

# THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER

Sunday 25-May-2025



St. Mary & St. John

Sixth Sunday of Easter

*The night before He died Jesus promised the gift of the Spirit to his disciples. God the Father sends the Spirit to keep the word of Christ and for those who keep that word there is the great promise of Christ's peace - being at home with the Father and the Son.*



Christ Our Light  
Innishmore

## Jesus' Farewell Gift

The setting of today's Gospel is the night before Jesus' own suffering and death. He is preparing his disciples for his return to his Heavenly Father. All of us experience at some time in our lives the sadness and difficulty of 'letting go' of a loved one who is dying. The disciples are now facing the reality that Jesus will not be with them much longer. Jesus is very aware of their sadness, anxiety and fear and tells them 'Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid'. He goes on to reassure them that they will never be alone; that when he is no longer physically present with them, his Father will send the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, who will always be with them to help them and to remind them of all Jesus had said to them.

Jesus' farewell gift and wish for his disciples is a message of peace. "Peace I leave with you; my own peace I give to you." As Jesus prepared to return to his Father, and despite the suffering he knew he was facing, he received the strength to face the cross. He was at peace knowing he had accomplished the mission for which he was sent. When we remain faithful to God, during the times we face the cross in our own lives, we too will experience his peace.

Jesus also says, 'whoever loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we shall come to them and make our home with them'. I can ask myself in what ways do I love God? I love God by keeping his commandments; by nurturing my relationship with him - spending time in daily prayer; receiving the Sacraments; 'pondering his word' by setting aside time each day to read and reflect on a passage from the Bible; I love God by recognizing his presence in those I meet each day and by reaching out to those in need. It makes me realize if I'm really aware of God's indwelling in others, I will treat them with more reverence and respect. Let us invite God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit to come to us and to make their home in each of our hearts.

Jesus continues to offer us his gift of peace, a peace 'that the world cannot give'. Let us pray today for this gift of peace in our hearts, our homes and in our world.

## Thinking About the Diocesan Priesthood?

There is a "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 today Sunday May 25th 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](mailto:vocations@corkandross.org)

## Request For a Priest to Visit Sick People

Saint James tells us in the Bible, 'If any of you is sick, they should send for the priests of the church' (5:14). If you know someone who is sick or housebound, and would like a visit to their home from one of the priests of the parish, please send their details to me: [fr.ronan2022@gmail.com](mailto:fr.ronan2022@gmail.com).

Alternatively, you can give the person's details into the sacristy at Saint Mary and Saint John's Church. This could be either a one-off call or a more regular visit, for example on First Fridays, and can include those in nursing home settings also. Thank you for your help in relation to this request.

## Reflection for Parents

Today's Gospel is especially helpful when we have to explain death to our children. Jesus told his disciples that if they truly loved him, they would be happy that he was going to be with his Father. While the words are sometimes hard, even for us as we face a loss through death, our faith lets us know that Jesus and our loved ones are truly happy in a way we can't fully understand. Jesus offered the Spirit to the disciples because he knew the days ahead would be hard for them. It is that same Spirit that helps our families and us when we face hard days following a death. The greatest news in this reading is that Jesus will be back for us!



## Family of Parishes Ovens

Will meet on Thursday 29th May 7.30pm in Church of St. John the Baptist Ovens. Come help us to pray the rosary in honour of Our Lady of Hope during this Jubilee year. Hopefully if the weather is good we plan to be outdoors for part of this service. It will begin and end in the Church.

Parish Number for Priest on Duty is: 087 4021357

*Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.*

Visit Our Website: [www.ballinacolligparish.ie](http://www.ballinacolligparish.ie) or Facebook [www.facebook.com/BallinacolligParish](https://www.facebook.com/BallinacolligParish)

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

Sheila Hickey, Westgrove & Ovens  
Nora Diskin, Ivy Circle.  
Eddie Ring, Rosewood & Crosshaven.  
Tessie O'Neill, Castlemartyr.  
Ber Brennan, Cobh & Muskerry Estate.  
Breda Quealy, Old Quarter.  
**Bernadette Mulcahy Brennan, Muskerry Estate & Cobh.**  
Nuala Bowe-Maher, Two Mile Borris & Cashel, Co. Tipperary.

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

William & Catherine Ryan, St Anthony's Lawn.  
Seamus Casey, Ballinhassig.  
Michael Quealy, Kilnaglory.  
Mary O'Mahony, The Crescent  
Jerry O'Mahony, Dingle.  
Brendan Keohane, Ovens.  
Patrick (Paddy) O'Driscoll, Castlepark.  
Con Sexton, Hillsboro.  
Martin Moore, Beech Park.  
Eugene Barry Murphy, Farran.  
Denis O'Mahony, City West Mews.  
Piotr Pawel Urzcdowski, Poland.

First Reading: Acts 15:1-2. 22-29  
One problem in the early Church was whether Christ meant his message for the Gentiles or only for the Jews. The apostles met in council at Jerusalem and decided to preach to the whole world.

Second Reading: Apoc 21:10-14. 22-23  
The ancient Jews loved the city of Jerusalem, the site of the temple and the centre of their religion. In the Second Reading for today, John describes the Church as triumphant as a new and glorious city, the New Jerusalem. That new city is a symbol of the Church as she is today and she will be in the future.

Gospel: John 14:23-29.  
In this Gospel, Jesus prepared his disciples for his return to God. Jesus promised them that the Holy Spirit would live within them and provide strength and courage. The Spirit would always be available to help them as a counsellor and advocate. Through the Spirit, they would recall the words and teachings of Jesus and even come to understand these things in a way that they could not before. In addition the disciples would receive peace from the Spirit. The peace of the Spirit would be a "shalom" kind of peace which provided a special inner serenity.

### Radio Maria Ireland - Fundraising Appeal

Radio Maria Ireland receives no commercial advertising, no state funding, we rely totally on Divine Providence and the generosity of listeners. We are facing an extraordinary financial shortfall of €69,000. Without your help, we may not be able to pay our wonderful staff, who bring you daily Mass, Rosary, Adoration and Catholic teaching. We are launching our Miracle Appeal Day and we are praying for 69 people who could give €1,000 or 690 people who could give €100. Would you help sustain the mission of Radio Maria Ireland with a gift? Visit our website [www.radiomaria.ie](http://www.radiomaria.ie) to see how you can donate.

#### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

##### Sixth Week Of Easter

25 Sunday Acts 15:1-2,22-29. Ps. 66. Apoc. 21:10-14,22-23. Jn. 14:23-29. Lect I: 539

26 Monday Acts 16:11-15. Ps 149. Jn 15:26-16:4. Lect I: 542

27 Tuesday Acts 16:22-34. Ps. 137. Jn. 16:5-11. Lect I: 544

28 Wednesday Acts 17:15,22-18:1. Ps. 148. Jn. 16:12-15. Lect I: 546

29 Thursday Acts 18:1-8. Ps. 97. Jn. 16:16-20. Lect I: 560

30 Friday Acts 18:9-18. Ps. 46. Jn. 16:20-23. Lect I: 562

31 Saturday Acts 18:23-28. Ps. 46. Jn. 16:23-28. Lect I: 564

#### Next Sunday's Readings 01-June-2025

Acts 1: 1-11. Ps. 46. Eph. 1: 17-23 or Heb. 9:24-28, 10: 19-23. Lk. 24:46-53. Lect I:

#### 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 morning after 9.30am Mass. New members welcome.

##### First Holy Communion

Congratulations to the girls in Scoil Mhuire and the girls and boys in Scoil Barra who received their First Holy Communion this weekend. Sincere thanks to the parents and dedicated teachers who work diligently preparing young people for the sacrament.

##### Trocaire Boxes

Could people kindly return their Trocaire Boxes before 1st June?

#### Year of Prayer, Listening & Discernment Continuing the Journey

"Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening." (1 Samuel 3:10) The Diocesan Year of Prayer, Listening and Discernment continues to unfold. We are deeply grateful to all who took part in the recent sessions within our Families of Parishes. Your prayer, presence, and reflections have enriched this process. Over the coming weeks, the responses received are being carefully and prayerfully reviewed. This next stage—of reflection and discernment—will help determine the steps we are called to take together as a Diocese. We ask for your continued prayer that this next phase may be shaped by the wisdom of the Holy Spirit and a shared desire to respond to the call of Christ in our time.