

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



St. Mary & St. John
Station Road

Sunday 02-March-2008

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Jesus came among us to lead us from darkness into the light of faith. Through Adam's fall we were horn as slaves of sin but now through Christ we are reborn as God's adopted children.



Christ Our Light
Innishmore

The Man Born Blind

I really enjoy this time of the year especially the brighter mornings and longer evenings. The longer days and brighter days are noticeable for those who can see the dawn and appreciate the sunset. It is a change the blind do not appreciate in the same way.

Daylight for the blind is still darkness. To be born blind is a thought that frightens many people so much so that we tend to shirk meeting those so afflicted. Jesus met one such man and dealt with the difficulty head on. He cured the blind man.

John recounts this miracle as one of the seven great signs that Jesus worked to lead people to believe that he was the son of God. True enough, the man was cured and that was a blessing beyond compare. But there was more to follow as Jesus introduced him not only to daylight but to faith, not only to be able to see the wonders of the everyday world but also to recognise in faith the presence of God around him. This is something we all need, to be able to see God's hand in our lives. The darkness of selfishness blocks us seeing Christ in our brother in need and our recognising God's will when he calls us to be heroic in living out our baptismal privileges. It is our blindness that only Jesus can remove.

Today is a day to ask the Lord to restore our vision of our greatness as followers of his and give us the courage like the man in the gospel to proclaim to one and all that Jesus of Nazareth is the great prophet, the Son of God to whom we give our allegiance..

George O'Mahony

Ballincollig Lenten Retreat in Christ our Light

on
10th, 11th & 12th March 2008

"A New Heart Create in us O Lord"

Evening Monday 10th at 7:30 pm

Called to Community and Service

Evening Tuesday 11th at 7:30 pm

Called to Welcome the Stranger

Evening Wednesday 12th at 7:30 pm

Called to Receive & Share Forgiveness (Rite 11)

Monday - Wednesday

Masses: 7:00 am. & 9:15 am.

Conducted by the Redemptorists

Fr. Dan Baragry C.Ss.R.

Fr. Derek Meskell C.Ss.R.

The Redemptorist Fathers will preach at all the Sunday Masses in both Churches on 8th & 9th March 2008

The Sacrament of Anointing for the Sick and Elderly will be administered during the 9:15 am Mass on Tuesday 11th

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Priest

We present our prayers to the Lord, our shepherd and guide, confident that God will hear our petitions.

Reader

We pray for the Church, that its leaders will guide the faithful along the right path of truth.

**Lord, Hear us,
Lord, graciously hear us.**

We pray for faith, and the ability to see God at work in the world, in the wonder of creation and in the people who we meet each day.

**Lord, Hear us,
Lord, graciously hear us.**

We pray for those who are blind.

**Lord, Hear us,
Lord, graciously hear us.**

We pray for those who are in seminaries and in religious training. That they may be open to the Word of God and allow it to guide them along the right path.

**Lord, Hear us,
Lord, graciously hear us.**

We pray for all those people around the world who are preparing for baptism this Easter. May they be granted the gifts of faith, hope and love.

**Lord, Hear us,
Lord, graciously hear us.**

That today we all give thanks for mothers and take time to remember them.

**Lord, Hear us,
Lord, graciously hear us.**

Priest

God our Father, listen to the prayers we make in this Lenten season. Help us to turn out hearts towards you. We make these, and all our prayers, through Christ, your beloved son.

Amen.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Visit Our Website: www.ballincolligparish.ie

BAPTISMS

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

Leigh Marie Moore, Coopers Grange, Old Quarter.
 Sophie Olivia O'Driscoll, Old Court, Greenfields.
 Rebecca Jane Harrington, Berryfield, Classis Lake.
 Amy Margaret Kenny, The Meadows, Classis Lake.
 Cillian William O'Sullivan, Waltham Abbey, Old Quarter.

† **IN SYMPATHY** †

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF THE RECENTLY DECEASED :

Breeda Cagney.
 Anne Graham, Dublin.
 Josephine Buckley, Manor Hill.
 Margaret Donovan, Glasheen.
 Mary Collins, Clare.

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

Nora Harrington, Carrigrohane.
 Ken Murphy, Castle View.
 May & Sean Callaghan, Galway.
 Joseph Walsh, Ballyphehane.
 Sheila Twohig, Ovens.
 Sean McGeough, Muskerry Estate.
 Catherine & Thomas O'Donnell, Drimoleague.
 Jim Deasy, Aherla.
 Breda Cagney, Glendower.
 Pat, Kitty & Pat (Jnr) Sheehan, Coachford.
 Paddy & Julia Murphy, Barnagore, Ovens.
 Dec. Members of the O'Riordan Family, Kilmichael
 Stephen Murphy, Chapel Lane.
 Maureen Mansfield, Inniscarra View.
 Thomas & Kathleen Holmes.
 John, Joseph & Nora Fleming, Mallow.
 Lucy Doyle, Mallow.
 Eileen Long, Crosshaven.
 Alan O'Callaghan, Aherla.
 Patrick O'Donovan, Church Rd, Carrigrohane.
 Tadge & Ellen O'Donovan, Kilmurray.
 David Murphy, Poulavone.
 Mary & John Lucey, Coolroe.
 Dec. Members of the McCarthy Family, Little Island.
 Helen Lynch, Innishannon.
 James O'Mahony, Ballinora.
 Michael Hegarty, Carrignavar.
 Mabel Neenan, Millstreet.
 Tim & Catherine McCarthy, Dunmanway.
 Elizabeth & Tim Murphy, Carriganarra Road.
 Margaret Sexton, Bweeng.
 Miah Shannon, Hillview, Bandon.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Fourth Week of Lent

02 Sunday 1 Sam. 16:6-7, 10-13. Ps. 22. Eph. 58-14. Jn. 9:1-41. Lect I: 276
 03 Monday Is. 65:17-21. Ps. 29. Jn. 4:43-54. Lect I: 290
 04 Tuesday Ez. 47: 1-9.12. Ps. 45. Jn. 5:1 -3.5-1 6. Lect I: 292
 05 Wednesday Is. 49:8-15. Ps. 144. Jn. 5:17-30. Lect I: 294
 06 Thursday Ex. 32:7-14. Ps. 105. Jn. 5:31-47. Lect I: 297
 07 Friday Wis. 2: 1 , 12-22. Ps. 33. Jn. 7: 1 -2, 10, 25-30. Lect I: 300
 08 Saturday Jer 11 :18-20. Ps 7. Jn 7:40-53. Lect I: 303

Next Sunday's Readings 09-March-2008

Ez. 37: 12-14. Ps. 129. Rom. 8:8-11. Jn. 11: 1-45. Lect I: 305

Fourth Sunday In Lent - Blindness

Our inner blindness has, in the past, prevented us from seeing the damage we have been doing to Creation. Nowadays the information we have on Climate Change and the devastating effect it is having on those who are least able to cope in the developing world surely means that we can no longer claim "blindness" as an excuse. The question for each one of us is "What am I going to do with this gift of new sight and understanding. What can I do to help those most in need?"

For more information on Trócaire's Lenten campaign please log onto www.trocaire.org/lent



The Coeliac Society of Ireland

Date: Tuesday, 4th of March, 2008
 Place: SMA Hall, Wilton
 Time: 8.00 p.m.
 Manufacturers Book talk from Mary Twohig and talk from Dietitian, followed by refreshments.
 Everyone welcome.

Reflection for Parents

In order to help our children follow the light of Christ, we too must open our eyes. As Jesus helped the blind man understand, it is not enough to see only with our eyes. We need also to see with our hearts and allow our every action to reflect this sight. Jesus healed the man of his blindness, but in the end the man recognised Jesus as the Messiah and worshipped him.

CROWLEY FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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Rosewood Gallery

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 open Tue - Sat
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 Tel 021-4214987

Bulletin Board

Baptism Preparation.

The next Baptism preparation will take place on Saturday March 8th at 1.00 pm, and will be held in the Community Hall, Station Rd. The presentation lasts for approximately forty minutes. The following questions are addressed, what is Baptism? What are the symbols used in the Sacrament of Baptism? How can the family become involved in the ceremony? We recommend parents book baptisms a few weeks in advance in order to give ample time to take part in the preparation.

Diocese of Cork and Ross

Church Directory 2008 is for sale in both Churches. It contains Mass times, phone numbers, list of various services and other items of interest. Price €6.

Mass Book

Diaries to book Mass Intentions for April, May & June will open in both Churches on Saturday 8th March at 9 am.

First Friday

Friday 7th March is the first Friday in the month of March. There will be exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in St Mary & St John from 3:30 pm to 7:30 pm, **please note change of time**, you are invited to come and spend some time with the Lord on that day. There is Mass in St Mary & St John on Friday Evening at 8.00 pm . 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.

Spring Dues

Envelopes are currently being distributed to homes throughout the parish of Ballincollig, contribution of the dues is for the support of the priests of the parish. Please return it by placing it in the basket at Mass. Should your home be missed spare envelopes are available from the back of the church.

Envelope Collection

Next weekend, Irish Bishops' Commissions This collection helps fund the work of the Irish Bishops' Conference and its agencies and commissions.

This Week's Calendar

Monday 3 – Weekday (4th Week of Lent)

Tuesday 4 – Lenten Weekday

Wednesday 5 – St Kieran, bishop. Numbered among the pre-Patrician saints of Ireland, Kieran left his native Cape Clear in Cork and travelled to the continent where he was baptised and later ordained priest and bishop. He returned to his father's territory, Ossory, where he seems to have lived as a hermit.

Thursday 6 – Lenten Weekday

Friday 7 – Saints Perpetua and Felicity, martyrs. Perpetua, a young upper-class woman and Felicity, a slave girl, were martyred in Carthage, in the year 203.

Saturday 8 – St Senan, bishop. Senan was born into a prosperous farming family near Kilrush, Co Clare. His vocation seems to have resulted from an experience of danger at sea. He founded a monastery on Scattery Island in the Shannon Estuary and was anamchara to Ciaran of Clonmacnoise and Brendan. He died in 544. Also, St John of God, religious. St John of God, 1495-1550, devoted his life to the care of the poor and the sick. He is patron of nurses, the sick, heart patients, printers and booksellers.

Fr. George

World Day of Prayer Service

This years service will take place in St. Mary & St. John's church on Friday March 7th at 10:30 am. Title of the service is "God's Wisdom Provides New Understanding". It was prepared by the women of Guyana.

The speaker is Rev. Hazel Minion
All are very welcome to this service.

History of Mother's Day

The first celebrations in honour of mothers were held in the spring in ancient Greece. They paid tribute to Rhea, the Mother of the Gods. During the 17th century, England honoured mothers on "Mothering Sunday," celebrated on the fourth Sunday of Lent. In the United States, Julia Ward Howe suggested the idea of Mother's Day in 1872. Howe, who wrote the words to the Battle Hymn of the Republic, saw Mother's Day as being dedicated to peace. Anna Jarvis of Philadelphia is credited with bringing about the official observance of Mother's Day. Her campaign to establish such a holiday began as a remembrance of her mother, who died in 1905 and who had, in the late 19th century, tried to establish "Mother's Friendship Days" as a way to heal the scars of the Civil War. Two years after her mother died, Jarvis held a ceremony in Grafton, West Virginia, to honour her. She was so moved by the proceedings that she began a massive campaign to adopt a formal holiday honouring mothers. In 1910, West Virginia became the first state to recognise Mother's Day. A year later, nearly every state officially marked the day.

But Jarvis' accomplishment soon turned bitter for her. Enraged by the commercialisation of the holiday, she filed a lawsuit to stop a 1923 Mother's Day festival and was even arrested for disturbing the peace at a war mothers' convention where women sold white carnations - Jarvis' symbol for mothers - to raise money. "This is not what I intended," Jarvis said. "I wanted it to be a day of sentiment, not profit!" She died in 1948, aged 84. Today, because and despite Jarvis' efforts, many celebrations of Mother's Day are held throughout the world.

"Best Wishes To All Mothers Today"

East Meets West at Easter

East meets West in Cork this Easter weekend as Singapore's finest, the T'ang Quartet, join Ireland's leading young Callino Quartet for an Easter celebration in the CIT Cork School of Music and St Mary's, Pope's Quay, Cork from Friday 21st March to Monday 24th March.

Tickets for these concerts are available from West Cork Music on Lo Call 1850 788 789 or 027 52788, www.westcorkmusic.ie

THE SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading: 1 Samuel 16:1, 6-7, 10-13

The Lord sent Samuel to Bethlehem to the house of Jesse, where Samuel was to anoint the new king of Israel. After Jesse presented each of his sons, the Lord instructed Samuel to anoint the youngest, David.

Second Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14

Live as children of light in goodness, justice, and truth. "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will give you light."

Gospel: John 9:1-41

Using saliva and earth, Jesus made a paste to heal the blind man. The healing became a true conversion for the man, but created some problems for Jesus with the Jewish leaders. Because this healing took place on the Sabbath, the Pharisees accused Jesus of breaking Jewish law. The Pharisees tried to get confirmation of this action from the blind man's parents and from the blind man himself. In the end, the authorities were unable to charge Jesus with any wrongdoing and had to recognise that Jesus was gaining many disciples.

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

Mar-08 & Mar-09-2008

St. Mary & St. John Christ Our Light

6:00 pm (Vigil)
Michael Fitton
Paul Kearns
8:30 am
Susan Fennell
10:00 am
Grace Buttimer
Orla Horgan
12:00 Noon
Declan Chalmers

7:30 pm (Vigil)
Michael Greene
11:00 am
Dave Murphy
12:30 pm
Kay Carew
5:30 pm
Emily Hardman

MASS TIMES

St. Mary & St. John		Christ Our Light
8:30 am, 10 am & 12 noon	Sunday	11 am, 12:30 pm & 5:30 pm
9:30 am	Monday	8:30 am & 8 pm
9:30 am	Tuesday	8:30 am & 8 pm
9:30 am	Wednesday	8:30 am & 8 pm
9:30 am	Thursday	8:30 am & 8 pm
9:30 am & 8 pm	Friday	8:30 am & 8 pm
10:00 am & 6 pm (Vigil)	Saturday	7:30 pm (Vigil)

CONFESSIONS

After 10:00 am Mass & before 6:00 pm Mass **Saturday**

BAPTISMS

4:30 pm **Saturday** 4:30 pm
Except First Saturday of Month First Saturday of Month
12:45 pm **Sunday**

MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

Mar-08 & Mar-09-2008

St. Mary & St. John Christ Our Light

6.00 pm Patsie Murphy
Marie Bohan
Mary Walsh
Marie Healy
Margaret Kearney
Nora Barry

7:30 pm Jim Cahill
Kit Cahill
Sheila O'Connor
John Canty
11:00 am Carmel Ryan
Angela Cunningham
Laurence Cunningham
Eileen Byrne

8:30 am Theresa Lucey
Rita Murphy
Mona Holland

10:00 am Tadgh Murphy
Mary Murphy
Joan Tobin
Tony O'Leary
Phil Kennedy
Denis Healy

12:30 pm Eileen Garvey
Sally Power
Breda Callanan
Olan O'Mahony

12 Noon Michael Crowley
Breda Lenihan
Noel Hennessey
Jacinta Jeffers
Rena O'Connor
Sean Farrell

5:30 pm Neil O'Donoghue
Phil O'Connell
Maire McCullagh

PARISH CLERGY

Priest on Duty 087-2479140

Fr. George O'Mahony P.P. 021-4871206
Fr. Michael O'Mahony C.C. 021-4877161
Fr. Sean O'Driscoll C.C. 021-4870434
Fr. Ted Sheehan 021-4876171



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Parish Office, The Presbytery, Ballincollig is open Mon - Wed from 9 am - 1 pm & 2 pm - 3 pm. Sat 10:30 am - 12 Noon. Phone No. (021) 4871206, Office Secretary Catherine Crowley.

Ballincollig Credit Union Ltd.

Harrington Street
Tel: 021-4872305
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New Town Centre Office
Tel: 021-4208300
Fax: 021-4872532

Monday	Closed
Tuesday	9.30 – 5.00 pm
Wednesday	10.30 – 5.00 pm
Thursday	9.30 – 5.00 pm
Friday	9.30 – 5.00 pm
Saturday	9.30 – 12.30 pm

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Monday	9.30 – 5.00 pm
Tuesday	9.30 – 5.00 pm
Wednesday	10.30 – 5.00 pm
Thursday	9.30 – 7.30 pm
Friday	9.30 – 7.30 pm
Saturday	9.30 – 5.00 pm