

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



St. Mary & St. John
Station Road

Sunday 11-December-2011

Third Sunday Of Advent

*John the Baptist was sent by God to prepare for
Christ's coming. His task was to make them*

*attentive to the Spirit who would be fully present in
God's anointed.*



Christ Our Light
Innishmore

Third Sunday of Advent - Gaudete Sunday

The prophet Isaiah and today's gospel according to St. John are readings full of hope and joy. Isaiah says "The Spirit of the lord is given to me, for the lord has anointed me." John the Baptist's role in today's gospel is to be a witness to speak for the light. The light in question is Jesus. Jesus still needs witnesses. Thankfully there are many who are faithful witnesses to Jesus, sometimes at great personal cost.

The voice of John the Baptist was a lonely voice which many of his contemporaries ignored. There are many lonely voices in our world. Somewhere at this moment a child is crying, crying for love or maybe simply for bread. Somewhere a young person is crying, crying for a listening ear or an understanding heart. Somewhere an old person is crying, crying for a visit or a word from his/her children. There are thousands of unheard cries in our world, coming from the victims of injustice and neglect. lord help me to listen to these voices. Above all help me to listen to your voice, whispering to me in the wilderness of my heart, telling each of us that we are loved by you, and that we are to love one another."

This weekend please be as generous as you can to the St Vincent de Paul collection at all Masses. Many families are struggling to make ends meet and depend on the goodness of others. Let us do our best to reach out to help those in need.

George O'Mahony

Third Sunday of Advent

We are a step nearer to our celebration of His coming. As we approach Him we must bring Him everything! Our dreams, our successes, our rejoicing. If we have little to rejoice over, bring Him that little. If you feel you have only empty hands - bring Him those empty hands.

IN HIS HANDS ALL ARE MADE GOOD!

"Let us rejoice in the Lord"



PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Priest

Let us pray that the light of God's salvation may shine on us and on our world.

Reader

For all Christians: may they cause the light of God's love and mercy to shine brightly in the world.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For world leaders: that God may bless and unite them in their work for a better world.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For all those people, especially our parents, who sacrificed themselves for us.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For those who are sorrowful or lonely: that they may experience the presence of God.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For all gathered here: that we live our lives to the full in this world while having our hearts set on eternal glory.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For the dead: that God may bring them into the light of everlasting life.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

Priest

Lord our God, you know our weakness. May we reach out with joy to grasp your hand, and walk more readily in your ways. We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen

My soul rejoices in my God.

Visit Our Website: www.ballincolligparish.ie

BAPTISMS

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

Phithak Clarant, Castlepark.
 Daniel Anthony Cahill, The Brambles, Classes Lake.
 Roisin Ellen Culleton, Crossbarry.
 Katie Marie Twomey, The Mews, Bride Valley.
 Mia Ann Fallon, The Lodge Apt, Classes Lake.
 Chloe Leanne O'Regan, Newgrange, An Caislean.
 Abbie Rose Cotter, The Sycamores, Classes Lake.
 Katie Elvi Schlede, Millers Court, Old Quarter.

† IN SYMPATHY †

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

Bob Tyrell, Oakley.
 Con Cronin, Model Farm Road.
 Paddy O'Leary, Lisheen, Ovens.
 Sandra McCarthy, Inniscarra View.
 Stephen O'Sullivan, Rosewood.
 Mary White, Midleton.
 Paddy Cronin, Mallow.
 Frank Kehily, Dublin / Newcestown.

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

Tommie Daly, Leemount.
 Aoibhin Power, Coolroe Meadows.
 John O'Donnell, Donegal.
 Brendan Whelan, Elm Lawn.
 Jean Callanan, Poulavone.
 Betty Hickey, Los Angeles.
 Muriel Bowen, Glasheen Road.
 Eric Scott, Coolroe.
 Deceased members of the Scully family, Castlemartyr.
 Pat & Sherrie O'Riordan, Castlepark & Boston.
 Mick Hennigan, Station Road.
 Daniel Coomey, Carriganarra.
 Jerh & Mary Buttimer, Kilmichael.
 William O'Dwyer, Kilmichael.
 Kitty, Denis & William O'Mahony, Tudor Grove.
 Marie O'Flaherty, Coolroe Meadows.
 Dec members of the Linehan Family, Kanturk & London.
 Mary Lucy, Carriganarra.
 Dec members of the Delaney Family, Maglin.
 Dec members of the O'Sullivan Family, Glanmire.
 Jerry Delaney, Station Road.
 Sean Coakley, Hill View, Muskerry Estate.
 Jack & Claire Horgan, Gurranaברה.
 Liam Horgan, Carrignafhear.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Third Week Of Advent

11 Sunday Is 61:1-2, 10-11. Ps Lk 1:46-50, 53-54. 1 Thess 5:16-24. Jn 1:6-8, 19-28. Lect I: 48
 12 Monday Num 24:2-7, 15-17. Ps 24. Mt 21:23-27. Lect I: 53
 13 Tuesday Zeph 3:1-2, 9-13. Ps 33. Mt 21:28-32. Lect I: 56
 14 Wednesday Is 45:6-8, 18, 21-26. Ps 84. Lk 7:19-23. Lect I: 58
 15 Thursday Is 54:1-10. Ps29. Lk 7:24-30. Lect I: 61
 16 Friday Is 56:1-3, 6-8. Ps 66. Jn 5:33-36. Lect I: 63
 17 Saturday Gen 49:2, 8-10. Ps 7. Mt 1:1-17 Lect I: 76

Next Sunday's Readings 18-December-2011

2 Sam 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16. Ps 88. Ram 16:25-27. Lk 1:26-38. Lect I: 70

Youth 2000 Ireland

Will be holding its annual Christmas youth retreat In Newbridge College, Co. Kildare from Friday 16th to Sunday 18th December 2011. Over 500 young people aged 16-35 are expected to attend this donation only event, with all newcomers welcome. The weekend consists of an action packed programme including prayer, workshops, drama, inspirational talks, testimonies, music, games and chill out time. It's a great opportunity to learn more about your Catholic faith and to meet other young people. Please book online if you are interested & bring a sleeping bag if you wish to avail of on-site accommodation. All are welcome to attend at any time over the weekend. Retreat starts with registration on Friday at 8.00 pm. Free buses also available. For more info check out our website www.youth2000.ie or call 01 6753690 / 0858289231 & see us on Facebook.

Trocaire's Global Gifts

"Those who oppress the poor show contempt for their Maker but whoever is kind to the needy honours God" Proverbs 14:31. As we mark International Human Rights Day (10th Dec) Trocaire asks us to help the thousands of poor people in Pakistan who are living under wealthy landowners as modern day slaves. The Global Gift of Freedom will help stop this terrible abuse. Log on to www.trocaire.org/globalgift or call 1850 408 408

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.
 Everyone Welcome

CROWLEY FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Bóthar Saclay, Ballincollig, Co. Cork
 Tel: 021-4874777 Mobile: 087-2759254
 Email: michaelfd@eircom.net
www.crowleyfuneraldirectors.ie
 Complete Funeral Arrangements
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THE SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading: Is. 61:1-2. 10-11
 The first reading from Isaiah the Prophet is the reading proclaimed by Jesus as he began his public ministry. It is a message of joy.

Second Reading: 1 Thess 5:16-24
 St Paul calls us to be people of joy and thanksgiving.

Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28
 The Jewish leaders questioned John the Baptist asking who he was. They even took a few guesses themselves suggesting that he was the Messiah, Elijah, or a prophet. John had his own following who would have been glad to acknowledge him in any of these three categories, but John made it clear that he was simply announcing the one to come who would be much greater than himself.

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 focusing on the Gospel of Mark began on the First Sunday of Advent. The talks are held in the St Mark Centre, opposite the Church of Christ Our Light in Innishmore and include presentation by Fr Billy O'Sullivan followed by tea and group discussion. Final meeting of current series.

	Monday, 7.30 pm	Wednesday, 10.00 am
Talk 5	12 th December	14 th December

Faith Development Group of The Parish Pastoral Council

We would like you to join us for a cup of tea or coffee after Mass. We are arranging a series of informal chats on ideas for the development of our parish, with tea/coffee and biscuits immediately after parish week-end Masses. The first of these will be held after ten o'clock Mass on Sunday next December 18th in Scoil Eoin, at the other side of the car park adjoining the Church of St Mary & St John. All are welcome and we look forward to meeting you

Christmas at Christchurch

Get into the Christmas spirit with **The City of Cork Male Voice Choir, Chorus of Cork Opera** and five incredible soloists – **Fiona Ryan, Louise O'Sullivan, Ryan Morgan, Carol Kennedy and Emma Kate Tobia** who are going to put on a fantastic Christmas concert at Triskel Christchurch on **Saturday, 17th December at 8 pm**. Tickets are **€20.00** and available from the Triskel Arts Centre at 021 4272 022. All proceeds will go to Cork Simon Community

Troubled by someone else's drinking?

Try Al-anon. Local Meetings S V de P Centre Station Road Thursdays 8.30 pm. Phone: 021 4311899.

Bulletin Board

Mass Book

Diaries to book Mass Intentions for January, February and March are open in both churches.

Penitential Service

Monday 19th December, 2011
 Church of St Mary and St John at 8 pm

Carol Service

Church of St Mary & St John
 Sunday 18th December at 7.30 pm.

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

Offertory Collection

During the past few Sundays some teenagers have helped with the Offertory Collection at Mass (chiefly St. Mary's & St John's). I would like to acknowledge the co-operation and support of Adult Collectors who are so faithful and reliable. We are urging them to continue in a supporting and guiding role and it is important to have young people involved in every aspect of parish life.

Offertory Collection Boxes 2012

The boxes of envelopes for the Offertory Collection are available in both churches. Families are asked to take one box. Please use the envelopes for the Offertory Collection for the Vigil and Sunday Masses during the year, families who avail of the Direct Debit system are not expected to take one. The Offertory Collection is solely for the upkeep, maintenance, insurance, lighting, heating and related expenses of both churches. Thanks for your generosity and we look forward to your support for the coming year.

Mass Times

A meeting of the Cluster Area (Kilmurry, Cloughduv and Canovee; Ovens/Farran; Ballinora; and Ballincollig Parishes) was held on Wednesday 23rd November, 2011. The main item discussed at the meeting was the proposed reduction of Masses at weekends for the New Year. Presently there are twenty masses each weekend serving eight churches in four parishes. Following the meeting and in consultation with Bishop Buckley Ballinora parish has decided to reduce its mass schedule by one mass; Ovens/Farran parish has decided to follow a similar course. Ballincollig Parish has decided not to reduce its Masses at present. This arrangement will be reviewed after Easter.

Car Parking

Church of St Mary & St John and Christ Our Light

Please keep to left hand side as you approach the car parks. This is important from a health and safety point of view. Please also be careful of pedestrians who walk to Mass or from their cars to the church. Take care also not to obstruct entrance and exit to the car parks and church doors

Fr. George

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

Dec-17 & Dec-18-2011

St. Mary & St. John

Christ Our Light

6:00 pm (Vigil)
Karen Sheehan
Padraig Graham
8:30 am
Pat Fennell

10:00 am
Hannah Bunyan
Stephen Bunyan
12:00 Noon
Sean Hennessy
Shane Lehane

7:30 pm (Vigil)
Fiona Feely

11:00 am
Alex Hatsigrigoriou
Alison Henchion

12:30 pm
Kay Carew
Jane O'Leary
5:30 pm
Marlyn O'Connor

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

Reflection for Parents

So often our identity is tied to another person. We are Jim's mom, Tom's wife, Sue's husband, or Mary's daughter. Like John did in today's gospel, we may even define ourselves by who we are not. John made it clear he was not the Messiah, a prophet, or Elijah returned. What John is, is the same thing we are, and that is a herald - the person who brings the Good News about Jesus Christ into the lives of others. In our families we do this by our faithful participation in worship, prayer, and actions.



MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

Dec-17 & Dec-18-2011

St. Mary & St. John

Christ Our Light

6.00 pm Eileen Murphy
Ted Nelligan
Eileen Corkery
Ann O'Connell
Sheila Walshe
Ann McCarthy

7:30 pm John O'Donoghue
Mary Dineen
Kathleen Daly
Mairead Keenan
Kay O'Sullivan

8:30 am Helen Kelly
Mary O'Connor
Michael Crowley

11:00 am Mary O'Mahony
Mona Bowen
Billy Barry
Mary Aylward
Pauline Baston

10:00 am Fionnuala McDonagh
Mary Buckley
Breda Ring
Mary O'Regan
John Henchy
Martin O'Leary

12:30 pm Mary Twomey
Maura O'Driscoll
Mary Lehane
Dympna Byrne
Suzanne Leech

12 Noon Ann-Marie Cosgrove
Phil Kennedy
Ellen O'Sullivan
Ursula McAuliffe
Sally Crowley

5:30 pm Shelia Curran
Elizabeth O'Sullivan



**For Families of Children Preparing
for First Holy Communion**

Learning About the Mass with Kath and Qumen

Introductory Rites: The Penitential Act

This time in the Mass offers us an opportunity to prepare to receive Eucharist by reflecting on the things that we might have done during the past week for which we need forgiveness. We are reminded that God always loves us. One of the ways in which God shows this love is by always forgiving us for those times when we haven't been as good as we might have been.

There are different kinds of prayers that the priest can use at this part of the Mass. These prayers do two things. They help us to remember the times when we haven't been as good as we might have been. More importantly they remind us of God's love for us. Sometimes the priest may replace the Penitential Act with the blessing and sprinkling of water as a reminder of our Baptism."