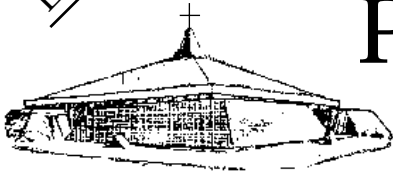


6 PAGE
EDITION

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



CHRIST OUR LIGHT
INNISHMORE



ST. MARY & ST. JOHN
STATION ROAD

SUNDAY 11TH FEBRUARY 2001
SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
World Day of the Sick



God's blessing is for those who trust in Him. It is especially promised by Jesus to the poor, the hungry, those who mourn, those who are able to turn to God in their need.

TRAFFIC CALMING, IRISH STYLE!

As I begin my series of articles for this month's Ballincollig Parishioner, I have just returned from a family wedding in Galway and as I drove down through the country the thought occurred to me, who has responsibility for the condition of our roads, city, town and country? My mind then went on to the condition of the roads in the general Ballincollig area. To say that they are in appalling condition is being very kind. True the weather has a lot to do with things, it has been a bad winter so far. Yes, the small road crews have done sterling service in filling potholes and such like. To go blaming our local politicians I don't think is fair either. However, I wonder who is responsible? Talking to a friend recently she complained of a puncture and a badly damaged wheel rim due to a pothole. I've had a similar experience.

As many of you know I have a passion for all things mechanical and that interest is mainly fulfilled in my interest in steam engines and old cars. Yes, I have a 1929 Model A Ford which is the main thrust of my hobby and keeps me well occupied. Recently I took a senior member of our community out for a drive locally and we both concluded that the quality of our roads have not improved much since that vehicle set its tyres on the road seventy two years ago! That time there was no need for shock absorbers. Indeed while returning from the Mallow Run last year I had the misfortune to hit a trench going across a road in Blackpool and broke the flywheel housing on the same car which took considerable time to find a replacement and almost as much time and energy to fit. Many of my friends make their living on the roads with trucks, cars and lorries and they speak of similar difficulties. This week I heard complaints of big dumpers making bits of some small roads locally, driving those taking fresh air off them.

Today as I write this article I read that Cork County Council has been allocated £27 million for work on non national roads. I wonder will we see much effect in the coming months? I will acknowledge that this is not a local problem, it is countrywide. I do admire the patience of residents who live on some of the worst roads locally as they come and go from their homes and see and hear their fine cars rattle needlessly over very poor road surfaces. Wales is a place that I like to visit from time to time and am always amazed at the very high quality of their roads in the most remote parts. I wonder why can't we have the same here. After all we hear so much about our ever booming economy. How come our roads do not reflect the vast amount of monies that we the poor motorists are paying in Taxes? I often pity those who have to travel to hospital by ambulance, despite their high quality suspensions and their skilful drivers and crews it cannot be a very smooth journey. In Ballincollig we are very patient. We hear so much about the Ballincollig By-Pass why aren't our local roads being maintained to a better standard until the pressure comes off them? I wonder who is responsible? And when will things improve? I doubt that there is need to start identifying the places I'm talking about, as it would take a much bigger article than space permits.

Fr. Pat O'Donovan C.C.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY

Like dry scrub in the wastelands (First Reading)

We talk about the rat race. We have an uneasy feeling that the things that occupy our minds and our time are not as important as we imagine. The real purpose for which we exist is to give ourselves to God and to one another in love. Anything that does not serve this purpose is wasted effort. Like the dry scrub, it may involve a hard struggle, and it bears no fruit

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

PRIEST

My brothers and sisters, let us bring our needs to the Lord, who guards the way of the just.

READER

For those who are called to spread the Good News, that they may be fearless in preaching God's Word.
Lord, hear us;

Lord, graciously hear us.

For people who have been blessed with material possessions, that they may not forget their continuing need for God.
Lord, hear us;

Lord, graciously hear us.

For those who lack food or clothing, that the kindness of believers may show them the loving face of their Creator.
Lord, hear us;

Lord, graciously hear us.

For all who suffer - in body, mind or spirit, that God's gifts of patience and endurance may sustain them.
Lord, hear us;

Lord, graciously hear us.

For those who care for sick at home, or in hospitals or nursing homes, that they may know our support in their challenging task.
Lord, hear us;

Lord, graciously hear us.

Visit Our Website: www.ballincolligparish.ie

Happy the man who has placed his trust in the Lord.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE
REPOSE OF THE SOULS OF

Anthony McCarthy, Castle Park
 John Lucey, Carriganarra
 Con Lucey, Kilmichael
 John Lynch, Ballyburden
 Ann Dawson, Rosewood
 The McCarthy Family, Dripsey
 Tom & Kathleen Daly, Cathedral Road
 Helen Lynch, Innishannon
 Laurence & Julie Buckley, Dripsey
 Agnes Fitzmaurice, Ballygar
 Kevin O'Riordan, Ballyvolane
 Frances & Margaret O'Farrell, Station Road
 William and Zena Cooney
 Michael O'Brien, Grenagh
 David McCarthy, Union Hall
 Maureen Buckley, Farnanes
 Walsh Family
 Con Harrington
 Mary Hussey
 Mary Whelan, Rosewood
 John & Ted Corkery, Aherla
 Michael Dilworth
 Ellen Collins, Dunmanway
 Eugene McAuliffe, Kanturk
 John Coleman
 Ted & Bridie Brennan, Kilkenny
 Margaret Tarrant, Millstreet
 Daniel Lane, Kilcorney
 Tom & Tommy Keane, Blackrock
 Jim Hoff, Blackrock
 Deceased members of the Daunt Family
 Frances O'Neill
 Tomas Scully, Castlemartyr
 Dan & Eileen Feeley, Crossbarry
 Garrett Collins, Dunmanway
 Reg Roper, Inniscarra
 Maureen Callanan, West Village
 Collins Family
 Gerry Murray, Enniskeane
 Thomas & Winnie Holloway, Galbally
 Eileen Carroll, Glasheen Road
 Mary Conway, Ovens
 Bridget O'Leary, Fair Hill
 Jim Doyle, Westcourt

READINGS FOR THE WEEK
Sixth Week in Ordinary Time

11 Sunday Jer. 17:5-8. Ps. 1. 1 Cor. 15:12. 16-20. Lk. 6:17.20-26 *Lect I: 853*
 Before us today are the stark choices: blessing or curse; happiness or despair. Jesus puts before us his way of life. The Beatitudes are a recipe for genuine peace and happiness. The alternative is the way of empty pleasure and ultimate destruction. The Christian puts down deep roots and with joy draws from the wells of salvation.

12 Monday Gen. 4:1-15. 25. Ps. 49. Mk. 8:11-13. *Lect II:69*
 Envy and jealousy lead to murder in the story of Cain and Abel. Self-control is a gift of the Spirit to all who are redeemed in Christ.

13 Tuesday Gen. 6:5-8; 7:1-5. 10. Ps. 28. Mk. 8:14-21. *Lect II:70*
 Noah found favour with the Lord. He obediently follows the instructions for the building of the ark. He had the perception to know the right thing to do.

14 Wednesday Acts. 13:46-49. Ps. 116. Lk. 10:1-9. *Lect II:957*
 Cyril, a priest with missionary experience, and his brother Methodius, a monk, went to Moravia to preach the gospel in the Slav language. Cyril invented a Slavic alphabet and, with the help of Methodius, translated the Gospels and certain liturgical works into Slavonic. They were consecrated bishops in Rome, but there, on 14 February 869, Cyril died. Methodius returned to Moravia. During the last four years of his life, he completed the Slavonic translation of the Bible. On 6 April 885, he died, worn out by his apostolic labours and by the opposition of those who failed to understand his methods. Pope John Paul II declared them Patrons of Europe.

15 Thursday Gen. 9:1-13. Ps. 101. Mk. 8:27-33. *Lect II:74*
 The rainbow is the sign given of the renewed covenant that God makes with humankind. The final covenant is to be made through the death and resurrection of Jesus, the Christ.

16 Friday Gen. 11:1-9. Ps. 32. Mk. 8:34-9:1 *Lect II:76*
 The Tower of Babel symbolises the pride of the human race trying to be as God. Jesus warns of the folly of trying to gain the whole world at the expense of the real life.

17 Saturday Heb. 11:1-7. Ps. 144. Mk. 9:2-13. *Lect II:78*
 The faith of the patriarchs is praised. Jesus brings Peter, James and John to the mountaintop to help deepen their faith to face the trials to come.

SAINTS THIS WEEK

Wednesday 14th - St. Valentine, - See Story Page 3
 Saturday 17th - St. Fintan, was born in Co. Laois between 525 and 530. He made his own foundation in Clononagh (Cluain Eidnech), Co. Laois. His Rule was noted for its severity. When Cainnech, at the request of other abbots, asked him to moderate his rule, he did so for his monks but not for himself. He died in 603.
 Servite Founders. In the early thirteenth century seven young merchants of Florence decided to help one another love more perfect Christian lives. As the result of a vision, they became known as the "Servants of Mary" and followed the Rule of St. Augustine.

BAPTISMS

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



Aoife Bairbre Carberry, 28, Daffodil Fields
 Ciara Marie Egan, 1, The Mews, Aylsbury

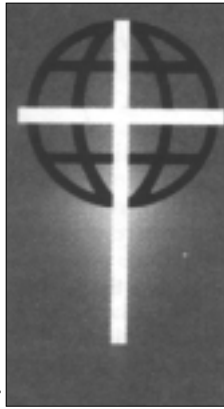


IN SYMPATHY

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF:
 Patrick Cronin, Skibbereen & Donegal

A Perfect World

Imagine a perfect world, no alcohol or drug problems, no violence, no malice, no evil thoughts, no desire to hurt another....is it possible? Every day a perfect day, no pain, no bad feelings, no physical tiredness, no aggression...just a sense of permanent peace, serenity and contentment. Can it only be a dream? Perhaps..... but it may be our closest conception or image as to what heaven may be like....no more resentment, no more hurt, just perfect and utter bliss, indescribable, unimaginable, incomparable, perhaps glimpsed only vaguely in some of our now-forgotten dreams, or experienced by those of us who have been personally touched by death or the loss of a loved one. It is possible that only at these special times have we felt that indefinable moment of fantasy, that instant of euphoric ecstasy that vanished so swiftly, that mili-second of immeasurable, intense almost-pure happiness that so fleetingly flew away, but yet lingers somehow in the lost recesses of our memory, in the deep hidden caverns of our hearts, that in some strange way clings to our spirit and promises the salvation of the soul. Can we in our human condition really think, feel, sense, imagine, dream and believe what awaits us in paradise? Can we accept that our time on earth is only a small step in the eternal journey of the soul, whose aspiration is to leave the material world and dwell forever in a spiritual communion of all the souls ever created by God, to share in His divine glory a perfect and never-ending existence? Can we imagine, like the dying thief on the Hill of Calvary, that perhaps even today we could be with Him in paradise?



E. Chandler

The Greatest Evil in the World

'Many today are starving for ordinary bread. But there is another kind of hunger - the hunger to be wanted, to be loved, to be recognised. Nakedness too is not just the want of clothes, but also about loss of dignity, purity and self-respect. And homelessness is not just want of a house; there is the homelessness of being rejected, of being unwanted in a throwaway society. The biggest disease in the world today is the feeling of being unwanted and uncared for. The greatest evil in the world today is lack of love, the terrible indifference towards one's neighbour'

Mother Teresa



This Weekend Ballincollig Parish Collection for LOURDES INVALID FUND

MINISTERS OF THE WORD 17TH/18TH FEB

ST. MARY & ST. JOHN

CHRIST OUR LIGHT

6.00p.m. (Vigil) - Karen Sheehan	8.00p.m. (Vigil) - Sarah Cahill
8.30a.m. - Martha Barry	11.00a.m. - Maura McNamara
10.00a.m. - Richard Linehan	12.30p.m. - Marie O'Brien
12 Noon - Oliver O'Donovan	5.30p.m. - Michelle Beamish

MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST 17th/18th February 2001

ST. MARY'S & ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

SATURDAY 17TH

6p.m.
Geraldine Hegarty
Patsy Murphy
Breda Foley
Geraldine Graham
Cathy Horgan
Jim Healy

SUNDAY 18TH

8.30a.m.
Theresa Lucey
Rita Murphy

10a.m.
Karina O'Mahony
Nancy Hogan
Tadgh Murphy
Mary Murphy

12.00 Noon
Michael Crowley
John Walshe
Noel Hennessey
Breda Lenihan
Rena O'Connor
Eavan O'Donoghue



SATURDAY 17TH

8p.m.
Maire Uí Crualaoi
Marion O'Sullivan
Anne O'Connell

CHRIST OUR LIGHT CHURCH

SUNDAY 18TH

11a.m.
Seamus O'Connell
Mary O'Connell
Finbarr Murray
Alan O'Riordan

12.30p.m.
Eileen O'Donoghue
Jackies Sheehan
Anne Burke
Mary Green
Michael O'Leary

5.30p.m.
Catherine Green
Mary Breen
Siobhan Burke

ST. MARY & ST. JOHN	EACH SUNDAY	CHRIST OUR LIGHT
<p>Masses Sunday: 8.30, 10.00, 12.00 Mon-Fri: 9.30am Saturday: 10.00, 6pm, (Vigil)</p>	<p>ROSARY RECITED AT BOTH CHURCHES EACH SUNDAY 3.00P.M. <i>Everyone most welcome</i></p>	<p>Masses Sunday: 11.00, 12.30, 5.30pm Mon-Fri: 8.30am Saturday: 10.00am, 8.00pm (Vigil)</p>
<p>Confessions Saturday: after 10am Mass before 6pm Mass</p>	<p>SACRISTY SERVICES <i>Before and after all Masses Sundays & Weekdays</i> CHURCH OF ST. MARY & ST. JOHN - Mass Card Signing - Requests for Baptism/Marriage Certs etc. CHRIST OUR LIGHT - Mass Card Signing -</p>	<p>Confessions Saturday: after 10am Mass</p>
<p>Baptisms Saturday: 5.00pm Sunday: 12.45pm</p>		<p>Baptisms Saturday: 7.15pm</p>

PARISH CLERGY


CHURCH NO. 087-2479140

Fr. L.O'Brien P.P. ☎ 021-4871206 Fr. E. Crowley C.C. ☎ 021-4870434
 Fr. P. O'Donovan C.C. ☎ 021-4872808 Fax: 021-4872808 Fr. Paul O'Donoghue ☎ 021-4876055

GALILEE PRAYER GROUP
Ballincollig

Invites you to join us in our

DAY OF RENEWAL
 on
'The Bread of Life'



with

Fr. Tom Clancy P.P. and Mr. Joe Dalton

VENUE: Community Hall, Ballincollig
SATURDAY 17TH FEBRUARY
 10.45a.m. to 9.30p.m.

*Join us in this day of worship,
 healing and renewal*

You will be welcome at any time of the day
 Tea/Coffee provided at Lunch/Tea Time
DON'T FORGET THE PACKED LUNCH

No Admission charge, funding via collection

**Retired National School Teacher
 or Montessori teacher
 required for private tuition
 (mornings)
 Ballincollig Area
 Tel: 021-4873676**





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Home Heating Budget Payment Plan

Saint Valentine

Valentine's Day is celebrated in honour of Saint Valentine, a Christian priest who was executed on February 14th, 270 A.D., by the Roman Emperor Claudius II. Though there is nothing romantic about his death, legend has it that Valentine was quite a romantic soul while he was alive.

Apparently Claudius II was concerned about the declining number of soldiers in the Roman Army. The soldiers were refusing to leave their wives and sweethearts, so Claudius thought he could solve the problem by outlawing marriage. But as the saying goes, love will find a way. Young lovers found their way to Valentine, who took pity on their predicament and performed marriages for them in secret. When Claudius found out, he had Valentine beheaded.

Another legend says that Valentine was imprisoned for performing these secret marriages, and that while he was serving his time, he fell madly in love with the jailer's daughter. He would send her love notes inscribed with the words "From your Valentine" - a tradition we still carry on today.

St. Valentine's Day has its roots in an old Roman festival called the Lupercalia, which was held each year on February 15. The festival involved a lover's lottery, where girls' names were written on slips of paper and put into a jar. Each young man would draw a name and that girl would then be his companion for the following year. The Christians found this custom immoral, so they created their own February festival in honour of the romantic St. Valentine, who helped love last a lifetime by sanctifying it with the sacred bond of marriage.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DIVINE MERCY

Main Hall, R.D.S., Ballsbridge, Dublin 4
17th and 18th February, 2001

Saturday 10a.m. - 9p.m. Sunday 10a.m. - 5p.m.

Registration: 9a.m.

SPEAKERS

Fr. Pat Martin (Maine, U.S.A.),

Mother Tessa Bielecki (Spiritual Life Institute, Sligo)

Br. Stanley Villavicencio (CEBU, Philippines)

Fr. Cathal Price P.P. (Kilbarrack/Foxfield)

Seek me...Always
 (Amos 5.4)



Jesus I Trust in You

TICKETS: Weekend - £20
Saturday - £13 Sunday -£10

AVAILABLE FROM:

54 Foxfield St. John, Dublin 5.

Tel: 01-832 3683

E-mail: divinemercuryconfir@hotmail.com

9, Foxdene Avenue, Balgaddy,

Lucan, Co. Dublin.

Tel: 01-457 1195

BOOKING FORM

Name:.....

Address:.....

Tel:.....

Weekend Saturday Sunday

Amount Enclosed:.....Cheque/Postal Order

GRATITUDE FOR A FRIEND

My heart is full of joy today.

I feel great!

As I search for words to express that gladness,

Volumes tumble from my lips.

You, my beloved, were the source of delight.

You affected me by your kindness.

You made it good for me to be alive.

I glimpsed the beauty of God in his creation.

He was present in eyes that looked lovingly on me.

He reached out through your glance of concern.

He put new meaning in my life; kindled a fire within.

You, my dear friend, showed me a better way,

You took away my confusion;

Put order and meaning into my aimless strivings.

Gratitude is now the theme of my song.

Now I pray that the Lord may use me,

As he has so graciously used you;

To give joy where there was sadness,

Hope when near to despair:

May the Lord keep us both safe in his keeping.

May he make us messengers of tranquillity;

You loving kindness to me, always remembered

Reflection from Psalm No. 45

**BALLINCOLLIG BASKETBALL CLUB
NOTES AND FIXTURES**

MENS RESULTS:

Our Un-11 Boys showed great enthusiasm when they took part in the Un-12 Tournament in Parochial Hall on Saturday 3rd February. They took two of their first four games, beating Carrigaline and St. Brendan's of Tralee and lost to Moycullen and a very strong Neptune side. It was a great learning experience for the lads and they enjoyed the day. The Un-13 Boys were the first team up on Saturday night here in B.C.S. Gym when they played Glanmire.

Unfortunately the Ballincollig Boys were not up to full strength and in the second half Glanmire took advantage of this and won the game.

There was good news for the remaining teams on the same night, with both our Un-15 and Un-17 teams winning easily, beating Neptune and Glanmire respectively. Our Div. 2 Mens also had a good win over their opponents Neptune. With a squad of only 6 men, Ballincollig still managed to dominate the game and win by 76 to 64. Coach Francis O'Sullivan was very pleased with the performances of Niall Connoughtan, Nicky Bohan, John O'Brien and Johnny Downs.

LADIES RESULTS:

Our Intermediate Ladies lost to Glanmire on Thursday last, in what was a good and close game, however Glanmire proved too strong for our girls in the second half and took the game. The Un-14 Girls also had a good game against Carrigaline.

There was very little between the two teams in the first half, but Carrigaline pulled away in the last quarter of the second half for the win. Revenge was sweet for our Un-18 Girls when they beat Carrigaline, who last month beat the Ballincollig Girls by a single point. This time our Girls made sure that there would not be a repeat, and won the game by a substantial lead.

Our Junior 1 Ladies are having a great run of victories and added to it by beating Glanmire in a close and tough match. However Ballincollig began to pull away in the second half and went on to win comfortably. If they win their next game it will give them the league title and we wish them the very best.

UPCOMING FIXTURES - LADIES

Thursday 8th February - Parochial Hall
6.15pm Brunell v Ballincollig Un-16

Saturday 10th February - Carrigaline Com. Centre
4.15pm Tigers v Ballincollig Un-15

UPCOMING FIXTURES - MEN

Friday 9th February - Parochial Hall
6.30pm Glanmire v Ballincollig Un-13

Saturday 10th February - Parochial Hall
1.45pm Carrigaline v Ballincollig Un-15

Sunday 11th February - New Hall, Skibbereen
9.15 Skibbereen v Ballincollig Un-13

Tuesday 13th February - Parochial Hall
8.30pm C.I.E. v Ballincollig Div. 2

Wednesday 14th February - B.C.S., Ballincollig
6.00pm Ballincollig v Mallow Youth Club Un-13

ST. JOSEPHS YOUNG PRIESTS SOCIETY

Monthly meeting will be held
in the Community Hall on
Monday 12th February 2001 at 8p.m.

CHURCH DIRECTORY 2001

The Church Directory 2001 for the Diocese of
Cork & Ross is on sale in both churches.

It contains a wealth of information and listings
about the church, parishes, times of services,
lists of priests and other personnel and a
comprehensive list of where to find help
and support from voluntary and
statutory social services.

It will be a useful reference in every home
and office throughout the year.

It is priced at just £2

Why not take on a challenge for 2001?

You are invited to a study day on
THE SACRAMENTS

**St. Finbarr's College,
Farranferris, Cork**

**Sunday, February 18th, 2001
10a.m. - 5p.m. (Mass at 4p.m.)**

***PRESENTER: Fr. Paul Watson,
Maryvale Institute, Birmingham***

*This day is part of a course of distance
study in the Catholic Catechism offered by
the Maryvale Institute in Birmingham
in conjunction with the
Adult Religious Education Office
of the Diocese of Cork and Ross.*

NEW PARTICIPANTS INTERESTED IN STARTING
THE COURSE ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

***Please bring a packed lunch and a copy of
the New Catechism of the Catholic Church.***

Cost of Study Day £5

***Further information available from
Cork and Ross Education Office
through Fr. Declan Mansfield.***

Tel: 021-4301717