

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



St. Mary & St. John
Station Road

Sunday 23-December-2012

Fourth Sunday of Advent

God's anointed was born by the power of God's spirit. He is the Son of God, and fulfils God's promise of an everlasting kingdom for his people.



Christ Our Light
Innishmore

The Joy of Christmas

We find ourselves on the eve of Christmas Eve and the waiting is almost over. No doubt still plenty more to be done and some regrets that we might have taken more time and space aside for prayer, reflection, renewal.

In recent weeks I was invited to call to a neighbour over Christmas.

An annual event that is an opportunity for a chat and a toast to the Season.

This weekend there is a visitation and it might be called a holy of holy exchanges. The voice that prepared the way for the Lord leaps in the womb at the proximity of the Voice or Word about to be born in this finite world.

Perhaps as we meet neighbour, family, friend, we might bring to our conversation and exchange a spirit of self-giving, of presence, of support, of hope. If we are anxious about any of our encounters or gatherings let us ask the Spirit of God to bestow guidance, courage, wisdom, peace, within and around us. An exchange becomes holy, sacramental, sacred when it is including the best of our humanity. When the Saviour became human He gifted us afresh with the divine in a new way.

Shortly after Christmas Fr. George will lead 18 young people from our parish to the Taize gathering in Rome. In their visit they carry their faith, our good wishes and a promise of new things coming to birth in their lives.

I take this opportunity on behalf of Fr George, 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.

Dave O'Connell

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Priest

Let us pray to our heavenly Father, who loved the world that he sent his only Son, not to condemn us, but to save us.

Reader

For all the followers of Jesus: that the light of Christ may shine in their hearts this Christmas.

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

For all government leaders: that Christ, the Prince of Peace, may turn their minds and hearts to thoughts of peace.

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

For families: that scattered families may be reunited, and that those in distress may experience relief.

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

For those who, for whatever reason, are not looking forward to Christmas.

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

We pray for An Garda Siochana, Fire Brigade Personnel, Ambulance Crew, Medical Staff and all other Personnel working over the Christmas period.

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

For the dead, whose absence is felt intensely at Christmas: that Christ may lead them into the joyful vision of his presence.

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

Priest

Father, fill our hearts with love through the coming of your Son. Give us the grace to overcome our fears and anxieties, and keep us joyful in your service. We ask this through 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, Dave O'Connell & James McSweeney



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 :

Isabelle Sonia Moylan Forde, Beverly, Ovens.

† IN SYMPATHY †

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

Con Kerins, Castleknock.

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

Richard & Kathleen O'Brien, Kanturk.
 Christy & Kathleen Daly, Mayfield.
 James & Catherine O'Sullivan, Kilmichael.
 Fin Buckley, Bishopstown.
 Mary Murphy, Bishopstown.
 William, Margaret & Kitty McNamara, Carrigrohane.
 John, Kitty Harte & Family, Clonakilty.
 Eileen, Jim & John Murphy, South Douglas Road.
 Jim & Kathleen Doyle, Westcourt.
 John & Mary Ann Finn, Ballyduff.
 Dermot & Nuala Burke, Dublin.
 Bernard Boylan, Maple Lawn.
 Eileen & Tommy Long, Crosshaven.
 Michael & Mary McEvoy, Ballincollig.
 Maureen Healy, East Gate.
 Peter & Hannah Crowley' Leemount.
 Jim Prendiville, Castle Park.
 Patrick Wilson & Eileen Tracey, Carlow.
 Michael Murphy, Windsor.
 Kate Duncan, Charlestown, Co Mayo.
 Dermot Barry Murphy, Carriganarra.
 Daniel & Mary O'Leary, Aylish, Farran.
 Mary O'Mahony, Castle Park.
 Billy Green, Station Road.
 Sean, Eileen & Pat O'Donovan, Church Hill.
 Bridget O'Regan, Carriganarra.
 Cecily O'Sullivan, Beech Park.
 Dec. Members of John A Wood Workforce.
 Derry O'Neill, Raheen.
 Bridget & Michael O'Regan, Carriganarra.
 Jerry Ring, Carriganarra/Chester.
 Nellie Murphy, Station Road.
 Kieran & Dermot Crowley, Ballyhooly.
 Tom, Margaret & Judy Enright, Nadd.
 Denis O'Riordan, Kilmichael.
 Dec Members of the Murphy Family, Kilnamartyra.
 Dan McCarthy, The Crescent.
 Dec. Members of the Hopkins family, Rosewood.
 Dec. Members of the Harrington family, The Square.
 Andrew & Joan O'Keeffe, Carrigrohane.
 Michael O'Leary, Ballyinlough.
 Cornelius Greany, Station Road.
 Tommy Daly, Leemount.
 Paul Wall, Churchfield.
 Danny & Josie Griffin, Roscrea.
 William & Catherine Murphy, The Mills.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Fourth Week Of Advent

- 23 Sunday Mic. 5: 1-4. Ps 79. Heb. 10:5-10. Lk. 1 :39-45. Lect I: 73
- 24 Monday 2 Sam. 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16. Ps. 88. Lk. 1:67-79. Lect I: 92
- 25 Tuesday Is. 52.710. Ps. 97. Heb. 1.1 6. Jn. 1.1 18. Lect I: 109
- 26 Wednesday Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59. Ps 30. Mt 10:17-22. Lect I: 125
- 27 Thursday 1 Jn 1:1-4. Ps 96. Jn 20:2-8. Lect I: 127
- 28 Friday 1 Jn 1:5-2:2. Ps 123. Mt 2:13-18. Lect I: 129
- 29 Saturday 1 Jn 2:3-11. Ps 95. Lk 2:22-35. Lect I: 131

Next Sunday's Readings 30-December-2012

Eccles. (Sir) 3:2-6, 12-14. Ps. 127. Col. 3:12-21. Mt. 2:13-15, 19-23. Lect I:114



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.

The 12 Days of Christmas

Religious symbolism of The Twelve Days of Christmas

1. True Love refers to God
2. Turtle Doves refers to the Old and New Testaments
3. French Hens refers to Faith, Hope and Charity, the Theological Virtues
4. Calling Birds refers to the Four Gospels and/or the Four Evangelists
5. Golden Rings refers to the first Five Books of the Old Testament, the "Pentateuch", which gives the history of man's fall from grace.
6. Geese A-laying refers to the six days of creation
7. Swans A-swimming refers to the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit, the seven sacraments
8. Maids A-milking refers to the eight beatitudes
9. Ladies Dancing refers to the nine Fruits of the Holy Spirit
10. Lords A-leaping refers to the ten commandments
11. Pipers Piping refers to the eleven faithful apostles
12. Drummers Drumming refers to the twelve points of doctrine in the Apostle's Creed

Reflection

I pray Lord, for the needy of our world: come among us as one, who will help, and call us all to help the hungry and sick, the uneducated and homeless, those who are victims of violence and war, the lonely and depressed.
 May your coming this Christmas be for them a time of peace and love; may we bring to them, in what way we can the joy of your coming.

THE SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading: Mic 5:1-4

Jesus Christ is coming soon, as he once came to Bethlehem. His origin is ancient. His message is timeless. His truth is eternal. Jesus Christ is peace itself.

Second Reading: Heb 10:5-10

The coming of Christ brings about our sanctification. As Jesus came to do the will of God, we too have the same purpose in life. We offer our bodies as a spiritual sacrifice to God. In his will is our peace.

Gospel: Luke 1:39 - 44

Luke tells us much in this account of Mary's visit to Elizabeth. Mary went to Judah to visit her cousin, Elizabeth, who knew nothing of Mary's pregnancy before their encounter. Yet Elizabeth knew that there was something special about Mary and the baby she carried. This is made clear by her calling Mary the "mother of my Lord." The baby that Elizabeth carried leaped for joy at the sound of Mary's voice. This completes the prophecy of the angel that Elizabeth and Zechariah were expecting a baby and is symbolic of John's announcing Jesus' coming.

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.

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.

Christmas Mass Video

The 12 noon Mass on Christmas Day on St. Mary & St. Johns will be videoed. We plan to upload the video to YouTube & Website.

More details to follow following editing & completion of video.

Fr. George

Ballincollig Parish Christmas Programme

Sacrament of Reconciliation for Christmas

Saturday 22 nd December	11.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.	St Mary & St John	Confessions
Monday 24 th December Christmas Eve	10.00 a.m. - 2.00 p.m.	St Mary & St John	Confessions
	12.00 noon - 1.00 p.m.	Christ Our Light	



Mass Times



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

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

Dec-29 & Dec-30-2012

St. Mary & St. John Christ Our Light

6:00 pm (Vigil)
Adrian Cotter
Alan Murphy»
8:30 am
Tom McDonagh

10:00 am
Eileen O'Connell
Diandra Buckley
12:00 Noon
Miriam Maunsell
Seamus Monahan

7:30 pm (Vigil)
Jessica Lingard
Morgan Smith
11:00 am
Jacob Derham
Paul Donovan
12:30 pm
Margaret Buckley
James Nyagaya
5:30 pm
Marlyn O'Connor



MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

Dec-29 & Dec-30-2012

St. Mary & St. John Christ Our Light

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

8:30 am Mary Buckley
Theresa Lucey
Triona Collins

10:00 am Anne Cahill
Pat Lee
Cathy Horgan
Claudine Tiendioh
Betty Flavin
Anne Spillane

12 Noon Helen Plunkett
Seamus O'Donovan
Eleanor Knowles
Catherine Greene
Joan Barrett
Geraldine Lynch

7:30 pm Geraldine Lynch
Charlie Vaughan
Joan Stephenson
Sally Power

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

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

5:30 pm Bernard Curran
John Canty

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.

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

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, 6 pm & 10 pm	Monday	8:30 am, 6 pm, 8 pm & Midnight
8:30 am, 10 am & 12 noon	Tuesday	11 am, 12:30 pm
9:30 am	Wednesday	No Morning Mass
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	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. Dave O'Connell C.C.	087-2479140
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
Pricigis 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

Con, Tom, Pat & Karen

Next Publication Sunday 6th January 2013

May the Child Jesus rest at the inn of your heart this Christmas