

# THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



St. Mary & St. John

Sunday 09-March-2025

First Sunday of Lent

*As Lent begins we are reminded of Adam's fall from grace and of the reality of sin in human life, we are also reminded that Christ is the new Adam overcoming temptation in himself and so making possible a new life, a new humanity for those who belong to him.*



Christ Our Light Innishmore

## Our Lenten Journey

In the Gospel today we hear of Jesus being led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil for forty days. Being filled with the Holy Spirit and the assurance of being loved by his Father, he receives the strength and courage to reject the temptations of the devil.

As we begin our Lenten Journey in preparation for Easter, let us pray that we too may be open to allowing the Spirit to lead us. The "wilderness," can refer to the times we experience trials and temptations in our own lives. None of us like being in the 'wilderness' - it can be a lonely and painful place; a place of confusion and questioning; we may experience loss of purpose or direction in life. No matter what our struggles and temptations, let us remember that Jesus was not left to battle it alone and neither are we. Our heavenly Father who loves us will protect us in the midst of all our struggles. As St Paul says in our second reading today: 'everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved'.

Lent is also an opportunity to reflect on our own spiritual journey. Perhaps we may want to make a commitment to set aside time for quiet prayer, reflecting on God's word in Scripture, daily Mass, Stations of the Cross or whatever one is drawn to. Our relationship with God is so often tested. Sometimes it may happen that just when we set time aside for prayer, that something often crops up - we remember some job to be done or a phone call to be made! The devil remains just as active today and will do almost anything to keep us from praying.

The cross we carry each day may be overwhelming at times, but let us remember we are never alone. Jesus, who knew what it was to be tested and who carried his own cross, is on this journey with us and very much wanting to support and care for us. Jesus invites us to join him on the journey to Jerusalem during this Lent, uniting our own sufferings with his and to look forward with joy and hope to the celebration of his Resurrection. Let us pray for one another that during these days of Lent each of us will receive the grace of a deepening relationship with the Lord.

## Cork and Ross Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2025

The diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes this year will take place from Friday 19th September to Wednesday 24th September. We will fly from Cork to Lourdes. Bookings are now open with Joe Walsh Tours on 01 2410 800 for anyone wishing as a pilgrim.

Volunteers are also required: Doctors, Nurses, Care Assistants and Helpers (Adults and Young Adults aged between 18 to 25 years). For General Enquiries contact 085 2525 040 or Email: [lourdes@corkandross.org](mailto:lourdes@corkandross.org)

## Family Mass

Our next Family Mass will be celebrated at 12.30p.m. in Christ our Light church on Sunday, 16th March. Our Family Mass gives all family members an opportunity to attend and enjoy Mass together as a Family on a regular basis. It gives everyone the opportunity to experience the strength and support that God gives us through Mass and in particular through the Eucharist in which Jesus comes to us in a very real way. We look forward to welcoming everyone and families to this Mass.

Heavenly Father, we thank You for the loving service of Pope Francis and the hope he has inspired in so many through Your great mercy. We pray for Your mercy on him during his illness and ask that You guide the medical staff caring for him. Please grant him peace and healing. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.



POPE FRANCIS

## Reflection for Parents

What you can do for Lent with your children? Jesus' temptations are about power, power over people's hearts. If hungry people are to be fed, if society is going to change, he wants us to help, not by overwhelming force but by working humbly with him. Can we support our brothers and sisters who are hungry through small changes in our daily lives?. On Ash Wednesday we began our Lenten journey. As we gather together as a community today, we take time to step back from our often busy lives, to reflect on the Gospel and to pray for spiritual renewal.



Parish Number for Priest on Duty is: 087 4021357

*Be with me, O Lord, in my distress.*

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

Amanda Parkes, Bishopstown.  
Maggie O'Sullivan, Innishannon.  
Ray Ryan, Glanmire.  
Joan Harrington, Carrigrohane.

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

Peggy McCarthy, The Crescent.  
Sheila O'Reilly, Poulavone.  
Eugene & Margaret Teahan, Killarney.  
Tadgh & Ellen O'Donovan, Kilmurray.  
Vincent Manley, Glincool.  
Michael Doyle, Pine Walk.  
Robert Cuthbert, Douglas.  
Charlie Dwane, Pine Walk.  
Seán O'Callaghan, Carrigrohane.  
Colm Cremin, Blarney.  
Maurice Galvin, Carriganarra.  
Kathleen Murphy, Firmount.  
Josie Purcell, Kilcrea Park.

First Reading: Deuteronomy 26:4-10  
The Israelite people gather during the Feast of Unleavened Bread to offer the first fruits of their harvest and retell the story of their salvation.

Second Reading: Romans 10:8-13  
Paul sends this letter to the people of Rome to remind them of the simple formula for salvation; belief and confession. He promises that all those who call on the Lord will be saved.

Gospel: Luke 4:1-13  
Each year, at the beginning of Lent, we hear the story of the devil tempting Jesus in the desert. This year we hear Luke's version. Following his baptism, Jesus went out into the desert for forty days during which time he ate nothing. Knowing that Jesus would be hungry, the devil tempted him to turn a stone into bread. When Jesus did not, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the earth, promising Jesus all the glory and power of them if Jesus would worship the devil. Again Jesus refused. Finally, Satan took Jesus to the top of the temple in Jerusalem and told him to jump because God's angels would save him. Jesus refused each of the three temptations by quoting scripture from the book of Deuteronomy thus making clear his obedience to God.

*The Missionaries of the Sacred Heart Lourdes Pilgrimage*  
The Missionaries of the Sacred Heart are going to Lourdes from the 25th-30th May 2025 from Cork. For more details please ring Mary at 021 454 6691 or email mary.morrish@mscmissions.ie

*Breakthrough Cancer Research*  
Have you ever dreamed of walking the Camino de Santiago? Breakthrough Cancer Research are taking on the 'Portuguese Way' from the 13th - 20th of June 2025. Starting in the charming town of Baiona, experience camaraderie and reflection as you walk toward Santiago de Compostela, creating lasting memories on this historic pilgrimage. You can enjoy this amazing adventure with our experienced guide and help Make More Survivors. For more information, please contact edel@breakcancer.ie or phone 021 422 66 55 for more details.

**Envelope Collection**  
The Irish Bishop's Commissions Collection will be taken up at all Masses this weekend 8th/9th March.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

First Week Of Lent

- 09 Sunday Deut. 26:4-10. Ps. 90. Ram. 10:8-13. Lk. 4:1-13. Lect I: 207
- 10 Monday Lev 19:1-2, 11-18. Ps 18. Mt 25:31-46. Lect I: 210
- 11 Tuesday Is. 55:10-11. Ps. 33. Mt. 6:7-15. Lect I: 212
- 12 Wednesday In. 3: 1-10. Ps. 50. Lk. 11 :29-32. Lect I: 214
- 13 Thursday Esther 14:1,3-5, 12-14 (Vulgate). Ps. 137. Mt. 7:7- 12.Lect I: 216
- 14 Friday Ex. 18:21-28. Ps. 129. Mt. 5:20-26. Lect I: 218
- 15 Saturday Deut. 26:16-19. Ps. 118. Mt. 5:43-48. Lect I: 221

Next Sunday's Readings 16-March-2025  
Gen. 15:5-12, 17 -18. Ps. 26. Phil. 3: 17 -4: 1. Lk. 9:28-36. Lect I: 228

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.

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**  
There will be Adoration 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

**Confirmation**  
Please pray for the boys and girls in Gaelscoil Uí Ríordáin who will receive the sacrament of Confirmation on Tuesday, 11th March. Sincere thanks to the parents and dedicated teachers who work diligently preparing young people for the sacrament.

**Mondays of Lent**  
There will be a short guided Meditation after Mass for approx. 10 mins. (for those who would like to remain in the church). Thank you to the Rosary group for allowing this to happen.

**Trocaire Boxes**  
Trocaire boxes are available at the back of both churches. Parishioners are asked to please take one and to make a weekly contribution during lent. Boxes will also be distributed to the schools.

**St. Patrick's Day Masses**

St. Mary & St. John's Church  
8.30am  
10.00am  
Christ our Light  
11.00am  
12.30pm (Will be celebrated in Irish)  
There are no vigil Masses because the vigil is a Sunday.