

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



St. Mary & St. John
Station Road

Sunday 05-December-2004

Second Sunday of Advent

Through the scriptures God has given us the hope of justice for the poor and a longing for peace and harmony among people. Christ came to fulfil that promise, but to receive it we must turn our lives away from everything that is sinful.



Christ Our Light
Innishmore

God Has Not Forgotten Us

None of us likes to be forgotten. Yet all of us have had some experience of what it is like, even if it was only on an occasion. It may be that we were not invited to some event, or our contribution to some work was not recognised, or our birthday was forgotten. Here we are talking just about being omitted or passed over. But even that can be very painful, for it means to be ignored, or to be treated as if you were of no significance.

There is another kind of forgetting, when people forget all about us. This is a far deeper and more painful thing. We feel that we do not matter any more. That no one cares about us. It is as if we did not exist. We feel that we have been not just forgotten but abandoned. It is worse if we were victims of false promises. "I will be in touch - I will write - I will call again" and so on.

No, it is not nice to be forgotten. It is extremely painful. We may feel like that about God too. Something bad may have happened to us, so we think, "God has forgotten me". This leads to the feeling that God does not care about us. That he does not love us any more. Have you felt like this in your own relationship with God over the years?

That is how God's people felt in the Old Testament times. Their kingdom had fallen, the holy city Jerusalem had been destroyed, their sons and daughters had been taken into exile. So they asked themselves, "Where is God?" They concluded that God had forgotten.

We too can take heart. Even though we may forget God, God does not forget us. This Advent time reminds us of the wonderful promises God made to us, and shows us how they are fulfilled in Jesus. The great sign we have that God loves us is the fact that he sent His Son to us. John the Baptist was the one who announced the Good News of His coming.

No, God has not forgotten us. God remembers us. Even if everyone else were to forget us, God will not forget us. It is lovely to be remembered, even if only in a small way. It is a sign that someone cares about us. God cares about us. We matter to him, because we are His precious sons and daughters.

Since we then like to be remembered by others, we have a duty also to remember others, especially those who have been good to us and who sacrificed themselves for us. Christmas is a great time for remembering people. One small way we can do it is through a simple card with a few words that come from the heart.

Let us reflect just how much we need the Lord's salvation in our lives and in our world in this Advent time.

John O'Donovan

Reflection for Parents

We Christians come in daily contact with other people whether at work, in our neighbourhoods, or schools. We have opportunities throughout the day to witness our faith by our actions and words, but what greater audience do we have than our own children? They watch us and listen to us. They imitate our every action and mimic our expressions. It is important that we witness our faith to all we meet, but no audience is more important than our families. Sometimes we need to take some quiet "desert time" like we find in today's Gospel in order to focus our lives more intentionally on what is truly important.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Priest

Let us bring our prayers before God, who has pity on the weak.

Reader

For a spirit of repentance among all believers.

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

For peace with justice where it is most lacking.

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

For reconciliation between people who are at war.

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

For our children, in this season of anticipation.

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

For all who are in need.

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

For those taken from us in death.

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

Priest

O God, you save the poor when they cry to you, Hear the prayers of all your people, through Christ our Lord.

Amen

Feast of the Immaculate Conception Holy Day of Obligation Wednesday 8th December

The bush in the sanctuary is a Jesse Tree on which various symbols are placed. These symbols remind us of the waiting for the Messiah through the Old Testament. The symbols reflected some of the ancestors of Jesus Christ highlighting the humanity of Jesus. Matthew Chapter 1 gives a complete genealogy of Jesus.

In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails.

Visit Our Website: www.ballincolligparish.ie

BAPTISMS

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

Ella Nancy Hogan, 102 The Cloisters.
 Cormac Thomas McCarthy, 45 Willowfields.
 Abby Sheehan, 1 Coolroe Meadows.
 Anita O'Driscoll, 30 Chestnut Grove, Classis Lake.
 Etain Mary O'Sullivan, 30 Holly Road, Muskerry Estate.
 Cian Michael Ross, 8 Parknamore Heights.
 Evan Conor McArdle, 6 Prospect Lawn.

† **IN SYMPATHY** †
PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF THE RECENTLY DECEASED :

Nancy Roche, 29 Castle Park
 John O'Connor, Powdermills.

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

Deceased members of the Sheehan family, Kilcorney.
 Dan & Ann Kenny, McCurtain Villas.
 Matthew & Julia Twomey, Kilcorney.
 Daniel Coomey, Carriganarra Road.
 Mary Anne Sheehan, Kilcorney.
 Mick Hannigan, Station Road.
 Kathleen & Patrick Fitzgerald, Connolly Road.
 Jane Callinan, Poulavone.
 Laurence O'Brien, Durham, England.
 John Quin, Beech Park.
 Bridget & Michael O'Regan, Carriganarra.
 Timothy & Eileen Keohane, Clonakilty.
 Teddy Roche, Sweetbriar Lane.
 Brendan Whelan, Elm Lawn.
 Anthony McCarthy, 98 Castle Park.
 Patrick Murphy, Garravagh, Inniscarra.
 Jerry & Hannah Goulding, Inniscarra.
 Phylis Donegan, Millford, Co. Cork.
 Mary Linehan, Inniscarra View.
 Tim O'Leary, Farnanes.
 Martin De Nogla, Wyndham Downs.
 Joe & Mona Thullier, Kinsale.
 Deceased members of Organisation of National Ex Servicemen.
 James & Catherine O'Sullivan, Kilmichael.
 Adriene Curling, Ivy Circle.
 Deceased members of M.C. O'Sullivan.
 Michael & Mary Naughton, Farranree.
 Denis Clifford, Congress Road.
 David & Margaret Rea.
 Frances Cunningham, Crookstown & Ballincollig.
 John & Brid Lehan, Wolfe Tone Street.
 Jeremiah & Bridget Collins, Dunmanway.
 Daniel & Margaret Murphy, Knockburden.
 Mary Drinan, Waterfall.

Bookshop – Christ Our Light

Now in stock Christmas cards, candles, cribs, rosary beads, crucifixes, CD's, tapes, children's bibles, books and a variety of religious objects.

Why not give a religious gift this Christmas!
 Shop open weekends before and after all masses.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Second Week of Advent

05 Sunday Is. 11:1-10. Ps. 71. Rom. 15:4-9. Mt. 3:1-12. Lect 1:24
 06 Monday Is. 35:1-10. Ps. 84. Lk. 5:17-26. Lect 1:33
 07 Tuesday Is. 40:1-11. Ps. 95. Mt. 18:12-14. Lect 1:35
 08 Wednesday Gen. 3:9-15, 20. Ps. 97. Eph. 1:3-6, 11-12. Lk. 1:26-38. Lect I: 1009 or Lect II:1289
 09 Thursday Is. 41:13-20. Ps. 144. Mt. 11:11-15. Lect 1:40
 10 Friday Is. 48:17-19. Ps. 1. Mt. 11:16-19. Lect 1:42
 11 Saturday Sir. 48:1-4,9-11. Ps. 79. Mt. 17:10-13. Lect 1:44

Next Sunday's Readings 12-December-2004
 Is. 35:1-6, 10. Ps. 145. Jm. 5:7-10. Mt. 11:2-11. Lect 1:46



Second Sunday of Advent

Prepare the way for the Lord. His coming - His Advent - depends on our invitation, our welcome. His Love will turn our deserts into oases.

Hymns This Sunday

12 noon Mass St. Mary & St. John
 Please join in with the Cantor.

Entrance	“O come Emanuel”	503
	“Alleluia”	
Offertory	“All that I am”	122
Communion	“Ag Críost an Siol”	
Final Hymn	“How great Thou art”	

Mass Book Opens

The Book for reserving Masses for
 January, February & March 2005
 Will be opened on Saturday morning, December 11th

CROWLEY

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THE SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10

The vision of the peace that will come when all people worship the one God.

Second Reading: Romans 15:4-9

Paul reminds us that the scriptures were written to teach about God's promises.

Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12.

In Matthew's Gospel, we learn of John's continued warning for us to be ready for Jesus when he comes again. It is not enough that we are sons and daughters of Abraham, but by our own desire, we want to live a life pleasing to God. The Gospel challenges us to bear fruit. It was not enough for the Sadducees nor is it enough for us to simply follow the rules and rituals of our faith. The very actions of lives must show what we believe about our faith.



SAINT OF THE WEEK

Saint Nicholas 06-December-2004

The true story of Santa Claus begins with Nicholas, who was born during the third century in Patara, a village in what is now Turkey. His wealthy parents, who raised him to be a devout Christian, died in an epidemic while Nicholas was still young. Obeying Jesus' words to "sell what you own and give the money to the poor," Nicholas used his whole inheritance to assist the needy, the sick, and the suffering. He dedicated his life to serving God and was made Bishop of Myra while still a young man. Bishop Nicholas became known throughout the land for his generosity to those in need, his love for children, and his concern for sailors and ships.

Under the Roman Emperor Diocletian, who ruthlessly persecuted Christians, Bishop Nicholas suffered for his faith, was exiled and imprisoned. The prisons were so full of bishops, priests, and deacons; there was no room for the real criminals, murderers, thieves and robbers. After his release, Nicholas attended the Council of Nicaea in 325 AD. He died December 6, AD 343 in Myra and was buried in his cathedral church, where a unique relic, called manna, formed in his grave. This liquid substance was said to have healing powers which fostered the growth of devotion to Nicholas. The anniversary of his death became a day of celebration, St. Nicholas Day.

St. Nicholas is esteemed a patron of children, because he was from his infancy a model of innocence and virtue, and to form that tender age to sincere piety was always his first care and delight. To impress on the minds of children perfect sentiments of devotion, religion, and all virtues, with earnestness in all duties, is a task often as delicate as it is important. Instructions must be made sensible and adapted by similes, parables, and examples, to the weakness of their capacities. Above all, they are to be enforced by the conduct of those with whom children converse. They learn their maxims, imbibe their spirit, and are moulded upon their example. A child which sees those who are about him love their own ease and ever seek what best pleases their senses; still more, if he observes them to be choleric, peevish, vain, slothful, or impatient, will naturally cherish these passions and yield up the government of himself to them, instead of learning by traceableness, humility, meekness, and self-denial, to subdue and govern them. And so in all other points. Precepts and exhortations lose their force when contradicted by example; and whilst the infant sees everyone study to please himself in everything, in flat opposition to the rules of the gospel which he hears preached from their mouths, he seems tacitly persuaded that such a conduct is reconcilable with those very maxims which condemn it.

L'Arche Christmas Crafts Fair

Sunday 5th December

10.00am – 5.00pm

L'Arche Community Centre, Togher

Reconciliation Service

Church of Christ Our Light @ 6.30 pm

Church of St. Mary & St. John @ 8.00 pm

on Monday 20th December 2004

Annual Toy Mass

organised by

Secular Franciscan Order

Sunday 12th December 2004

at 11.00 am. 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.

Ballincollig Secular Franciscan Order

The monthly Mass and meeting will be held

on Thursday 9th December at 11.00 am

in St. Mary & St. John Church

Rosary will be recited at 10.40 am (Sharp)

Christmas Flower Arranging

In aid of Inniscarra Community Centre

Thursday 9th December at 8 pm.

Ellis Room Inniscarra Community Centre, Ballyanly

Adm: €8 inc. refreshments and door prize plus raffle

Demonstrator; Norma Moylan

Theme: Christmas arrangements for your home.

Society of St Vincent de Paul

Annual Christmas Collection

Next Saturday & Sunday 11th & 12th at all Masses

Please give generously

Ballincollig & District Lions Club

in association with

Micheál Ó Crualaoí, Master Butcher

presents a

Christmas Food Fayre in aid of the

Ballincollig Rugby Club (Juvenile Section)

in Ballincollig Rugby Club

on Thursday 9th December 2004 at 8.00 pm sharp

Tickets €10.00

Muskerry Local History Society

December Lecture

Subject:- History of St. Coleman of Cloyne.

Speaker:- Mr. Paul Cotter, Local Historian.

Venue:- Ballincollig Rugby Club Function Hall.

Date & Time:- Tuesday 7th December 2004 at 8.00 pm.

Admission:- €2.00. Non-members welcome.

Get Ready For Christmas

Early morning prayer for Advent

Starting Monday 29th November – 6:00 am.

Crying Room, Christ Our Light Church.

All Welcome.

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

Dec-11 & Dec-12-2004

St. Mary & St. John

Christ Our Light

6:00 pm (Vigil)
Muireann Nelligan
8:30 am
Annette Collins
10:00 am
Dave Murphy
12:00 Noon
Tony Lynch

8:00 pm (Vigil)
Jacinta Jeffers
11:00 am
Catherine Cronin
12:30 pm
Kay Carew
5:30 pm
Brian O'Donoghue

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
9:30 am & 6 pm (Vigil)	Tuesday	8:30 am & 8 pm (Vigil)
8:30 am, 10 am, 12 noon & 8 pm	Wednesday	11 am, 12:30 pm & 6:30 pm
9:30 am	Thursday	8:30 am
9:30 am	Friday	8:30 am
10:00 am & 6 pm (Vigil)	Saturday	9:00 am & 8 pm (Vigil)

CONFESSIONS

After 10:00 am Mass & before 6:00 pm Mass **Saturday** After 9:00 am Mass

BAPTISMS

5:00 pm **Saturday** 7:15 pm
12:45 pm **Sunday**

MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

Dec-11 & Dec-12-2004

St. Mary & St. John

Christ Our Light

6.00 pm Vera Allen
Ber Bell
Oliver Delaney
Betty Casey
Frank Riordan
Siobhan Riordan
8:30 am Mary Buckley
Theresa Lucey
10:00 am Anne Cahill
Pat Lee
May Delaney
Seamus O'Shea
John O'Donovan
12 Noon Joan Barrett
Sheila Carroll
Marsie Curling
Will Casey
Geraldine Graham

8:00 pm Geraldine Lynch
Charlie Vaughan
Joan Stephenson
11:00 am Marie Ui Chrualaof
Neil Jeffers
Eileen O'Donoghue
Lelia O'Brien
12:30 pm Con O'Connell
Denis O' Mahony
Christine O'Mahony
Tom Murray
5:30 pm Patsy Galvin
Bernard Curran
Clare Curran

PARISH CLERGY

Priest on Duty 087-2479140

Fr. George O'Mahony 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



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Now open all day Wednesday

New Opening Hours from March 29th 2004

Monday	10:30 - 5:00 pm
Tuesday	9:45 - 5:00 pm
Wednesday	9:45 - 5:00 pm
Thursday	9:45 - 5:00 pm
Friday	9:45 - 7:00 pm
Saturday	9:45 - 12:00 pm

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