THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



Sunday 17-April-2005

Fourth Sunday of Easter (VOCATIONS SUNDAY)

Sometimes we can lose our sense of direction, we become the prey of empty fears and false pleasures. Today we are reminded that in Jesus we have someone who will always guide us right and protect us. If we listen to him and follow him we will have the fullest possible life.

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

Pope John Paul II 1920 - 2005

The passing of the late Pope and especially his funeral mass on Friday April 8th gave each of us a glimpse of the esteem world leaders had for Pope John Paul II. During the latter years of his life the Pope revealed an aspect of his personal life that he did not want history to forget. The Holy Father emphasised that what kept him going was not the power of the Papacy but the spiritual strength that flowed from his priestly vocation. "With the passing of time, the most important and beautiful thing for me is that I have been a priest for more than fifty years, because every day I can celebrate Holy Mass," he told young people in 1997.

While many writers have recounted the Pope's early life as a semi pilgrimage under Nazi occupation and communist domination in Poland, the Pope himself remembered those years as a crucial time of spiritual formation. In his 1996 book, 'A Gift and Mystery', he recalled how the sense of being called to the priesthood filled him with joy. In a moving passage he said he still felt a debt of gratitude to the friends who suffered, "on the great altar of history" during World War II, while he studied in a clandestine seminary, operated in Cardinal Adam Sapieha's Krakow residence in defiance of Nazi orders forbidding religious education. The archbishop saw him as a future Church leader. Yet the young man who wrote poems and a doctrinal dissertation on the mysticism of St John of the Cross, was attracted to monastic contemplation. Twice during those years he tried to join the Carmelites but was turned down with the advice "you are destined for greater things".

Pope John Paul's determination to dramatise his final struggle communicated the everydayness of dying. This is the most assuring thing we have been told by a world leader in a long time. He leaves us sorrowful but also hopeful. How long since a death has conveyed to us a sense of leave-taking for a better place? How long since the continuity of life and death has been so visible in the public realm? By his faith in the face of the impending journey, the Holy Father reanimated the faith of his children and left us shuddering a little at that leaving, but also less afraid.

George O'Mahony

Reflection for Parents

Imagine your child wandering off in a crowd of strangers-perhaps at an amusement park or a shopping mall. After an anxious period of separation, your child hears your voice above all the others calling out his or her name. The relief and joy your child would feel is the same emotion Jesus promises us when we follow his voice. The thieves that separate us from our children are not necessarily people. Sometimes we allow thieves of busyness, work priorities or even social engagements to steal control of our lives. This Gospel reminds us it is better to listen to the trusted voice of the Good Shepherd.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Visit Our Website: www.ballincolligparish.ie

Christ Our Light Innishmore

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Priest

We present our requests with trust in the God who loves us without limit.

Reader

We pray for the pastors of the church, that they may reflect the goodness and care of Jesus, the Good Shepherd. Lord, Hear us, Lord, graciously hear us.

We pray for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life, and for a fresh appreciation of our own calling.

Lord, Hear us, Lord, graciously hear us.

We pray for those who are trying to discern their vocation in life, that they may be guided and encouraged by those around them.

Lord, Hear us, Lord, graciously hear us.

We pray for those who are in difficulty of any kind, for those who are sick, and for those who care for them. Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

We pray for those nations and peoples who lack food and shelter, that they may be helped by the generosity of those who have plenty.

Lord, Hear us, Lord, graciously hear us.

We pray for our beloved dead, remembering especially those in our thoughts today. May they enter into the joy of eternal life.

Lord, Hear us, Lord, graciously hear us.

Priest

God of love and compassion, hear the prayers we make in the name of Jesus, your Son, our Lord.

Amen

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BAPTISMS

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

John Alexander Doyle, 11 Mossgrove, Classis Lake. Nathan Paul Lucey, 157 Rosewood. Eoghan Patrick Wycherley, 3 The Meadows. Darragh James O'Shea, 35 Whitethorn Drive. Darragh Shan-Hua Jiang Brennan, Glincool Rise. Kevin Noel Delaney, Kilnaglory. Alex Margaret McKnight, 66 Fern Walk, Greenfields.

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

Eileen Clarke, Claremorris. Paddy Deasy, Model Farm Road. John Ross, Inishmore Lawn. Edmund Boyle, Scartaglen, Co. Kerry. Maurice Sexton, Chetwinds, Togher. Catherine Rice, Sneem.

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

Con O'Driscoll, Carriganarra. John Woods, Carriganarra. Clare McSwiney, Cloghroe. Edward & Kathleen Duncan, Omagh. Eileen Burke, Whitechurch. Jeremiah & John O'Leary, Sunningdale & Cloghroe. Siobhan O'Hegarty, Wilton Avenue. Tim Lucey, Industry Square. Eileen Murphy, Muskerry Estate. Maureen Cremin, Glasheen Road. Eileen Moore, Dublin. Jim & PJ Burke, Glanworth. John & Julia McGrath, 74 Gurranabraher Ave. William Murphy, Blarney. Frank Manning, Blackrock. Kitty & Eugene O'Callaghan, West Village. Denise Wong, Kilkenny. John, Patrick & Mary O'Mahony, Carriganarra. Deceased members of the O'Brien family, Castle Farm. John, Kitty & deceased members of the Harte Family, Clonakilty. Kathleen O'Connor, Tramore. Tommy Leahy, Killarney.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Family Centre, Station Road, Ballincollig, Co Cork Tel.: (021) 4874626 Saturday Club Crèche - 10.00 am - 2.00 pm As a facility to our Non-National residents of Ballincollig, a FREE crèche is now in operation on Saturdays from 10.00 am to 2.00 pm - staffed by fully trained staff and volunteers. All Non-Nationals resident in Ballincollig are welcome to come along and see our facilities - meet our staff, have a cup of tea and chat anytime between 10.00 am - 2.00 pm.

Knock Pilgrimage

Legion of Mary Annual Pilgrimage to Knock on Sunday 29th May. Bus fare €18.00. Tea/coffee/scone €4.00. Full Irish Breakfast €8.50 per person. Evening meal €19.00 per person. Bus leaving village at 7.00 am sharp. Early booking.

Phone Sally 4870954, Marie 4872464, Mary 4870006.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Fourth Week Of Easter

17 Sunday Acts 2:14, 36-41. Ps. 22. 1 Pet. 2:20-25. Jn. 10:1-10. Lect 1:

18 Monday Acts 11:1-18. Ps. 41. Jn. 10:1-10. Lect 1: 496

19 Tuesday Acts 11: 19-26. Ps. 86. Jn. 10:22-30. Lect 1: 499

20 Wednesday Acts 12:24-13:5. Ps. 66. Jn. 12:44-50. Lect 1: 501

21 Thursday Acts 13: 13-25. Ps. 88. Jn. 13: 16-20. Lect 1: 503

22 Friday Acts 13:26-33. Ps. 2. Jn. 14: 1-6. Lect 1: 505

23 Saturday Acts 13:44-52. Ps. 97. Jn. 14:7 -14. Lect 1: 508





Military Concert in aid of **Cork Simon Community**, City Hall, Cork Wednesday 25th May 2005, 8 p.m.,

On 25th May a Concert featuring the Central Band of the Ministry of the Interior, Minsk, Belarus and the Band of the Southern Brigade, Collins Barracks, Cork in aid of the Cork Simon Community will take place in City Hall at 8 pm. This will be the third date of an all-Ireland tour with the Belarussian Band performing in Belfast and Dublin on preceding nights. By kind offer of Brigadier General Patrick Nash of Collins Barracks, the Cork date will raise funds for Cork Simon Community. The Russian Spectacular will feature the White Russian Central Band from Belarus with Special Guest Soloists from The Bolshoi and dancers from The Belarussion National Folk Dance Academy. Tickets starting at €20 are available from Pro Musica, Oliver Plunkett Street, Cork and the Cork Simon Fundraising Office, 021 4321166. It promises to be a wonderful night of superbly performed music and will be spectacular entertainment for all the family.

Confirmation

The girls and boys of Scoil Barra received their confirmation on Wednesday April 13th; Bishop Buckley administered the sacrament of confirmation. The music and ceremony was a moving experience; well done to the teachers who are so dedicated in preparing the pupils for the sacraments.

CROWLEY **FUNERAL DIRECTORS**

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

Sunday 17-April-2005

THE SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 2:14, 36-41 Peter proclaimed that only in the name of Jesus Christ are sins forgiven and the Holy Spirit received.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:20-25

Jesus suffered for the sins of all people, and by his death on the cross, all can live in accord with God's will. People who strayed like sheep "have now returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls."

Gospel: John 10:1-10.

Using the image of shepherd and sheep, Jesus made an analogy for us to listen to the voice of God. Sometimes we are distracted by other voices that Jesus called "thieves." These thieves rob us of our desire to follow Jesus. True sheep, however, know the voice of the shepherd. The shepherd provides safety and life for the sheep.

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SAINT OF THE WEEK

St. George 23-April-2005

Patron of England, was probably martyred at Lydda, now Lod in Israel, during the persecutions of Diocletian, Pilgrims visited his tomb at Lydda in the fifth century, and a monastery in Jerusalem bore his name. His martyrdom was known in England in Anglo-Saxon times, and the Crusaders brought a fresh devotion to him back after the First Crusade. A vision of St George and St Demetrius was said to have resulted in the defeat of the Saracen army at the time of the siege of Antioch. He became the patron of soldiers, and Richard I is said to have placed his army under St George's special protection. Whether Henry V cried 'God for England, Harry and St George!' as he does in Shakespeare's play is not certain, but it is a fact that after the battle of Agincourt, St George's commemoration was raised to the status of a major feast. Edward III made George the patron of the Order of the Garter, and St George's Chapel, Windsor, is dedicated in his name. He had become an honorary Englishman. It was probably inevitable that a legend should develop that he had visited England from Ireland, and this seems to be the origin of the name 'St George's Channel' for the Irish Sea. George's cult came to embody the ideal of Christian chivalry. Though he did not, as far as we know, slay a dragon and rescue a maiden (there are various interpretations of this legend), he is also a patron of Russia, Venice, Genoa, Portugal, Aragon, Lithuania and Boy Scouts, he is one of the Fourteen Holy Helpers of medieval European tradition, and he is even mentioned in Islamic tradition.

Cork Telephones Re-union

Past and Present employees of P&T, Telecom Eireann & Eircom. at Clarion Hotel, Friday 29th April. 7.30 pm Rekindle your old friendships. Everybody welcome.

CHRIST IS RISEN!

Come and experience **A NEW BEGINNING** during a series of Catecheses for adults (and young people) The Church of Christ our Light Ballincollig on Mondays &. Thursdays at 8 pm or

> The Community Hall Ballincollig on Sundays &. Wednesdays at 8 pm

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER

ISPCC

Are holding a Parenting Conference titled "Keeping Children Safe in our Community" on Thursday 21st April 2005 in the Doughcloyne Hotel, Togher, Cork from 7 pm to 9.30 pm.

Alzheimer's Society

Home Care workers required for part-time hours in Cork County. Previous experience working with dementia/older adults is desirable. Duties will include providing home support and recreational activities within our clients homes.

Contact Marie @ The Alzheimer's Society @ 021 439169

Pallottine Fathers Missions

The Pallottine Fathers wish to express sincere thanks to the community of Ballincollig who supported their collection on Saturday 2nd April 2005. The sum of $\notin 1087.00$ was raised. The entire proceeds will go towards helping the Pallottine Fathers Missions in East Africa & South America. The Pallottine missionaries deeply appreciate all those who gave of their tree time to assist with the collection. Be assured that you are remembered daily in the prayers and Masses of the Pallottine Fathers at home and abroad.

Muskerry Local History Society April Lecture

Subject: The Death of Sergeant Bloxham, during the War of Independence.

Speaker:Mr. Dermot Lucey, Local Historian.Venue:Ballincollig Rugby Club Function Hall.Date & Time:19th April 2005 @. 8 pmAdmission: \pounds 2.00. All non-members welcome. Please
also note that there will be a committee meeting after this
lecture to establish numbers traveling on the bus for the
field trip to the Maritime College on Saturday May 14th
and any other business.

Parish Council

The meeting of the parish council on Monday night discussed several items. Words of thanks and appreciation were expressed to all involved in preparing and celebrating the many ceremonies during Holy Week.

The white circles at the pillars and on the pathways on the way to St Mary and St John's church are in place to indicate a suitable place to take up church gate collections. All collections taken up in public places in this country need a Garda permit. Garda permits for collections adjacent to churches specify that these collections are to be taken up at the church gate. The circles are also intended for the safety of collectors and traffic in the church car park. I hope that the circles will bring some clarity for collectors and also enhance the safety of worshippers.

The setting up of a parish office is being actively pursued, recommendations and suggestions welcome. The feast of Corpus Christi is on the 29th of May this year. The annual Eucharistic procession will take place that weekend.

Fr George

City of Cork Male Voice Choir

Will sing at the 6 pm Mass on Saturday 6th May At Church of St. Mary & St. John Sunday 17-April-2005

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