

# THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



St. Mary & St. John  
Station Road

Sunday 28-November-2010

## First Sunday of Advent

*Christ was born into the world to be the light of all people on their through life. Today we renew our dedication to live as He has shown us, so that when He comes again we will be ready to receive him.*



Christ Our Light  
Innishmore

### Advent

This weekend marks the beginning of the Church's year and the beginning of the season of Advent as we prepare to welcome the Christ Child at Christmas. We look forward to the celebration of God made man, of Word made flesh, of Emmanuel, God-with-us. In this parish we begin with a three day Advent Retreat in which we are invited to share our troubles with the Lord Jesus, who shares with us his goodness and his healing love. We pray that the retreat will be a source of grace for all in the parish and indeed in the wider community. Other parish events in preparation for Christmas will include centrally our Advent Sunday Liturgies, as well as our weekday Masses, Carol Concerts, Penitential Services and special school events.

The first week of Advent also sees the start of a Ballincollig Parish Alpha course. This is an opportunity to explore the meaning of life in an informal, fun and friendly environment. It starts on Thursday December 2nd, and continues in Colaiste Choilm on Thursday evenings from 7.30 pm to 9.30 pm for ten weeks. The Alpha course explores some of the basic truths of the Christian faith – "Who is Jesus?" "Why Did Jesus Die?" "How does God guide us" and "What about the Church?" A background knowledge of or belief in Christianity is not assumed and everyone is welcome; no question is out of bounds and we are free to discuss as much or as little as we wish. (I remember attending my first Alpha course in 1995, I went along with some reluctance, but found to my surprise that it was friendly and enjoyable, fun really. It explored the faith in a "non-Churchy" and thoroughly adult way.)

Jesus tells us in today's gospel to be alert, to be ready for his coming at a time we do not expect. St Paul tells us that the Day of the Lord is near at hand, we live as it were in the dawn of that day. We are children of the day, of the light and not of darkness, and are called to live accordingly. This is an opportune time for new beginnings as we prepare for Christmas and renew our commitment to a life of Christian service to others, a time to put off the works of selfishness and enter into the joy of the Lord.

Billy O'Sullivan

### First Sunday of Advent

Lord, help us to remember that YOU are near us always as we struggle, step by step, to get nearer to YOU, in this special season. "God of Hosts, bring us back; Let Your face shine on us and we shall be saved"



### PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

#### Priest

Let us present our needs before the Lord in whom we place our trust.

#### Reader

We pray for the Church; that it will lead all nations to stream to the temple of the Lord and help them to walk in the light of the Lord.

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

As we enter the season of Advent we pray that as a parish community and as individuals, we may prepare for the coming of the Lord on Christmas Day.

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

We pray for peace, especially in countries ravaged by war; that nation will not lift sword against nation.

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

We pray for the Spirit of wisdom; that it may enlighten the minds of all people and lead to a growth and awareness to put an end to all acts of violence and abuse.

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

We pray for those who are sick; that they may experience the Lord's healing touch.

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

We pray for our dead; that they may be raised to new life with the angels and saints in heaven.

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

#### Priest

Loving Father, we place our trust in you. Hear our prayers and grant us what we need today. We make these and all our prayers through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen.

*I rejoiced when I heard them say: 'Let us go to God's house.'*

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

**BAPTISMS**

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

Ronan Patrick O'Mahony, Model Farm Road.  
 Cathal Oliver O'Mahony, Model Farm Road.  
 Lexi May O'Donovan, Coopers Grange, Old Quarter.  
 Fionn Ryan, Maglin Crescent.  
 Charlie James Howard, Millers Court, Old Quarter.  
 Eoin Paul Keeley, Glendower Court.  
 Darcey Lauren Kavanagh, The Avenue, Highfield Park.

† **IN SYMPATHY** †

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

Dr. Aonghus O'Donnell, Douglas.  
 Oliver Desmond, Aherla.  
 Margaret O'Mahony, Leevue, Ballincollig.  
 Billy O'Halloran, Ballincollig & Crookstown.  
 Kitty O'Connell, Mallow.  
 Eileen Hennigan, Kilmichael.  
 Ronald Noonan, Coopers Grange.

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

Tommy Daly, Leemount.  
 Tim & Sheila Coakley, Castlehaven.  
 John Hegarty, McCurtain Villas.  
 Michael & Johanna Hennigan, Woodbine Lawn.  
 Fr. Francis McKeown, Cork & Jamaica.  
 Dan Murphy, Clash.  
 Timothy O'Leary, Farnanes.  
 Ciss O'Connell, O'Connell Avenue, Turners Cross.  
 Bob & Bridge Griffin, Lispole, Dingle.  
 Rita Whelton, Glendower.  
 Dec members of the Sexton family, Fr. Sexton Park.  
 Dan & Ann Kenny, McCurtain Villas.  
 Marie O'Flaherty, Coolroe Meadows.  
 Brendan O'Sullivan, Glendower.  
 Maureen & Tadgh O'Callaghan, The Lough.  
 Mary Dineen, Shandon View.  
 Davis & Mildred McCarthy, Union Hall.  
 Kevin & Saidh McCarthy, Rosewood.  
 Stephen Spitere, Glasheen.  
 Nora Coughlan, Ballydehob.  
 Nancy Hogan, The Crescent.  
 Rita Kinsella, Carrigrohane.  
 Kathleen Kelleher, Waterfall.  
 Phil Coughlan, Tower Street.  
 John Ring, Dungourney & Australia.  
 Thomas & Hannah Hanifin, Annascaul.  
 Shelia Kershaw, England.  
 Eileen O'Flynn, Lyras, Aherla.

***The Parkinson's Association of Ireland***

The Parkinson's Association of Ireland – Invites you – a person with Parkinson's, a carer, relative, health professional or friend to a **Parkinson's Information Update**  
**Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2010**  
**11.00 am to 2.30 pm**  
**Rochestown Park Hotel, Rochestown, Cork**  
 €10 per person

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**First Week Of Advent**

28 Sunday Is. 2:1-5. Ps. 121. Rom. 13:11-14. Mt. 24:37-44. Lect I: 3  
 29 Monday Is. 4:2-6. Ps. 121. Mt. 8:5-11. Lect I:11  
 30 Tuesday Rom. 10:9-18. Ps. 18. Mt. 4:1 8-22. Lect II:1279  
 01 Wednesday Is. 25:6-10. Ps. 22. Mt. 15:29-37. Lect I:15  
 02 Thursday Is. 26:1-6. Ps. 117. Mt. 7:21 .24-27. Lect I:18  
 03 Friday Is. 29:17-24. Ps. 26. Mt. 9:27-31. Lect I:20  
 04 Saturday Is. 30:19-21, 23-26. Ps. 146. Mt. 9:35-10:1,6-8. Lect I:22

**Next Sunday's Readings 05-December-2010**

Is. 11:1-10. Ps. 71. Rom. 15:4-9. Mt. 3:1-12. Lect I: 24

***Handel's Messiah***

East Cork Choral Society are performing Handel's Messiah on Sat. Dec. 4th in Christ the King Church, Turner's Cross, Cork at 8 pm.

Soloists: Edel Shannon, Bridget Knowles, Robert Craig & Gordon Garde. The choir will be joined by Seafield Singers from Dublin and the East Cork Orchestra conductor Colin Nicholls

Tickets €15 and available from the Sacristy at Christ the King, Church,

Turner's Cross. and Pro Musica, Oliver Plunkett St. Cork. This musical masterpiece, is more than appropriate for the Advent and Christmas Season.

***Volunteers Wanted!***

Irish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty Children in Cork is currently looking for people to volunteer with Childline

If you are over 18, are interested in helping children and young people, and have 4 hours a week to spare please contact us on the following:

Telephone: 021 4509588

Email: [annmariespillane.ispcc@gmail.com](mailto:annmariespillane.ispcc@gmail.com)

**Arthritis Ireland and Home Instead Senior Care**

Have developed an information booklet 'Caring Hands: Caring for A Person with Arthritis', to help caregivers learn about arthritis, understand more about its symptoms and realise how they can support someone with arthritis to live a full and independent life. To request your free copy of the booklet, Please contact Home Instead Senior Care on 021 500 2190.

**CROWLEY FUNERAL DIRECTORS**

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

Email: [michaelfd@eircom.net](mailto:michaelfd@eircom.net)

[www.crowleyfuneraldirectors.ie](http://www.crowleyfuneraldirectors.ie)

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**THE SUNDAY READINGS**

First Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5  
The Prophet Isaiah speaks of a time when all the nations will hear the Word of God and be united.

Second Reading: Romans 13:11-14  
St. Paul issues a wake-up call for this Advent season.

Gospel: Matthew 24:37-40, 44.  
The emphasis of today's Gospel is on the second coming of Jesus. Matthew refers to three events that show we do not know when Jesus will return, but the message is clear: we are to be ready! The first reference Matthew makes is to Noah and the flood. People were occupied with their daily lives / eating, drinking, and marrying. In the second example, men were working in the field and women were grinding at the mill. Some were taken and some remained. In the final example, the master of the house could have prevented the robbery if only he had known when the thief would come. This Gospel is a stern caution for each of us to live in preparation for Jesus' return.

**Tension Awareness**

**Take one thing at a time...**

Take the most urgent tasks and pitch into them, one at a time, forgetting the rest for the time being. If you feel you cannot tackle things in this way reflect – Are you sure you are not overestimating the importance of many of the things you have to do?

**Cork Conference  
Rebuild My Church**

Continues Today Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> Nov. with Mass at 3.00 pm  
Venue: Cork Institute of Technology  
Speakers: Fr. Pat Collins & Marie Beirne  
Lectures commence each day at 10.30 am  
No admission charge  
Further information:  
Pat Carroll 086 8136701/Sr Bridget Dunne 021 4251100

**Liam Lawton at St. FinBarre's Cathedral**

On Tuesday 14th December

Christmas at the Cathedral with Liam Lawton and special guests ~ St. Colman's Cathedral Chamber Choir at 8.00 pm. Hear Liam in this beautiful setting performing songs from his new album Courage Can Cry, with some of his other well loved songs and of course some great Christmas Carols. Why not come along with your Choir and enjoy an evening of reflection and music in preparation for this beautiful season.

Tickets €20 available from Carey's Lane: 021 – 4251255  
or St. Finbarre's Cathedral Shop: 021 – 4963387

**An Evening of Carols and Classics.**

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December 8pm

Devere Hall, U.C.C

With: Hugh Moynihan, Lorraine Manley, Deirdre White and Terry McCarthy, Cor Cholaiste/Gaelcholaiste Choilm, & Champagne Cork (Barbershop Chorus)

Tickets available from Bru Columbanus, Tel: 021 4345754  
(Credit cards and debit card accepted).

**Ballincollig Boy Scouts**

The Annual Boy Scout Bazaar will be held next Sunday December 5th in the Community Hall @ 2 pm.  
Please support your local Scout Group.  
ALL WELCOME.

**Bulletin Board**

**Advent Retreat 2010**

Ballincollig Advent Retreat in Church of St Mary & St John at 8 pm on November 29<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> & December 1<sup>st</sup>.  
Will include prayer, homily & quiet time (No evening Mass).

**Morning Mass at 7 am**

Retreat will be conducted by the Fr Tom Clancy

**First Friday**

Friday December 3<sup>rd</sup> is the first Friday of the month. There will be exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in St Mary & St John from 6.30 pm to 7.45 pm, you are invited to come and spend some time with the Lord. Mass will be celebrated in St Mary & St John on Friday evening at 8.00 pm. The priests of the parish visit the sick of the parish on the first Friday of each month; please let us know if you have a family member or neighbour who is sick or housebound.

**Baptism Preparation**

The next Baptism preparation will take place **Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December, 2010 at 12.00 pm** in the **Library Room, Community Hall, Station Road**. The presentation lasts for approximately forty minutes. The following questions are addressed, What is Baptism? What are the symbols used in the Sacrament of Baptism? How can the family become involved in the ceremony? Parents might book the baptism a few weeks in advance to give ample time to take part in the preparation.

**Mass Book**

Diaries to book Mass Intentions for January, February and March 2011 will open in both churches on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December, 2010 at 9 am.

**Eucharistic Ministers**

Parishioners are invited to volunteer as Ministers of the Eucharist. Volunteers are required for both churches and should be over 18 years. Please leave your name and address in Parish Office or Church Sacristies. Phone 021 4871206

**Fr. George**

**Advent Early Morning Prayer**

**Q.** What makes Christmas perfect?

**A.** Preparing well during Advent

Let's prepare well – Come to MORNING PRAYER of the CHURCH, taking place during Advent.

St Mark's Centre (opposite Christ Our Light Church).

Mon- Fri. @ 6 am. Starting Mon. 29<sup>th</sup> Nov.

Everyone welcome.

**Westgate Foundation**

**Monster Christmas Fair**

Today Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> November commencing at 12.30 pm – 5.30 pm. No admission, Wheel of fortune, raffles, stalls refreshments, Mulled Wine and lots more. We welcome new toys Crafts – only new or nearly new. No clothes, shoes, magazines, Videos, CDs or furniture. New Electrical goods or nearly new. Groceries and hand bags in good condition.

**Gramophone Recital**

Musical morning in the Ballincollig Library from **11.00 am to 12.30 pm**

**on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2010.**

This month's musical choice is presented by Paddy O'Gorman

Admission free all are welcome.

**MINISTERS OF THE WORD**

Dec-04 & Dec-05-2010

**St. Mary & St. John**

**Christ Our Light**

**6:00 pm (Vigil)**  
Ailish O'Reilly

**8:30 am**  
Eadaoin O'Leary  
Gerald O'Leary

**10:00 am**  
Margot Twomey  
Lauree Hegarty

**12:00 Noon**  
Oliver O'Donovan  
David Drohan

**7:30 pm (Vigil)**  
Rebecca Feely  
Jessica Lingard

**11:00 am**  
Jack Dorgan

**12:30 pm**  
Tadhg Buckley  
James Nyagaya

**5:30 pm**  
Brian O'Donoghue

**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**

7:30 pm (Vigil)

**CONFESSIONS**

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

**Saturday**

**BAPTISMS**

4:30 pm  
Except First Saturday of  
Month

**Saturday**

4:30 pm  
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**

*Ballincollig Parish - Gospel of John*

Our series of talks on St John's Gospel will be concluded in December and January. As before, the talks will be held in the St Mark Centre, opposite the Church of Christ Our Light in Innishmore. These will include presentation of the material by Fr Billy O'Sullivan followed by tea and group discussion. Copies of information leaflets will be available for everybody. The schedule of meetings for December is as follows.

	Monday, 7.30 pm	Wednesday, 10.00 am
Talk 5	6 <sup>th</sup> December	8 <sup>th</sup> December
Talk 6	13 <sup>th</sup> December	15 <sup>th</sup> December

**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.**



**Alpha**

A new Ballincollig Parish **Alpha** course begins in December. This is an opportunity to explore the meaning of life in an informal, fun and friendly environment. The course starts on Thursday December 2<sup>nd</sup>, and continues in Colaiste Colm on each Thursday evening from 7.30 pm to 9.30 pm for ten weeks, excluding December 23<sup>rd</sup>. The course explores some of the basic truths of the Christian faith – “Who is Jesus?” “Why Did Jesus Die?” “How does God guide us” and “What about the Church?” During the programme there is an option of a day away to explore the work of the Holy Spirit. This course is relaxed, non-threatening, low key and friendly. We meet weekly and listen to a talk lasting 40 minutes, followed by a tea/coffee break and small group discussion to discuss the talk and questions arising from it. **Alpha** is for everyone; no question is out of bounds and you are free to discuss as much or as little as you wish.