

# THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



St. Mary & St. John  
Station Road

Sunday 05-January-2025

## Second Sunday After Christmas

*God's plan for the world, the mysterious purpose of existence, is unveiled by the coming of Christ. God wants it to be known and it will be known, by all who follow the light of faith leading them to Christ.*



Christ Our Light  
Innishmore

## Tomorrow - Feast of the Epiphany - Magi

Today we gather on the Second Sunday of Christmas to celebrate the Word made flesh that came to dwell among us as a man. We ask for the grace to bear witness to the Son of God in our lives.

Tomorrow Monday 6th January, we celebrate The Feast of the Epiphany. "Epiphany" is a word of Greek origin, relating to such English words as "theophany", "phenotype" and "phenomenon". It means an appearance, a displaying, a showing forth, a making clear or public or obvious. On this day, Christians have traditionally celebrated the making known of Jesus Christ to the world.

Several events have been thought of as special instances of the making known of Our Lord, such as: His birth; the coming of the Magi; his Baptism; His first miracle at Cana. Current majority usage, at least in the West, celebrates His birth on December 25th, the coming of the Magi on January 6th, and His Baptism on the next Sunday January 12th. On the following Sundays up to the beginning of Lent, we remember Our Lord's public preaching of the kingdom, particularly the earlier stages of that preaching when opposition had not yet crystallised. On the Last Sunday after Epiphany (the Sunday before Lent), we commemorate the Transfiguration, the climax of this first phase of our Lord's public ministry.

Tomorrow, then, we commemorate the visit of the Magi, a token of the day when all the peoples of the earth will acknowledge Jesus Christ as Lord, God and Saviour. The visit of the Magi is recorded in the second chapter of Matthew.

Christian writers have interpreted the gold as a sign that Jesus is King, the Frankincense as a sign that He is God, and the myrrh (used in embalming) as a sign that He is by His death and Resurrection the Saviour of the world. This imagery is found in the song, "We three Kings of Orient Are". The three gifts are also understood as a sign of three responses that we ought to make to Christ.



### Reflection for Parents

There are many people, opportunities, and circumstances that guide our families. Talk together about what "stars" lead you as a family. Continue the discussion by reflecting on what gifts you have to offer Jesus. Help your children remember that what we give to others is what we give to Jesus. How will your family share your gifts for Jesus?

### Thank You

Sincere thanks to the many people who gave their time throughout the year -, Altar Society, Altar Servers, Choir, Cantors, Folk Group, Ministers of the Word, Ministers of the Eucharist, Collectors, Cleaners, Parish Council, The Parishioner and Parish Council Sub Groups, people who distributed dues envelopes and the various flyers throughout the year, the Sacristans in both Churches. Thanks to the people of the Parish for their generous support to the Priests of the Parish during the past year. Your support is much appreciated. We wish you and your families a happy New Year.

### Best Wishes For A Happy New Year

*The priests of the parish join in sending New Year greetings to all members of the parish and to all readers of the Ballincollig Parishioner*

*Fr's Alan O'Leary, Ronan Sheehan & Deacon Frank McKeivitt.*

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

**All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.**

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 :

Christina (Chris) Kavanagh, Beech Park, Ballincollig.  
Jamie O' Dwyer, Ballincollig.  
David (Dave) O'Riordan, Macroom / Ballincollig.  
Noirin Sweeney, Ballincollig, Cork  
Thomas (Tom) Geary, Ballincollig.  
John O'Regan, Rosscarbery / Ballincollig.  
Agnes Theron, La Sarrouquie, Drulhe, France, / Station Road.  
Frances Riordan, Ballinlough / Ballincollig.  
Conor Gavin, Dublin/Meath.

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

Denis & Rita Murphy, Fr Sexton Park.  
Mary Cahalane, Holly Road.  
Martin O'Regan, Leemount/Crookstown.  
Kitty Murphy, East Cottage, Greenfields.  
Nora Hickey, Aherla.  
Suraj Savio, India.  
Catherine O'Sullivan, Kilmichael.  
Paddy O'Leary, Coolroe.  
Noreen & Benny Carew.

**THE SUNDAY READINGS**

First Reading 1 Isaiah 60:1-6  
What a vision the prophet gives us of the way life should be, and one day shall be! He sees a new Jerusalem bursting in the future with the riches and abundant life of the Lord. Pilgrims from every nation stream into the holy city to praise God, who has called them home. Their hearts throb with wonder, joy, and gratitude. For Christians, the new Jerusalem is understood as a symbol of the universal Church. The Church gathers God's people from east and west, north and south, to worship together and present their gifts to the Lord.

Second Reading: Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6  
A message similar to that of the first reading is given to the people of Ephesus: the good news of Jesus is meant for all people, not just a few. All people are called to share in the promise of Jesus Christ.

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12  
Today we celebrate the showing forth (epiphany) of Jesus to the nations beyond Israel. When astrologers, or magi, from the East saw a new star appear in the sky, they accepted it as a sign that a great leader had been born. Without knowing where the star would lead them or what they would find, the magi set out bearing gifts. Their faith and courage were rewarded when God revealed to them his own Son.

**A New Year**

The New Year while offering us the promise of a new future can also call us back to the love we had for Jesus in more innocent days just as old friendships call to us from the past. Mary Cole-ridge puts that thought nicely in one of her poems:

**Time brought me many another friend  
That loved me longer.  
New love was kind, but in the end  
Old love was stronger.  
Years come and go. No New Year yet  
Hath slain December.  
And all that should have cried - "Forget!"  
Cries but - "Remember!"**

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**Second Sunday after Christmas**

05 Sunday Eccles. (Sir) 24: 1-2, 8-12. Ps. 147. Eph. 1 :3-6, 15-18. Jn. 1:1-18. Lect I:141  
06 Monday Is. 60:1-6. Ps. 71. Eph. 3:2-3, 5-6. Mt. 2:1-12. Lect I: 161  
07 Tuesday 1 Jn. 3:22-4:6. Ps. 2. Mt. 4: 12-17, 23-25. Lect I: 164  
08 Wednesday 1 Jn. 4:7-10. Ps. 71. Mk. 6:34-44. Lect I: 166  
09 Thursday 1 Jn 4:11-18. Ps 71. Mk 6:45-52. Lect I: 168  
10 Friday 1 Jn 4:19-5:4. Ps 71. Lk 4:14-22. Lect I: 171  
11 Saturday 1 Jn 5:5-13. Ps 147. Lk 5:12-16. Lect I: 173

**Next Sunday's Readings 12-January-2025**

Is. 42:1-4, 6-7. Ps. 28. Acts. 10:34-38. Mt. 3:13-17. Lect I: 179 or 639

**MASS TIMES**

| St. Mary & St. John |           | Christ Our Light |
|---------------------|-----------|------------------|
| 8:30 am, 10 am      | Sunday    | 11 am, 12:30 pm  |
| 10 am               | Monday    | 7:30 pm          |
| 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**

**Christmas Collection**

The Priests of the Parish, Fr. Alan & Fr. Ronan would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your generosity in the Christmas Eve and Christmas day collection for the Priests of the Parish. Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

**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.

**The Feast of The Epiphany**

Mass Times:  
St. Mary & St. John's Church  
Monday 6th January 10.00am

Christ Our Light Church  
Monday 6th January 7.30pm