

# THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



St. Mary & St. John  
Station Road

Sunday 25-February-2024

Second Sunday of Lent

*To be asked to offer up your only Son was a terrible sacrifice. In the end Abraham was not asked to make it, but God Himself has offered it for us. It is from this sacramental gift that all our blessings come.*



Christ Our Light  
Innishmore

## Transfiguration

In today's Gospel story we hear of Jesus taking Peter, James and John up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. Just before this journey Jesus had been telling his disciples that he was destined to suffer, to be rejected, be put to death and to rise again after three days. Now that this time is drawing near, Jesus spends time in prayer, to prepare himself and his disciples. It was during this time of prayer that "he was transfigured before them and his clothes became dazzling white." Moses and Elijah appeared in conversation with him, while a cloud descended over them and a voice from the cloud said: 'This is my beloved Son, listen to him'. Hearing those loving words from his Father must have given Jesus strength to face the painful journey to Jerusalem and to take the road that led to Calvary.

While the disciples were confused and frightened, the transfiguration experience gives them a little glimpse of God's glory to sustain them as they witness Jesus' suffering, death and resurrection. I'm sure all of us can remember times when God responded to our prayer giving us the courage to carry our cross. We too are his beloved children. Knowing we are loved by God gives us the strength to face our own trials and sufferings with renewed hope and to bring that hope, love and encouragement to others around us. In our own journey through life we can face difficult decisions knowing that we are loved and supported.

While the Transfiguration event happened over two thousand years ago, we are called today to be aware of moments of transformation in our own lives. When have I glimpsed God's light or glory in my life? It could be during times of great suffering; a close experience of God in prayer or even being on a mountain top taking in the beauty of creation all around - moments of experiencing God's closeness and beauty. All of us need to find our own space to spend quiet moments of prayer with our heavenly Father, who' in the words of today's Gospel' says of Jesus: 'this is my beloved son, Listen to him'. We hear Jesus speaking to us when we open our hearts to listen to him in prayer and when we reflect on his word in Scripture. He also speaks to us in the events of everyday life and through the voice of others around us.

### 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.

### Trócaire's Lenten Campaign 2024

Water poverty especially affects Africa where large sectors of the population have no access to safe drinking water or experience droughts which impede agricultural production. Some countries have areas rich in water while others endure drastic scarcity.

### Jesus of Nazareth

The first full length film about the Life of Jesus Christ has been produced right here in Cork, with the kind assistance of SMA Parish Church, Wilton, Fr Michael O'Leary, Fr John Walsh and The Church of the Way of the Cross, Togher and St Finbarr's Cathedral. We are honoured to screen the All-Ireland Premiere of 'Jesus from Nazareth Live in Concert with Film' at the SMA Parish Centre T12 AX94 on Sat 23rd March at 3pm and 8pm. The film trailer and music can be viewed at [www.girishpaul.com](http://www.girishpaul.com) Tickets €25 (includes booking fee) from [www.gr8events.ie](http://www.gr8events.ie).



### Reflection

Just as, for a greater good, Abraham is prepared to do the unthinkable, so the Father, because he loved the world so much, gave his only Son, that the people of the world might believe in him. We need to consider this aspect of the suffering and death of Jesus as an antidote to the sometimes vengeful image put forward of a God who demands the death of his Son for the redemption of the world.

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

*I Will Walk In The Presence Of The Lord In The Land Of The Living.*

Visit Our Website: [www.ballincolligparish.ie](http://www.ballincolligparish.ie) or Facebook [www.facebook.com/BallincolligParish](https://www.facebook.com/BallincolligParish)

† IN SYMPATHY †

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF THE RECENTLY DECEASED :Tim Sheehan, Aylsbury/Templemartin.

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

- Joan & Tim Murphy, Currabeg.
- Dermot Linehan, Tudor Grove.
- Alexandra Myles, Churchview.
- Daniel McSweeney, Cathedral Road.
- Mary Ann Sheehan, Blarney Street.
- Kathleen Whooley, Glanmire.
- Catherine & Patrick Howard, Ballinlough.
- Elizabeth Murphy, Carriganarra.
- Joe Kavanagh, Fr. Sexton Park.
- Kieran Collins, West Village.
- Jerry O’Leary, Inniscarra View.
- Maisie & Paul O’Keeffe, Meadows/Fairhill.
- Sheila Twohig, Windsor, Ovens.
- Derek O’Connell, Lisheen Fields.
- Jim Deasy, Aherla.
- Edward O’Sullivan, Glenleigh, Kilcorney.
- Kathleen and Dan Dorgan.
- Kate and Fred Nash, Powder Mills.
- Elizabeth Cronin, Kilmichael.
- Pat Murphy, Firmount.
- John O’Farrell, Macroom.
- Nora Barrett, Coolroe.
- John Nyhan, Coolroe Heights.

*THE SUNDAY READINGS*

First Reading: Genesis 22: 1-2, 9-13, 15-18

By his command to sacrifice Isaac God proclaimed his absolute dominion over the lives of men who are the work of his hands. By the revocation of the order he manifested that he did not wish this dominion to be acknowledged by the actual sacrifice of human life. The double lesson was necessary as the neighbouring Canaanites offered such sacrifices to their gods.

Second Reading: Romans 8: 31-34

St. Paul summarises the blessings of the spiritual life in the assurance of God’s love for us in Christ. All our personal difficulties become insignificant as soon as our eyes turn away from them to contemplate that one great act of love of God in which he did not spare his own Son for our salvation. It is true that there will be an examination after death, which we all fear. Redeemed and defended by Christ we need fear no condemnation from his lips.

Gospel: Mark 9: 2-10

The Transfiguration of Christ, together with the appearance of Moses and Elias and the declaration by the Father, was a confirmation of all that Christ had taught them concerning his own Person and his relation to the Old Law. It was intended to strengthen the faith of the Apostles and to prepare them for the trials of the Passion. According to Leo the Great the chief purpose of the Transfiguration was to remove the scandal of the Cross from the hearts of the disciples.

**Finding hope in a hopeless world – Lent 2024**

This is a seven-week programme for Parish groups or individuals available on the Diocesan website (<https://corkandross.org/lent2024>). A different aspect of hope will be explored each week. The resource is available as a presentation, video, and podcast (all of which can be used online or downloaded for off-line use).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Second Week Of Lent

25 Sunday Gen 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18. Ps 115. Rom 8:31-34. Mk 9:2-10. Lect I: 225

26 Monday Dan 9:4-10. Ps78. Lk 6:36-38. Lect I: 231

27 Tuesday Is 1:10, 16-20. Ps 49. Mt 23:1-12. Lect I: 232

28 Wednesday Jer 18:18-20. Ps 30. Mt 20:17-28. Lect I: 234

29 Thursday 16 Thursday Jar 17:5-10. Ps 1. Lk 16:19-31. Lect I: 236

01 Friday Gen. 37:3-4, 12-13, 17-28. Ps. 104. Mt. 21:33-43, 45-48. Lect I: 239

02 Saturday Mic 7:14-15, 18-20. Ps 102. Lk 15:1-3.11-32. Lect I: 241

**Next Sunday’s Readings 03-March-2024**

Ex 20:1-17. Ps 18. 1 Cor 1:22-25. Jn 2:13-25. Lect I: 251

**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	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**

**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.

**Stations of the Cross during Lent**

The Stations of the Cross will be held in St. Mary & St. John’s Church at 7.00pm on Wednesdays during Lent.

**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.

**First Friday**

Friday 1st March is the first Friday of the month. There is Mass in St Mary & St. John’s church on Friday evening at 7.30pm. The priests of the parish visit the sick of the parish on the first Friday of each month; please let us know if you have a family member or neighbour who is sick or housebound.

**Confirmation**

Congratulations to the girls and boys of Scoil Barra who received the sacrament of confirmation this week. Sincere thanks to the parents and dedicated teachers who work diligently preparing young people for the sacrament.