

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



St. Mary & St. John
Station Road

Sunday 08-December-2024

Second Sunday of Advent

When God comes, he comes with power but also with compassion restoring all things. We can prepare the way of his coming with lives of holiness.



Christ Our Light
Innishmore

West End Experience in Ballincollig

I realise Ballincollig already has a *West End* towards Coolroe, but for a few days last week it felt like London's *West End* had shifted towards Poulavone. On Monday evening, I was fortunate enough to get to see the Transition Year students of Coláiste Choilm's production of 'Billy Elliot'. You might have seen the film from 2000 or the subsequent musical production. Its story, raw emotion, chalky language, and humour rarely fail to capture one's attention, and Coláiste Choilm's version didn't disappoint.

To put things tersely, the production was first-class: an exhilarating gala of song, dance, and stage management. I could go on, but I wish only to draw out a couple of ideas for *The Ballincollig Parishioner* that I thought could be insightful for any of us, especially this Advent.

The first is the realisation that such talent could exist right here in Ballincollig and environs. Most of the TY students with whom I spoke afterwards said they hadn't been involved with drama formally before this. It's like the potential was within them and needed only to be given the necessary opportunity and the encouragement in order to be realised. I've often thought similarly of people's spiritual lives – always there, but only sometimes engaged with and expressed. We could rightly ask, how, as a parish, can we give more people the opportunity and the encouragement to awaken their God-given spiritual depths? This Advent might be a time for each of us to tap into afresh our own spiritual potential and awaken to our spiritual gifts.

My second thought refers more to the plot of 'Billy Elliot'. Set during the coal strikes of Thatcher's Britain in 1984-85, there's a creative tension at play between the themes of solidarity (as a member of a community of striking miners) and individuality (as a would-be male ballet dancer). It's a tension each of us has to face: to be true to ourselves and yet to belong to something beyond ourselves. If we emphasise one to the exclusion of the other, we're left with either repression, on the one hand, or self-absorption on the other. The Christian vision is to celebrate our individual lives as God's works of art, never to be recreated or copied. And yet marking this doesn't negate that we belong to something bigger than ourselves and can feel at home in our families, our schools, and our Church, just as we are.

So, well done to all involved in 'Billy Elliot'. May we always have the arts to help us understand ourselves.

God bless, Fr Ronan Sheehan CC

The St John's Conference of St Vincent de Paul

The SVP Annual Christmas Collection will be taken up at all Masses this weekend the 7th / 8th December. May we take this opportunity to thank our priests, sacristans, our church gate collectors, the indoor church collectors and all who help in various ways and to whom we are greatly indebted. We wish you all, Peace and Goodness for Christmas. "Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."

SVP Ballincollig

The Solemnity of The Immaculate

Conception is transferred to

Monday, 9th of December.

Mass Times:

St. Mary & St. John Church: Monday 9th December

10.00am

Christ Our Light Church: Monday 9th December 7.30pm

Sunday Masses on the 8th December are as normal.

Second Sunday of Advent

Lord, may we be open to Your healing grace as we take another step, preparing for You in our hearts. "Let us see, O Lord, Your mercy, And give us Your saving Help"



The Advent Wreath

The second purple candle represents faith and is called "Bethlehem's Candle." Micah had foretold that the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem, which is also the birthplace of King David.

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

What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.

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 :

Pat Barry, Muskerry Est.
Pawel Put, Classis Lake.
Vale Graham, Dublin.
Edward Burke, Bishopstown.

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

Mary Anne Sheehan, Kilcorney.
Christy Callanan, Muskerry Est.
Michael Naughton, Farranree.
John & Lena Gaffney, Carrigrohane.
Eva McCarthy, Raheen.
Tom & Mary Drinan, Waterfall.
Paddy & Norah Barry, Redemption Rd.
Pat Barry, Mayfield.
Jamsie & Peg Cotter, Ballingeary.
Brendan O’Sullivan, Glendower.
Sonny & Kathleen Murray, Carrigrohane Rd.
Dec. mem. of the Barrett family, Kilcrea Park.
Timothy O’Callaghan, Ballingulley.
Donal O’Mahony, Ballinshoneen.
Máirtín De Nógla, Wyndham Downs.
Jerry & Brian O’Sullivan, Woodleigh Park.
Denis O’Callaghan, Dripsey.
Agnes Kavanagh, Fr. Sexton Park.
The Emperor & Murphy families, Rockchapel.
Teddy O’Callaghan, Sunnyside, Carrigrohane.
Christine & Kerin Roderick.
Esther Sheahan, Ashford, Co Limerick.
Dec. mem. of the Vaughan families, Kilnamartyra.
Eddie & Andrew Delmer, Kildare.
Michael, Rita, David & John Barry, Ladysbridge.
Philip & Nora Holland, Bishopstown.
Bernard Flanagan & his son Richard.
Tom & Nora Ryan, West Village.
Marsie Curling, Muskerry Estate.
Daniel Downey, Castle Park.
Clare O’Brien, Skibbereen.
Con Kerins, Castleknock.

Celebrating Altar Servers

Altar servers are a really important ministry in each of our Parishes. Since Covid some Parishes have struggled to reengage Altar Servers. The Office for Mission and Ministry and the Coordinator for Youth Ministry are looking at ways of supporting Parishes to develop or introduce Altar Servers. A first step is to gather with all of our Altar Servers and those priests and adult volunteers who look after them to celebrate Altar Serving in a fun atmosphere and to look at how we can together develop this ministry. We are gathering on Sunday, December 8th from 2.30pm to 4.00pm in Ballincollig Parish Centre, Station Road, Ballincollig, Cork. P31 KV63.

Jubilee Pilgrimage to Rome & Assisi
13th June 2025, 7 nights ex Cork. Spiritual Director Canon Martin Keohane. For further details, Karen Callaghan Barter's Travelnet 021 4851700 or kcallaghan@travelnet.ie.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Second Week Of Advent

08 Sunday Bar. 5:1-9. Ps 125. Phil. 1 :3-6,8-11. Lk. 3:1-6. Lect I: 30
09 Monday Is. 35:1-10. Ps. 84. Lk. 5:17-26. Lect I: 33
10 Tuesday Is. 40:1-11. Ps. 95. Mt. 18:12-14. Lect I: 35
11 Wednesday Is 40:25-31. Ps. 102. Mt. 11 :28-30. Lect I: 38
12 Thursday Is. 41:13-20. Ps. 144. Mt .11:11-15. Lect I: 40
13 Friday Is. 48:17-19. Ps. 1. Mt. 11:16-19. Lect I: 42
14 Saturday Eccles. (Sir) 48:1-4,9-11. Ps. 79. Mt. 17:10-13. Lect I: 44

Next Sunday’s Readings 15-December-2024

Zech. 3: 14-18. Ps. Is. 12. Phil. 4:4-7. Lk. 3: 10.18. Lect I: 51

MASS TIMES

| St. Mary & St. John | | Christ Our Light |
|---------------------|-----------|------------------|
| 8:30 am, 10 am | Sunday | 11 am, 12:30 pm |
| 9:30 am | Monday | No Mass |
| 9:30 am | Tuesday | No Mass |
| 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 and suitable for Coeliac’s. 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 in the Ballincollig Community Hall on Tuesday mornings after 9.30am Mass. New members welcome.

Offertory Collection Boxes

The Offertory Collection is solely for the upkeep, maintenance, insurance, lighting, heating and related expenses of both churches. Could the people who have a box number allocated to them, please collect them from Sonas, Station Road. Mon. – Wed. 9.30am – 12.30pm? Postcode: P31 V443.

Carol Service

A carol service will be held in Christ our Light Church of on Sunday 15th December, at 7.00pm.

Ballincollig Parish Penitential Service

Monday 16th December in Christ Our Light Church at 7.30pm.

Ovens/Farran Parish Penitential Service

Sunday 15th December in St. John the Baptism Church, Ovens at 6.00pm.

Ballinora Parish Penitential Service

Tuesday 17th December in St. James’ Church at 7.30pm.