

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



St. Mary & St. John
Station Road

Sunday 13-November-2022

Thirty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

As we come towards the end of the Church's Year we are reminded of the end of all time. Before it comes there will be time of trial: for the believer who endures in faith the end will not bring condemnation but healing and life.



Christ Our Light
Innishmore

Modern Day Reality

The state of our economy is, to put it mildly, worrying. Things seem to be getting worse and worse and we are fearful about the impact the current uncertainty will have on our lives and indeed on our lifestyles. Times are tough. There is a sort of anxious uncertainty, and we know that painful change is coming. We are worried. Yet deep down we know that it is time for a reality check. Our standard of living in absolute terms, as opposed to comparative terms, is far better than anything dreamed of by those who went before, far better than anything that can be hoped for by the great mass of humanity living on the earth at this time. Our worry is associated with our focus on passing material things. As a society we have followed false hopes, false gods. We lived in unreality! Whilst many among us suffer real hardship and deprivation, some of us need to get real. Many of the things we worry about, things covered in the incessant economic commentary, are temporary, passing.

The disciples marvelled at the size and magnificence of the temple in Jerusalem, Jesus tells them it will all be destroyed, pulled down, nothing left. The temple was in fact destroyed about forty years later and the remaining lower part of its western wall, the Wailing Wall, is venerated to this day. And the world itself will not last forever, it too will pass, for each of us at the moment of our own death, however long it may last without us. The prophet Malachi puts it graphically, the day of the Lord is coming like a furnace, and all that is evil will be burned away. For all of us the world will be shaken, everything will seem to be falling apart. We will suffer persecution and yet Jesus assures us, not a hair of our head will be lost. We pray for a strong faith, for courage to face life cheerfully, knowing that courage is one of the gifts of the Holy Spirit, and ours for the asking.

We may ask ourselves what really matters, in the context of eternity, in the context of our own death. Family love and connectedness, friendship and generosity, these should be unaffected by an economic recession. So while we wait for an uncertain future, we pray for the grace to live a Christian life in our time, place and circumstances; to be loving, other centred and generous, to reach out to those who suffer, to help and comfort. And that means to live in happiness, with the peace of Christ, a peace that the world cannot give.

Life After Death

November is a month in which the Church reminds the Faithful of our dead. It calls on the praying Church on earth to offer prayer and sacrifice for those who have gone before us in the sign of Faith. There is a danger today that people can believe that our departed relatives may not need our prayers, but this danger must be avoided. Death, for many, is a fearful event because it precedes the judgement. Jesus spoke very clearly and consistently about a final judgement.

The judgement spoken of by Jesus is not to be understood as a once-and-for-all event in the future. God's judgement is already at work in the present, calling us to live lives in harmony with our nature as children of God.

If we see God's judgement as acting also in the present, death will lose its fearful significance. St. John does not use the term 'hell' but speaks of punishment in terms of darkness and exclusion from God. St. Paul does not use any fiery images but speaks of eternal destruction and banishment from the face of God. Hell is the final loss of God's life and friendship. But already in life we can exclude ourselves from friendship from God. In life, however, there is hope of change. We can once again respond to God's love.

Jesus tells us that Heaven is the reward of the virtuous. It is the complete fulfilment; it is what we were created for. Judgement, Hell and Heaven are not events that occur after death; they already begin here when we answer yes or no to God's invitation to love Him.

The Lord comes to rule the peoples with fairness.

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

Dolores Donovan, Carrigrohane.
Tony Foley, Carrigrohane.
Tony Whelan, Rosewood.
May McCarthy, Farran.
Carmel Keaney, Curraheen Road.

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

Mary Dineen, Shandon View.
Dan Kidney, Muskerry Estate.
Dec. Members of O'Connor, Murphy & Kinsella Families.
Kathleen O'Keffee, Aylsbury.
Maureen O'Connell, Ballingulley.
Therese & Hilary Brown, Douglas.
Nora O'Callaghan, Carrigrohane.
Con & Philip Donegan, Milford.
Timmy & Michael Cotter, Leo Murphy Tce.
John & Hannah O'Connor, Dingle.
Gerald & Chriss Lenihan, Ballyvolane.
Joan Hennigan, Woodbine Lawn.
Brendan Hennigan, Skerries, Dublin.
Patrick & Ada O'Leary, Poulavone.

First Reading: Mal. 3:19-20
The Day of the Lord is the day when Christ returns in glory. For us who believe, it will be a day of justice and vindication; we are not afraid.

Second Reading: 2 Thess 3:7-12
Even though this life does not last forever, that does not mean we avoid doing our duty. We work as we should, doing the will of God.

Gospel: Luke 21:5-19
It is clear from this passage in Luke's Gospel that when the world ends, some terrifying events will occur. The clear message, however, is that we should not face these events with apprehension, but rather with trust-trust that God wants us to have everlasting life with him. Instead of being afraid, we are called to find strength and courage in God's love and persevere in our faith.

Totus Tuus Scripture Conference

Totus Tuus Scripture Conference is live on Radio Maria Ireland from 2pm on Saturday, 19th November. Speakers include Sr. Caitriona Kavanagh OP, Brian O'Driscoll (paying the way home), Fr. John McCarthy (Cloyne Diocese) and Fr. Terence Crotty OP. Radio Maria Ireland can be listened to by downloading the Radio Maria Ireland APP, Saorview Channel 210 or listen live at (01)4373277

Medjugorje Pilgrimage

Medjugorje Pilgrimage ex Cork 31st May to June 7th 2023. Cost €849.00 pps. Early booking discount of €100 per person if fare booked and paid in full by December 5th. €200 deposit secures place. Half board accommodation in Hotel Leone. Optional insurance €39.00. Spiritual Director Fr. Ted Sheehan. Contact Sean O'Shaughnessy 0862959380 or Joe Walsh Tours 012410800. Places limited.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Thirty Third Week In Ordinary Time

13 Sunday Mal. 3:19-20. Ps. 97. 2 Thess. 3:7-12. Lk. 21:5-19. Lect I: 934

14 Monday Apoc. 1:1-4, 2:1-5. Ps. 1. Lk. 18:35-43. Lect II: 875

15 Tuesday Apoc. 3:1-6, 14-22. Ps. 14. Lk. 19:1-10. Lect II: 877

16 Wednesday Apoc. 4:1-11. Ps. 150. Lk. 19:11-28. Lect II: 880

17 Thursday Apoc. 5:1-10. Ps. 149. Lk. 19:41-44 Lect II: 883

18 Friday Apoc. 10:8-11. Ps. 118. Lk. 19:45-48. Lect II: 885

19 Saturday Apoc. 11:4-12. Ps. 143. Lk. 20:27-40. Lect II: 886

Mass Times for week ahead

St. Mary & St. John		Christ Our Light
8:30 am, 10 am	Sunday	11 am, 12:30 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
6 pm (Vigil)	Saturday	7:30 pm (Vigil)

Bulletin Board

Advent Retreat

Monday, 28th, Tuesday 29th & Wednesday 30th November
Mass 7.30pm: Evening Prayers, Liturgy & Homily
Church of St. Mary & St. John All Welcome

Marriage Support Envelope Collection

The annual Marriage Support collection will be taken up at all Masses this weekend 12th & 13th November. Please place your donation in the envelope provided.

Autumn Dues

The priests of the Parish would like to thank you for returning the Autumn Dues Envelopes. Your continued support is much appreciated.

Coeliac Hosts

Low gluten hosts are available that are suitable for Coeliac. Please inform the priest prior to Mass if possible if you require it.

Poor Clares' Vocations

"Come & See" Zoom Meeting for young women discerning a vocation will take place on Saturday, 3rd December at 3.00pm. To receive the link please contact us at vocationspoorclarescork@gmail.com

Reflection for Parents

Today's Gospel makes it clear that we should persevere in our faith and be faithful disciples. We are most responsible for evangelising our own children. There is an expression, "Faith is caught, not taught." How do our children see us live out our faith? How do we witness the greatness of God's love and our personal response to that love? Share with your children what it means for you to walk with Jesus.