

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



St. Mary & St. John
Station Road

Sunday 27-November-2011

First Sunday of Advent

God comes to those who wait for him. Our waiting needs to be prayerful if we are to be truly ready to receive him when he comes.



Christ Our Light
Innishmore

Call to Prayer

Ballincollig welcomes the Eucharistic Congress Bell

This year our Advent Retreat given by Fr. Finbarr O'Halloran of the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament focuses on the Eucharist. The retreat will take place on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, the 28th, 29th and 30th November, and a few days later, on Saturday, the Eucharistic Congress Bell arrives in Ballincollig. The 50th International Eucharistic Congress will be held in Dublin in June of next year. During the period of preparation the special Congress Bell is being sounded throughout Ireland as a call to prayer. Traditionally church bells call us to pray and the Bell is a key symbol of this Eucharistic Congress calling us to faith, to prayer, to reconciliation, and to mission.

The Eucharist Congress is intended to help in a process of renewal of the Catholic Church in Ireland. This renewal includes presenting the essentials of the Christian message to those who have drifted away from full sharing in the life of God's people. The Eucharist is the real presence in history of the self-giving love of Jesus on the Cross.

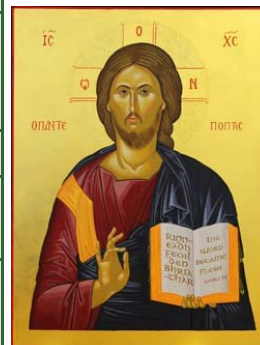
The Congress Bell is a simple bell that tolls softly. It invites each of us to quietly think about our faith. The bell itself was originally in the Dominican Convent School in Portstewart. It is being taken to the Dioceses and parishes of Ireland and arrives in Cork on December 1st. It will be received in Ballincollig on Saturday afternoon December 3rd and will be in the parish until after the Vigil Masses.

The Programme of events is as follows.

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| 3.30 -4.00 pm | The Bell arrives in Coach House Square, Ballincollig Shopping Centre and is rung as a call to prayer. A short Prayer Service follows, with music. The Bell is then taken via Station Road to the Church of St Mary and St John. |
| 4.00 - 5.00 pm | The Bell is placed before the Altar and there follows a service of prayer and hymns with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction. |
| 5.00 to 6.45 pm | The Bell remains in the Church until after the Vigil Mass. |
| 6.45 - 7.00 pm | Bell is brought to Church of Christ Our Light, to the ringing of the Church bells and is placed before the Altar. |
| 7.00 - 7.30 pm | Solemn Evening Prayer of the Church. |
| 7.30 - 8.30 pm | The Bell remains in the Church until after the Vigil Mass. |
| 8.30 - 8.45 pm | The Congress Bell leaves Ballincollig. |



The Congress Bell



The Pantocrator icon is one of four accompanying the Bell. It is based on a 16th Century Icon found in the Iviron Monastery on Mount Athos. It depicts Christ holding the open Gospel in His left hand and blessing us with His right hand

God of hosts, bring us back; Let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

Visit Our Website: www.ballincolligparish.ie

BAPTISMS

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

Abbie Emma O'Leary, Leesdale Court.
 Ella Tracey Fleming, Old Fort Gate.
 Ella Mary Bowen, Beech Road.
 Krzysztof Pilch, An Caislean.
 Eve Helen O'Callaghan, Rosewood.
 Faolan Sean Ned O'Leary, Carriganarra Estate.

† **IN SYMPATHY** †

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

Denis Murphy, Blackrock.
 Mary Kiely, Blarney.
 Michael Costello, Old Court.
 Charles McCaffery, Donegal.
 Brid O'Connell, Dublin.
 Tady Noonan, Cork City
 Marie McSweeney, Lisheen.
 Con Crowley, Aghabullogue.

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

Phil Coughlan, Tower Street.
 Tommie Daly, Leemount.
 Patrick & Nora Murphy, Glengarriffe
 Tom Fitzgerald, Fernwalk.
 Tim & Maureen Twomey, Inniscarra.
 Sheila, Ted & Paul O'Mahony, Barrack Street.
 Philip Holland, Bishopstown.
 John & Josephine Cuddihy, Silvermines, Tipperary.
 Kathleen O'Connor, Oaklands.
 Dan & Eva Spillane, Westcourt Heights.
 Patrick & Ann Murray, Curraheen.
 Kathleen Murphy, Glounthane.
 Michael & Julia Healy, Cathedral Road.
 John Forde, Castlepark.
 Denis Carroll, Cloughduv.
 Jeremiah & Julie Forde, Station Road.
 Lily O'Riordan, Beech Park.
 Timothy & Eileen Keohane, Clonakilty.
 Mary Dineen, Shandon View.
 Nora Coughlan, Ballydehob.
 Ciss O'Connell, Turners Cross.
 Thomas Farrell, Beech Park.
 Kevin McCarthy, Rosewood.
 John Creed, Inniscarra View.
 Bridie, Sean & Willie Forde, Model Farm Road.
 Rita Whelton, Glendower Court.

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"



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

First Sunday Of Advent

27 Sunday Is 63:16-17. 64:1, 3-8. Ps 79. 1 Car 1:-9. Mk 13:33-37. Lect I: 5
 28 Monday Is 2:1-5. Ps 121. Mt 8:5-11. Lect I: 10
 29 Tuesday Is 11:1-10. Ps 71. Lk 10:21-24. Lect I: 13
 30 Wednesday Rom 10:9-18. Ps 18. Mt 4:18-22. Lect II: 1279
 01 Thursday Is 26:1-6. Ps 117. Mt 7:21, 24-27. Lect I: 18
 02 Friday Is 29:17-24. Ps 26. Mt 9:27-31. Lect I: 20
 03 Saturday Is 30:19-21, 23-26. Ps 146 Mt 9:35-10:1, 6-8. Lect I: 22

Next Sunday's Readings 04-December-2011

Is 40:1-5, 9-11. Ps 84.2 Pet 3:8-14. Mk 1:1-8. Lect I: 27

Scout Bazaar

A reminder that Ballincollig Scout Group are holding their 25th Annual Bazaar on Sunday 4th December in Ballincollig Community Centre on Station Road at 2 pm. The bazaar is a great family day out especially for the bargain hunter as items are of resalable quality with many unwanted gifts or new items donated and it can be an entertaining way to find Christmas presents for all the family due to the wide range of items on sale to suit all ages. If people have items that they would like to donate to the bazaar they can do so by contacting any of the group's leaders or by calling to the Scout Hall any week night. All your support is very much appreciated. The group must insist that they will not accept computers, electrical items or large furniture

THE SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading: Is. 63:16-17; 64:1. 3-8
 The first reading from the Prophet Isaiah expresses sentiments of longing for the coming of the Saviour.
 Second Reading: 1 Cor 1:3-9
 St Paul gives a word of encouragement to all who are waiting for Jesus.
 Gospel: Mark 13:33-37
 We are reminded in today's gospel that the world as we know it will pass away, and God's Kingdom will come in full. Jesus tells a parable about a master who went away and left each of his servants with a specific task to do. No one knew when the owner would return, just as no one can know when God's plan will be fulfilled. The words of Jesus were quite clear to the early Christians and to us today. We must be watchful and always ready for Jesus' return.

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PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Priest

In a world divided by greed and fear, let us ask God to come to our help and bring us back to him.

Reader

For Christians: that their lives may bear witness to the faith they profess with their lips.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For all those who hold positions of trust and responsibility in our society: that they may prove to be good and faithful servants.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For those who do dull and repetitive work.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For all gathered here: that God may awaken our faith from the sleep of habit and routine.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For our dead, those we have loved and those no one remembers: that God may keep them all in his care.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For all present; that we may make progress in the life that God wants us to live as we prepare for the coming of Christ this Advent.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

Priest

All-powerful God, you are the same yesterday, today, and forever; help us to have confidence in your unchanging love for us, so that we may have the strength to persevere in goodness. We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen

Ballincollig Parish - Gospel of Mark

Our occasional series of Biblical reflections continues with talks on St Mark's Gospel. The Year B Cycle of Sunday Mass Readings focussing on the Gospel of Mark begins on the First Sunday of Advent, the 27th November.

The talks, as before, are being 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.

The schedule of remaining meetings is as follows.

| | | |
|--------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| | Monday, 7.30 pm | Wednesday, 10.00 am |
| Talk 4 | 5 th December | 7 th December |
| Talk 5 | 12 th December | 14 th December |

Bulletin Board

Advent Retreat

St Mary's & St John's Church 28th 29th & 30th November, Mass at 7.00 am, Prayer, Homily and Liturgy at 8.00 pm.

First Friday

Friday December 2nd 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. There is Mass 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.

Mass Book

Diaries to book Mass Intentions for January, February and March 2012 will open in both churches on Saturday 10th December at 9 am.

Eucharist Ministers

Ministers of the Eucharist provide a service to the faith community by helping to distribute the Body of Christ in a devout and reverent manner. Ministers do so voluntarily and share their faith and time with the wider faith community. We invite parishioners to volunteer as Ministers of the Eucharist. Ministers are needed in both churches. Ministers of the Eucharist should be over 18 years. Please leave your name and address in Parish Office or with Sacristans. Phone 021 4871206

Pastoral Areas Parish Clusters

For some years the Parishes of Kilmurry, Cloughdub and Canovee; Ovens / Farran; and Ballincollig has been grouped together in a cluster. Bishop Buckley announced on 28th October "having considered the reasons put forward by Ballinora Parish for a reconfiguration, and having carefully considered the needs of both Pastoral areas that would be effected by such a change, I have decided that Ballinora Parish would in all likelihood be best serviced by such a change". This means a revised cluster of four parishes, with eight churches served by six full time priests, plus two priests with other appointments who help out when available at weekends. Bishop Buckley has directed that each priest may only celebrate three masses each weekend. This in effect means a reduction of Masses in the cluster area, at present this looks like a reduction of four. There is a variety of Mass times available each Sunday, in the case of Ballincollig ranging from 8.30 am; 10.00 am; 11.00 am; 12 noon; 12.30 pm and 5.30 pm. Change and reductions are always difficult as well as disappointing; however I am asking for parishioners understanding, forbearance and prayers. Comments and suggestions are welcome as we strive to come to a decision at parish level and cluster level.

Fr. George

Advent Early Morning Prayer

Begin your day and preparation for Christmas the best way possible with the MORNING PRAYER of the CHURCH.

Taking place during Advent in St. Mark's Centre (opposite Christ Our Light Church)

Mon. Fri. at 6 am.

Starting Monday 28th November. Everyone Welcome

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

Dec-03 & Dec-04-2011

St. Mary & St. John

Christ Our Light

6:00 pm (Vigil)
Ailish O'Reilly
Daniel McAuliffe
8:30 am
Triona Downey

10:00 am
Lauree Hegarty
Mary O'Driscoll
12:00 Noon
Miriam Maunsell

7:30 pm (Vigil)
Michael Greene
11:00 am
Sorcha Nic Mheanmain
Maire Buckley
12:30 pm
Cathy Naughton
Una Lynch
5:30 pm
Christine O'Brien

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 |
| 7:00 am & 9:30 am | Monday | 8:30 am |
| 7:00 am & 9:30 am | Tuesday | 8:30 am |
| 7:00 am & 9:30 am | Wednesday | 8:30 am |
| 9:30 am | Thursday | 8:30 am |
| 9:30 am & 8 pm | 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 | 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

MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

Dec-03 & Dec-04-2011

St. Mary & St. John

Christ Our Light

6.00 pm Michael Maher
Bernadette Bell
Betty Casey
Frank Riordan
Siobhan Riordan
Pauline Quane

7:30 pm Geraldine Lynch
Charlie Vaughan
Joan Stephenson
Bernie Bowen

8:30 am Mary Buckley
Theresa Lucey
Triona Collins

11:00 am Neil Jeffers
Eileen O'Donoghue
Bridie Hanrahan
Catherine / Hugh Moran
Pdraig Fleming

10:00 am Anne Cahill
Pat Lee
Cathy Horgan
John O'Donovan
Betty Flavin
Anne Spillane

12:30 pm Denis O' Mahony
Christine O' Mahony
Tom Murray
John O'Regan
Gerard Dunne

12 Noon Helen Plunkett
Seamus O'Donovan
Joe Coghlan
Catherine Greene
Joan Barrett
Dymphna Canny

5:30 pm Bernard Curran
John Cauty

Reflection for Parents

There is more work for parents to do in a day than will ever get done. Some of us work outside our homes while some stay at home. In either case there are always bills to pay, laundry to wash, meals to prepare, errands to run and things to fix. Unless we deliberately set aside time to prepare ourselves and our families for Jesus' return, we will continue with the busyness of everyday life like the people of Noah's time and the workers in the field and at the mill. Especially at this time of year, it is easy to get caught up in the demands centred on Jesus' birth rather than his return.

For Families of Children Preparing for First Holy Communion



Learning About the Mass with Kath and Qumen

What a Priest Wears



The special clothes that the priest wears for Mass are called vestments. There are three different pieces which he needs to put on. Over his ordinary clothes the priest puts on a white or cream coloured tunic called an **alb**. Then he puts on a long piece of coloured cloth which looks like a scarf and is called a **stole**. Over the alb and the stole he puts on his **chasuble**. The colour of the stole and the chasuble is very important. It tells us what season we are in or what special occasion we are celebrating in the Church year. There are four main colours worn during the year: green, purple, red and white.