

# THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



St. Mary & St. John  
Station Road

Sunday 29-December-2013

**The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

*The Feast of the Holy Family: We are reminded today that a holy family will be a happy one because everything is based on God's will of love ...a love that shows itself in patience, forgiveness and sincere gratitude. The spirit of such a family will be the Spirit of God who brings peace.*



Christ Our Light  
Innishmore

## The Feast of the Holy Family

During the early Autumn Pope Francis decided to embark on a journey and conversation with the people of God. The Pope is seeking the views of the people of God on the family. The accompanying documents draw attention to a number of points concerning the family. The family is very much understood in the Christian tradition as a little church where we are nurtured and grow physically but just as important a place where we grow in faith and experience the love of God.

Pope Francis notes that many of the changes in our culture and world impact in various ways on family life. Many of the supports that the wider family provided in former times are no longer available. The demands of work and a career on parents lead to huge demands on time and resources for parents. Today flexibility and short term contracts are part of everyday life in the workplace; again making further demands on family life. Unemployment creates huge anxieties for families. Difficulties for families trying to make ends meet is an added burden.

Pope Francis presented a wide ranging statement followed by a number of questions. Some areas we are asked to address are, what preparation is available to couples planning their marriage? What support is available for married couples? The answer to both yes there is some but more needed.

What is the church's teaching on Marriage? The church teaches that marriage is a vocation. In fact Marriage is the great vocation! Surely this needs to be re-affirmed and taught regularly. Marriage is also a sacrament that the couple bestow on themselves and commit to living in their life. A sacrament means that God is present especially in the love of husband and wife, and that each marriage is a sign to us of God's love. High ideals but wonderful to be living in the midst of so many people trying to make this statement a reality.

May the Lord bless the trust Pope Francis is placing on us in his efforts to discover the "Sensus Fidelium" on this important topic. I wish you all a happy New Year.

*George O'Mahony*

## PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

**Priest**

Let us pray to God who is both Father and Mother to each of us and to the whole human family.

**Reader**

For the Christian community: that it may set an example of unity and peace for a fragmented and troubled world.

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

For the government of our country: that it may support the family as the basic unity of society.

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

For families that are scattered by conflict and war.

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

For single parent families.

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

For the deceased members of our families: that God may bring them to a place of refreshment, light and peace.

**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, grant that we may praise rather than criticise, sympathise rather than condemn, give rather than receive, so that our homes may become places where love and peace reign. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Best Wishes For A Happy New Year

*The priests of the parish join in sending New Year greetings to all members of the parish and to all readers of the Ballincollig Parishioner*

*Fr's George O'Mahony, Dave O'Connell & James McSweeney*

***O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways!***

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

**MARRIAGES**

**CONGRATULATIONS TO:**Shane Patrick Canny, Elm Mews & Niamh Theresa Barrett Elm Mews  
 Cathal Denis Dwane, Edinburgh & Louise Honour, Edinburgh  
 Wayne Donal Buckley, Model Farm Road & Deidre Mary McCarthy, Beech Park  
 John Kevin Kidney, Ballinhassig & Marie Elaine Bogue, Glendower Court  
 Daniel John Vaughan, Macroom & Clíodhna Rose Marie O'Dwyer, Church View  
 Thomas Martin Williams, Church View, Kerry Maria McCarthy, Church View  
 Edward A Hegarty, Highfield Park & Catriona Maria Casey, Highfield Park  
 Ciara Ellen O'Connell, Minister's Cross, Raheen & David Jackson Fry Brian Goggin, Aylsbury Downs & Mary Linda Keohane, Aylsbury Downs  
 Garry Anthony O'Riordan, Maple Lawm & Siobhan Mgt Herlily, Island Way  
 Ian Joseph Kirby, An Caislean & Siobhan Elaine Tobin, An Caislean Eoin Gerard O'Donnell, Lisheen Fields & Susan Mary O'Connell, Hawthorn Ave  
 Sara Ann Hawthorne, Beech Road & Christopher Goucher, Beech Road  
 Cornelius Thomas O'Callaghan, Ovens & Mary Hallahan, Greenfields Jonathon Geoffrey O'Callaghan, Fionn Laoi & Cathriona Creed Fionn Laoi  
 David Martin Kenny, An Caislean Drive & Aimee Marie McCoy, An Caislean Drive

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

Eileen Healy, Tralee.  
 Hannah Cronin, Abbeyfeale.  
 Catherine O'Sullivan. Kilmichael.  
 Ted, Sheila & Paul O'Mahony, Barrack Street.  
 Pauline O'Neill, Castleknock.  
 Betty Hickey, Los Angeles.  
 David O'Brien, Ballycotton.  
 Alan Jordan, Maryborough Woods.  
 Eileen, John & Jim Murphy, South Douglas Road.  
 Bridget, Vincent & Frank Moran, London & Mayo.  
 Joan & Eddie Murphy, Powdermills.  
 Patrick Sheehan, Killmurry.  
 Jerry O'Connor, Sunningdale.  
 Denis Murphy, Fr. Sexton Park.  
 Mary Cahalane, Holly Road.  
 Grace O'Connell, Dublin.

**A New Year**

The New Year while offering us the promise of a new future can also call us back to the love we had for Jesus in more innocent days just as old friendships call to us from the past. Mary Cole-ridge puts that thought nicely in one of her poems:

***Time brought me many another friend  
 That loved me longer.  
 New love was kind, but in the end  
 Old love was stronger.  
 Years come and go. No New Year yet  
 Hath slain December.  
 And all that should have cried - "Forget!"  
 Cries but - "Remember!"***

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**The Holy Family Of Jesus, Mary And Joseph**

29 Sunday Eccles. (Sir) 3:2-6, 12-14. Ps. 127. Col. 3:12-21. Mt. 2:13-15, 19-23. Lect I:114  
 30 Monday 1 Jn 2:12-17. Ps 95. Lk 2:36-40. Lect I: 134  
 31 Tuesday 1 Jn. 2:18-21. Ps. 95. Jn. 1:1-18 Lect I:136  
 01 Wednesday Num. 6:22-27. Ps. 66. Gal. 4:4-7. Lk. 2:16-21. Lect I:139  
 02 Thursday 1 Jn 2:22-28. Ps 97. Jn 1:19-28. Lect I: 146  
 03 Friday 1 Jn. 2:29-3:6. Ps. 97. Jn. 1 :29-34. Lect I: 148  
 04 Saturday 1 Jn. 3:7-10. Ps. 97. Jn. 1: 35-42. Lect I: 150

**Next Sunday's Readings 05/January/2014**

Eccles. (Sir) 24: 1-2, 8-12. Ps. 147. Eph. 1 :3-6, 15-18. Jn. 1:1-18. Lect I:141

**Bulletin Board**

**Christmas Collection**

The Priests of the Parish, Fr. George and Fr Dave would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your generosity in the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Collection for the Priests of the Parish. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

**Thank You**

Sincere thanks to the many people who gave their time throughout the year -, Altar Society, Altar Servers, Choir, Cantors, Folk Group, Ministers of the Word, Ministers of the Eucharist, Collectors, Cleaners, Parish Council, The Parishioner and Parish Council Sub Groups, people who distributed dues envelopes and the various flyers throughout the year, the Sacristans in both Churches. Thanks to the people of the Parish for their generous support to the Priest of the Parish during the past year. Your support is much appreciated.

We wish you and your families a happy New Year.

**Fr. George**

**Remembering our Loved Ones.....**

*All nature heeds the call of spring  
 As God awakens everything.  
 And all that seemed so dead and still  
 Experiences a sudden thrill  
 As springtime lays a magic hand  
 Across God's vast and fertile land  
 Oh, the joy of standing by  
 To watch a sapphire springtime sky  
 Or see a fragile flower break through  
 What just a day ago or two  
 Seemed barren ground still hard with frost  
 For in God's world, no life is lost,  
 And flowers sleep beneath the ground  
 But when they hear spring's waking sound  
 They push themselves through layers of clay  
 To reach the sunlight of God's day  
 And man and woman like flowers, too, must sleep  
 Until called from the darkened deep  
 To live in that place where angels sing  
 And where there is eternal spring.*