

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



St. Mary & St. John

Sunday 28-December-2025

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
The Feast of the Holy Family: We are reminded today that a holy family will be a happy one because everything is based on God's will of love ...a love that shows itself in patience, forgiveness and sincere gratitude. The spirit of such a family will be the Spirit of God who brings peace.



Christ Our Light
Innishmore

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

At this stage, the phrase 'It's all over for another year' has probably been uttered time and again, and even itself seems dated. But Christmas only really began on Christmas Day and we celebrate the Christmas season or Christmastide in these days that follow. The Church's liturgical tradition (how we pray) urges us to wean ourselves only gradually off the Christmas spirit. We celebrate a Christmas Octave up to and including the 1st of January, while also marking the famous Twelve Days of Christmas, to bring us up to the Feast of the Epiphany on January 6th. Given that Christmas preparations may have begun in November, it's not hard to understand why many people take the decorations down before the 6th, but this would be like sending people home from a dinner party without dessert. So, here are some ideas on how to mark the feast days over Christmastide:

28 December: Feast of the Holy Family: make an extra effort to spend dedicated time with family. A no-phone walk through the Regional Park, for example.

01 January: Feast of Mary, Mother of God: pray the rosary or light a candle at the Marian shrine in either of the churches, asking Mary's help for 2026.

06 January: Feast of the Epiphany: think of the ways you could help a charity or someone in need; perhaps unwanted gifts could find a deserving home.

These are just some possible aids. I hope one and all celebrated a joyful Christmas. And may anno Domini 2026 bring you good health and a deeper relationship with the Lord.

Fr. Ronan Sheehan CC

Saint Vincent De Paul

Sincere thanks to all who contributed so generously to our recent Sunday collections. This generosity will make big difference to the many struggling families in the family of parishes.

Christmas Collection

The Priests of the Parish, Fr's. Alan, Ronan & Jojo would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your generosity in the Christmas Eve and Christmas day collection for the Priests of the Parish. Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

The Feast of The Epiphany **Holy Day of Obligation**

Mass Times:

St. Mary & St. John's Church
Tuesday 6th January 10.00am & 6:00pm
Christ Our Light Church
Monday 5th January 7.30pm

A New Year

The New Year while offering us the promise of a new future can also call us back to the love we had for Jesus in more Innocent days just as old friendships call to us from the past. Mary Coleridge puts that thought nicely in one of her poems:

*Time brought me many another friend
That loved me longer.
New love was kind, but in the end
Old love was stronger.
Years come and go. No New Year yet
Hath slain December.
And all that should have cried - "Forget!" Cries but - "Remember!"*

Best Wishes For A Happy New Year

*The priests of the parish join in sending New Year greetings to all
members of the parish and to all readers
of the Ballincollig Parishioner*

Fr's Alan O'Leary Co-PP, Ronan Sheehan CC, Jojo Thalikaasthanam CMI CC & Deacon Frank McKeivitt.

Parish Number for Priest on Duty is: 087 4021357

O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways!

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 :

Una Dwyer, Old Quarter/Ballintemple.

Pauline Kelly, Island Way.

Betty Casey, Park Road.

Frank Metcalfe, Ovens/Ballincollig.

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

Danny & Peggy McCarthy, The Crescent.

Dec. mem. of The Harrington & Barrington families.

Carmel O'Leary, Old Quarter.

Daniel & Mary O'Leary, Farran.

Mary O'Mahony, Castlepark.

Thomas Daly, Ballyhooly & Dublin.

Dec. mem. of John A. Wood Workforce.

Mai & Eddie Barry, Inniscarra.

Gerard Corkery, Poulovone/Garryhesta.

Bill & Kit Foley, Ballygarvan.

Tim O'Connor, Coachford.

Michael & Catherine O'Callaghan, Coachford.

Denis & Nora O'Connor, Mallow.

Anne Corrigan, Fermanagh.

Alan Murphy, Ballincollig.

Christina Kavanagh, Beech Park.

Catherine O'Sullivan, Kilmichael.

Mary Corkery, Cahersiveen.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

28 Sunday Eccles. (Sir) 3:2-6, 12-14. Ps. 127. Col. 3:12-21. Mt. 2:13-15, 19-23. Lect I:114

29 Monday 1 Jn. 1 :5-2:2. Ps. 123. Mt. 2: 13-18. Lect I: 129

30 Tuesday 1 Jn. 2:3-11. Ps. 95. Lk. 2:22-35. Lect I: 131

31 Wednesday 1 Jn. 2:12-17. Ps. 95. Lk. 2:36-40. Lect I:134

01 Thursday 1 Jn. 2:18-21. Ps. 95. Jn. 1:1-18 Lect I:136

02 Friday Num. 6:22-27. Ps. 66. Gal. 4:4-7. Lk. 2:16-21. Lect I:139

03 Saturday 1 Jn 2:22-28. Ps 97. Jn 1:19-28. Lect I: 146

Next Sunday's Readings 04-January-2026

Eccles. (Sir) 24: 1-2, 8-12. Ps. 147. Eph. 1 :3-6, 15-18. Jn. 1:1-18. Lect I:141

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)

Reflection for Parents

We may not always be as successful as we would like, but as parents we try to create some stability for our children. It must have been hard for Mary and Joseph to bring their child into the world in such a hurried and rustic environment. Barely had the child been born and visited by the magi, when the Holy Family made a late-night escape through unfamiliar territory to an even more unfamiliar land they would call home until Herod died. At the news of Herod's death, Joseph moved his young family back to Israel, but to a still different place from where he called home. The movement of our lives may not be as dramatic and life-threatening as that of the Holy Family, but it surely helps us to know that the presence of God is the one continuous thread that binds us together no matter where we are.

First Reading: Ecclesiasticus 3:2-6, 12-14

The first Scripture reading represents the wisdom of the Old Testament regarding family life. We are told that he who honours his father and mother will be blest in this life and in the next. What was true in Old Testament times is true in our age also.

Second Reading: Colossians 3:12-21 or 3:12-17

In the second reading, Paul tells us that Jesus shares our human nature. Because of that fact, we are his brothers and sisters. Therefore, with him, we are sons and daughters of God our Father.

Gospel: Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23.

When the magi left the Holy Family in Bethlehem, Joseph was warned in a dream to take Mary and Jesus into Egypt because Herod was looking to destroy the child. Following Herod's death, another angel appeared to Joseph in a dream and informed him that it was now safe to return to Israel. Joseph took his family to the Galilee area and settled in Nazareth.

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 3p.m. until 4p.m. in St. Mary & St. John's Church on Friday 2nd January and every Friday after that.

Meditation

Meditation finished in the Ballincollig Community Hall on Tuesday, 16th December and will resume after 10.00 Mass on Tuesday, 6th January. New members welcome.

Offertory Collection Boxes

The Offertory Collection is solely for the upkeep, maintenance, insurance, lighting, heating and related expenses of both churches. Could the people who have a box number allocated to them, please collect them from Ballincollig Parish Office, Ballincollig Parish Centre, Station Road Postcode: P31 KV63? Mon. – Wed. 9.30am – 12.30pm.

Thank You

Sincere thanks to the many people who gave their time throughout the year -, Altar Society, Altar Servers, Choir, Cantors, Folk Group, Ministers of the Word, Ministers of the Eucharist, Collectors, Cleaners, Parish Council, The Parishioner and Parish Council Sub Groups, people who distributed dues envelopes and the various flyers throughout the year, the Sacristans in both Churches. to the people of the Parish for their generous support to the Priests of the Parish during the past year. Your support is much appreciated. We wish you and your families a happy New Year.