

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



St. Mary & St. John
Station Road

Sunday 10-March-2024

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Jesus came among us to light our way to true humanity, our way to God. Our reaction to him is a sign of the kind of people we are. It is also a sign of what our future will be. Our judgement will depend on our faith in him.



Christ Our Light
Innishmore

The Wonders of Creation

A well known adage says "there is no such thing as a free lunch." This has featured in several novels and was the title of a 1975 book by Nobel Prize winning economist Fredman. The so called free lunch apparently originated with nineteenth century American bar owners offering free food at midday to encourage drinkers. The first person credited with coining this expression is an American journalist. He said "until man acquires the power of creation someone will always have to pay for a free lunch. As the world goes someone has to foot the bill."

That is how our world goes - but it is not the way of God's world. In God's world there is eternal life to be given away, with no strings attached - just given freely for the sake of love itself.

We use the expression "awesome" these days to describe almost trivial events. What could be more awesome than the sheer generosity of God. We read in today's gospel that God is giving us all the benefits of freedom, of salvation, of life with Christ simply for free, simply because, being love, God can do no other. We do not have to do anything simply be the people God asks us to be.

We are invited to be reflections of Christ's love in our world. God works through us when we bring happiness to others. In the words of Mother Teresa "something beautiful for God." There are no free lunches but there is free eternal life.

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

A society without mothers would be a dehumanized society, for mothers are always, even in the worst moments witnesses of tenderness, dedication and moral strength.

Ballincollig Alzheimer Café

Ballincollig Alzheimer Café are meeting on Thursday, 21st March from 4.00pm – 6.00pm in The Chapel Gate Café. They meet every 3rd Thursday of the month. This month's topic is: Safe Medication Management at Home with: Jackie Shire, Pharmacist. To register contact: Karen Fitzpatrick 087 348 7511 or ballincolligalzheimercafe@alzheimer.ie

Fifth Sunday of Lent/Solemnity of St Patrick – Mass times

St. Mary & St. John

Sat. Vigil Mass 6.00pm

Sun. 8.30am & 10.00am

Christ Our Light

Sat. Vigil Mass 7.30pm

Sun. 11.00am (Irish Mass) & 12.30pm

There are clear and general rules when feasts occur on the Sundays of Lent. The Sundays of Lent, have precedence over Solemnities. Sunday is the primordial feast, and the Solemnity is transferred to Monday or the next free day.



Reflection

Salvation, not being lost, and having eternal life are ideas which belong together. They are part of the way that our Christian tradition has tried to explain a fundamental insight into human nature, namely, that even before we commit individual acts of wrong doing, by our very nature as human beings, we are in need of a saviour. This need has been recognised by God and he has acted accordingly.



To all the mothers of the
Parish

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

O let my tongue cleave to my mouth if I remember you not!

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 :Bina O’Sullivan, Templeacre.
 Declan Cronin, Ballyphehane.
 Mary O’Sullivan, Willowfield/Mathey.
 PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS OF THE FOLLOWING WHOSE ANNIVERSARY OCCURS OR OTHERWISE REMEMBERED:
 Jose Isaac Garcia Rodriguez.
 Sean Connolly, Skibbereen.
 Sharon Connolly.
 Vincent Manley, Glincool.
 Ken Murphy, Greenfields/Wilton.
 Eugene & Margaret Teehan, Killarney.
 Tadgh & Ellen O’Donovan, Kilmurray.
 Sheila O’Reilly, Poulavone.
 Nora & Colm Cremin.
 Thomas & Mary O’Donoghue, Killarney.
 Eileen Walsh, Holly Road.
 Seán O’Callaghan, Carrigrohane.
 Michael Doyle, Pine Walk.
 Pat Sheehan (Jnr.), Coachford.
 Josie Purcell, Kilcrea Park.
 Seán McCarthy, Dunmanway.
 Jerry Buckley, Meelin

THE SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading: 2 Chronicles 36: 14-16, 19-23
 The Sacred Writer sees the misfortunes of God's people as a well deserved punishment for their infidelity and sins. The King of Babylon (present day Iraq) conquered them, burned the Temple and took them away to his country between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers where they languished for seventy years. God, however, did not abandon his people. He brought about their liberation when the Persians came to power (present day Iran) and liberated them.

Second Reading: Ephesians 2: 4-10
 Just as God liberated and purified his people by sending the King of Persia to help them so he sent his only Son Jesus to liberate us from our sins. We did nothing to deserve this great gift. We are God's work of art.

Gospel: John 3: 14-21
 Salvation not judgment is the direct purpose of the mission of the Son of God. Men make their own judgment by their attitude to him. He who believes incurs no damnation. The unbeliever is already in a state of damnation because he has established himself as an unbeliever in the mission of Jesus. The person who confesses and accuses his sins is already on the side of God.

Come to Lourdes as a Young Adult Helper in September
 A special Information Evening will take place in Mardyke House, Cork, (T12 W8RP) for those aged between 18 and 25, who would like to travel with the Diocese of Cork and Ross to Lourdes (Sept 20th to 25th) as a Young Adult Helper. The Information Meeting will begin at 7pm on Tuesday 12th March. It is a wonderful opportunity for a young person to help those pilgrims who require assistance and to grow deeper in their faith by experiencing the unique spirituality of Lourdes. For more information call Sheila on (021) 490 2459 or email sheilakelleher@ucc.ie

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Fourth Week of Lent

10 Sunday 2 Chron 36:14-16, 19-23. Ps 136. Eph 2:4-10. Jn 3:14-21. Lect I: 281

11 Monday Is 65:17-21. Ps 29. Jn 4:43-54. Lect I: 290

12 Tuesday Ex. 47:1-9.12. Ps. 45. In. 5:1-3,5-16. Lect I:292

13 Wednesday Is. 49:8-15. Ps. 144. In. 5: 17 -30. Lect I: 294

14 Thursday Ex. 32:7 -14 Ps. 105 In. 5:31-47. Lect I:297

15 Friday Wis 2:1, 12-22. Ps 33. Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30. Lect I: 300

16 Saturday Jer 11:18-20. Ps 7. Jn 7:40-52. Lect I: 303

Next Sunday's Readings 17-March-2024
 Jer 31:31-34. Ps 50. Heb 5:7-9. Jn 12:20-30. Lect I: 310

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
6:00 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 pm to 4 pm 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.

Envelope Collection
 The Irish Bishop's Commissions Collection will be taken up at all Masses this weekend 9th/10th March.

Confirmation
 Congratulations to the girls of Scoil Mhuire who received the sacrament of confirmation recently. Sincere thanks to the parents and dedicated teachers who work diligently preparing young people for the sacrament.

Cork Lions Club

Cork Lions Club will be holding its annual Patrick's Hill Ball Run in aid of the People of Gaza and Local Cork Charities at 2pm on Monday March 18th. It is a fun family event and all are welcome. We will also be collecting old spectacles for recycling to the third world so bring along any old glasses and give them a new lease of life. Please support the fundraiser by buying balls on www.corklionsclub.ie