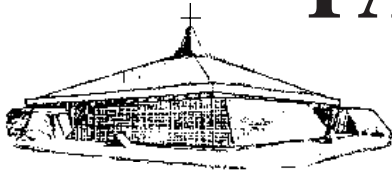


# THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



CHRIST OUR LIGHT  
INNISHMORE



ST. MARY & ST. JOHN  
STATION ROAD

**SUNDAY 1ST DECEMBER 2002**

**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

*God comes to those who wait for him. Our waiting needs to be prayerful if we are to be truly ready to receive him*

## ADVENT

This year it is easy for Irish Catholics to share in the cry for help expressed in the responsorial psalm in today's Mass:

"God of hosts, bring us back;

Let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

O Lord, rouse up your might,

O Lord, come to our help."

Our Church is under relentless attack. Religious practice has waned alarmingly. The numbers left in priestly ministry is near crisis point. Vocations have all but disappeared.

Over the centuries the Church has been through good times and bad. Even in the Old Testament times, God's people experienced moments, even decades, of despair. Dip into any book of the Bible and you will read the cries of the Prophets lamenting the lapses of the chosen race: true worship has declined, foreign influences have lured believers away from the true God, corruption reigns in the land, God's enemies are triumphant, false gods are worshipped and the Temple is in ruins. But the flame of faith never went out. There was always a remnant of God's chosen people who soldiered on in the face of adversity, persecution and ridicule. What inspired them was the promise of a Redeemer first made by God after Man's Fall and repeated to Abraham, Moses and David. The birth of Jesus marked the fulfilment of that ancient promise. By then only a handful of believers remained. Even when Jesus proclaimed his mission and proved it with his miracles and his resurrection the public remained unconvinced, uninterested, even hostile.

Statistics, opinion polls, expert analysis if they had existed on the first Christmas Night would have given the newly born Redeemer zero chance of success in his mission. "Who do you think will triumph, Jesus or Caesar?". The "vox pop" would have endorsed Caesar and his huge Roman Empire and consigned the Infant of Bethlehem to oblivion. How short sighted can human wisdom be!

Let us put our hearts in the words:

God of hosts, turn again, we implore,

look down from heaven and see.

And we shall never forsake you again.

*Leonard O'Brien.*

## PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

### Priest:

Because we believe God will come to our help, we present our prayers:

### Reader:

For believers everywhere who wait for the Lord's coming, that this Advent may help them prepare.

Lord, Hear us,

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

For all people who look forward to the celebration of Christmas, that Christ's words and values may find a place in their hearts.

Lord, Hear us,

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

For the nations where there is no peace, that war may soon be a distant memory for them

Lord, Hear us,

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

For those who suffer anxiety, for all who are sick in mind or body, that they may know the intimate love of God, on whom they can rely.

Lord, Hear us,

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

For all the members of this community who have died, that God's light may shine upon them and on all we have lost.

Lord, Hear us,

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

### Priest:

God of hosts, your hand protects your chosen people, listen to our prayers, we ask you, through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

## 1ST 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"



*God of hosts, bring us back; Let your face shine on us and we shall be saved*

Visit Our Website: [www.ballincolligparish.ie](http://www.ballincolligparish.ie)

### BAPTISMS

WE WELCOME TO OUR COMMUNITY ALL THOSE WHO WERE BAPTISED RECENTLY :

Zach Gerald Galvin O'Brien, 38, Aylsbury  
Allie Louise Cleary, 7, Reesdale Grove



### +

### IN SYMPATHY

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF:

Josie O'Connell, Aghabullogue  
Yvonne Reilly Aglish, Farran  
Ada O Leary, Poulavone

### PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS OF

Norah & Eugene O'Toole, Dillions Cross  
Sheila Twomey, St. Lukes Cross  
Jane Calnan, Poulavone  
John Joe & Margaret Hegarty , Ardfield  
Anthony McCarthy, Castle Park  
Stephen Spitere, Glasheen  
Jeremiah & Julia Ford, Station Rd  
Michael & Mary Murphy , Waterfall  
Mary Lucey, Carrigrohane,  
Catherine & Patrick Fitzgerald  
Paddy & Molly Tobin, Clash  
Mick Henningan, Station Rd.  
John & Hannah O'Shea, Beaufort, Killarney  
Tim Crowley, Coachford  
Con McMahon, Model Farm Road  
John Lucey, Station Road  
Pat Holly, Millstreet & Ballincollig  
Catherine Dineen, Coachford  
Patrick Cronin, Ballyphehene  
Bobby Coonihan  
Denis Clifford, Congress Rd.  
Tim O'Leary, Farnanea  
John & Hannah Corkery, Aherla  
Frances Cunningham, Crookstown  
Daniel & Mary Garrett, Lower Rd.  
Denis Horan, Rathmore  
Daniel & Hannah Dempsey, Leemount  
Phil Higgins, Glasheen

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

READINGS. Sunday Cycle B Weekday Cycle 1

2 Monday Is.2:1-5. Ps 121. Mt. 8:5-11. Lect 1:10 Lect 1:10

3 Tuesday Is. 11:1-10. Ps.71. Lk.10:21-24. Lect: 1:13

**St Francis Xavier**, 1506-1552, one of the first seven Jesuits, was sent to India by St Ignatius. He converted many in Goa. He had greater difficulty in Japan, and died as he attempted to enter China. A patron of the missions.

4 Wednesday Is. 25:6-10 Ps.22. Mt. 15:29-37. Lect 1:15

**Saint John Damascene**, c. 675-749, was a Syrian Christian theologian. He became a priest in the monastery of saint Sabas near Jerusalem and was a leading figure in the defence of icons in the iconoclastic controversy.

5 Thursday Is. 26:1-6. Ps.117. Mt. 7:21,24-27. Lect 1:19

6 Friday Is. 29:17-24. Ps.26. Mt. 9:27-31. Lect 1:20

**St. Nicholas of Myra**, a fourth-century bishop in Turkey, of whom little is known. He is patron of Russia, of sailors, of pawnbrokers and of children.

7 Saturday Is. 30:19-21, 23-26. Ps.146. Mt. 9:35-10:1, 6-8. Lect 1:22.

**St Ambrose**, 339-397, became governor of the Roman Province whose seat was in Milan. In 374, the laity insisted on his becoming bishop though he was still not baptised. He defended orthodoxy in brilliant preaching. Patron of Milan, beekeepers, domestic animals.

## AFFORDABLE ART CRAFTS

*and Much, Much More*

Saturday 7th December from 3.30pm to 8pm

Sunday 8th December from 9am to 4.30pm

**SMA Hall, Wilton**

**(Adjacent to Wilton Shopping Centre)**

*Unique hand-crafted gifts, cards and craftwork*

*All Welcome*

**ADMISSION FREE**

*Part of Proceeds to Mercy Hospital Leukeumia Ward Fund*

### CAROL SERVICE

*Keep Sunday 15th December*

*Free for our Annual Carol Service at 8p.m.*

**St. Mary & St. John's Church**

*Our local choirs will be joined*

*by Cantairí Mhuscraí*

## CROWLEY FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Bothar Saclay, Ballincollig, Co. Cork  
Tel: 021-4874777 Mobile: 087-2759254

*Complete Funeral Arrangements  
24 Hour Service Embalming Service  
Member I.A.F.D.*

Golden Charter Funeral  
Pre-Planning Available



**L'Arche Community Cork**

Building Community in Cork with People with Learning Disabilities

**Re: L'Arche Christmas Craft Fair**

*On: Sunday 8th December 2002*

*From 10.00a.m. to 5.00p.m.*

*At: L'Arche Community in Togher, Cork  
(Next to the Parish Church and the National School)*

**THE SUNDAY READINGS**

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 63: 16-17; 64:1, 3-8

Written hundreds of years before Christ this prophetic passage stresses the Fatherhood of God. It foreshadows the "Our Father" of the Gospel. Sin takes away a peoples' strength, makes them like faded leaves before the wind.

God is asked to return and glorify His name by saving his people.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Corinth occupied the site of an old Greek city, famous for its commerce, its pottery and fine bronze work and notorious for its luxury and immorality. That city was destroyed and a century later a new city was built, colonised by Romans. Paul converted Jews and pagans there but when he moved on disputes broke out among the converts.

Hence this letter in which he tries to bring them back to their first fervour and harmony.

GOSPEL: Mark. 13: 33-37.

Because the time of Christ's coming in judgement is not revealed, constant readiness is necessary. This warning is not meant for the Apostles alone but for all people at all times. However it is important to realise that Christ is not a dealer in death but rather one who comes to give us life - a new form of life which can never be threatened by death.

**SAINT OF THE WEEK**

December 3rd - ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

St. Francis Xavier: 1506-1552, one of the first seven Jesuits. He was sent to India by St Ignatius. It is extraordinary that one man in the space of ten years could have visited so many countries, preached the Gospel to so many nations and converted so many infidels. His initial journey from Lisbon to Goa in a sailing ship was in itself a tremendous undertaking. From India he travelled on to the island of Ceylon.

In 1549 Francis Xavier landed in Japan where he spent a year learning the language. When he was able to express himself he began preaching Christianity but the political authorities had him expelled from the city. Bravely he continued to preach in other Japanese cities and towns building up the nucleus of a Christian community. During this time he heard much of the Celestial Empire of China and eventually he arrived on a small island off the coast of that great empire. While planning the best means of reaching the mainland he was taken ill and died in a rude hut built to shelter him. In these wretched surroundings, the greatest missionary since St. Paul passed to his reward.

**CHRIST OUR LIGHT RELIGIOUS SHOP**

(situated just inside main entrance to Church)

We now have a very large selection of Christmas items in stock at very reasonable prices -

Cribs - various sizes and prices

Candles and candlesticks/holders.

Large selection of pictures /crucifixes /statues /books.

Fr. Tom Brownes CD's and Tapes - Church Hymns and Melodies of Ireland.

Christmas Mass Bouquet Cards and large selection of other cards -we sell SVP and Guide Dog Christmas cards.

*All very worthwhile gifts - gifts that will last!*

*Do pay it a visit and take a look for yourself.*

*Open before and after all week-end Masses.*



**ANNUAL TOY MASS**

*organised by*

Secular Franciscan Order

Sunday 15th December 2002

at 11.00a.m. in Christ Our Light Church

Do you have any new or nearly new toys you could do without? If so, we ask you to be generous this Christmas and bring them along to our Mass. Thank You.

**SCOUTS TOY GIVING MASS**

The Annual Guide and Scout Toy Giving Mass will take place on Wednesday 4th December in the Church of St. Mary & St. John at 7.30pm. This is our Annual Good Deed and one, which is very special to all our members.

Each member is asked to bring along a wrapped gift for a child to the Mass. Each gift is to be marked showing whether it is for a boy or a girl and the age that it will suit. The response from all our members in the past has been excellent and they are all living up to their promises namely to think of others before themselves.

If any member of the public wishes to come along and donate a gift they are most welcome to join in this very worthwhile ceremony.

**FATIMA APOSTOLATE GROUP**

The monthly meeting of the Apostolate will be held on Monday 2nd December 2002 at 7pm in the Youth House, Station Road.

*Present members and new members are all welcome to attend*



**CONCERN**

**Carols by Candlelight**



CROSSHAVEN SINGERS

Gerard O'Connell - Conductor

BRAVURA - String Quartet

PADDY HOMAN - Tenor

The Savoy Centre, Patrick Street, Cork

Friday December 6th 2002

5.45pm - 8.30pm

Tickets €35 available at: Concern Shop, 91, North Main St. Tel: 021-4223923

*All proceeds in aid of Concern*

**TROCAIRE**

Cook Street, Cork. Tel.: 021-4275622

**Trócaire celebrating 10 years in Cork**

A Thanksgiving Mass will be celebrated by Bishop John Buckley in the North Cathedral, Cork on Thursday 5th December at 10a.m.

This mass will mark Trócaire's 10th Anniversary in Cork

*All are welcome*

MINISTERS OF THE WORD DEC 7TH-8TH  
ST. MARY & ST. JOHN CHRIST OUR LIGHT

6.00p.m.(Vigil) - Sandra Walsh 8.30a.m. - Marion Daly 10.00a.m. - Elaine Murphy 12.00noon. - Oliver O'Donovan	8.00p.m.(Vigil) - Pauline Collins 11.00a.m. - Liam Hayes 12.30p.m. - Marie Groarke 5.30p.m. - Brian O'Donoghue
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MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST



7th/8th December 2002

St. Mary & St. John Christ Our Light

<b>6.00pm:</b> Mary O'Donoghue Steve Wills Margaret O'Sullivan Rita Aherne Betty Sheehan Jim Walsh	<b>8.00pm:</b> Anne O'Regan Marion O'Sullivan Maura O'Driscoll <b>11.00am:</b> Seamus O'Connell Mary O'Connell Finbarr Murray Alan O'Riordan Geraldine Keohane
<b>8.30am:</b> Mary Buckley Rita Murphy	<b>12.30pm:</b> Maura Lombard Jackie Sheehan Mary Green Michael O'Leary Lelia O'Brien
<b>10.00am:</b> Maureen Roche Christina Walshe Peter Reilly Mary Collins Christy Roche	<b>5.30pm:</b> Catherine Green Mary Breen Siobhan Burke
<b>12.00 noon:</b> Oliver O'Donovan Barbara Kelly John Jeffers Mary McLean Ellen Seymour Ita Walshe	

BOOKS FOR CATHOLIC CHILDREN

DISPLAY & SALE  
SUNDAY DECEMBER 1ST  
AT 2.30P.M.

at the home of  
Brendan & Mary Wrenne,  
37 Parknamore Heights,  
Ballincollig

With three short inspirational talks at  
3.15pm, 4pm & 4.15pm  
All are welcome



THE ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION  
OF IRELAND

LECTURE SERIES

"The Role of Physiotherapy in the  
Management of Arthritis"

SPEAKER: MS. BREDA KENNY and  
MS. SIOBHAN EGAN -  
Chartered Physiotherapists  
DATE: TUESDAY 3rd DEC., 2002  
VENUE: THE KINGSLEY HOTEL,  
VICTORIA CROSS, CORK  
TIME: 8.00P.M.

ADMISSION FREE

ALL ARE WELCOME

MASS TIMES

ST. MARY & ST. JOHN Sunday: 8.30, 10.00, 12.00 Mon-Thur: 9.30am Fri.: 9.30am, 6pm Saturday: 10.00am, 6pm (Vigil)	CHRIST OUR LIGHT Sunday: 11.00, 12.30, 5.30pm Mon-Thur: 8.30am Fri.: 9.30am, 6pm Saturday: 10.00am, 8.00pm (Vigil)
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CONFESSIONS

ST. MARY & ST. JOHN Saturday: after 10am Mass before 6pm Mass	CHRIST OUR LIGHT Saturday: after 10am Mass
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BAPTISMS

ST. MARY & ST. JOHN Saturday: 5.00pm Sunday: 12.45pm	CHRIST OUR LIGHT Saturday: 7.15pm
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PARISH CLERGY

CHURCH NO. 087-2479140

Fr. Leonard. O'Brien P.P ☎ 021-4871206

Fr. Michael O'Mahony C.C. ☎ 021-4877161

Fr. Paul O'Donoghue ☎ 021-4876055

Fr. John O'Donovan C.C. ☎ 021-4870434

FRIDAY 6TH DECEMBER 2002  
(First Friday)

EXPOSITION OF THE  
BLESSED SACRAMENT

Church of St. Mary & St. John  
Following 9.30a.m. Mass

Concluding with Rosary  
& Benediction at 7.45p.m.  
& Mass 8.00p.m.



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