

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



St. Mary & St. John
Station Road

Sunday 19-December-2010

Fourth Sunday of Advent

It was through Our Lady's faith and perfect obedience to God's will that Christ was born, the promised Emmanuel, God - with - us. God continues to be with us if we receive His Son in faith.



Christ Our Light
Innishmore

Fourth Sunday of Advent - "God is with us"

The gospel this week is from St Matthew. It is an account of the Annunciation to Joseph. He was living with his young bride Mary the love of his life. I am sure Joseph had many hopes and dreams for their life together but his hopes and dreams were shattered almost before married life began. Mary was pregnant, what was he to do and the consequences for Mary were intimidating.

Many people are living with fear, anxiety and anger during these days. To survive on a pension or a low income is always a struggle; however making ends meet when a low wage is cut by five or ten percent is a harrowing experience facing many people this Christmas. More and more people in our midst are asking the question posed by Joseph, "what am I to do, how will I survive". I just wish I had an answer to the question as tears trickle down the faces of worried and frightened people. Ballincollig today has many people suffering; no one deserves to suffer and certainly those on pensions and low wages should not be expected to carry further burdens. Many others have lost their jobs, their homes and even their health. Parents and families are living in fear and trepidation

Joseph is described in today's Gospel as being a man of honour, I think many of us would hope that we are people of honour. Perhaps we might wake from our dreams and our slumbers and insist that enough is enough. The low paid and poor are being asked to carry too many burdens and too much pain. This has to stop.

I take this opportunity on behalf of Fr Michael, Fr Billy, Fr James and myself to wish you and your families a very happy and peaceful Christmas. Thank you for your support and generosity during the year. A special word of thanks to the many people on giving of their time and talents to the various ministries in the parish..

George O'Mahony

Fourth Sunday of Advent

We are about to take our final step in preparation for our Christmas meeting with Christ. In the Gospel we hear the words spoken to Mary: "Do not be afraid".

Let us place our trust in God, who is very near us. With open hearts may we embrace the grace of our Saviour.



PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Priest

We present our prayers before the Lord, who loved the world so much that he sent his only Son that we may be saved.

Reader

We pray for the Church; that it will preach faith to all nations in honour of Jesus' name.

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

We pray for our civic leaders; that they may act with justice and integrity and protect the needs of the most vulnerable members of society.

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

We pray for those who feel lonely at this time of year, especially those who mourn and those who are far from family and friends.

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

We pray for all who are travelling at this time.

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

We pray for all who are sick, especially the terminally ill; that they may receive healing and consolation.

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

We pray for those who have died; that they may be raised to eternal life in the kingdom of heaven.

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

Priest

Father in heaven, you sent your Son to live among us as a man, one who understands our needs. Grant us what we need today. We make these, and all our prayers, through the same Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Best Wishes for a Happy and Peaceful Christmas

The priests of the parish join in sending their Christmas greetings to all members of the parish and to all readers of the Ballincollig Parishioner. We thank you all for your help and co-operation during the past year.

You will be remembered in our Christmas Masses.

George O'Mahony, Michael O'Mahony, Billy O'Sullivan & James McSweeney



Let the Lord enter! He is the King of glory.

Visit Our Website: www.ballincolligparish.ie

BAPTISMS

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

Brion Padraig Horgan, Leslies Arch, Old Quarter.
 Luke Cormac Murphy, The Avenue, Highfield Park.
 James Timothy O'Driscoll, Westcourt Heights.
 Ava Victoria Bremner, The Cloisters.

† **IN SYMPATHY** †

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

Liam (William) Horgan, Carraig na bhFear.

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

Tommy Daly, Leemount.
 Paul Wall, Churchfield.
 Julia Hegarty, Rosewood.
 Jeremiah & Jane Callanan, Poulavone.
 Rita, Michael & Elizabeth Fouhy, East Gate.
 Maureen Cuddihy, Coolroe.
 Mary Murphy, Uam Var Ave, Bishopstown.
 Robert, Sheila & Adrian Curley, Albert Road.
 Aoibhin Power, Coolroe Meadows.
 Dec. Members of the Flanagan family, Castlepark.
 Dec Members of the O'Sullivan family, Tralee.
 Eily & James Lucey, Station Road.
 Dec Members of the Lucey family.
 Danjo & Margaret O'Shea, O'Donovan Crescent.
 Dec Members of the Whelan family.
 Brendan Whelan, Elm Lawn.
 Bridget Clare, Wicklow.
 Denis O'Riordan, Kilmichael.
 Joan O'Reardon, Carriganarra Estate.
 Seamus O'Donovan, Maple Lawn & Clonakilty.
 Harry Walsh, Innishmore.
 Thomas Wilkinson, Wicklow.
 Pat McCullagh, Ballincollig & Coachford.
 Brendan Power, Ballincollig & Limerick.
 Dr Sean Crotty, Coolroe.
 William Treacy, Castleknock.
 Derry O'Neill, Raheen.
 Bridget Regan, Carriganarra.
 Barry Kelly, The Crescent.
 Vincent Murphy & his daughter Monica, Inniscarra View.
 Josephine & Ned O'Driscoll, Bandon.
 Janey Lynch, Aherla.
 Gerry Delaney, Maglin.
 Tom & Margaret Enright, Nadd.
 Maureen O'Regan, Buttevant.
 Margaret Lingwood, Bishopstown.
 Peter & Hannah Crowley, Leemount.
 William & Christina O'Sullivan.
 Frank & Margaret Whelan, Prosperity Square
 Dan McCarthy, O'Donovan Crescent.
 The Harrington family, The Square.
 Jerry Ring, Carriganarra & Chester.
 Nellie Murphy, Station Road.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Fourth Week Of Advent

19 Sunday Is. 7:10-14. Ps. 23. Rom. 1:1-7. Mt. 1:18-24. Lect I:68

20 Monday Is. 7: 10-14. Ps. 23. Lk. 1 :26-38. Lect I:83

21 Tuesday Song 2:8-14 or Zeph. 3: 14-18. Ps. 32. Lk. 1 :39-45. Lect I:85

22 Wednesday 1 Sam. 1:24-28. Ps. 1 Sam. 2:1, 4-8. Lk. 1:46-56. Lect I:88

23 Thursday Mal. 3:1-4, 4:5-6. Ps. 24. Lk. 1:57-66. Lect I:90

24 Friday 2 Sam. 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16. Ps. 88. Lk. 1:67-79. Lect I:92

25 Saturday Is. 52.710. Ps. 97. Heb. 1.1 6. Jn. 1.1 18. Lect I:109

Next Sunday's Readings 26-December-2010
 Eccles. (Sir) 3:2-6, 12-14. Ps. 127. Col. 3:12-21. Mt. 2:13-15, 19-23. Lect

Children's Christmas Mass

In the last few years the numbers of children attending the Christmas Eve Mass have increased. The safety of the children is of the utmost importance, to help ensure this, parents are asked to keep their children with them and not allow them to stray onto the altar. Parents are also asked to follow the directions of the stewards who will be there for the safety of the children on the night.

Ballincollig Country Markets

The final market for 2010 will be held on today Sunday 19th December at the Farmers Market. Please come and meet us if you would like to join the market next year. We will be closed in Jan & Feb of 2011 and plan to re open on March 11th 2011 with new members, producers and customers.

Happy Christmas

The Origin of 'Silent Night'

A holy night, a silent night, with Mother and child, all is calm, all is bright. This inspiring hymn came to us because an organ in Germany broke down about one hundred years ago.

Without an organ the parish priest in a small country church said it would be a 'Silent Night'. The organist would compose a melody. The priest would write the lyrics and the choir would just sing the soft praises of this hymn for Midnight Mass. That is all it was meant to be, just a simple hymn sung once and forgotten.

Then a snowstorm prevented the man who fixed the organ from coming until the snow melted in the spring. After he finished he noticed the music left on the organ since Christmas night and took it back to Munich. The rest is history.

"Silent Night" has reverberated throughout the ages. With its quiet sounds of love and peace it has inspired millions and millions, touching the lives of countless people.

Trócaire

On this fourth Sunday in Advent as we prepare to celebrate Christmas Trócaire is asking us to bring light to northern Uganda by buying a solar-powered lamp to help children study after dark and improve their chances of a better future.

www.trocaire.org/globalgift

Ballincollig Tidy Towns

Wishes to thank everyone who supported them in anyway during 2010

Your continued support is greatly appreciated
 Please Help - Keep Ballincollig Litter Free

THE SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading: Isaiah 7:10-14
The first reading contains Isaiah's prophecy of the events we celebrate at Christmas.

Second Reading: Romans 1:1-7
Paul's message is another reminder of what we are preparing to celebrate.

Gospel: Matthew 1:18-24
Matthew recounts the circumstances of Jesus' birth by telling us the story of Mary's engagement to Joseph and the child she carried originating from the Holy Spirit. This reality made no sense to Joseph, but he did not want to dishonour Mary so he planned to quietly divorce her. An angel came and told Joseph not to be afraid, that Mary's child was conceived by the Holy Spirit and that they should call him Emmanuel meaning, "God is with us."

Bulletin Board

Christmas Collection

According to the Diocesan custom, the collection at Christmas Vigil / Day Masses is one of two occasions during the year when the offertory collection goes to the priests of the Parish.

Penitential Service

Monday 20th December, 2010

Church of Christ Our Light at 7 pm
Church of St Mary & St John's Church at 8 pm

Carol Service

Church of St Mary & St John
Sunday 19th December 2010 at 7.30 pm

Offertory Collection

Envelopes for the offertory collections for 2011 are now available in both churches. There is one envelope for each Sunday in every box and it is an opportunity for every member of the family to contribute. The offertory collection is solely for the upkeep, maintenance, insurance, lighting, heating and related expenses of both churches. Thank for your generosity and we look forward to your support for the coming year.

Fr. George

Ballincollig Parish Christmas Programme

Sacrament of Reconciliation for Christmas

Monday 20 th December	7.00 p.m. 8.00 p.m.	St Mary & St John Christ Our Light	Penitential Service
Thursday 23 rd December	6.00 - 8.00 p.m.	St Mary & St John	Confessions
Friday 24 th December <i>Christmas Eve</i>	10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m. 12.00 noon - 1.00 p.m.	St Mary & St John Christ Our Light	Confessions



Mass Times



Church of St Mary & St John	Friday 24 th December <i>Christmas Eve</i>	6.00 p.m. 10.00 p.m.	Vigil Mass Midnight Mass
	Saturday 25 th December <i>Christmas Day</i>	8.30 a.m.	Mass of Christmas Day
		10.00 a.m.	
12.00 noon			
Church of Christ Our Light	Friday 24 th December <i>Christmas Eve</i>	6.00 p.m.	Children's Mass
		8.00 p.m.	Vigil Mass
		12.00 midnight	Midnight Mass
	Saturday 25 th December <i>Christmas Day</i>	11.00 a.m.	Mass of Christmas Day
12.30 p.m.			
<i>No 5.30 p.m. Mass on Christmas Day</i>			

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

Dec-25 & Dec-26-2010

St. Mary & St. John Christ Our Light

6:00 pm (Vigil)
8:30 am
 Tom McDonagh
10:00 am
 Ciaran Noonan
 Shannon O'Brien
12:00 Noon
 Sean Hennessy
 Shane Lehane

7:30 pm (Vigil)
11:00 am
 Cormac Manning
 Marie Ni Niada
12:30 pm
 Aداugu Ebili
 Caterina Nugent
5:30 pm
 Marlyn O'Connor



MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

Dec-25 & Dec-26-2010

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

8:30 am Mary Buckley
 Rita Murphy
 Denis Healy

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

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

*Please drive safely over
 the Christmas Holiday Period*

Thank You

From The Society of St. Vincent de Paul

We wish to thank the priests of the Parish for their great support with the Indoor Christmas Collection, the members of the public for their great generosity and the volunteers who assisted at the monthly Church Gate Collections throughout the year.

Your generosity realised the magnificent sum of
 €19,555.00

St. John's Conference, Ballincollig.

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, 6 pm (Vigil) & 10 pm	Friday	8:30 am, 6 pm, 8 pm & Midnight
8:30 am, 10 am & 12 noon	Saturday	11 am, 12:30 pm

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

To all our Readers & Parishioners

*Happy Christmas
 Nollaig Shona Dhuit
 Feliz Navidad
 Boas Festas
 Sretan Bozic
 Ruumsaid juulup/hi
 Hyvaa joulua
 Joyeux Noel*

*Buone Feste Natalizie
 Pricigus Ziemas Svetkus
 Linksmu Kaledu
 Wesolych Swiat Bozego Narodzenia
 Sarbatori vesele
 Cestitamo Bozic*

*May the Child Jesus and His Mother watch over you this Christmas and throughout the coming year.
 As once they came to the stable of Bethlehem, may they come to you and bring you all the desires of your heart.*

Merry Christmas & A Happy New Year

from The Parishioner Editorial Team

**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.**