

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



St. Mary & St. John
Station Road

Sunday 07-December-2008

Second Sunday Of Advent

When God comes, he comes with power but also with compassion restoring all things. We can prepare the way of his coming with lives of holiness.



Christ Our Light
Innishmore

St. Vincent de Paul Annual Appeal 13th & 14th December 2008

I believe our regional president of SVP hit the nail on the head recently when he wrote "our politicians have forgotten poverty or never experienced it, that they don't understand what its like to be in want, that they don't realise the damage done to the old, to children and to families, or is it simply "indifference" He went on to say: the Budget in its original form was a savage attack on the old, the young, the marginalised, the disabled and even though parts of the Budget have been withdrawn it remains a minefield of poverty traps the full affects of which will only become apparent as time passes. Does anyone in Government have the slightest idea of what it takes to balance your income at this level, constantly "robbing Peter to pay Paul"?"

At SVP in Ballincollig we witness poverty and its effects on families; we are constantly faced with families who live from week to week struggling to make ends meet. We meet with the parent struggling without enough food to feed their children, who has to decide which bill to pay this week from their meagre income, be it the ESB, Gas, Rent or Mortgage, and decide to wrap up well to keep warm as there is no money to buy coal this week.

In the past year SVP has funded local projects including healthcare, clothing, home assistance, education, summer breaks, etc, and where someone is in need we are there to assist in every way possible. We depend on your generosity to fund our work and you have not failed us. The goodness and generosity of the Ballincollig parishioners powers us on to keep up the work of those who have served the local community so well over the past decades.

"I was hungry and you gave me to eat"

Thank you once again. Your loyalty to SVP makes a valuable difference.

Tim Meehan
Vice President
St. Vincent de Paul, Ballincollig

Advent Retreat

The Ballincollig Advent Retreat will be held in the Church of Christ Our Light on 8th, 9th and 10th December, 2008. The Retreat will be conducted by the Redemptorists who will speak at all Masses this weekend .

Monday 8th		Tuesday 9th & Wednesday 10th	
7.00 a.m.	Mass	7.00 a.m.	Mass
12.30 p.m.	Mass	8.30 a.m.	Mass
6.30 p.m.	Mass	7.30 p.m.	Sermon & Prayer
			Penitential Service on Wednesday Evening

Second Sunday of Advent

Lord, may we be open to Your healing grace as we take another step, preparing for You in our hearts. "Let us see, O Lord, Your mercy, And give us Your saving Help"



PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Priest

Let us present our needs to the God of consolation, confident of being heard.

Reader

For the Church; that we may prepare a way for the Lord.

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

For the grace to open our hearts to receive the Lord.

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

For vocations; that the Lord may send labourers to the harvest.

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

For peace; that those who are in conflict may search for the way of peace.

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

For those who are sick, especially the terminally ill; that they may receive consolation in their time of trial.

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

For those who have died; that they may be received into the glory of the Lord.

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

Priest

Heavenly Father, hear these prayers we present to you this day. We make these, and all our prayers, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen.

Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help.

Visit Our Website: www.ballincolligparish.ie

BAPTISMS

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

Ava Margaret Elizabeth Smyth, Coolroe, Inniscarra Road.
Eryk Takuski, An Caislean.

† **IN SYMPATHY** †

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

Kitty Buckley, Blarney Street.
Agnes O'Connor, Leedsdale Grove.
Tom McGreevy, Friars Walk.

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

Deceased members of Organisation of National Ex Servicemen.

John O'Donnell, Donegal.
Nuala Harte, Rosscarbery.
Derry O'Neill.
Timothy O'Leary, Farnanes.
Bill & Kit Foley, Essex.
Tommy Daly & Paul Wall.
Mary Drinan, Waterfall.
Eric Scott, Coolroe.
Mary Anne Sheehan, Kilcorney.
Paddy Barry, Redemption Road.
Pat Barry, Mayfield.
Jim Cotter, Ballingearry.
Sean Cunningham, Wilton Gardens.
Christy Callanan, Muskerry Estate.
Michael Naughton, Farranree.
Kitty & Margaret Fitzgerald, Connolly Road.
Eileen, Frank, & Ned O'Donovan, Raheen.
Daniel Coomey, Carriganarra.
Beatrice Shanahan, Fr Sexton Park.
Dan & Hannah Dempsey, Leemount Cross.
Deceased members of the O'Connell Family, Ballingulley.
Tim & Catherine McCarthy, Dunmanway.
Finbarr O'Mahony, Allendale, Bishopstown.
Mathew Murphy, Ovens.
Dan Lucey, The Crescent.
Jane Callanan, Poulavone.
Edwin McDermot, Poulavone.
Mary Linehan, Inniscarra View.
Brendan Whelan, Elm Lawn.
William & Christine O'Sullivan.
Frank & Margaret Whelan, Prosperity Square.
Anthony Moran, Co Mayo.
Frances Cunningham, Crookstown & Ballincollig.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Second Week of Advent

07 Sunday Is 40:1-5, 9-11. Ps 84.2 Pet3:8-14. Mk 1:1-8. Lect I: 27
08 Monday 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 Tuesday Is. 40:1-11. Ps. 95. Mt. 18:12-14. Lect I: 35
10 Wednesday Is 40:25-31. Ps. 102. Mt. 11 :28-30. Lect I: 38
11 Thursday Is. 41:13-20. Ps. 144. Mt .11:11-15. Lect I: 40
12 Friday Is. 48:17-19. Ps. 1. Mt. 11:16-19. Lect I: 42
13 Saturday Eccles. (Sir) 48:1-4,9-11. Ps. 79. Mt. 17:10-13. Lect I: 44

Next Sunday's Readings 14-December-2008

Advent Early Morning Prayer

Begin your day and preparation for Christmas the best way possible with the **Morning Prayer of the Church.**

Taking place during Advent in St. Mark's Centre (opposite Christ Our Light Church) Mon—Fri. at 6 am.
Starting Mon. 1st Dec. Everyone Welcome

Reflection for Parents

Like John the Baptist, we are the heralds of the Good News to our children. Also like John, we may stand out as "different" when we try to do this. Our children may point out to us that other parents don't go to church, or they allow their children to wander the community, or have parties where under-age drinking is permitted. They look at us as though we're dressed in camel hair and eating locusts when we hold steadfastly to our values. But we know from parents who have already raised their children, our children will come to recognise the value and sincerity of our message and example.

Counsellor Available

Stressed? Anxious? Need to Talk?
Contact: Ms. Carmel Savage - (085) 7787664
B.A (Hons.) Counselling and Psychotherapy
Total Confidentiality Assured.

Secular Franciscan Order

The monthly Mass will not be held on Thursday 11th December as the Church of St. Mary and St John is unavailable until after 3 pm on that day.

CROWLEY

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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

Email: michaelfd@eircom.net
www.crowleyfuneraldirectors.ie

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THE SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading: Is. 40:1-5. 9-11
The prophet Isaiah announces an important message about preparing the way.

Second Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-14
The second reading gives us a glimpse of a new existence 'where righteousness will be at home'.

Gospel: Mark 1:1-8
The Messiah is foretold in Second Isaiah and the words of John the Baptist continue the foretelling during Advent. Just as the Jewish exiles were filled with hope and led home, John the Baptist filled his followers with hope if they would only first repent and then share the Good News. He told the people to accomplish this by turning away from their sinful actions and words.

Niall Mellon Township Trust

I would like to sincerely thank everybody who contributed, so generously, to the exit collections at the Church of St. Mary and St. John on 15th & 16th of November. Your contributions came to a total of €3,593. This will make a huge difference to the life and quality of living for some families in the shanty town where I will be working in March 2009. I would also like to thank Fr's. George, Michael, Billy and James for their encouragement and assistance.

Thanks again
Elma Teahan

Christ Our Light Church - Book Shop

On Tuesday night (9th December) the shop will be open before and after the Advent Retreat. Among the items on sale are beautiful selections of Christmas Cards; Nativity Sets and Candles
From Sunday 14th December the shop will open each Sunday before and after the 11 am. Mass

A Seasonal Thought

On a bitterly cold and blustery winter night, the pastor of an urban church knelt in the rector y. "Let me see your face, Lord!" he prayed over and over again. A knock at the rectory door disturbed his prayer. Reluctantly he rose to answer the door. Outside stood a dishevelled, shivering man who asked, "Can I have some food?" The pastor led the man to the kitchen, scrounged in the refrigerator for a left-over, not too dried out sandwich. He poured a small glass of milk and added a tired slice of pie before placing the food before the beggar. He waited a bit impatiently while the man ate. He offered little conversation, not wanting to prolong the time until he could return to his prayer. When the man had finished, the priest escorted him to the door. As he closed the door, he immediately resumed his prayer, "Lord, let me see your face". In his mind's eye the face of the beggar instantly appeared. Words something like, "You have seen me," echoed in his mind. The priest threw the door open. Though the street was long and visible, the beggar was nowhere in sight. The priest had stayed awake to pray, "Lord, let me see your face," but today he believes he missed Jesus when he came to his door in the form of a beggar. Probably each one of us has a similar story of a time when Jesus whom we long to see came to us in the form of one of his poor ones and we failed to recognise him.
During this Advent season we are to be on our guard lest we miss Jesus in the midst of our Christmas preparations.

Bulletin Board

Feast of The Immaculate Conception Holy Day of Obligation - Monday 8th December, 2008

Masses
St Mary & St John 8:30 am, 10 am & 8 pm
Christ Our Light 7 am, 12:30 pm & 6:30 pm
(Sunday Masses as normal)

Mass Book
Diaries to book Mass Intentions for January, February & March will open in both Churches next Saturday 13th December at 9 am

Christmas Carol Service
A Christmas carol service will be held on Wednesday 10th December at St Mary's and St John's Church starting at 7.30 pm. Organised by Ballincollig's local choir, Cantairi Mhuscraí, others taking part will be pupils from Scoil Mhuire and Gaelscoil Uí Ríordáin, Note Perfect and the Church Choir of St Mary's and St John's. All welcome.

Festival of Flowers
The Festival of Flowers week-end of the 21st to 23rd November was a great success. It brought great joy and happiness to the many people who visited the church. The variety and display of flowers was wonderful. Thanks to all the members of the Ballincollig Flower and Garden Club and in particular to the Committee who organised the Festival.

Christmas Cards
Christmas Cards are available for sale in the Parish Office.

Catholic Paper
Copies of the Catholic Paper -**The Universe** - are available in both Churches every week.

Autumn Dues
The priests of the parish would like to thank all parishioners for returning the Autumn dues envelopes. Your continued support is much appreciated.

St Oliver's Cemetery
The new extension to St Oliver's Cemetery is now open. The Co. Council are now selling plots, anybody interested please contact Mr. Lane the caretaker at St Oliver's phone 021 4873709.

Fr. George

Recovery International

Recovery International offers self help techniques for people suffering from depression, sleeplessness, anxiety, panic attacks, fear and phobias. Your local group meets on Wednesday's at 7:30 pm in the Capuchin Friary, Holy Trinity Church, Father Matthew Quay, Cork

South & East Cork Area Development Rural Community Transport Programme

Rural Transport Service from Ballinhassig to Ballincollig
Route: Ballinhassig - Waterfall - Ballynora to Ballincollig.
Booking on this service is essential If you would like to find more about this service or book your seat please contact
Roisin in South and East Cork Area Development on 021 4613432

Scout Bazaar 2008

The annual Scout Bazaar & Auction takes place today Sunday December 7th from 2 pm in The Community Centre.

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

Dec-13 & Dec-14-2008

St. Mary & St. John

Christ Our Light

6:00 pm (Vigil)
Karen Sheehan
Padraig Graham
8:30 am
Susan Fennell
10:00 am
Hannah Bunyan
Stephen Bunyan
12:00 Noon
Oliver O'Donovan

7:30 pm (Vigil)
Rosarie Cotter
Louise McGrath
11:00 am
Jacob Derham
Paul Donovan
12:30 pm
Joseph Manning
Sorcha Nic Mheanmain
5:30 pm
Marlyn O'Connor

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
8:30 am, 10 am & 8 pm	Monday	7 am, 12:30 pm & 6:30 pm
9:30 am	Tuesday	7 am & 8:30 am
9:30 am	Wednesday	7 am & 8:30 am
9:30 am	Thursday	8:30 am
9:30 am	Friday	8:30 am
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	

PARISH CLERGY

Priest on Duty 087-2479140

Fr. George O'Mahony P.P.	021-4871206
Fr. Michael O'Mahony C.C.	021-4877161
Fr. Billy O'Sullivan C.C.	021-4876171
Fr. James McSweeney	021-4870434



MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

Dec-13 & Dec-14-2008

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 Sheila O'Connor
John Canty
Brid Healy-Harris
Kit Cahill
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
Seamus O'Shea

12:30 pm Eileen Garvey
Sally Power
Breda Callanan
Catherine Freehill
Attracta McKiernan

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

5:30 pm Phil O'Connell
Maire McCullagh
Olan O'Mahony



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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.



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