

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



St. Mary & St. John

Sunday 11-January-2026



Christ Our Light
Innishmore

The Baptism of the Lord

At his baptism Jesus was revealed as the Son of God and began his work of bringing the vision of God, his justice and his liberation to people. At our baptism each of us is given a share in this mission, so we become children of God.

Today we celebrate the Baptism of Jesus. When Jesus came to John to be baptized it was to mark the beginning of a new life for him - the beginning of his mission - his public ministry. The Baptism of Jesus is a reminder to us of our own baptism. In baptism we are born again by water and the Holy Spirit. We are cleansed from original sin and become sons and daughters of God in a special way. We see in today's second reading from the Acts of the Apostles a sermon delivered by Peter in the house of Cornelius, the Roman centurion, just before baptizing him and his companions. Peter is saying that 'God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him'. Perhaps as we begin this New Year we can see it as a new beginning in our faith journey and an opportunity to reflect on how we are responding to our calling as baptized Christians.

After the baptism of Jesus in the river Jordan, the Holy Spirit descended upon him, strengthening him and guiding him for his mission which would lead to his suffering and death on the cross. We have been anointed with the oil of chrism at our baptism and like Jesus we too received the Holy Spirit to guide and strengthen us on our Christian journey. Each one of us can ask ourselves how do I respond to my baptismal commitment to carry on the mission and ministry of Jesus today? In today's Gospel we read those beautiful words of the Father to his Son: "This is my Son, my Beloved, my favour rests on you". We too are special children of God, a God who says to each one of us, as he said to Jesus, 'you are my son, my daughter, my much loved one - with you I am well pleased'. Let us become conscious of God's love for us and within us. When we experience ourselves as loved, especially by God, it gives us the strength to face our own trials and sufferings with renewed hope and courage and to bring that hope, love and encouragement to others around us.

Let us today take a moment to renew our baptismal commitment to bear witness to the Good News of the kingdom of God in word and in deed. Let us also remember in prayer the infants and adults in our Parish who are preparing for the Sacrament of Baptism.

Family Mass

Our next Family Mass will be celebrated at 12.30p.m. at Christ our Light church on Sunday, January 18th next. Our Family Mass gives all family members an opportunity to attend and enjoy Mass together as a Family on a regular basis. It gives everyone the opportunity to experience the strength and support that God gives us through Mass and in particular through the Eucharist in which Jesus comes to us in a very real way. We look forward to welcoming everyone and families to this Mass.

Hands Dirty Weekend for Catholic Fathers and Sons February Bank Holiday weekend, in Co. Cork.

- ◆ Learn basic electrics for around the home
- ◆ Get your hands dirty under the hood of a car
- ◆ Develop your carpentry skills

The weekend will also include Mass, Adoration, and spiritual talks. Please email the Dominican Order at op.evangelisation@gmail.com or see www.dominicans.ie

Ballincollig Alzheimer Café - Thursday 15th January

The Ballincollig Alzheimer Café, will be held in the welcoming surroundings of the Chapel Gate Café, will host guest speaker Gemma McCarthy, Advanced Nurse Practitioner with the ICPOP Memory Clinic. Gemma will speak on the topic of supporting someone with memory loss, offering practical guidance, reassurance, and information for individuals, families, and carers. The session aims to provide helpful insights in a relaxed, supportive environment where attendees can connect, share, and learn together.

The Lord Mayor's Tea Dance 2026
City Hall, Cork – Sunday 25th January 2026 | 3pm–5pm. All are warmly invited to the annual Lord Mayor's Tea Dance, a joyful January gathering for young and old! Enjoy an afternoon of music, dancing, fun and community spirit in the beautiful City Hall. Evelyn Grant and the Cork Pops Orchestra will fill the hall with Strauss waltzes, polkas and plenty of lively favourites — from Johann Strauss to ABBA. Special guests include Keith Hanley (Voice of Ireland) and 9-year-old Emma Sophia. Rona Coulter of Viva Dance Studio will lead the crowd in the famous "Slosh"! Young people are encouraged to bring an older friend or family member to the "Ball". These Tea Dances celebrate the generations and always guarantee great craic.

Tickets available from Pro Musica, Oliver Plunkett St., or online <https://tickets.peoplesrepublicofcork.com/11189391/Lord-Mayors-Tea-Dance-2025/Sun-25-Jan-2026-3:00-pm>. Supporting a Good Cause: A raffle will take place in aid of the Ethiopia Deaf Project (EDP), supporting Deaf children at the Ambo Lazarist Deaf School in Ethiopia (edp-ambo.com).

*Come along and brighten your January
Everyone welcome!*

Parish Number for Priest on Duty is: 087 4021357

The Lord will bless his people with peace.

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 :
 Brendan McGurry, Rosewood.
 Patricia McGeough, Holly Road.
 Tim O'Donovan, Innishmore.
 Sheila O'Connor, Glincool/Coachford.
 Mary Malone, West Village.
 Pamela Kenny, The Meadows.
 Hughie Aherne, Coolroe.
 Michael Ryan, Innishmore.
 Detta Scully, Dublin.
 Rose O'Sullivan, Manor Hill.
 Sheila O'Mahony, Coachford/Ballyvolane.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS OF THE FOLLOWING WHOSE ANNIVERSARY OCCURS OR OTHERWISE REMEMBERED:
 Laurence Cunningham, Rosewood.
 Sheila Walsh, Castlepark.
 Dec. Mem. of the Hourigan family, Limerick.
 Patrick & Margaret Kenneally, Curraheen.
 Frank Collins, Ballingulley.
 Jeremiah Walsh, The Maltings.
 Sarah Kelly, Coolroe.
 Sheila Murphy, Macroom.
 Martin O'Regan, Crookstown.
 May Keohane, Inniscarra.
 Jerry & Maura Hurley, Ballinora.
 Tony Ahern, Farran.
 Noeleen & Benny Carew, Glasheen/Waterford.

First Reading: Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7

"Here is my servant whom I uphold. I, the Lord, have called you for the victory of justice," said Isaiah. "To open the eyes of the blind, to bring out prisoners," and to make you a light for the nations.

Second Reading: Acts 10: 34-38

God does not play favourites. All who fear the Lord are justified. God anointed Jesus with the Holy Spirit and the power to do good works and heal all in need.

Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17

Jesus came to the Jordan River to be baptised by John. At first John objected and said that it was he, John, who should be baptised by Jesus. Jesus indicated a future baptism when he responded to John saying that it was fitting for John to baptise Jesus. John acquiesced and at the conclusion of the baptism, the Spirit came down from heaven in the form of a dove and clearly announced Jesus as his son. God was pleased with His son.

Breakthrough Cancer Research

Have you ever dreamed of walking the Camino de Santiago? Breakthrough Cancer Research are taking on the final 100KM of the 'French Way', Sarria to Santiago from the 13th - 20th of April 2026 and would love for you to join them. Many people choose to walk the Camino with Breakthrough Cancer Research for deeply personal reasons. Some take part to honour a loved one, others to fulfil a bucket-list dream, and many simply wish to share a meaningful experience with a friend or partner - all while helping to raise vital, life-saving funds for cancer research. Starting in the charming town of Sarria, experience camaraderie and reflection as you walk toward Santiago de Compostela, creating lasting memories on this historic pilgrimage. For more information, please contact Edel, edel@breakcancer.ie or phone 021 422 66 55 for more details.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

First Week In Ordinary Time

11 Sunday Is. 42:1-4/ 6-7. Ps. 28. Acts. 10:34-38. Mt. 3:13-17. Lect I: 179 or 639
 12 Monday 1 Sam. 1:1-8. Ps. 115. Mk. 1:14-20. Lect II: 457
 13 Tuesday 1 Sam. 1 :9-20. Ps. 1 Sam. 2. Mk. 1 :21-28. Lect II: 459
 14 Wednesday 1 Sam. 3 :1-10, 19-20 Ps. 39 Mk. 1 :29-39. Lect II: 461
 15 Thursday 1 Sam 4: 1-11. Ps 43. Mk 1 :40-45. Lect II: 464
 16 Friday 1 Sam. 8:4-7, 10-22. Ps. 88. Mk. 2:1-12. Lect II: 466
 17 Saturday 1 Sam. 9:1-4, 17-19, 10:1. Ps. 20. Mk. 2:13-17. Lect II: 468

Next Sunday's Readings 18-January-2026

Is. 49:3,5-6. Ps. 39. 1 Cor. 1:1-3. In. 1:29-34. Lect I: 641

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 3p.m. until 4p.m. 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.

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.

Diocesan Envelope Collection

The quarterly diocesan collection will be taken up at all Masses this weekend 10th/11th January. We appreciate your continued generosity.

Irish blood Transfusion Service

The IBTS is urgently seeking the public's support to help the national blood supply as most blood groups have fallen to just 3 days in recent weeks. The IBTS aims to have 7 days stock at all times. "The target is to get an additional 2,000 donations over the next 5 weeks so we can significantly increase our blood bank.