THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



Sunday 06-January-2008

The Epiphany of the Lord

God's plan for the world, the mysterious purpose of existence, is unveiled by the coming of Christ. God wants it to be known and it will be known, by all who follow the light of faith leading them to Christ.



Feast of the Epiphany

The year 2008 has arrived. I wish all our parishioners a very happy, peaceful and holy new year. New year is an opportunity to make a fresh start in one or maybe several areas of our lives. The opening reading today tells us 'Arise, shine out, for your light has come, the glory of the Lord is rising on you.' I think this is daunting statement and it truly emphasises the great trust the Lord has in us. To help us to fulfil this calling, prayer has to be an important part of my day. Perhaps if I haven't already done so, I will try to keep prayer at the centre of each day.

Many people have clear goals in life and all their energies are directed towards that goal. The goal may be money, prestige, and family happiness, success in sport or friendship with God. Whatever it is, it is like a single star that beckons them on relentlessly

Today's gospel tells of the wise men who followed their star and it lead them to Jesus. They could have stayed where they were, but they paid the price of a long journey, risked their lives by approaching Herod. Their reward was to meet Jesus and to worship him as God.

Most of us are less definite about what I want from life. We follow many little stars, a bit of comfort and security, some selfishness here and there. We can be like Herod and expect somebody else to find Jesus for us. We must be prepared to pay the price of time and service to meet Jesus. The world today has many stars beckoning us, we must be prepared to choose one rather than rest..

George O'Mahony



The priests of the parish extend a Happy New Year to all members of the parish and to all readers of the Ballincollig Parishioner.

George O'Mahony, Michael O'Mahony, Sean O'Driscoll & Ted Sheehan



Christ Our Light Innishmore

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Priest

Let us present our prayers and our act of trust before our loving God, who always wants what is best for us.

Reader

For all peoples and all nations, that they may have the Good News proclaimed to them. Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For a deepening of our own faith and that of all Christians in the mystery of the Word made flesh. Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For the grace to begin the New Year well and for a spirit of hope. Lord, Hear us, Lord, graciously hear us.

For people in any kind of need, that they may be aware of the Father's care for them as they experience the help and support of their Christian neighbours. Lord, Hear us, Lord, graciously hear us.

For those who seek a meaning and purpose in life, for those who are in grief or in despair, for those who are victims of violence or unjust treatment, that they may not lose hope.

Lord, Hear us, Lord, graciously hear us.

For the needs of this community. Lord, Hear us, Lord, graciously hear us.

Priest

King of Glory, you rule the world with justice and compassion. Listen to the prayers of your people, and grant them what they need to live a life in accord with your law. We ask this through Jesus Christ, our lord and Saviour.

All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord. Visit Our Website: www.ballincolligparish.ie

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

The Epiphany of the Lord

06 Sunday Is. 60:1-6. Ps. 71. Eph. 3:2-3, 5-6. Mt. 2:1-12. Lect I: 161

07 Monday 1 Jn. 3:22-4:6. Ps. 2. Mt. 4: 12-17, 23-25. Lect I: 164

08 Tuesday 1 Jn. 4:7-10. Ps. 71. Mk. 6:34-44. Lect I: 166

09 Wednesday 1 Jn 4:11-18. Ps 71. Mk 6:45-52. Lect I: 168

10 Thursday 1 Jn 4:19-5:4. Ps 71. Lk 4:14-22. Lect I: 171

11 Friday 1 Jn 5:5-13. Ps 147. Lk 5:12-lb. Lect I: 173

12 Saturday 1 Jn 5:14-21. Ps 149. Jn 3:22-30. Lect I: 175

Next Sunday's Readings 13-January-2008 Is 42:1-4, 6-7. Ps 23. Acts 10:34-38. Mt 3:13-17. Lect I: 179

BAPTISMS

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

Julie Margaret White, 18, Old Court. Tara Eileen Goulding, 41, Walladil Fields. Sean Chibuzo Oraqui, 80, Highfield Park. Albertos Macuilevicuis, 64, Beech Park. Joshua Michael Miller, 44, Aylsbury Drive. Elode Saoirse Wohlgemuth, 12 Island Way. Josephine Anastasia Jahamanah Bangara, 98, An Caislean Grove. Laura Maria Buckley, 52, Willow Grove. Maudhbh Nora Boland, 41, The Willows. Isabel Claire Woodcock, 67 Fernwalk. Carys Tess Redington, Aghabullogue. Arlana Ada Redington, Aghabullogue. Ciarán James Murphy, 86, The Green, Coolroe Meadows. Tomás Michael Murphy, 86, The Green, Coolroe Meadows.

Reflection for Parents

There are many people, opportunities, and circumstances that guide our families. Talk together about what "stars" lead you as a family. Continue the discussion by reflecting on what gifts you have to offer Jesus. Help your children remember that what we give to others is what we give to Jesus. How will your family share your gifts for Jesus?

Sick Or House Bound?

If you have a friend or relative who is sick, house bound or in hospital, please let the Priests of the Parish know, so they may visit.

"Blessed are those who can give without remembering and take without forgetting" Elizabeth Bibesco

CROWLEY FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Bóthar Saclay, Ballincollig, Co. Cork Tel: 021-4874777 Mobile: 087-2759254 Email: michaelfd@eircom.net www.crowleyfuneraldirectors.ie Complete Funeral Arrangements 24 Hour Service Embalming Service Member I.A.F.D. Golden Charter Funeral Pre-Planning Available

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

Derry O'Neill, Cedar Crest, Carrigrohane. Noreen Keohane, Westcliffe. Michael Murphy, West Village. Stephen O'Connor, Innishmore. Mary Hume, Douglas. Eddie Barry, Inniscarra.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS OF THE FOLLOWING WHOSE ANNIVERSARY OC-CURS:

Aidan Burke, Beech Road, Maureen Callanan, West Village. Mary Cahalane, Muskerry, Estate Sheila O'Mahony, Coachford. Joseph Guerra, Portgal. Con, John & Julia Harrington, Adrigole. William & Frances Buckley, West Village. Bridget Ann & Mary Murphy. Con O'Regan, Maglin. Thomas, Nora & Sonny Cummins, Kinsale. William, Margaret & May Downey. Dorothy Downey. Ernest & Agnes Duffield. Catherne, Patrick & Mary Good. Kathy & James Good. James & John Linehan. Tom Noonan. Michael & Margaret O'Flaherty. John, Mary & Jack Seymour. Aiden & Ellen Seymour. Elizabeth, Patrick & May Seymour. Peggy Lingwood, Bishopstown. Mary Hackett, Spring Lane. Patrick & Margaret Kenneally, Curraheen. Tom Mulqueen, Rosewood. Marjorie O'Mahony, Bandon. Thomas Reid, Curraheen. Patrick Barry, Ardnarostig, Bishopstown. Mona Hourigan, Limerick. Eily O'Connor, Kanturk & Carriganarra. Deceased Members of the O'Regan Family, Carriganarra. Eileen & Ann Feehily, Upton. Pat Forde, Upton. Mary Forde, Upton. Patrick Sheehan, Kilmurry. Joe Casey, Fircus Gardens. Deceased members of the Ahern Family, Fr Sexton Pk. Noreen O'Driscoll, Castle Park. James O'Donovan, Union Hall. Jim & Noreen O'Callaghan, Hazel Grove. Kathleen O'Connor, Co Waterford. Denis Murphy, Fr Sexton Pk. Sheila Walsh, Castle Park. Mary Sheehan, Douglas. Cait Gabriel, Clash Road, Curraheen. Abina Carroll, Cloughduv. John Jo Hegarty, Carrignavar.

Sunday 06-January-2008

THE SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading 1 Isaiah 60:1-6

What a vision the prophet gives us of the way life should be, and one day shall be! He sees a new Jerusalem bursting in the future with the riches and abundant life of the Lord. Pilgrims from every nation stream into the holy city to praise God, who has called them home. Their hearts throb with wonder, joy, and gratitude. For Christians, the new Jerusalem is understood as a symbol of the universal Church. The Church gathers God's people from east and west, north and south, to worship together and present their gifts to the Lord.

Second Reading: Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6

A message similar to that of the first reading is given to the people of Ephesus: the good news of Jesus is meant for all people, not just a few. All people are called to share in the promise of Jesus Christ.

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

Today we celebrate the showing forth (epiphany) of Jesus to the nations beyond Israel. When astrologers, or magi, from the East saw a new star appear in the sky, they accepted it as a sign that a great leader had been born. Without knowing where the star would lead them or what they would find, the magi set out bearing gifts. Their faith and courage were rewarded when God revealed to them his own Son.

Bulletin Board

Offertory Collection

Envelopes for the offertory collections for 2008 are now available in both churches. There is one envelope for each Sunday in every box and it is an opportunity for every member of the family to contribute. The offertory collection is solely for the upkeep, maintenance, insurance, lighting, heating and related expenses of both churches. Thank for your generosity and we look forward to your support for the coming year. Families who have signed a Direct Debit are not expected to contribute to this collection and can refrain from taking a box.

St Mary & St. John

Parking is at a premium with the great number of cars used. We request church users to be careful not to obstruct exits in the car park adjacent to Church. Be extra careful when parking adjacent to Madonna House, be sure not to obstruct exit as this is the only point of entry for ambulance.

Ministers of the Word

The Sunday Missal is available in the Sacristy of both Churches please collect copy at your earliest convenience.

Thank You

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

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER

Origins Of The Epiphany

"Epiphany" is a word of Greek origin, relating to such English words as "theophany", "phenotype" and "phenomenon". It means an appearance, a displaying, a showing forth, a making clear or public or obvious. On this day, Christians have traditionally celebrated the making known of Jesus Christ to the world. Several events have been thought of as special instances of the making known of Our Lord, such as: His birth; the coming of the Magi; his Baptism; His first miracle at Cana.

Current majority usage, at least in the West, celebrates His birth on 25 December, the coming of the Magi on 6 January, and His Baptism on the next Sunday. On the following Sundays up to the beginning of Lent, we remember Our Lord's public preaching of the kingdom, particularly the earlier stages of that preaching when opposition had not yet crystallised. On the Last Sunday after Epiphany (the Sunday before Lent), we commemorate the Transfiguration, the climax of this first phase of our Lord's public ministry.

Today, then, we commemorate the visit of the Magi, a token of the day when all the peoples of the earth will acknowledge Jesus Christ as Lord, God and Saviour. The visit of the Magi is recorded in the second chapter of Matthew.

Christian writers have interpreted the gold as a sign that Jesus is King, the Frankincense as a sign that He is God, and the myrrh (used in embalming) as a sign that He is by His death and Resurrection the Saviour of the world. This imagery is found in the song, "We three Kings of Orient Are". The three gifts are also understood as a sign of three responses that we ought to make to Christ.

'MOTHERS PRAYERS'

Groups will recommence In Meeting Room at Christ our Light Church Wednesday 16th January at <u>10.30 a.m.</u> and at The Annex of the Parish Hall Thursday 17th January at 10.00 a.m.

Christmas Collection

With Thanks, The Priests of the Parish, Fr. George, Fr. Michael and Fr. Sean would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your generosity in the Christmas Day and Christmas Eve collection for the Priests of the Parish. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

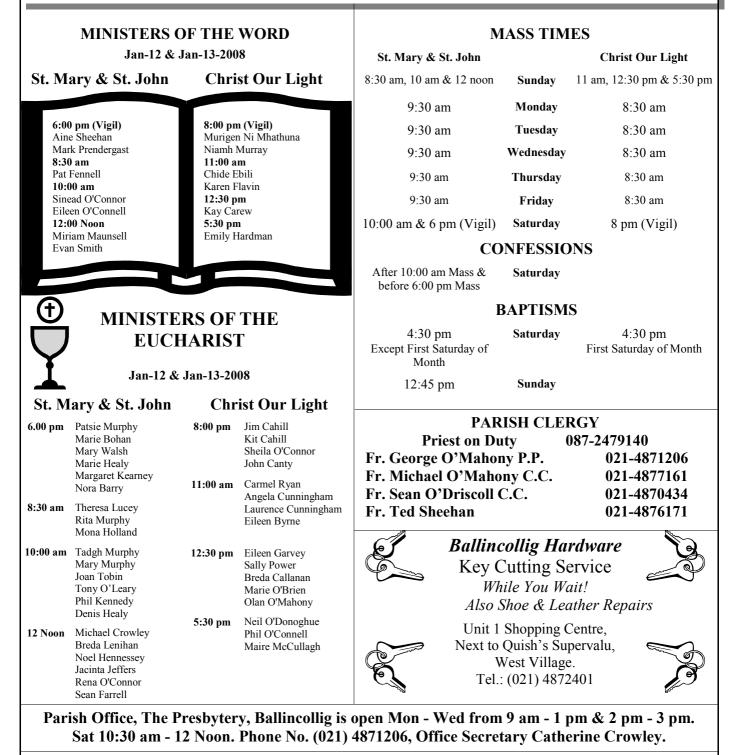
Thanking you Fr. George O'Mahony Fr. Michael O'Mahony Fr. Sean O'Driscoll

Msza Św. Mass in Polish

w jêzyku polskim w Ballincollig 16 luty - 16 February sobota – 19:00 - Saturday 19:00 Zapraszamy Powiadom znajomych

Sunday 06-January-2008

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



Ballincollig Credit Union Ltd.

Harrington Street Tel: 021-4872305 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



Our Great Benefits

Avail of 100% Finance and Own Your Car from Day One Option of Future Loans for Insurance and Tax No Penalties for Early Repayment Loan Protection Insurance at no Extra Cost Interest Repayments Decrease as you Pay Off Your Loan Easy Application Procedure and Speedy Decision **New Town Centre Office** Tel: 021-4208300 Fax: 021-4872532

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