

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



St. Mary & St. John
Station Road

Sunday 11-February-2024

Sixth Sunday In Ordinary Time

World Day of the Sick & Day of Prayer for Temperance

A leper was an outcast, an untouchable. The love of Christ brought such people back into the community. We who follow Christ are called never to ostracise another, never to isolate those who don't fit into our ways. Our task is to help them along.



Christ Our Light
Innishmore

Jesus, Friend of Outcasts

Today is World Day of the Sick and in the Gospel Christ the Healer is again among the sick and this time stretches out his hands and touched the leper.

It may seem an extreme example of Jesus' outreach to the sick. There's no logic to it. There are no rules. He's doing something new. He touches the leper. Wow. And the leper is cured. And then the odd reversal of lifestyle. The leper goes into community and Jesus is isolated and almost becomes a leper. And yet the community still seeks Him out and wants to be touched; touch His cloak; to be close.

The gesture of touch in our lives has particular connotations for many of us. Some like and others dislike. The gesture of touch can convey so much and in the right context it certainly conveys accompaniment, intimacy and oneness.

Christ is speaking and acting with authority and so pushes the boundaries beyond the logic to the realm of mystery. The Incarnation, and our sharing in this incarnate presence by our words, touch, look, acknowledgement are signs and gestures which transmit something of the human and divine spirit, heart, love. There's to be, as I see it, in our living in family, community, society a desire for the good and the desire that creates presence and uplifts individually and collectively. Lord bless us in our gift of touch to others and through your Spirit of Wisdom and guidance let it always convey something of love and presence.

Pope Francis theme for today

"It is not good that man should be alone" – Caring for the sick by caring for relationships.

Baptism Ministry Team

A new year & new beginnings. We hope to relaunch this wonderful ministry to help prepare couples, bringing forward their children for Baptism. We will be supported in this goal by the Diocesan office of Ministry & Mission, assisting us with training and ongoing support. We would like to invite those interested in exploring this initiative to contact any member of the parish team.

Muskerry Local History Society

Is organising a night of 'Platform Dancing in our Locality' on Monday, 12th February, at 8.00 pm in Ballincollig Rugby Club. Annual membership: €15. Lectures free to members. Non-members: €4.

Lent 2024

Next Wednesday February 14th is Ash Wednesday and there will be an evening Mass at 7:30 pm in church of St. Mary & St. John.

Wednesday is also St. Valentines Day and we ask our loving Father, to bless all families with peace and happiness.

Reflection for Parents

Not many things break the heart of a parent so quickly as seeing their child rejected by another person. Sometimes children are cruel and shun others or exclude them. Even more difficult are circumstances where adults or someone once trusted turn away from a child. Most of us don't witness these acts in our lives personally, but we certainly read about them in the paper or hear about them on the news. We get just a small glimpse of what it might have been like for the leper in today's gospel who was not even allowed to live with healthy people. We also better understand the courage and compassion of Jesus who touched the man and accepted him.

Temperance Sunday & World Day of Prayer for the Sick

Mass will be broadcast on Sunday 11th February 2024 at 11am on RTÉ TV & Radio.

Please note new Emergency/Priest on Duty in Parish Number is: 087 4021357

You are my refuge, O Lord; you fill me with the joy of salvation.

Visit Our Website: www.ballincolligparish.ie or Facebook www.facebook.com/BallincolligParish

† IN SYMPATHY †
 PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF THE RECENTLY DECEASED :Sr. Bernadette (Fay) Cotter, Poor Clares. Evelyn Carroll, Castleknock.
 Jeremiah Walsh, The Maltings.
 PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS OF THE FOLLOWING WHOSE ANNIVERSARY OCCURS OR OTHERWISE REMEMBERED:
 John Heffernan, Tower.
 Becky Walsh, Muskerry Estate.
 Chris Walsh, Castlepark.
 Timothy O’Keeffe, Shamrock Drive.
 Mairead & William Boyce, Milford.
 Michael Murray, Beech Pk./Carriganarra.
 Arleen Oman, Seattle/Curraghhill.
 Mary Ellen O’Callaghan, Donoughmore.
 Derry Lane, Westgate.
 Michael O’Mahony, Castlepark.
 John and Helen O’Sullivan, Glanmire.
 Shay Graham, Glincool.
 Patrick Goodwin, Tralee/Glasheen.
 Patrick Carroll, Newport, Tipperary.
 Ellen and Donal Walsh, Fair Street.

THE SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading: Leviticus 13: 1-2, 44-46
 The Hebrews always regarded leprosy as a contagious disease and perhaps as a punishment by God. This explains both the isolation of the diseased person and the necessity of ceremonial purification. In some societies AIDS is similarly regarded today.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 10: 31- 11:1
 This is a cry for tolerance at a time when Christians who had come from the Jewish tradition tried to impose their customs on converts from paganism. The scrupulous are not entitled to impose their scruples on others. Tolerance and kindness must be mutual.

Gospel: Mark 1: 40-45
 Lepers were compelled to lead an isolated life, wearing a special garb, and giving notice of their approach by crying out: "Unclean", in order to prevent contagion. Jesus cured the man but spoke sternly to him because he had violated the prudent regulations by coming into contact with others who might receive the contagion.

School Bus Escort post in Scoil Mhuire

The Board of Management invites applications for School Bus Escort post in Scoil Mhuire. Candidates should have experience in working with children, have an understanding of special needs and be able to deal with parents and school staff in a professional way. School Bus Escorts will be expected to travel to and from an agreed pick-up and drop-off point to meet the bus. Applicants must supply suitable character references and Garda Vetting is mandatory. Hourly rate of pay is €13.40. The work will consist of approx. 3hrs per day: 7.30am to 9.00am & 2.45pm to 4.15pm. Bus Escorts will not be paid during school holidays. Please forward CV and cover letter to: principal@scoilmhuireballincollig.ie Many thanks, Liz Uí Bheinéid, Principal /Príomhoide, Scoil Mhuire, Ballincollig, Cork.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sixth Week In Ordinary Time

11 Sunday Lev 13:1-2, 44-46. Ps 31. 1 Cor 10:31-11:1. Mk 1:40-45. Lect I: 750

12 Monday Jas 1:1-11. Ps 118. Mk 8:11-13. Lect II: 525

13 Tuesday Jm. 1:1-18. Ps. 93. Mk. 8:14-21. Lect II: 527

14 Wednesday Joel. 2:12-18. Ps. 50. 2 Cor. 5:20-6:2. Mt. 6:1-6. 16-18. Lect I: 191

15 Thursday Deut. 30:15-20. Ps. 1. Lk. 9:22-25. Lect I: 194

16 Friday Is 58:1-9. Ps 50. Mt 9:14-15. Lect I: 196

17 Saturday Is 58:9-14. Ps85 Lk 5:27-32. Lect I: 198

Next Sunday’s Readings 18-February-2024

Gen. 9:8-15. Ps. 24. 1 Pet. 3:18-22. Mk. 1:12-15. Lect I: 205

MASS TIMES

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 and 7:30 pm	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)

Bulletin Board

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.

Lourdes Pilgrimage Collection

Special envelope collection will be taken up this weekend 10th/11th February for the Lourdes sick/assisted Pilgrimage Fund

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 3 p.m. until 4 p.m. in St. Mary & St. John’s Church every Friday.

Meditation

Meditation continues every Tuesday in Ballincollig Community Hall after 9.30am Mass. Please feel free to join any Tuesday.

MATER DEI ACADEMY

Is accepting admissions for September 2024. We are an independent school providing a Catholic post-primary education for boys and girls in the classical tradition. Please telephone 021 2021229 or go to www.materdeiacademy.ie for more information.

Totus Tuus pilgrimage to Fatima

30th August - 6th September, 2024. Flights ex Cork. Cost: €815. Spiritual director: Fr. Marius O Reilly. For more information, contact Damien 087-2049048 or Marian Pilgrimages @ 01-8788159.