

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



St. Mary & St. John
Station Road

Sunday 21-April-2024

Fourth Sunday Of Easter
(Day of Prayer for Vocations)

Sometimes we can lose our sense of direction, we become the prey of empty fears and false pleasures. Today we are reminded that in Jesus we have someone who will always guide us right and protect us. If we listen to him and follow him we will have the fullest possible life.



Christ Our Light
Innishmore

Good Shepherd Sunday

The image of the shepherd was very important in both the Old and New Testaments. The Shepherd knew his sheep individually and called each one by name. A shepherd in those days walked ahead of the sheep seeking out safe pastures for them. The sheep followed the Shepherd, because they recognized his voice, and they trusted him. A lot of sacrifice was required of a person who was a shepherd since he was responsible for the total welfare of his flock of sheep - by guarding, feeding and protecting them. In the Gospel Jesus calls himself the Good Shepherd who lays down his life for his sheep - paying the ultimate sacrifice by freely dying on the Cross because of his great love for us. As our Shepherd, Jesus knows each one of us individually and continues to seek out those who may have strayed from God's path, promising to nurture and protect all entrusted to his care. Whenever we encounter difficulties in our life's journey, the presence of Jesus reassures us that we are not abandoned, he is there leading and guiding us.

Peter reminded his listeners in our first reading, that it is only in Jesus' name we are saved. We hear how he and John courageously answered their calling to serve the Lord. Having been arrested for preaching the resurrection of Jesus, and healing a cripple, they stood before the rulers, the elders and the scribes to account for their actions. Filled with the Holy Spirit, Peter responded that his good works were performed in the name of Jesus Christ.

Today is also World Day of Prayer for Vocations; a day when we are invited to reflect on the meaning of God's call to each of us and to pray for Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life. As baptised Christians all of us are called to know love and serve the Lord and be witnesses of His love in our lives. Today is an opportunity for each of us to reflect on how am I responding to God's call in my life right now? Where is God calling me to make my own unique contribution based on the particular gifts and talents God has given me? Each vocation challenges us to live our faith more deeply and to follow Christ more closely. As we celebrate Good Shepherd Sunday, let us pray to the Lord that we may follow His example of self-giving love.

Recruiting New Ministers of the Eucharist and Ministers of the Word

We would be very happy to hear from those who would like to become Ministers of the Word and Ministers of the Eucharist. Training will be provided. Please give your name to the Parish Office by email or text by Wednesday 24th April. Tel.: 089 400 8181 or ballincolligparish@gmail.com

Thinking about the Diocesan Priesthood?

There is a special Come and See afternoon for men aged between 18 and 40 who may be thinking about Priesthood for the Diocese of Cork and Ross. It will take place from 2-5pm on Sunday April 28th in Mardyke House, Cork City (T12 W8RP). The afternoon will include time for prayer, reflection, discussion and a social dimension.

For more information email vocations@corkandross.org

Part-Time Administrator for Ballincollig Parish Office

'Ballincollig Parish office requires an administrator. Good computers skills required to help maintain office services. Dealing with emails, letters, filing systems. and taking messages. Databases and record keeping of financial and personal information.' Person must be eligible for Community Employment. Closing date to apply for position 24/05/2024. Any questions, please contact Ballincollig Youth & Social Project on 087 183 2033.



Thought for Today

Jesus speaks of the freedom of the Good Shepherd in laying down his life. Faced with the needs of others, we can at times feel trapped into looking after them, caught by duty, obligation or guilt. We can become like the hired hands that do a job without care for the person. Perhaps you have experienced both attitudes, caring for others under duress and by free choice. What difference did it make when you chose to care for the other, even in circumstances where you had little option?

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

The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.

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 :
Seán O'Leary, Ballincollig/Friar's Walk.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS OF THE FOLLOWING WHOSE ANNIVERSARY OCCURS OR OTHERWISE REMEMBERED:
John O'Mahony, Carriganarra.
Christy O'Mahony, Carriganarra.
Margaret and Patrick Kennedy, Curraheen.
Breda Murphy, Inniscarra View.
Michael Crowley, Inniscarra View.
Tom Madigan, Ballincollig.
Eily Hamberger, London.
Tom Callaghan, Maple Lawn.
Dec. Mem. of the Troy & O'Herlihy families, Thurles & Tara Lawn.
Christy & John O'Mahony, Carriganarra.
Dec. Mem. of the Kinsella family.
Frank & Nan Kavanagh, Leemount.
Nora & Paddy Lucey, Carriganarra.
May Murphy, Blarney.
Michael O'Connor, Carrigrohane.
Alice, Mary, Catherine & Eddie Duncan, Omagh & Donegal.
John & Sheila McCarthy & their son Anthony McCarthy.
Harry & Noreen Lane, Pouladuff.
Sheila & Hughie Courtney, Glincool.
Lilly Dennis, Castlepark.
Aidan & Maureen Burke & family, Southern Road.
Jeremiah & Catherine Cunningham, Dillon's Cross.
Denis & Nora O'Leary.
Donal O'Sullivan. Kilcorney.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Fourth Week Of Easter

- 21 Sunday Acts 4:8-12. Ps 117. 1 in 3:1-2. Jn 10:11-18. Lect I: 490
- 22 Monday Acts 1:1-18. Ps 41. Jn 10:1-10. Lect I: 496
- 23 Tuesday Acts 11:19-26. Ps 86. in. 10:22-30. Lect I: 499
- 24 Wednesday 1 Jn 1:5-2:2. Ps. 102. Mt. 11 :25-30. Lect II: 1009
- 25 Thursday Acts 13:13-25. Ps 88. Jn 13:16-20. Lect I: 503
- 26 Friday Acts 13:26-33. Ps 2. Jn 14:1-6. Lect I: 505
- 27 Saturday 13 Saturday Acts 13:44-52. Ps 97. Jn 4:7-14. Lect I: 508

Next Sunday's Readings 28-April-2024

Acts 9:26-31. Ps 21. 1 Jn 3:18-24. Jn 15:1-8. Lect I: 514

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) |

THE SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading: Acts 4: 8-12
Peter, who had once trembled before a servant maid is now fearless before the High Priest through the grace of the Holy Spirit as Jesus had promised. Instead of defending himself he preaches the new Faith. Salvation comes through the person of Christ, not through the rigorous observation of the Law, as the Jews believed.

Second Reading: 1 John 3: 1-2
Because God has adopted the faithful into his family the world hates them. But the adoption entitles them to a future state of glory, like that of God himself. The true nature of this glorification is not yet clear; but after this life faith will give way to the vision of God.

Gospel: John 10: 11-18
The image of the shepherd and the sheep is taken from many passages in the Old Testament. The single sentence "I am the good shepherd" would have called up much of sacred scripture for those listening to Jesus. In this lovely poetic passage, Jesus speaks of the affection that unites him with his followers. He looks beyond the Jewish nation to the whole gentile world where "the other sheep" await the call of the good shepherd. So much does the Good Shepherd love his sheep that he is prepared to lay down his life for them.

Darkness into Light 2024

Darkness into Light 2024 will take place on the morning of Saturday May 11th 2024. The walk will leave from Ballincollig Community School at 4.15 am. You can register online. All support will be greatly appreciated.

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.

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.

Diocesan Envelope Collection

The last Diocesan Needs Quarterly Collection in January 2024 amounted to €51,765 throughout the Diocese, which is much appreciated. The next quarterly collection will take place on this weekend of 20th/21st April 2024. This quarterly collection allows the Diocese to provide important ongoing supports to parishes in many areas from Education, School Religious Advisory, Mission & Ministry, Youth Ministry, and Governance such as Data Protection, Safeguarding and Finance as well as the related staff costs and ongoing utilities. People continue to be very generous to these quarterly collections over the years, for which the Diocese is most grateful. Your support to this weekend's collection would be greatly appreciated.

First Holy Communion

Please pray for the boys in Scoil Eoin who will receive the sacrament of Holy Communion on Saturday, 27th April. Sincere thanks to the parents and dedicated teachers who work diligently preparing young people for the sacrament.