

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



**St. Mary & St. John
Station Road**

Sunday 13-February-2011

Sixth Sunday In Ordinary Time

The negative formulation of God's will In the Law is necessary for those who are morally immature. But Jesus leads us by a more perfect and positive understanding to the maturity which makes us realise our full obligations to God and to our fellow human beings.



**Christ Our Light
Innishmore**

Law, Old And New

Great golfers are familiar with the rules of golf and try to keep them, but one does not become a great golfer through detailed knowledge and observance of those rules. Compliance with the letter of banking regulations did not save the banks in Ireland when underlying principles of prudence and honesty were lost. Rules are not an end in themselves, but they do have their place. People say that Jesus replaced a religion of rules and regulations with one of freedom and love. Yet in this Sunday's gospel reading Jesus says he has not come to abolish the law of the Old Testament, but to fulfil it, and he says that each little bit of that "Old Law" is important and its purpose will be fulfilled.

The biblical understanding is that to break the law is to sin, and the reading from the Book of Ecclesiasticus reminds us that God has given no one permission to sin, and that to behave faithfully is within our power. Properly understood the Ten Commandments and the whole of the Old Law did not amount to a set of restrictive rules but offered a key to living in a right relationship with God and one's neighbour. At their best the people Israel regarded the Law as a gift, and prayed "open my eyes that I may see the wonders of your law" (Psalm 119). But the shallow virtue of the scribes and the Pharisees was legalistic. And we too tend to legalism: keeping the law to be a good law abiding person, to save my own soul; or to minimalism: "how far can I go?" or "what can I get away with?" Apart from being a wholly inadequate response to God's love, such approaches are focussed on the self rather than the other; they are essentially selfish rather than loving.

Jesus calls us to something better than those and similar slavish attitudes. The law said "thou shalt not kill," but Jesus tells us not even to insult others, not to harbour resentment or anger. This is not a question of making the law more strict, but of going to the root purpose of the law. Jesus' new commandment is: "love one another as I have loved you." This is how we are to be recognised as his followers. Self-righteous adherence to the letter of the law can be deadening, but joyful adherence to the spirit of the law gives life, and indeed leads to eternal life.

Billy O'Sullivan

Airport Tragedy

As a parish we offer our heartfelt sympathy to the families of those who died in the crash at Cork Airport on Thursday. We pray for their beloved dead that they may be safe in the arms of God and we pray also for the recovery of the survivors.

Reflection for Parents

Often we think that showing our anger and resentment will punish the person who has hurt us. In today's gospel, Jesus knows and tries to tell us that just the opposite is true. Holding on to these feelings prevents our own healing. Forgiveness does not erase the wrong that was done, but rather lifts the negative burden pressing down on our spirit. To live the Good News of Jesus, we can practice forgiveness in our families. No matter how good we try to be, there will always be a void if we withhold our forgiveness. Together we can model this life-giving action for one another; and through family discussions, we can help each other give and receive forgiveness in our daily lives.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Priest

With longing in our hearts for all that God has prepared for those who love him, let us pray.

Reader

For all followers of Christ: that they may have the kind of relationship with God which makes obeying his commandments natural and easy.

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

For those who make and enforce our laws: that they may be guided by the wisdom that comes from God.

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

For those who are in the grip of a bad habit, or a compulsion, or an addiction.

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

For ourselves: that our virtue may be true and genuine.

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

For all gathered here: that we may have wisdom to use our anger positively.

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

For our own special needs.

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

Priest

All-powerful God, help us to keep our thoughts clean, our desires pure, our words true, and our deeds kind. We ask you this through Christ our Lord. Amen

*Happy St. Valentines Day to all
our parishioners and readers*

They are happy who follow God's law!

Visit Our Website: www.ballincolligparish.ie

BAPTISMS

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

Ruby Lucy O'Callaghan, An Caislean View.
 Lea Mary Fanneran, The Elms, Classes Lake.
 Kate Lily O'Mahony, An Caislean Grove.
 Katherine Alice Murphy, Oldcourt, Greenfields.
 Luke Nicholas Shorten, Lisheen Fields, Ovens.
 Rosemary Elizabeth Fenton, Limeworth.

† **IN SYMPATHY** †

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

Mary Cronin, Manor Hill & Kilnamatyra.
 Shay Graham, Glincool.
 Tom Coughlan, Togher.
 Catherine Herbert, Inniscarra View.
 Maureen O'Callaghan, Kanturk & Curraheen.
 Paddy Rooney, Manchester.

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

Eugene & Kitty O'Callaghan, West Village.
 Jim & Agnes Spencer, West Village.
 Jim & Bridget O'Leary, Fairhill.
 Tom & Winnie Holloway, Galbally.
 Sean Ryan, Coolroe.
 Deceased members O'Mahony family, Barrack St.
 Margaret McSweeney, Kilnaglorry.
 Dan, Hannah & Ellen Dempsey Leemount.
 Liam (Billy) Carroll, Inniscarra View.
 Joey O'Driscoll, Rosewood.
 Helen Lynch, Gurrans.
 James O'Mahony, Ballinora.
 Mary O'Leary, Tower.
 Patrick & Margaret Kenneally, Curraheen.
 Daniel & Mary O'Leary, AGLISH, Farran.
 Mary O'Mahony, Castlepark .
 Eileen O'Sullivan, Willowfield.
 Maurice, Dan, & Charlotte O'Connor, Castlegregory.
 Mick & Alice Bolger, Wexford.
 Jim Murphy, Pine Walk.
 Daniel O'Sullivan, Inniscarra.
 Michael O'Donovan, Madonna House.
 Denis Spillane, Glenflesk.

NAOMI

National Association of the Ovulation Method of Ireland Ltd.

FOR INFORMATION ON
Pre-marriage Courses,
Natural Family Planning,
Achieving a Pregnancy
Menopause Counselling
 Contact N.A.O.M.I.,
 119 Patrick Street, Cork.
 Tel: 021-4272213
 Mon to Fri: 9:30 - 1 pm
 Office Hours

Muskerry Local History Society

The 90th anniversary of the Clonmult ambush, where 13 Irish people lost their lives in 1921, will be recalled through a lecture and slide show on February 15th next at the Ballincollig Rugby Club Hall. Tom O'Neill will give an insight into this appalling tragedy and War of Independence memorabilia will also be on display. The lecture is open to members of the public and commences at 8 pm.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sixth Week In Ordinary Time

13 Sunday Eccles (Sir) 15: 15-20. Ps 118. 1 Cor 2:6-10. Mt 5:17-37 Lect I: 652

14 Monday Acts 13:-46-49. Ps. 116. Lk.10:1-9 Lect II: 957

15 Tuesday Gen. 6:5-8; 7: 1-5, 10. Ps. 28. Mk. 8: 14-21. Lect II:70

16 Wednesday Gen. 8:6-13.20-22; Ps.115. Mk 8:22-26. Lect II:72

17 Thursday Gen. 9: 1-13. Ps. 101. Mk. 8:27 -33. Lect II:74

18 Friday Gen. 11:1-9. Ps. 32. Mk. 8: 34-9:1. Lect II:76

19 Saturday Heb 11:1-7. Ps 144. Mk 9:2-13. Lect II: 78

Next Sunday's Readings 20-February-2011

Lev 19:1-2, 17-18. Ps 102. 1 Cor 3:16-23. Mt 5:38-48. Lect I: 656.

Ballincollig Parish - Gospel of John

Our series of talks on St John's Gospel concludes this month. The final two, as before, will be held in the St Mark Centre, opposite the Church of Christ Our Light in Innishmore. These will include presentation of the material by Fr Billy O'Sullivan followed by tea and group discussion. Copies of information leaflets will be available for everybody. The schedule of meetings is as follows:

	Monday, 7.30 pm	Wednesday, 10.00 am
Talk 7	14th February	16th February
Talk 8	21st February	23rd February

Ballincollig - Bereavement Support

The next Bereavement Support Programme will commence in Ballincollig Parish on **Tuesday 22nd February**. It will continue each Tuesday night for 8 weeks (7.30-9.30 pm). For anyone experiencing the grief and loss of a loved one, you are very welcome to attend.

For further information,
 please contact: **Sr Colette: 0863557375**
 or Parish Office: 4871206.

Neighbourhood Retreat

A seven week retreat in small groups for Lay People.

This retreat aims to promote a deeper understanding of God and of each other. Introduction to the New Testament and different ways of praying. It will offer an opportunity to slowdown, to listen and to pray.

We will meet weekly on Thursdays as follows;

Dates: February 17th - April 7th

Time: 7:30 pm

Venue: Community Hall (Annex)

Contact : Louise 085 7542490 / Breda 085 7475971

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

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THE SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading: Sirach 15:15-20

The problem of God's knowledge and human freedom has puzzled philosophers for centuries. If God sees all even the future, then everything is determined in advance and there seems little room for human freedom. The author of this text doesn't recognise the problem but simply assures us that God absolutely respects our freedom. He is a concerned Father rather than a meddling 'Big Brother'.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:6-10

In general philosophers have no time for mysteries. They only see problems that are open in principle to solution by rational means. For Paul, such thinkers are immature, like children or adolescents who think they have all the answers though their experience is limited. The wisdom of faith carries us beyond the senses, beyond the limits of our own minds, into the mind of God who reveals himself in Christ.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 5:17-37

Actions and their consequences are to morality what symptoms are to health. An unhealthy person often shows symptoms of disease - pain, loss of energy, poor colour. But the doctor shouldn't focus on these alone. Sometimes the patient is ill yet shows no external signs. And when telltale signs are there, the doctor mustn't treat the symptoms alone, forgetting the underlying condition. Jesus is a wise moral physician, insisting that right and wrong actions stem from a good or bad heart. Sin is like an iceberg, where the bulk lies under the surface. The healing of negative attitudes - anger, lust, infidelity is hard work demanding serious sacrifices. There can be no quick fix or superficial solutions here.

Where in God's Name is God?

Fresh Insights for People and Communities of Faith.
Continue every Thursday Night up to March 10th

Presentation Brother's, Mardyke House, Cork (7.30 - 9 pm)

Lecture Outline

- | | |
|------------|---|
| 17th Feb | Wherein lies hope?
Dr. Rik Van Nieuwenhove |
| 24th Feb | Can the Church govern itself?
Dr. Patrick Connolly |
| 3rd March | God's presence and action:
looking for the signs
Dr. Thomas Grenham |
| 10th March | Discerning God's presence in all things
Dr. Eugene Duffy |

This series of lectures creates an opportunity for thought and discussion among members of the various church communities that need to 'think out loud'. The lectures provide an opportunity for much needed reflection and thought provoking discussion. The lectures are free, we advise that you come early to ensure you get a seat

Ballincollig Tidy Towns

Annual General Meeting
Oriel House @ 8:00pm

Wednesday 16th February 2011

Reports on 2010 activities and achievements. Looking ahead to 2011 with some interesting projects in the pipeline. If you are interested in joining us we will be needing people to work on various tasks such as clearing overgrowth, grass cutting, painting, administration etc.

All welcome to this important meeting.

Bulletin Board

Children's Mass

The Children's Mass continues every Sunday at 11.00 am in Christ Our Light. During this Mass children retire to the crying room where they celebrate The Liturgy of the Word in child friendly fashion. Unfortunately entrance to the church from the eastern side requires parishioners to come through this room and this is leading to intrusion on all the children present. We kindly request all Parishioners to refrain from using this entrance for the period up to start of Mass and their return to main church at start of the offertory procession.

Baptism Preparation

The next Baptism preparation will take place on **Saturday 26th February, 2011 at 12.00 pm** in the **Library Room, Community Hall, Station Road**. 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? Parents might book the baptism a few weeks in advance to give ample time to take part in the preparation

Ministers of the Eucharist

Fr O'Halloran of the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament will speak to Ministers of the Eucharist during this month of February. He will reflect on the basis for Christian Ministry and Eucharist Ministry. Parishioners are also welcome to attend.

The meeting will take place on Saturday 19th February, 2011 at 11.00 am in the Library, Community Hall.

Car Parking

St Mary & St John and Christ Our Light
Please enter the car parks to both churches from the left hand side. This is important from a health and safety point of view. Please also be careful of pedestrians who walk to Mass or from their cars to the church. Take care also not to obstruct entrance and exit to the car parks and church doors.

Fr. George

Trocaire

We are asking people to 'Give It Up' for the charity on 4th March and raise valuable funds to support some of the world's poorest people. You can give up anything you want for the day - food, mobile phone, internet - and get family and friends to sponsor you. To order an information pack or set up an online sponsorship page log on to www.trocaire.org/giveitup or call 1850 408 408

Do You Want To Be A Volunteer?

A young adult with Special Needs is looking for a companion / friend who will accompany them to activities in their local community.

Requirements:

- To have some knowledge of special needs.
- To be available evenings and a few hours one Saturday in the month.

Suitable candidates will be asked to attend an informal meeting before any volunteer work takes place.

If you are interested please contact: Colette or Helaine at the Brook Day Service. Tel: 021 4891940 or Email: thebrookdb1@eircom.net

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

Feb-19 & Feb-20-2011

St. Mary & St. John Christ Our Light

6:00 pm (Vigil)
Aine Sheehan
Mark Prendergast
8:30 am
John Healy

10:00 am
Louise McCarthy
Robert Noonan
12:00 Noon
John Dorgan
Noella Ngenwie

7:30 pm (Vigil)
Michael Greene

11:00 am
Cormac Manning
Marie Ni Niada
12:30 pm
Brian O'Donoghue
Chidera Ebili
5:30 pm
Tom Reck

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	Tuesday	8:30 am
9:30 am	Wednesday	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 021-4873308

Apostolic Visitation

The Apostolic Visitation to Ireland referred to in the Pope's letter to the Catholics of Ireland is now in progress. The four Visitors are Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor for Armagh, Cardinal Seán O'Malley for Dublin, Archbishop Thomas Collins for Cashel and Emly and Archbishop Terrence Prendergast SJ for Tuam. Anyone wishing to contact one of the Visitors may do so through the
Apostolic Nunciature, 1
83 Navan Road, Dublin 7 (Telephone 01-8380577).

**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.**

Funeral Ministry Team

During the past months members of the Parish Community in Ballincollig volunteered to become active in Funeral Ministry. Ten volunteers received training organised by the Diocese of Cork and Ross. These new Ministers will initially help with the various parts of the funeral ceremony. They will support the priests of the parish in leading a dignified funeral service for our dead; this includes helping with removal prayers; rosary and also being available to help the family choose readings and prayers of the faithful.

Death and funeral is a very difficult time in all our lives especially for families. We all need as much support and prayers as possible from the wider community at difficult times in our lives.

Commissioning of Funeral Ministers will take place on Sunday

St Mary and St John at 10.00 am Mass

Cura Pregnancy Support Services

Service provided:

- Free pregnancy testing
- Crisis Pregnancy Counselling and support
- Post Natal Support
- Information on rights and entitlements
- Making links with other service providers
- Counselling after an abortion

Other services included:

- Crisis Pregnancy counselling to baby's father and other family members
- Schools Awareness Programme

If you are concerned about an unplanned pregnancy and would you like to talk to someone, in confidence contact CURA

Lo-Call 1850 622626 or See www.cura.ie for local Centre details All Cura services are FREE and CONFIDENTIAL . Our support service is available to women, men and all family members