

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



St. Mary & St. John
Station Road

Sunday 14-December-2014

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

Gaudete Sunday

Today is Gaudete Sunday we are invited to rejoice, Jesus is at work "the blind see, the lame walk, the deaf hear." This is a great display of compassion for the suffering. Give us the courage Lord to let you see our wounds.

The readings this weekend have comforting words. The reading from Isaiah says, "Courage, be not afraid." James in second reading says, "Be patient, do not loose heart". John receives comforting from Jesus in the gospel "happy the person who does not loose faith in me".

John's situation was a dark one; he was locked up in prison with the threat of death hanging over him. His faith was severely tested, he needed reassurance and comforting. The comforting words in today's reading are addressed to us and we need to drink them in. There are dark situations in each of our lives and families. Serious illness, Addiction, family disagreements, suicide and unemployment are just a few of the darkness's in our lives. In times like these may we hear the words "Courage, do not be afraid".

Each of us knows the situations that cause us to be fearful and doubtful. We can't stop ourselves from feeling afraid. We must not allow our fears to cripple us. Courage is never feeling afraid; it is feeling afraid and going on in spite of it.

Faith is a precious and fragile gift. We must not be surprised when doubts arise within us. God will understand our doubts in a world like this. Blessed are we if we do not loose faith in Jesus, twice blessed if like Jesus we can show forth our faith in deeds of love and mercy?

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"



My soul rejoices in my God.

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 Christ'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 Christ.

**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.**

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

**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.

BAPTISMS

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

Jeremiah Jack O’Sullivan, The Manor, Poulavone
 Kian John Casey, Aylsbury Avenue.
 Zack George Lucey, Westcourt Heights.
 Oisin Chandra Ellanti, Poulavone.
 Kate Anne Cullinane, Ballyburden.
 Elaine James O’Leary, Grange Manor, Ovens.

† IN SYMPATHY †

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

Dermot O’Donoghue, Crookstown.
 Maria Wall, Fairhill/Carrigrohane.
 Mick Barry, Waterfall.
 Ann Kelly, Ballypnehane.
 Stephen Murray, Pinecroft, Douglas.
 Peter Murphy, Castlewhite, Waterfall.

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

Tommy Daly, Leemount.
 Aoibhin Power, Coolroe Meadows.
 Susan O’Driscoll, Carrigdene.
 Mary Anne Sheehan, Kilcorney.
 Patrick O’Donoghue, O’Donovans Crescent.
 Maureen Callanan, West Village.
 Kathleen Coakley, Pearse Road.
 Mary Keohane, Rathmore, Clonakilty.
 Brendan Keohane, Knockburdenen, Ovens.
 John Daly, Ballyburden.
 Dec members of Daly & Murray families.
 Dan Twomey, Clash Road.
 Gillian Drinan, Church View.
 O’Donovan family, Raheen, Carrigrohane.
 Billy Greene, Station Road.
 Peter Davies, Douglas.
 John & Shelia Linehan, Turner’s Cross.
 Bridget O’Regan, Carriganarra.
 Bill & Kit Foley, Essex.
 Mary Lucey, Carriganarra.
 Joan O’Riordan, Carriganarra.
 Dec. members of O’Shea & Sexton families.
 John & Ellen Murphy, Station Road.
 Daniel & Margaret Murphy, Knockburden.
 Dan Murphy, Bray.
 Jack & Beatrice Shanahan, Fr. Sexton Park.
 John & Joe Shanahan, Fr. Sexton Park.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Third Week of Advent

14 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
 15 Monday Num 24:2-7, 15-17. Ps 24. Mt 21:23-27. Lect I: 53
 16 Tuesday Zeph 3:1-2, 9-13. Ps 33. Mt 21:28-32. Lect I: 56
 17 Wednesday Is. 49:2, 8-10. Ps. 71. Mt. 1:17 Lect I: 76
 18 Thursday Jer. 23:5-8. Ps. 71. Mt. 1:18-24. Lect I: 79
 19 Friday Judg 13:2-7, 24-25. Ps 70. Lk 1:5-25. Lect I: 81
 20 Saturday Is 7:10-14. Ps 23. Lk 1:26-38. Lect I: 83

Next Sunday’s Readings 21/December/2014

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

A Child’s Christmas Prayer

I’ve prayed to Jesus, oh so hard,
 to bring me Christmas morn,
 a little baby brother like
 Himself when he was born.
 But Christmas came and Jesus said,
 I cannot find another,
 and so I’ve come my very self
 to be your little brother.

Give Blood

The Irish Blood Transfusion Service is urging donors to make a special effort to give blood in the run-up to Christmas.

The IBTS says it needs 15,000 donations over the coming weeks to maintain the blood supply.

It is to run additional Saturday and Sunday donor clinics before and after Christmas to ensure there is blood available for patients.

Blood Donor Clinic & Times

Munster Regional Transfusion Centre, in the grounds of St. Finbarr’s Hospital, Douglas Road, Cork

Monday: 3:30pm - 7:30pm (excluding Bank Holidays)

Tuesday: 3:30pm - 7:30pm

Wednesday: 11:30am - 2:30pm

Thursday: 3:30pm - 7:30pm

Telephone 021 4807 400

The Bible should fill the memory, rule the heart, and guide the feet. The Bible is meant not to inform, but to transform. Men do not reject the Bible because it contradicts itself but because it contradicts them.

CROWLEY

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Bóthar Saclay, Ballincollig, Co. Cork
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Email: michaelfd@eircom.net

www.crowleyfuneraldirectors.ie

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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.

St. Vincent de Paul CE Scheme

Station Road, Ballincollig
021 4874626 stvincentdepaulce@hotmail.com

We have a vacancy for 2 caretakers in the Community Hall under the above Community Employment Scheme. Duties include light maintenance, cleaning, opening, closing and upkeep of Community Hall. If you are interested and you are eligible for Community Employment please forward your CV to the above address or email your CV to the above email address.

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.

Troubled by someone else's drinking?

Try Al-anon.
 Local Meetings S V de P Centre Station Road
 Thursdays 8.30 pm. Phone: 087 6651707.

Cór Cois Abhann

presents
 A Ceremony of Carols
 by Benjamin Britten
 together with Christmas Works of Peter Warlock
 And Other Seasonal Favourites with
 Brian Davis—Harp Zofia Scheiling—Soprano
 Colin Nicholls—Organ Ian Sexton—Director
 Wednesday 17th December 2014 at 8pm
 The Church of Saint Peter and Saint Paul, Cork City
 by kind permission of The Very Rev'd Dr Patrick McCarthy, PP.
 Tickets €10/€8(concessions)
 Available from Pro Musica, Oliver Plunkett Street, Cork
 Opus II, Oliver Plunkett Street, Cork
 SS. Peter and Paul's Church Parish Office
 Direct from the choir at 086 2643040

Bulletin Board

St Vincent de Paul Annual Christmas Appeal

The collection will be taken up at all Masses this weekend the December 13th / 14th at the Our Father part of the Mass

Carol Service

Church of St Mary & St John
 Sunday 14th December, 2014 at 7.00pm

Mass Diaries

Mass Diaries to book Mass intentions for January, February & March 2015 are now open in both churches. Priority will be given to those booking 1st Anniversary Masses.

Christmas Penitential Service

Church of Christ our Light Monday December 22nd at 8 pm.

Offertory Collection Boxes

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.

Parishioners, who gave their name and offertory box number for Tax Rebate to the Church, please collect your offertory box from the Sacristy (St.Mary & St. John) or from the Parish Office. Thanks for your generosity and we look forward to your support for the coming year.

Christmas Cards

Christmas Cards using the scene from one of the glass stained windows in the church of St. Mary & St. John are available for sale in the Sacristy of both Churches.

Fr. George

Volunteers to put up Christmas Decorations for Older People

Christmas is a wonderful time of the year, but what if you are unable to put up Christmas decorations to give your home that festive feel? "Many older people, particularly those who live alone, cannot easily put up a Christmas tree or other decorations in their homes. Simply getting them down from the attic can be an impossible task" said Age Action Regional Manager John O'Mahony.

All year round volunteers from Age Action's Care & Repair programme do odd-jobs and DIY work for older people free of charge. Jobs that volunteers can do include gardening, moving furniture, putting up smoke alarms, small repairs and small painting/ decorating jobs. According to Mr. O'Mahony "The aim of the Care & Repair programme is to help people with tasks around the home that can become difficult as we grow older. Ultimately we want to support people to remain living in their own homes for as long as they wish in increased safety and comfort."

If you would like assistance putting your Christmas decorations or with any other tasks around the home, simply call Age Action on 021-4536554.

Kindness is a language which the deaf can hear and the blind can read
 Mark Twain

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

Dec/20 & Dec/21/2014

St. Mary & St. John

Christ Our Light

6:00 pm (Vigil)
Rosarie Cotter
Laura O'Keeffe
8:30 am
John Healy
Kerry O'Leary
10:00 am
Margot Twomey
Kaylyn Lordan
12:00 Noon
Sean Hennessy
Shane Lehane

7:30 pm (Vigil)
Pauline Collins
Morgan Smith
11:00 am
Jack Dorgan
Harry O'Brien
12:30 pm
James Nyagaya
Laura O'Leary
5:30 pm
Kevin Tuohy

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

Saturday

4:30 pm

Except First Saturday of
Month

First Saturday of Month

12:45 pm

Sunday

PARISH CLERGY

Priest on Duty
Fr. George O'Mahony P.P.
Fr. Dave O'Connell C.C.
Fr. James McSweeney

087-2479140
021-4871206
021-4876171 or frdaveoconnell@gmail.com
021-4873308

Funeral Pastoral Team Rota

Week 22nd Dec to 28th Dec

Tim Murphy
Siobhan Glavin

Social / Coffee Mornings

Continue every Friday morning in parish house "Sonas"
on Station Road at 10 am.

Everyone welcome as it is an ideal opportunity to get
and know people from our community.

MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

Dec/20 & Dec/21/2014

St. Mary & St. John

Christ Our Light

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

7:30 pm Anne O'Regan
Mairead Murphy
Finbarr Murray
Lettie Kelly
Mary Murphy

8:30 am Mary Buckley
Tom Butler
Denis Healy

11:00 am Seamus O'Connell
Mary O'Connell
Alan O'Riordan
Geraldine Keohane
Gerard Murray

10:00 am Peter Reilly
Mary Collins
Christy Roche
Katie O'Shea
Claire Creedon

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

12 Noon Oliver O'Donovan
Sean Hennessy
Mary McLean
Eleanor Seymour
Nora Hennessy

5:30 pm Noelle Buckley
Mary Breen

Christmas in the Church of Ireland - Blarney and Inniscarra.

This Christmas - Feeling blue? Feeling jolly?

It maybe the season to be jolly, but for many it is empty and lonely. So the Church of Ireland in Blarney is putting on a "Blue Christmas Service" to be still and reflect, as well as sing carols. And if you are looking for something for all the family, there is a lively "Messy Church" Christmas special with loads of hands-on fun and dinner! In all three churches, there a variety of worship for all to enjoy the wonder of the season.

Here are the details:

Sunday 14th 7pm - Carol Service St Senan's, Inniscarra

Sunday 21st 4pm Carol Service - A Fresh look at Christmas, St Peter's, Carrigrohane

4pm - Blue Christmas Service, Blarney (a quiet service for those who will find Christmas difficult this year)

Wednesday 24th 11pm Holy Communion for Christmas Eve, St Senan's, Inniscarra

Thursday 25th Christmas Day 10am Holy Communion, St Peter's, Carrigrohane

11am Holy Communion, Blarney

Sunday 28th 11am Family Worship for Christmas, Inniscarra For more information please contact the Rector:

Canon Ian Jonas 021 4871106

Carrigrohane Union of Parishes