

# THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



St. Mary & St. John  
Station Road

Sunday 16-December-2012

Third Sunday Of Advent

*John the Baptist was sent by God to prepare for Christ's coming. His task was to make people attentive to the Spirit who would be fully present in God's anointed.*



Christ Our Light  
Innishmore

## Third Sunday of Advent - Gaudete Sunday

"As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them".

Today is known as Gaudete Sunday. The third candle in the Advent Wreath is lit. It is a rose/pink colour. The rose/pink colour signifies the sense of expectancy building to a moment of rejoicing and hope as the long awaited promise of the Messiah is born among us. Some of the virtues that St Paul spoke of so often in his letters were the gifts of faith, hope and love. The greatest being love.

I suggest that we might ask ourselves where we need the virtue of Hope in our lives. So many times when I write a letter, an e-mail or send a text I automatically wish and hope that the person is well, is good, is able to respond to the message, is understanding that was we link up we are linked together in spirit and word by whatever means of communication we use. The key to any of the virtues is communication.

I once heard of a study of the profound positive effects of the gift of hope to those who are receiving medical treatment.

In the study the doctors deliberately took two different approaches –

one named the items of medicine that were prescribed in their correct medical terminology which started with the letters O. H. E. P. and the other doctor said to the patient literally I am giving you HOPE.

The patient given HOPE improved dramatically compared to the patient given the same medicine by its proper name.

Where do you need to renew your sense of HOPE in yourself, God, others this Advent? Equipped with HOPE we offer ourselves and others something truly life-giving. There will be gifts we wrap and there will be texts/cards/ e-mail sent to loved ones, friends, neighbours.

Let's gift something of the Christmas message of HOPE to ourselves and others as we reflect on the Light of the world – the wonder of the Incarnation - the New Message longing to be heard afresh every day alongside Emmanuel, God with us.

*Dave O'Connell*

## 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**

Paul said to the Philippians, 'if there is anything you need, pray for it.' In obedience to these words, let us bring our needs to the Lord in prayer.

**Reader**

For all Christians: that they may put the Lord at the centre of their lives, and seek to imitate him in their concern for others.

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

For political leaders: that they may strive to rid the world of hatred and fear.

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

For members of the army and police force: that they may never abuse their power, but may be true keepers of the peace.

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

For all those who are suffering from depression, or who are grieving the loss of a loved one; that the Lord may turn their sorrow into joy.

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

For all gathered here: that we may realise that the Lord is always close to us, in good times and in bad.

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

For a moment, we remember in silence our own particular needs.

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

**Priest**

Lord, may the coming of your only Son dispel the darkness of our hearts and help us to walk in the light of truth and goodness. We ask this through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Sing and shout for joy for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.*

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

**BAPTISMS**

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

Franco Chibueze Umett, Lee View.  
Philip James Kershaw, Clashanure, Ovens.  
Emily Rosalyn Otway, Aherla.

**MARRIAGES**

**CONGRATULATIONS TO:**

Graham Murphy, Cloughduv & Sandra Collins, An Caislean.  
John Gleeson, Tipperary & Elizabeth Gallahue, Muskerry Estate.

**† IN SYMPATHY †**

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

Patrick (Sonnie ) Murray, Carrigrohane Road.  
Con Kerins, Castleknock.

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

Angela Duggan, Westcourt Heights.  
Aoibhin Power, Coolroe Meadows.  
Patrick O'Donoghue, The Crescent.  
Maureen Cuddihy, Coolroe.  
Eric Scott, Coolroe.  
John & Josephine Cuddihy, Tipperary.  
Tim & Margaret Kelleher, Bandon.  
Peter O'Sullivan, Rosewood.  
Deceased members O'Sullivan Family, Tralee.  
Flanagan Family, Castlepark.  
Daniel & Hannah O'Connor, Ballinagree.  
Daniel & Hannah Dempsey, Leemount.  
Pat Barry, Mayfield.  
Jim Cotter, Ballingearry.  
Bill & Peg Somers, Ballinlough.  
Deceased members Cronin Families, Upton.  
Dan Twomey, Clash.  
Sean Crowley, Dunmanway.  
Jack & Lena Gaffney, Carrigrohane.  
Deceased members of Gaffney & Twohig Families.  
Kathleen Murray, Carrigrohane Road.  
Jerry Delaney, Maglin.  
Dec members of O'Regan family, Buttevant.  
Mary Creed, Healy's Bridge & Inniscarra View.  
Denis & Ellen Hallahan, Ballingulley.  
Mary Horgan, Upton.  
Maureen O'Regan, Buttevant.  
Mary Lucey, Carriganarra.  
Dec members of the Linehan family, Kanturk & London.  
Joan O' Riordan, Carriganarra.  
Dec members of Keohane family, Clonakilty.  
William Tracy, Castleknock.  
Bridgette Molloy, Bishopstown & Banteer.

Legion of Mary  
Rosary at Crib  
Ballincollig Town Centre  
12 Noon Christmas Eve  
All are welcome.

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Third Week Of Advent**

- 16 Sunday Zech. 3: 14-18. Ps. Is. 12. Phil. 4:4-7. Lk. 3: 10.18. Lect I: 51
- 17 Monday Gen. 49:2,8-10. Ps. 71. Mt. 1 :17. Lect I: 76
- 18 Tuesday Jer. 23:5-8. Ps. 71. Mt. 1:18-24. Lect I:79
- 19 Wednesday Jg. 13:2-7, 24-25. Ps. 70. Lk. 1 :5-25. Lect I: 81
- 20 Thursday Is 7:10-14. Ps. 23. Lk. 1:26-38. Lect I: 83
- 21 Friday Song 2:8-14 or Zeph. 3: 14-18. Ps. 32. Lk. 1 :39-45. Lect I: 85
- 22 Saturday 1 Sam. 1:24-28. Ps. 1 Sam. 2:1, 4-8. Lk. 1:46-56. Lect I:88

**Next Sunday's Readings 23-December-2012**

Mic. 5: 1-4. Ps 79. Heb. 10:5-10. Lk. 1 :39-45. Lect I: 73

**Advent Early Morning Prayer**

Let's prepare well for Christmas  
Come to the Morning Prayer of the Church  
Taking place during Advent. St. Mark's Centre  
(Opposite Christ Our Light Church)  
Monday to Friday @ 6 am.  
**Everyone most welcome**

**Christmas Cards**

Christmas Cards are available for sale in both Churches  
and in the Parish Office.

**The Year of Faith**

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place in  
St Finbarr's Oratory, Gougane Barra,  
for the four Sundays of Advent from 10 am to 4 pm.

**Trocaire**

**Never turn your face from the poor  
and God will never turn his from you.' Tobit 4:7.**  
December 10<sup>th</sup> was World Human Rights Day and Trocaire asks us to help uphold the human rights and protect the dignity of the most vulnerable people in the developing world with a Christmas 'Gift of Change'.  
Gifts are available at  
[www.trocaire.org/globalgift](http://www.trocaire.org/globalgift) or by calling 1850 408 408

**St. Vincent De Paul**

A sincere **Thank You** for your overwhelming generosity in last weekends Christmas collection.  
The sum of €21,206.00 was realised, this will help us make Christmas much happier for those in need.

**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)*

*Complete Funeral Arrangements*

*24 Hour Service Embalming Service*

*Member I.A.F.D.*

*Golden Charter Funeral*

*Pre-Planning Available*

**Christmas Confession**

Going to confession for Christmas has been part and parcel of Irish Catholic life for generations. Older people will recall long slow-moving queues at the confessionals on Christmas Eve. Even today when attitudes have changed Catholics still see a close connection between the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the celebration of the birth of Christ.

The old style Confession was an ordeal for many people: they found the slow queuing unnerving, they were afraid the priest might be deaf and that his questions and comments might be overheard by those waiting inline; they were afraid that if they were kept in longer than usual it might embarrass them. Children also were afraid that they might 'get stuck' in the Act of Contrition.

Perhaps it is because of all these considerations that the Reconciliation Service, the modern form of the Sacrament has taken on so well. In the new communal celebration we prepare ourselves together for confession and give thanks together for the forgiveness received. There are readings, a homily, an examination of conscience conducted in common, a shared request for forgiveness and a thanksgiving in common. Central to the ceremony is the opportunity given to each person to come up to the priest of their choice and make a brief confession of their sins. At the Penitential Ceremony there may be some people who for one reason or another do not wish to make a confession. These may ask the priest for a blessing and no one will know whether or not they have made a confession.

The confession of sins, in a sense, frees us from the power sin had over our lives. By telling his sins to the priest, man looks squarely at the sins he is guilty of, takes responsibility for them, and thereby opens himself again to God and to the communion of the Church in order to make a new future possible. Being open to the communion of the Church refers, not to Holy Communion or the Blessed Eucharist but rather to our sense of belonging to the parish community. Sin damages or even breaks brotherly friendship in the family, in the neighbourhood or in the wider community in which we live. To steal, to aggress others, to hate, to insult, to drive drunkenly - all such actions offend God but they also offend against other people. Sin is an act of aggression against our fellow man as well as against God. The Sacrament of Penance repairs and restores our union with our fellow man. Because the Penitential Service is shared publicly with our neighbours it expresses our desire to admit our sin and our desire to 'make up' with our families, our neighbours and all of God's children throughout the world.

**Penitential Service will take place on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December in the Church of St Mary and St John at 8 pm**

**Bulletin Board**

**Mass Diaries.**

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

**Penitential Service.**

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December, 2012.  
Church of St Mary and St John at 8 pm

**Carol Service**

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> December, 2012.  
Church of St Mary & John at 7.00 pm. (Note time change)

**Christmas Collection**

According to Diocesan Custom, the collection at Christmas Vigil and Day Masses is one of two occasions during the year when the offertory collection goes to the priests of the parish. The Priests of the Parish would like to thank you sincerely for your generosity to them. Your support and encouragement is much appreciated. Thank you in anticipation.

**Offertory Collection Boxes 2013.**

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. **Fr. George**

**THE SUNDAY READINGS**




First Reading: Zeph 3:14-18  
The Lord your God is in your midst, a victorious warrior.

Second Reading: Phil 4:4-7  
God asks us all to be happy through prayer.

Gospel: Luke 3:10-18  
The crowds approached John the Baptist and asked how they should live in order to be ready to follow the Messiah. John responded by telling them to share and to not take more than they are entitled to. The people wondered if John might be the Messiah for whom they had been waiting, but he cleared up any misunderstanding by saying that he was not. For sure, the Messiah would come after John, but John was not worthy even to be the Messiah's slave who would untie his sandal.

**The Year of Faith**

Letter from Bishop John Buckley  
Bishop of Cork and Ross  
Year of Faith is focussing on ways that will lead to a renewal of the Church in Ireland  
copies of letter available in both churches.

 **Scoil Barra Christmas Carol Concerts**   
 *Tuesday and Wednesday, 18th & 19th Dec.*  
*@ 7.30 p.m. in the Church of Christ Our Light.*  
*All are welcome to join us for a Concert of Carols, Music and Reflection.*

**MINISTERS OF THE WORD**

Dec-22 & Dec-23-2012

**St. Mary & St. John**

**Christ Our Light**

**6:00 pm (Vigil)**  
Muireann Nelligan  
Padraig McAuliffe  
**8:30 am**  
Triona Downey

**10:00 am**  
Tony Hegarty  
William Green  
**12:00 Noon**  
Oliver O'Donovan  
David Drohan

**7:30 pm (Vigil)**  
Rebecca Feely  
Eoghan Barrett  
**11:00 am**  
Maebh Nic Mheanmain  
Lisa Aylward  
**12:30 pm**  
Joseph Manning  
Niamh Murray  
**5:30 pm**  
Siobhan Keane-Hopcraft



**MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST**

Dec-22 & Dec-23-2012

**St. Mary & St. John**

**Christ Our Light**

**6.00 pm** Steve Wills  
Margaret O'Sullivan  
Danny Farrell  
Jim Walsh  
Frances O'Brien

**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

**12:30 pm** Lucy O'Callaghan  
Jackie Sheehan  
Mary Green  
Michael O'Leary  
J.P.O'Leary

**12 Noon** Oliver O'Donovan  
Miriam Maunsell  
Sean Hennessy  
Mary McLean  
Ellen Seymour  
Nora Hennessy

**5:30 pm** Noelle Buckley  
Mary Breen

**Ballincollig Community School**

We offer a large variety of classes and we hope you can find the particular class you are looking for.

All details are available on our web-site, [www.bcsadulsted.ie](http://www.bcsadulsted.ie).

Please choose a class by category or by weekday and view the relevant class details.

- Enrolments taken Monday 7th January 2013
- Classes commence week of 28th January 2013 (unless otherwise stated)
- To avoid cancellations book early

The Adult and Community Education Department of Ballincollig Community School is committed to providing a diverse range of quality classes in our Adult Education programme. Your support and opinions are most welcome.

**Contact Details:**

Adult Education Office  
Ballincollig Community School,  
Innishmore, Ballincollig,  
Co. Cork

Tel: 021 4875401 / 4871740  
Email: [adulsted@balcs.ie](mailto:adulsted@balcs.ie)

**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. Dave O'Connell C.C.**

**087-2479140**

**Fr. James McSweeney**

**021-4873308**

**Vincent's**

Now Open

Supporting Society of St. Vincent de Paul

'Good as New' Charity Shop

Time Square, Ballincollig, (Near Cinema)

Good as new clothes, bric-a-brac, furniture, books etc.

Open 6 days Monday to Saturday

10.00 am to 5.00 pm

All profits go to support families in the Cork region.

All Welcome

**Croí Na Gaeilge**

Is holding a Leaving Certificate 2013 Honours Oral Irish ( worth 40% of total exam marks) Intensive 4-Hour Preparation Course given by an experienced oral examiner / native speaker on January 6th 2013 from 2 to 6 p.m. open to 6th and 5th year students in Ballincollig and surrounding areas. All topics covered (including Gaeltacht phrases).

(Tel. / Text 085 – 1541560)

**Urgent Appeal**

The Irish Blood Transfusion Service appealing for Blood Donations to help ensure that hospital demands can continue to be met over the Christmas holiday period.

Regional Centre at St.Finbarr's Hospital, Douglas Road, Cork

For details of all clinics in your area log onto [www.giveblood.ie](http://www.giveblood.ie)

If unsure if you can donate – check out website

or give Blood Bank a quick call 021-4807400.