

# THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



St. Mary & St. John  
Station Road

Sunday 28-April-2024

## Fifth Sunday of Easter

*Part of the great revelation of the New Testament is the notion that God is coming among us to make all things new; that means removing all the causes of guilt and grief in human life. We show our acceptance of this renewal of our lives by our love for one another.*



Christ Our Light  
Innishmore

## Taizé – Life in the Spirit

A couple of weeks ago, I travelled to Taizé in France with a group of 5th Year students. It's a place which many people in Ballincollig and environs have heard about through the late Father George O'Mahony PP. For several years, he brought groups of young people there to experience a time of prayer and reflection, and to meet hundreds of other young people from across Europe who were likewise exploring their faith. It was my first time there and it was a special experience that moved me greatly. I can also assure you it was a real pilgrimage! Our accommodation consisted of bunk beds and the food was practically vegetarian, consumed from a plastic bowl and with a spoon! Each day, we prayed with the brothers three times a day, using their famous Taizé chants, had Bible reflection, and everyone found a job to do. I was preparing picnics while others cooked or cleaned or mended benches.

What amazed me was how content people felt; the simplicity of our time there helped everyone to unburden and have deeper conversations with each other or in prayer. With fewer distractions, everyone, young and old, felt free to be themselves. That might sound like a platitude, but in fact it can be rare in a world of rush and constant comparison. I'm hopeful to bring groups from Ballincollig there, beginning next year. Father George has left us a great legacy: let's continue to build on it.

In other news, the parish is hosting a 'Life in the Spirit' seminar, beginning the evening of Friday May 10th in the Church of Christ Our Light. This is a 6-week course for those who would like to explore further their faith or perhaps reawaken a dormant faith. Pope Francis has asked that every parish run this course, so we are very pleased to be able to offer it here. More details to follow here and at the Sunday Masses.

God bless. Fr. Ronan Sheehan

### Recruiting Cleaners (St. Mary & St. John's Church)

*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. Volunteers required for Church cleaning in St. Mary & St. John's Church. Monday nights usually @ 7pm – duration approx. 1 hour. Please give your name to the Parish Office by email or text. 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

### Thought for Today

We forget that the vine needs to be pruned. When Jesus was tempted in the desert, the temptation was to rely on prosperity, prestige and power. By resisting that temptation he showed us that we need to be pruned of our self-reliance in order to put our trust in God alone.

### Life in the Spirit

Ballincollig Parish is delighted to host a 'Life in the Spirit' seminar across six Friday evenings, beginning Friday May 10th. Each evening begins at 8 pm and concludes with tea and refreshments at 9:30 p.m. These will take place in the Church of Christ Our Light on Fridays May 10th, 17th, and 24th. Open to adults seeking to explore further their faith and how God is alive today in our lives. Each night includes prayer, music, and talks from an experienced team of lay people. Registration not required. For further information, email Father Ronan: fr.ronan2022@gmail.com

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

*You, Lord, are my praise in the great assembly.*

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

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

Noel Ferriter, Cherry Walk.  
Mary Geaney, Farran/Ballincollig.  
Seán O'Donovan, Glasheen/Drimoleague.

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

Phil Collins, West Village.  
Fr. George O'Mahony.  
Noreen Cronin, Bishopstown.  
John Meehan, Cork/Glasgow.  
Ann O'Sullivan, Minister's Cross.  
Frank Brennan, Ovens.  
Dec. Mem. of the Riordan family, Glasheen/Oxford.  
Maureen O'Brien.  
Noel Murphy.

*THE SUNDAY READINGS*

First Reading: Acts 9: 26-31  
When St. Stephen was stoned to death because of his preaching Paul (then known as Saul) was in charge of the execution. Now, however, after his conversion on the road to Damascus, he returns to Jerusalem and takes up where Stephen left off: preaching the same message. Again this preaching arouses the same fury and the Disciples, fearing for his life, sent him away to his home town of Tarsus.

Second Reading: 1 John 3: 18-24  
Love of God and of the neighbour are inseparable. In practising either we must not rest satisfied with expressions of devotion and good will. Only when charity is active does conscience assure us that we are leading sincere Christian lives. Two things sum up what is most pleasing to God; faith in the divine personality of Jesus Christ and brotherly love according to Christ's instructions.

Gospel: John 15: 1-8  
In this allegory the cultivation of the vine is attributed to God the Father. A fruitless branch is lopped off like Judas. The pruning clean of the Apostles is the result of the words Jesus spoke to them. A separated vine branch is useless. It is destined for the fire. Fruitfulness and discipleship go together.

**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.

**Ovens Parish Vacancy**

A vacancy will arise shortly in Ovens Church for the separate part time posts of: 1. Sacristan, 2. Secretary. For further details, applicants to apply in writing to the Parish Office, St. John the Baptist Church, Ovens on or before May 7th.

**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.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**Fifth Week Of Easter**

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

29 Monday 1 Jn 1:5-2:2. Ps. 102. Mt. 11 :25-30. Lect II: 1009

30 Tuesday Acts 14:19-28. Ps 144. Jn 14:27-31. Lect I: 522

01 Wednesday Acts 15:1-6. Ps 121. Jn 15:1-8. Lect I: 524

02 Thursday Acts 15:7-21. Ps. 95. Jn. 15:9-11. Lect I: 526

03 Friday 1 Cor 15:1-8. Ps. 18. Jn. 14:6-14. Lect II: 1017

04 Saturday Acts 16:1-10. Ps 99. Jn 15:18-21. Lect I: 531

**Next Sunday's Readings 05-May-2024**

Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48. Ps 97 1 Jn 4:7-10. Jn 15: 9-17. Lect I: 536

**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 & 7:30 pm	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.

**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 quarterly collection in aid of the Diocesan Funds which was taken up at all Masses last weekend amounted to €1,570. We appreciate your continued generosity.

**First Friday**

Friday 3rd May 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.

**First Holy Communion**

Congratulations to the boys in Scoil Eoin who will receive the sacrament of Holy Communion this weekend. Sincere thanks to the parents and dedicated teachers who work diligently preparing young people for the sacrament.