

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER

Sunday 26-October-2025



St. Mary & St. John

Thirtieth Sunday In Ordinary Time

The Pharisees fault was not gratitude for doing good but contempt for those less successful, a lack of humility before the grace of God. Paul too could 'boast' and give thanks that he had kept the faith, but he recognised that this had not been simply his own doing but because 'the Lord stood by me.' We too should thank God for any good we have been able to do. It is with his help that we do it, and it gives us no grounds for complacency or a sense of superiority.



Christ Our Light
Innishmore

Feasts of All Saints & All Souls

We come to prayer for many reasons. Most often we pray because we have something to ask from God. We want healing, a solution to our problems, or an answer to some petition. At other times we come to prayer with the awareness that we are in need of God's forgiveness. It is this self-awareness and humble prayer we hear from the tax collector in today's Gospel: "God, be merciful to me, a sinner." How different it is to the prayer of the Pharisee who stands before God, speaking proudly of himself, thanking God that he is not like everyone else and especially not like the tax collector. Whereas, the tax collector, who acknowledged his sinfulness and asked God's forgiveness, went home justified in the eyes of God. Not so the Pharisee. Jesus tells us: "Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted." It can be so easy to see only the externals and judge others negatively. We are all sinners. At the beginning of Mass, we begin our prayer like the tax collector. We call to mind our sins, faults, and failings and ask the Lord for pardon and strength. We are saved not because of our own merit but because of God's mercy and forgiveness.

Next Saturday, we celebrate the Feast of All Saints, not just the canonized, but all people who have been faithful witnesses to the love of God during their life. We trust that our loved ones, relations and friends are among those who are now enjoying the glory and happiness of being face to face with God. Let us reflect on all those who have inspired us throughout their life and who have been examples to us of what it means to be a Christian. We thank God for the gift of their lives.

On Sunday All Souls Day, we commemorate all who have died. In the Preface for Christian death, we pray: 'Lord, for your faithful people, life is changed, not ended'. For the Christian, death is a door opening to admit his or her soul into eternal life. As we celebrate the sacred memory of all those dear to us, we pray for their eternal joy and peace.

"God, our creator and redeemer, by your power Christ conquered death and returned to you in glory. May all our loved ones who have gone before us in faith share his victory and enjoy the vision of your glory for ever."

The 4th Oireachtas Essay Competition

Aiste an Oireachtais

The Oireachtas Essay Competition/Aiste an Oireachtais is for Senior Cycle (Transition Year, 5th Year and 6th Year) and AS/A level students are invited to log on to the Competition website, www.oireachtasessay.ie/ www.aisteanoireachtais.ie, read the rules and register by 7 November 2025. Students need a Teacher in their school to support their registration. They are looking for essays in English or Irish (max 1,000 words) on the theme Is AI a threat to Democracy? / An Intleacht Shaorga: bagairt don daonlathas? and have €6,000 in prize money to give away. The closing date for submitting essays is 21 November 2025.

Special Remembrance Mass

There will be a Special Mass to remember all our loved ones who died during the past year on Friday November 7th at 7.30pm in St Mary & St John. All those who died from the Parish will be remembered at this Mass. Families who wish to have deceased family members (who died during the past twelve months) included in this Mass are invited to hand in their names to the Sacristy or Parish Office during the week. Please include a contact name, phone number and an address. Families and individuals are invited to partake in the Mass.

The November Novena for the Holy Souls

Sunday 2nd – Monday 10th November inclusive - There will be weekday morning Masses as usual (excluding Monday and Tuesday morning at Christ Our Light): in both churches during the Novena 8.30am in Christ our Light and 9.30am in St. Mary & St. John. There will also be evening Mass at 7.30pm in St. Mary & St John's church each day except Saturday and Sunday.

Reflection for Parents

We are very important in the lives of our children, but do we allow them to see us walk humbly with God? Do we allow them to see us on our knees and hear us admit our weaknesses to God? Consider how you might represent the tax collector to your children. How might they see you like this Pharisee?

In God's Tomorrow There Is Eternal Spring

All nature heeds the call of spring as God awakens everything, and all that seemed so dead and still experiences a sudden thrill as springtime lays a magic hand across god's vast and fertile land. oh, the joy in standing by to watch a sapphire springtime sky or see a fragile flower break through what just a day ago or two seemed barren ground still hard with frost, for in god's world, no life is lost, and flowers sleep beneath the ground, but when they hear spring's waking sound, they push themselves through layers of clay to reach the sunlight of god's day. and man and women, like flowers, too, must sleep until called from the darkened deep to live in that place where angels sing and where there is eternal spring.

Parish Number for Priest on Duty is: 087 4021357

This Poor Man Called; The Lord Heard Him.

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 :

Dan O'Callaghan, Galway/Clash, Ballincollig.
Tadgh O'Mullane, Kanturk.

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

Dan Collins, Westgate/Ovens.
Eileen Nolan, Borris, Co. Carlow.
Finbarr Harrington, Poulavone.
Beth Walsh, Inniscarra View.
Ann O'Connell, Westcliffe.
Neil O'Donoghue (Snr.), Inniscarra View.
May Chellew-Dobbyn, London/Main St.
Mary Sheehan, Listowel/Ballincollig.
Arthur Collins, Carrigrohane.
Michael Reilly, Mohill, Co Leitrim.
Breda O'Donoghue, West Village.
Marie O'Flaherty, Coolroe Meadows.
Pat Byrne, Westcourt Heights.
Mary Ellen Murphy, Wilton Rd.
Philomena Geraldine Murphy, Skibbereen.
Finbarr Harrington, Poulavone.
Michael & Mary McEvoy, Castlepark.

First Reading: Sirach 35:12-14, 16-19

God does not listen only to the powerful. If someone prays humbly and sincerely, God listens, and God acts.

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Paul says he has kept the faith and God stood by him. The conclusion to his life will be a crown of glory in heaven. That same promise is ours.

Gospel: Luke 18:9-14

From time to time our children live in a "me first world," but Jesus wasn't too impressed with the self-centeredness of the Pharisee in today's Gospel. The Pharisee was quite certain that he was a good and righteous man—better than most. For sure, he was better than the tax collector. But as Jesus often did in his teachings, he turned society's ideas upside down. It was really the humble tax collector recognizing his own sinfulness that Jesus said would be exalted.

Funeral Ministry Team Formation

The Office for Mission and Ministry will be offering three formation sessions for new teams and for new members of existing teams in the Parish Centre of Sacred Heart, Western Road, Cork on Tuesdays, October 14th and 21st and 28th from 7.30pm to 9.00pm. To register please visit <https://tinyurl.com/mission-ministry> or by contacting the Office directly at 021-7355517.

A thought for today

Perhaps the most radical statement Jesus ever made is "Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate".

Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Takes place October 1st-31st.
For further information, please log onto
www.breastcancerireland.com.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Thirtieth Week In Ordinary Time

26 Sunday Eccles (Sir) 35: 12-14, 16-19. Ps 32:2-3 Tim 4:6-8, 16-18. Lk 18:9-14. Lect I: 925

27 Monday Rom. 8:12-17. Ps. 67. Lk. 13:10-17. Lect II: 388

28 Tuesday Eph. 2:19-22. Ps. 18. Lk. 6:12-19. Lect II: 1242

29 Wednesday Rom 8:26-30. Ps 12. Lk 13:22-30. Lect II: 392

30 Thursday Rom. 8:31-39. Ps. 108. Lk. 13:31-35. Lect II: 394

31 Friday Rom. 9: 1-5. Ps. 147. Lk. 14: 1-6. Lect II: 396

01 Saturday Apoc 7:2-4, 9-14. Ps 23. 1 Jn 3:1-3. Mt 5:1-12. Lect I: 999 or II: 1244

Next Sunday's Readings 02-November-2025

Is 25:6-9. Ps 26. Rom 5:5-11. Mt 11:25-30. Lect I: 1002

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, 7:30 pm
(Vigil)

10:00 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 every Tuesday morning after 9.30am Mass in the Ballincollig Community Hall. New members welcome.

Envelope Collection Mission Sunday

The envelope collection for the propagation of the faith which was taken up at all churches last weekend amounted to €2,770. We appreciate your continued generosity.

Cemetery Masses

Mass in St. Oliver's Cemetery Sat. November 1st at 2pm. In the event of bad weather, Mass will take place in St. Mary & St. John's Church. Mass in St. Mary & St. John's Cemetery Sat. November 8th at 12 noon.

The blessing of the Graves at St. James Cemetery, Chetwynd, Togher (off Bandon Road) will take place on Sunday, 2nd November at 3.00pm. All are welcome.

Bank Holiday Monday

Monday October 27th - Morning Mass 9.30am in the Church of St Mary & St John only – There is no 8.30am Mass in Christ our Light Church.

The Feast of All Saints Day

Saturday 1st November Masses - Holy Day of Obligation
Christ Our Light Church
Vigil Mass Friday 31st October 7.30pm
St. Mary & St. John Church
Saturday 1st November 10.00am.