

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER

150 Years



St. Mary & St. John
Station Road

Sunday 05-February-2017

Fifth Sunday In Ordinary Time

The light of Christ's love has been given to each one of us but it will go out if we fail to use it. We are invited to share our food, our homes, our possessions with the needy so that through us they can see the light of God and give him thanks.



Christ Our Light
Innishmore

You are Light of The World

January can be a long drab month; however it also marks two very important occasions for people of faith. During January there is a week of break to mark the invitations to all Christian churches to come together for prayer. As is the custom for some year's members of various Christian churches came together on Sunday January 29th to pray in the Church of St Mary and St Johns'. A pleasant time of prayer was observed following the theme "Breaking barriers."

This week also marks Catholic schools week. The people of Ballincollig are very fortunate to have schools providing a high quality of education. The school principals and staff are dedicated to provide a quality education to the pupils in their care. Furthermore the teachers provide opportunities to children and young people to grow in faith and come to know Jesus as a saviour and a loving God. Meanwhile the presence of many families and pupils from various denominations and faiths helps all of us to respect, appreciate and come to know families of various faiths.

Christ has called us to serve rather than to be served, to be a light in our world by our lifestyle rather than to be critics of darkness in our world of selfishness. Today's gospel urges us to be light to unselfishness in the deepening darkness in a world of self centeredness. We are called to be builders of a Christian community inspired by light of Christ.

George O'Mahony

Reflection for Parents

Some children worry whether or not their parents will live as long as the child needs them--basically forever! But often, parents worry more that they will someday be a burden to their children. Once in a while, parents know they only have a short period of time left with their children and they quickly take stock of what is truly important and act accordingly. Even without this notice, it would be good to evaluate each day with our children. How many nights do we fall into bed praying that this is not the last day our children remember with us!

The good man is a light in the darkness for the upright.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Priest

Called by Christ to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, let us pray to the Father for all our needs.

Reader

For Christians: that the light of their good deeds may be clear for all to see.

Lord, Hear us,
Lord, graciously hear us.

For our political and civil leaders: that they may help to keep society good and healthy by promoting truth and justice.

Lord, Hear us,
Lord, graciously hear us.

For those Christians whose light has gone out.

Lord, Hear us,
Lord, graciously hear us.

For each one here: that our lives may bear witness to the faith we profess with our lips.

Lord, Hear us,
Lord, graciously hear us.

For those who are suffering the effects of war, famine and persecution in particular the people of Aleppo, Mosul & Nigeria.

Lord, Hear us,
Lord, graciously hear us.

We pray for the intentions of all here present.

Lord, Hear us,
Lord, graciously hear us.

Priest

Merciful God, we thank you for the light of grace and love your Son Jesus brought into our world of sadness and shadows. Help us to keep his light burning brightly in our lives. On seeing this light others will find their way, and so you will be glorified. We ask this through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

Kathy Brady, Enniskeane.
 Tom Granville, Kenmare.
 John Greene, Wigan.
 Bernie Hyde, Garrettstown.

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

Paddy Horgan, Collyduff.
 Denis O'Donoghue, West Village.
 Patrick Goodwin, Tralee & Glasheen.
 Pat Shanahan, Cloghduv.
 Shay Graham, Glincool Drive.
 Tom Twohig, Hazel Grove.
 Jim Greene, The Square.
 Martin & Eily Murphy, Hodders Villas.
 Kevin Roderick, Pearse Road.
 Jim & Eileen Riordan, Hartlands Avenue.
 Donal Walsh, Fair Street.
 Billy Coyle, Glincool.
 Michael Gilleran, Rosewood.
 Dec. Members of the McCarthy Family, Ballymacoda.
 Timothy Dineen, Curraheen Cross.
 Patrick Manning, Farranree.
 Sheila Murray, Carrigrohane.
 Nora Heelan, Inniscarra.
 Bernie O'Brien, Douglas.
 Mary Cronin, Kilnamartyra/Manor Hill.

Vocations to Priesthood Weekend

An invitation is extended to men between 18 and 40 who are interested in the Diocesan priesthood as a way of life, to join with others for a weekend from Friday 17th 6pm to Saturday 18th 3pm February taking place in Thurles. There is no charge to attend the weekend – please contact Fr Charlie Kiely on 021 4537603 or at charliekiely@gmail.com for further details.

Croí na Gaeilge

Croí na Gaeilge is holding a final Leaving Certificate Honours Oral Irish Intensive one day Preparation course during the mid-term break on Monday February 20th from 11-6pm given by an experienced Oral Examiner/Teacher. Open to all 6th & 5th year honours students in Ballincollig and surrounding areas. Contact: Peadar Ó Murchú at Mobile Number: 085 1611 573 after 6pm only.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK**Fifth Week In Ordinary Time**

- 05 Sunday Is. 58:7-10. Ps. 111. 1 Cor. 2:1-5. Mt. 5:13-16 Lect I: 650
 06 Monday Gen. 1:1-19. Ps. 103. Mk. 6:53-56. Lect II: 54
 07 Tuesday Gen. 1 :20-2:4. Ps. 8. Mk. 7: 1-13. Lect II: 56
 08 Wednesday Gen. 2:4-9., 15-17. Ps. 103. Mk. 7: 14-23. Lect II: 59
 09 Thursday Gen. 2: 18-25. Ps. 127. Mk. 7:24-30. Lect II: 61
 10 Friday Gen 3:1-8. Ps 31. Mk 7:31-37. Lect II: 63
 11 Saturday Gen. 3:9-24. Ps. 89. Mk. 8: 1-10. Lect II: 65

Next Sunday's Readings 12-February-2017

Eccles (Sir) 15: 15-20. Ps 118. 1 Cor 2:6-10. Mt 5:17-37 Lect I: 652

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

Alice Banach, Old Quarter.
 Kate Louise Hennessy, An Caisleán.
 Culann Murray, Classes Lake.

THE SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading: Isaiah 58:7-10

Isaiah prophesied: Share bread with the hungry. Shelter the homeless. Clothe the naked. Do not turn away from your own. "Then your light shall break forth like the dawn."

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:1-5

Paul's teaching did not come from himself but from the convincing power of the Spirit. So the faith he passed on rests "not on human wisdom but on the power of God."

Gospel: Matthew 5:13-16.

It is common for us in our times to be careful about the salt we use. However, in Jesus' day, salt was a very important commodity. It was used to pay salaries. Like us, people used salt to flavor food. But, because there was no refrigeration, salt was also used to preserve food. That is why, when Jesus called his disciples "salt" and "light," he declared their great importance. What was of significant importance to Jesus was the enthusiasm with which the disciples spread the Good News.

CROWLEY**FUNERAL DIRECTORS**

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World Day of Prayer for the Sick

Pope Francis has released his message for the 25th World Day of the Sick to take place on next Saturday 11 February 2017, the commemoration of Our Lady of Lourdes.

The Day of the Sick was instituted by Pope Saint John Paul II in 1992, who called it "a special time of prayer and sharing, of offering one's suffering".

Pope Francis entitled his message for the 2017 celebration of the World Day of the Sick "Amazement at what God has accomplished: 'The Almighty has done great things for me...' (Lk 1:49)".

He said the commemoration "gives the Church renewed spiritual energy for carrying out ever more fully that fundamental part of her mission which includes serving the poor, the infirm, the suffering, the outcast, and the marginalized."

The Pope also expressed his "closeness to all of you, our suffering brothers and sisters, and to your families, as well as my appreciation for all those in different roles of service and in healthcare institutions throughout the world who work with professionalism, responsibility, and dedication for your care, treatment and daily well-being."

He said all the infirm and those who help them should look to Mary, "Health of the Infirm, the sure sign of God's love for every human being and a model of surrender to his will."

Mary's apparition at Lourdes to the "poor, illiterate, and ill" Bernadette, he said, reminds us "that every person is, and always remains, a human being, and is to be treated as such. The sick and the those who are disabled, even severely, have their own inalienable dignity and mission in life."

In his message, the Holy Father said God's solicitude for "the world of suffering and sickness" is revealed in Jesus.

"The solidarity shown by Christ, the Son of God born of Mary, is the expression of God's merciful omnipotence, which is made manifest in our life – above all when that life is frail, pain-filled, humbled, marginalized, and suffering – and fills it with the power of hope that can sustain us and enable us to get up again."

He said the celebration of the World Day of the Sick should provide "new incentive to work for the growth of a culture of respect for life, health and the environment" and "inspire renewed efforts to defend the integrity and dignity of persons, not least through a correct approach to bioethical issues, the protection of the vulnerable and the protection of the environment."

Finally, Pope Francis invited the sick, healthcare workers, and volunteers to turn to Mary in prayer.

He said, "May her maternal intercession sustain and accompany our faith, and obtain for us from Christ her Son hope along our journey of healing and of health, a sense of fraternity and responsibility, a commitment to integral human development, and the joy of feeling gratitude whenever God amazes us by his fidelity and his mercy."

He concluded the message with a short prayer to Our Lady:

Mary, our Mother,
in Christ you welcome each of us as a son or daughter.
Sustain the trusting expectation of our hearts,
succour us in our infirmities and sufferings,
and guide us to Christ, your Son and our brother.
Help us to entrust ourselves to the Father who accomplishes great things.

Bulletin Board

Family Mass (formerly Children's Mass)

The next Children's Mass for children in second class preparing for their first Holy Communion will take place on Sunday February 5th, at 11.00am in Church of Christ Our Light. The Parents of children who are seven and eight are asked to bring them to this Mass. Preparation with the children commences in the main body of the church at 10.45am. Small children preschool/infants/1st class retire to the crying room where they celebrate the Liturgy of the Word in a child friendly fashion. They will return to the main church at the start of the offertory procession.

World day of Prayer for the Sick

Saturday February 11th feast of Our Lady of Lourdes is World day of Prayer for the sick. To mark this day a prayer service with Liturgy of the Word and blessing of the sick will take place at 12noon in the Church of St. Mary & St. John. Sick and infirm are welcome, family, neighbours and friends might help people to get to the church – Saturday February 11th.

Diocesan Lourdes Invalid Fund

The Diocesan Lourdes collection for year ending 31st December 2016 amounted to €80,000. If a parishioner is thinking of organising a Pilgrimage to Lourdes, perhaps you might consider joining with the Diocesan Pilgrimage from June 11th to June 16th. The priests who travel would act as Spiritual Directors to the Pilgrimage. In 2016 all the helpers were grant aided to the amount of €400 each. It is noteworthy that the helpers are giving of their holiday time to this most worthy cause. I am very grateful to all who travel each year for their commitment, kindness, and generosity to the sick on the Pilgrimage.

St Paul Sunday Missal

St Paul Sunday Missal 2017 is available in the sacristy for Ministers of the Word and parishioners.

Fr. George

Cork and Ross Diocesan Pilgrimage

11th – 16th June 2017 – 5 Night Full Board

Pilgrim Booking Forms available from: Joe Walsh Tours, 117 Patrick Street, Cork.

Telephone Number: 021-4277959

Booking of the Official Sick/Assisted Section

Contact: Canon James O'Donovan P.P., Parochial House, Ballinlough, Cork. Telephone Number: 021-4292296

Lourdes 2017 – Young Adult Helpers.

The Diocese of Cork and Ross invites Young Adults 18-30 years old to come to Lourdes as helpers from 11th to 16th June. As helpers you will assist with the sick and be involved in the full pilgrimage programme as well as time for prayer, for making new friends and sharing in the story of Lourdes. Limited number of places. Closing date for applicants is 28th February 2017. For further details contact Fr. Charlie Kiely 021-4537603, Pastoral Development Office, Parochial House, Ballyphehane, Cork or email: charliekiely@gmail.com

