

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



St. Mary & St. John

Sunday 02-November-2025

All Souls Day

God is full of mercy: he waits patiently for our conversion. No matter how much we may have failed him, he still calls us and encourages us towards goodness.



Christ Our Light
Innishmore

The Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed.

Many people have a false idea of what a Saint is. For them, Saints are people who:

- ? Never committed a sin in their lives.
- ? We were always shining with virtue.
- ? Strong willed, humble, pure, who never lost their patience.
- ? Who never thought of themselves, but always of God and others.

This is a mistaken idea. It implies that the Saints were not born. They became Saints, undergoing a conversion – a change of heart that resulted in a change of life. This change did not happen overnight but was the result of a long and painful struggle.

The change of heart that we call conversion (which every Saint underwent) is very clearly seen in the lives of some of the greatest names in the Church's register of Saints: Francis of Assisi; Augustine of Hippo; Paul of Tarsus; Joan of Arc; each of these at a certain moment in their lives heard the words of Christ:

"Repent and believe the Good News".

This is why the lives of the Saints, the "little ones" as well as the "big ones", are such a great challenge to us. We cannot read about them without experiencing a great call to conversion – a call to rethink our basic attitudes to life, to redefine our goals, to confront our sinfulness and to throw ourselves open to God's mercy and love.

To become a Saint is to become real. It means that the real me, which is often hidden under layers of foolishness and absurd pretense, finally emerges. All the hidden goodness and beauty that God has placed within me comes out. It all starts with the realisation that God loves me as I am. The Saints were people who believed the Good News of God's unconditional love and who began to return his love, and found their lives changed, and not overnight, but through a gradual process of growth which did not rule out further falls. In some cases (e.g. St. Peter) it took a long time. A lot of corners had to be knocked off before they became real. We all want something for nothing, quickly and without working for it. But it cannot be. As this was happening to them, the Saints discovered a tremendous joy and freedom. May we all be inspired by the example of the Saints and be helped, by their prayers, as we strive for Holiness in our lives.

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.

Youth Ministry Special Collection – November 8th & 9th, 2025

The Youth Ministry Special Collection will take place on the weekend of November 8th and 9th, 2025. It is important for us to support and encourage our young people in every way we can and encourage them to take part in their local Parish. This collection directly supports the work of Sheila Kelleher, our Diocesan Youth Ministry Coordinator, and the many volunteers dedicated to nurturing faith among our youth. Over the past year, new initiatives have taken root, including Altar Server Workshops, Alpha Youth (fostering collaboration between schools and parishes), Maranatha (a faith-based high-energy music event for Post-Primary school students), the continuation of the Sycamore & Foundations in Theology programmes, Lourdes pilgrimage, the Jubilee of Youth and Connect (for young adults). Please be as generous as you can as we cannot do this without your support. Investing in our young people is vital for the future of the Church.

Parish Number for Priest on Duty is: 087 4021357

The Lord Is My Light And My Help.

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 :
Peggy Scriven, Kenley, Model Farm Rd.
Statia O’Callaghan, The Square/Innishmore.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS OF THE FOLLOWING WHOSE ANNIVERSARY OCCURS OR OTHERWISE REMEMBERED:
Mary Desmond, Westcourt.
Tim Lyons, Moneyflugh, Inniscarra.
Michael Reilly, Leitrim.
Peggy Archer, Connolly Road.
Sadie Martin, Lismore.
Patrick O’Leary, Poulavone.
Ada O’Leary, Poulavone.
Tom & Rose Scanlan, Bishopstown.
John and Eugene Cremin, Inniscarra.
Patsy Finn, Glincool Lawn/Ballyduff.

First Reading: Isaiah 25:6-9
Even in the time of the Old Testament, Scripture spoke of life after death. Indeed, we understand suffering as a means of purification. We who believe know that in heaven there is no pain, no torment, and no tribulation.

Second Reading: Rom 5:5-11
Paul teaches that Christ has given us a victory; sin and death are conquered. That's the connection. Anyone who turns away from sin has the key to eternal life.

Gospel: Luke 7:11-17
Today's Gospel focuses on Jesus's compassion and power to restore life, seen when he raises the widow of Nain's son, even without her request. Key themes include Jesus's deep empathy for the grieving, his ability to bring hope where there is despair, and his authority over death itself. The story encourages believers to turn to Jesus with their own troubles, trusting in his compassion and power to help in their time of need.

Singers Wanted!

Our church choir in the church of St. Mary & St. John is looking for new members. Men and women singers wanted. All levels welcome. Come sing, laugh, and make new friends in a fun, supportive group. Contact us after 10am mass on Sunday or join our rehearsals every Tuesday at 7pm in St Mary & John church. Love to sing?. Come give it a try, no audition needed.

Reflection for Parents

Few people can humble us as quickly as our children. They might embarrass us by their public behaviour, or they might make reference to our age or choice in clothing style. What will our response tell them about us? When we try to maintain our position of authority over them, we are likely to heighten the confrontation. We know from experience that we gain little ground. Often humour is the best antidote. It may require some wit on our part to respond lightly to their criticism or public behaviour, but usually another time will present itself to share with them how we were really feeling at the moment. Their respect for us will develop as they continue to see us model appropriate responses without using our weapons of power and authority.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Thirty First Week In Ordinary Time

02 Sunday Is 25:6-9. Ps 26:1, 4, 7-9, 13-14, R/ vi, Alt R/ v 13,Rm 5:5-11. Lk 7:11-17. Lect I:1002

03 Monday Rom. 11 : 19-36. Ps. 68. Lk. 14: 12-14. Lect II :400

04 Tuesday Rm 12:5-26. Ps 130.Lk 14:15-24. Lect II: 402

05 Wednesday Rom. 13:8-10. Ps. 111. Lk. 14:25-33. Lect II: 404

06 Thursday Eccles (Sir) 44:1-15. Ps 125. Lk 6:20-26.

07 Friday Rom. 15: 14-21. Ps. 97. Lk. 16: 1-8. Lect II: 408

08 Saturday Rom 16:3-9, 16, 22-27. Ps. 144. Lk. 16:9-15. Lect II:410

Next Sunday's Readings 09-November-2025

MASS TIMES		
St. Mary & St. John		Christ Our Light
8:30 am, 10 am	Sunday	11 am, 12:30 pm
9:30 am & 7:30 pm	Monday	No Mass
9:30 am & 7:30 pm	Tuesday	No Mass
9:30 am & 7:30 pm	Wednesday	8:30 am
9:30 am & 7:30 pm	Thursday	8:30 am
9:30 am & 7:30 pm	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
There will be NO meditation on Tuesday, 4th November. It will continue in the Ballincollig Community Hall the following Tuesday morning after 9.30am Mass. New members welcome.

First Friday
Friday 7th November is the first Friday of the month. There is Mass in St Mary & St. John's church on Friday evening at 7.30pm. The priests of the parish visit the sick of the parish on the first Friday of each month; please let us know if you have a family member or neighbour who is sick or housebound.

Cemetery Masses
Curraghkippane Sunday 2nd November at 1.30pm.
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.

ETB Talk on November 26th

BCS is promoting awareness and opportunities to students on post-Leaving Cert courses in the Cork area. We will have stands/booths from Colleges of Further Education and Apprenticeship from 6:30 PM on November 26th, followed by a presentation given by John Fitzgibbons, Director of Further Education and Training.