergal Monahan

7:30 pm (Vigil)
Michael Greene

11:00 am
Chide Ebili
Karen Flavin
12:30 pm
Joseph Manning
Robert Murphy
5:30 pm
Marlyn O'Connor



MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

Mar-20 & Mar-21-2010

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

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
J.P.O'Leary

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

5:30 pm Noelle Buckley
Mary Breen

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 & 8 pm	Monday	8:30 am & 6:30 pm
9:30 am & 8 pm (Vigil)	Tuesday	8:30 am & 6:30 pm (Vigil)
8:30 am, 10 am & 8 pm	Wednesday	12:30 am & 6:30 pm
9:30 am & 8 pm	Thursday	8:30 am & 6:30 pm
9:30 am & 8 pm	Friday	8:30 am & 6:30 pm
10:00 am & 6 pm (Vigil)	Saturday	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	

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



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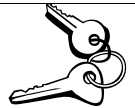
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Parish Office, The Presbytery, Ballincollig is open Mon - Wed from 9 am - 1 pm & 2 pm - 3 pm. Sat 10:30 am - 12 Noon. Phone No. (021) 4871206, Office Secretary Catherine Crowley.

St. Patrick's Day Parade in Ballincollig

Ballincollig Business Association is all set for the first St Patrick's Day Parade in the town in over 25 years, starting at 3 pm. An array of sporting, community and cultural clubs from Ballincollig and surrounding areas will participate in the parade.

The parade promises to be a truly spectacular event with plenty of variety groups and entertainment for all the family. There will also be a fancy dress parade with prizes for best group and best individual, both adult and child sections.

Traffic diversions will be in place in the lead up to and during the parade. Members of the public are asked to co-operate with stewards and the Garda, and to use the alternative car parks which will be sign-posted.

St Dominic's Retreat Centre Ennismore

Thursday Evenings in Lent

7.30 pm - 9.00 pm

Lectio Divina - Scripture Reflection

Meditating on the Sunday Gospels using the method of Lectio Divina

concluding with celebration of the Eucharist

Directed by : Benedict Hegarty OP/Martina Lehane Sheehan

March 20 - Saturday 10.30 - 4.30 pm

"Come Apart and Rest for a While"

A Lenten Day Retreat—Martina Lehane Sheehan

Easter Triduum

April 1 - 4 - (Holy Thursday to Easter Sunday)

Journeying with Jesus through suffering, death and Resurrection

Retreat Team

Enquiries and bookings phone 021 4502520.