

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER

Sunday 30-November-2025



St. Mary & St. John

First Sunday of Advent

Christ was born into the world to be the light of all people on their through life. Today we renew our dedication to live as He has shown us, so that when He comes again we will be ready to receive him.



Christ Our Light
Innishmore

My Silent Moments

Last week I went on an eight-day silent retreat at Manresa Jesuit Centre for Spirituality in Dublin. It was a great opportunity to pray, reflect, and ponder on the ways God has been working in my life and where God may be inviting me to grow. When I was telling people about the eight days of silence beforehand (no talking, no TV, no radio, no phone, no newspapers), most people's reaction was that they would love the opportunity to take a break from the never-ending cycle of news and noise, but then quickly add they might not be able to keep the silence for that length of time! You'd be surprised how quickly you can adapt. And, in fairness, you do get to talk to your spiritual director each morning for 30 minutes – a conversation you savour. The reason for the silence and the stillness is to help the retreatants hear and understand the quiet voice of God, gently whispering in our lives. One of the spiritual directors, a Galway woman, spoke of how a retreat can be like a cocoon, but eventually we must leave and return to our places of work and day-to-day life. The challenge, as she put it, is to keep the insights of our time of silence and prayer and integrate these into our lives. You could apply much the same idea to what we hear and experience at Mass or when we ourselves spend time in prayer and feel a tug of the heart to let go or forgive or take on a new challenge. We could easily forget these insights as soon as we leave the church but therein lies the challenge to bring cohesion to how we pray and how we live.

In my silent moments, I also had lots of ideas for the parish. I look forward to sharing them during the coming months. In the meantime, may this Advent be a time of stillness and reflection as we pass through these weeks of fruitful waiting – savouring each moment. Perhaps there is a desire in your heart to spend some time in silence also; even an hour or two can start you off. God bless and talk soon.

Fr. Ronan Sheehan CC

Embracing Common Postures during Mass

The following video shows the postures at Mass. There are 3 times that we stand: Introductory Rites, when the priest prays: "Pray, brothers and sisters." and at the end of Mass: Blessing – Dismissal. Please login to our Parish Website to view the postures in full.

Agnus Dei Prayer for an end to all Hostilities in the World

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

Breakthrough Cancer Research

Can you spare an hour or two to support Breakthrough Cancer Research? On Friday, 12th December, the charity will hold its annual Christmas Bag Packing Fundraiser in Dunnes Stores, Bandon Road, and they're looking for volunteers to help out between 3:30pm and 6:00pm. If you're available and would like to get involved, please contact Edel from Breakthrough Cancer Research at edel@breakcancer.ie or 021 4226655.

Have Your Say about your Catholic School

For Attention of Parents of children attending Primary Schools or have yet to start. The Department of Education is currently conducting a Primary School Survey that will determine the future provision of Primary Schools and crucially could lead to lasting changes in your school. In simple, direct terms, you are being asked if you want your school to stay a Catholic school or if you want that to change. Don't leave it to others, have your say before 16 December 2025.

Login to

<https://www.gov.ie/en/departments/campaigns/primary-school-survey/>

First Sunday of Advent



Lord, help us to remember that YOU are near us always as we struggle, step by step, to get nearer to YOU, in this special season. "God of Hosts, bring us back; Let Your face shine on us and we shall be saved"

Annual Marian Procession on December 8th

To celebrate the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary there will be Candlelight Marian Procession through the streets of Cork City. The evening begins at 8pm with the Rosary in Saints Peter and Paul's, followed by the procession through the streets, and finishing with 30 minutes exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and benediction, finishing at 9.30pm. All are welcome.

Parish Number for Priest on Duty is: 087 4021357

I rejoiced when I heard them say: 'Let us go to God's house.'

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 :
Mabel Giltinan, Maglin View.
David Walsh, Cobh/Wicklow.
Marie Higgins. Mahon.
John O'Connell, Model Farm Road.
Stella Gallagher, Ballinlough.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS OF THE FOLLOWING WHOSE ANNIVERSARY OCCURS OR OTHERWISE REMEMBERED:
Thomas Farrell, Beech Park.
Sheila & Noel Linehan, Turners Cross.
Michael Twohig, Inniscarra View.
Michael Giltinan, Maglin View.
Marie Holmes, Hodders Villas.
Billy & David Holmes.
Ned & Eily Fitton, Maglin/Beech Park.
Noreen Murray, Carrigrohane Road.
Mary Lehane, Muskerry Estate/Springville.
Maureen O'Reilly, Glasheen.
Seán Slowey, Carrigrohane.
Olive O'Leary, Beech Road.
Mary Barrett, Inniscarra View.
Seamus Casey, Ballinhassig.
Michael O'Sullivan, Skibbereen/Caheragh.
Iza Murphy, Maglin.
Pawel Put, Classes Lake.
Tim Kelly, Coolroe Heights.
Mary Dineen, Shandon View.
Eve & Dan Spillane, Westcourt Heights.
Philip Spillane, Friars Walk.
Tommy Daly, Leemount.
Sheila, Ted, Paul and Tom O Mahony, Barrack Street.
John Coakley, Castletownbere & London.
Sheila & Tim Coakley, Castletownbere.
Liz O'Brien, Coolroe Heights.
Donal, Anna & John Harrington, Beara/Bishopstown.

Advent Lectio Divina

The Office for Mission and Ministry will be offering three online Lectio Divina sessions for Advent on Wednesday, December 3rd, 10th and 17th from 7.30pm to 8.30pm. These will be an opportunity to pause, pray with Scripture, and prepare for the coming of Christ. These online sessions are open to everyone. With limited places available, registration is essential. Contact us via <https://tinyurl.com/mission-ministry> or by ringing 021-7355517.

First Saturday Conference in Knock

To mark the 100th anniversary of the First Saturday Apparition in Pontevedra, Spain, there will be a special conference in Knock on the first Saturday in December - December 6th. The day begins with adoration and confessions at 10am in the Reconciliation Chapel. There will be three talks from Bishop John Keenan, Antonia Moffat, and Fr Philip Kemmy in St John's Centre. There will also be the Rosary led by the Children's Rosary group, a 15 minute meditation led by Fr. Marius O'Reilly, as Our Lady requested for the First Saturdays, and time for lunch. At Fatima, Our Lady promised that there would be peace in the world and that many souls would be saved through this devotion. For more details please visit firstsaturdays.ie

**Special Evening of Eucharistic HEALING
with Fr. John Keane**

Fr. John Keane will lead a special evening of healing at Saints Peter and Paul's Church on Thursday 11th December. The evening begins with the Rosary at 7pm. Mass will be at 7.30pm. After Mass, there will be exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Fr. John Keane will give individual Eucharistic blessings. All are welcome.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

First Week Of Advent

30 Sunday Is. 2:1-5. Ps. 121. Rom. 13:11-14. Mt. 24:37-44. Lect I: 3
01 Monday Is. 4:2-6. Ps. 121. Mt. 8:5-11. Lect I:11
02 Tuesday Is 11:1-10. Ps. 71. Lk. 10:21-24. Lect I:13
03 Wednesday Is. 25:6-10. Ps. 22. Mt. 15:29-37. Lect I: 15
04 Thursday Is. 26:1-6. Ps. 117. Mt. 7:21 .24-27. Lect I:18
05 Friday Is. 29:17-24. Ps. 26. Mt. 9:27-31. Lect I:20
06 Saturday Is. 30:19-21, 23-26. Ps. 146. Mt. 9:35-10:1,6-8. Lect I:22

Next Sunday's Readings 07-December-2025
Is. 11:1-10. Ps. 71. Rom. 15:4-9. Mt. 3:1-12. Lect I: 24

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.

Autumn Dues
The priests of the Parish would like to thank you for returning the Autumn Dues Envelopes. Your continued support is much appreciated

An Invitation to All Family of Parishes
Ovens & Farran, Ballincollig, Ballinora, Kilmurray, Cloughduv and Canovee in the Church of the Immaculate Conception Farran, on Monday, 8th December from 7.30pm – 8.10pm. "Oh Come Let Us Adore Him". Help us Prepare for the Birth of Jesus with Songs of Praise.

The Feast of The Immaculate Conception
Monday, 8th of December. Mass Times are as follows:
St. Mary & St. John Church: Monday 8th December 10.00am & 6.00pm.
Christ Our Light Church: Monday 8th December 7.30pm

First Friday
Friday 5th December 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.