

6 PAGE
EDITION

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THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER

CHRIST OUR LIGHT
INNISHMORE

ST. MARY & ST. JOHN
STATION ROAD

SUNDAY 17TH DECEMBER 2000

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

John the Baptist was sent by God to prepare for Christ's coming. His task was to make people attentive to the Spirit who would be fully present in God's anointed.

THANK YOU

Christmas is the time of year when our thoughts turn to expressions of love, friendship and gratitude both within the intimate family circle and the wider social community in which we live. Traditionally the parish community has been regarded as the next social unit after the family, a unit which is simply a group of families who live out their lives as a religious and social community. In a small rural parish the group may number as little as two hundred families. In this parish over 5000 families make up our parish community. Even in such a large social unit bonds of friendship are established through Mass attendance, residents associations, voluntary organisations, etc.

As priests working within this large community we would like to express our gratitude to all those voluntary workers who give of their time and talents to enrich the lives of those about them. Between the parish council, the lay ministers, the wide variety of religious parish organisations there must be some 500 voluntary workers participating in the provision of religious and community service here. This is the kind of parish community visualised by the late Bishop Murphy and now unremittingly encouraged by Bishop Buckley. It is an organised system that, once established, will continue to function regardless of changes in the Bishops of the Dioceses or the priests of the parish.

Nowadays the Mass going community is a clearly defined entity in every parish. It comprises Catholics representative of all ages and income groups who see Sunday Mass attendance as a sacred duty to God and their families. Their contribution to the whole parish population is beyond calculation. The Mass-going community keeps the flame of Faith alive. The faithful Mass-goers make the Lord present in the world and prove their sincerity by their extraordinary generosity. Sunday after Sunday, they contribute first to the collectors outside the church doors who collect for the various good causes. Inside, they contribute again at the offertory to the cost of running the parish, and eight times a year they contribute to Diocesan charities such as the Adoption Society, St. Vincent de Paul and the Missions. Through the offertory collection this year the Mass-goers contributed £37,500 to the schools of the parish.

There is still another group in the parish which the priests must thank sincerely: the Dues-paying parishioners. Twice a year they return the Spring and Autumn Dues envelopes. The same families do this every time with fidelity and extraordinary generosity. To them we say a special "Thank you" and assure them that their contributions to the support of their priests are scrupulously recorded.

May the Christ Child reward you all with His seasonal gift of love and peace in your homes.

Leonard O'Brien

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

PRIEST

My brothers and sisters,
Christmas will soon be with us to remind us that the Lord is very near. Let us ask the Lord, who is the source of man's happiness, to bring his light of salvation to a darkened world.

READER

For the Church,
that she may reveal more fully,
by her holiness of life,
her message of joyful hope for her
members and for the whole world.
Lord, hear us;
Lord, graciously hear us.

For the government of our country,
that those who have charge of civil
affairs may rule with justice and
serve with charity, so that all
may live in harmony and peace.
Lord, hear us;
Lord, graciously hear us.

For those who are oppressed for their
faith, that they may experience during
this Advent an awareness of Christ's
nearness to them, which gives them
the courage to accept their sufferings
with patience and love.
Lord, hear us;
Lord, graciously hear us.

For a joyful spirit in the community,
that we may learn to appreciate
the nearness of Christ through his
abiding presence in our neighbour.
Lord, hear us;
Lord, graciously hear us.

Visit Our Website: www.ballincolligparish.ie

Sing and Shout for joy for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel

BAPTISMS

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

Allie O'Sullivan, 22, Cranford Pines
Brendan Timothy O'Grady, Slabh Laoi, Dripsey
Orla Marie Keating, West Village



IN SYMPATHY

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF:

Molly O'Connell, Maglin
Seamus Breen, Arklow

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS OF

Thomas Flanagan, Castle Park
John & Mary O'Driscoll, Upton
Jane Callanan, Poulavone
Anthony McCarthy
Traolagh O'Longaigh
Maureen Mansfield
Rita Mansfield, Inniscarra View Estate
Brendan O'Sullivan, Glendower Court
John & Josephine Cuddihy, Tipperary
Michael Fouhy, Eastgate
Florence & Noreen Kelly, Fr. Sexton Park
Tadgh O'Connor, Friars Walk
David Barry, Mulgrave Road
Margaret & Patrick O'Mahony, Carriganarra
The Relatives & Friends of Angela Murphy & Finnegan Family
Nellie Murphy, Station Road
Jeremiah & Catherine Spillane, Rathard, Aherla
Chrissie McCarthy, Bandon
Deceased members of O'Sullivan & Holmes family
Jimmy Bradley
John & Michael Lucey, Station Road
James & Eily Lucey
Danjo & Margaret O'Shea, The Crescent
Eugene & Kitty O'Callaghan
Michael O'Leary, Sweetbriar Lane
Evie Scott, Coolroe
James & Catherine O'Sullivan, Kilmichael
John & Breed Lehane, Wolfe Tone Street
Paul Wall
Con O'Regan, Maglin
Deceased staff of M.C. O'Sullivan
Michael C.O'Sullivan, Model Farm Road
Kitty Acheson, Waterford
Thomas & Ann Martin, Shandon Place
O'Connell & O'Leary Families
Jack O'Brien, Rossmore
Patrick Murphy, Garravagh, Inniscarra
Jerry & Hannah Goulding, Inniscarra

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

17 Sunday Zeph. 3:14-18. Ps. Is. 12:2-6. Phil. 4:4-7. Lk. 3:10-18. *Lect 1:51*
John the Baptist inaugurates the Gospel, already from his mother's womb welcomes the coming of Christ, and rejoices in being 'the friend of the bridegroom' whom he points out as 'the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world'. CCC, 523

18 Monday Jer. 23:5-8. Ps. 71. Mt. 1:18-24. *Lect 1:79*
In the story of Christ's birth, Matthew now stresses the divinity of Christ. St. Joseph appears as a man of justice and integrity. "Ruler of the House of Israel, who gave the law to Moses on Mount Sinai, come with outstretched arm."

19 Tuesday Jg. 13:2-7, 24-25a. Ps. 70. Lk. 1:5-25. *Lect 1:81*
Samson and John are specially chosen messengers, whose births are announced by an angel. Each of us is a messenger, to tell the praise of God's glory every day. "Root of Jesse, do not delay to come and save us."

20 Wednesday Is. 7:10-14. Ps. 23. Lk. 1:26-38. *Lect 1:83*
"The faithful who carry the spirit of Advent from the Liturgy into their own lives perceive the inexpressible love in the Virgin Mary's welcoming of her Son. Thus the Advent liturgy leads them to keep Mary before their own eyes as a model and to prepare the way for the coming Saviour, with wonder and praise." Marialis Cultus.
"Key of David, come to liberate those who are captive in darkness"

21 Thursday Song. 2:8-14 or Zeph. 3:14-18. Ps. 32, Lk. 1:39-45. *Lect 1:85*
Elizabeth is honoured by a visit from the mother of her Lord, and the child leaps for joy. Our Advent joy arises from Christ's coming among us. "Emmanuel, our king and law-giver, come and save us, Lord our God."

22 Friday 1 Sam. 1:24-28. Ps. 1. Sam. 2:1,4-8. Lk. 1:46-56. *Lect 1:88*
"The Almighty has done great things for me": both Hannah and Mary can sing this song to the Lord. So can all who have heard the good news of great joy. "Root of Jesse, set up as a sign to the peoples, delay no more."

23 Saturday Mal. 3:1-4. 4:5-6. Ps. 24. Lk. 1:57-66. *Lect 1:90*
The birth of John the Baptist is a cause of joy for relations and neighbours. "King of the peoples and corner-stone of the Church, come and save those whom you made from the dust of the earth."

SAINTS THIS WEEK

Monday 18th - St. Flannan, **bishop, lived in the seventh century and was the son of a king of Thomond. He entered Molua's monastery at Killaloe and seems to have become abbot there. He is remembered as a great preacher**

Wednesday 20th - St Fachanan **Although little is known with certainty about Fachanan, a strong tradition from early times links him with Kilfenora and records that he founded a church or monastery there in the sixth century. He is thought to have died in Kilfenora and to be buried there, and he is venerated as the patron of the diocese.**

Thursday 21st - St Peter Canisius **1521-97, intended to become a lawyer but joined the Jesuits. His courtesy and learning earned him the respect of his Protestant opponents.**

Saturday 23rd - St John Kanty **1390-1473, loved the academic life in the university of Cracow, Poland, where he taught Sacred Scripture. He gave away all he possessed, ate little, slept on the floor and walked everywhere, even to Rome on four pilgrimages.**

SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER

We would like to thank very sincerely all those who contributed such wonderful toys at our Toy Mass last Sunday. We had a very generous response and we wish all of you peaceful, happy homes this Christmas

NOTICES

**MASSES FOR CHRISTMAS EVE AND CHRISTMAS DAY
MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST 24th/25th December 2000**

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

CHRISTMAS EVE SUNDAY 24TH

6p.m.
**Margaret O'Sullivan
Marsie Curling
Bernadette Bell
Pat Kelleher
Betty Sheehan**

10p.m.
**Mary Collins
Oliver Delaney
Nancy Hogan
Shelia Carroll
Betty Casey
Will Casey**

CHRISTMAS DAY MONDAY 25TH

8.30a.m.
**Mary Buckley
Josie Halligan**

10a.m.
**Vera Allen
Mary Murphy
Tadgh Murphy
Angela Murphy
Seamus O'Shea
Rose Doyle**

12 Noon
**Siobhan Riordan
Frank Riordan
Mary Daly
Brendan Daly
Angela Roche
Jerry O'Connor**

**CHRIST OUR LIGHT CHURCH
CHRISTMAS EVE SUNDAY 24TH**

8p.m.
**Maura O'Cruaioi
Marion O'Sullivan
Ann O'Connell**

Midnight Mass
**Catherine Green
Mary Breen
Siobhan Burke**

CHRISTMAS DAY MONDAY 25TH

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

12.30p.m.
**Eileen O'Donoghue
Jackie Sheehan
Ann Burke
Mary Green
Michel O'Leary**

**MINISTERS OF THE WORD 23RD/24TH DEC
ST. MARY & ST. JOHN CHRIST OUR LIGHT**

**6.00p.m. (Vigil) -
Sandra Walsh
8.30a.m. -
Elizabeth Barry
10.00a.m. -
Andrea Linehan
12 Noon -
Tony Hegarty**

**8.00p.m. (Vigil) -
Jacinta Jeffers
11.00a.m. -
Jack Dorgan
12.30p.m. -
Pat McGeough
5.30p.m. -
Margaret Murphy**

**MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST 23rd/24th December 2000
ST. MARY'S & ST. JOHN'S CHURCH**

**SATURDAY 23RD
6p.m.
Geraldine Hegarty
Patsy Mruphy
Breda Foley
Geraldine Graham
Cathy Horgan
Jim Healy**

**SUNDAY 24TH
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**

CHRIST OUR LIGHT CHURCH

**SATURDAY 23RD
8p.m.
John O'Donoghue
Eleanor O'Donogue**

**SUNDAY 24TH
11a.m.
Robert Wade
Mary O'Mahony
Margaret Brown
Lelia O'Brien**

**12.30p.m.
Brid Dolan
Peggy Sheehan
Pat Manning
Terry O'Driscoll
Bernie O'Driscoll**

**5.30p.m.
Garreth Irish
Sheila Curran
Statia O'Callaghan**

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

ADVERTISERS

*Why not e-mail your
contribution to us?
parish@ballincolligparish.ie*

PLEASE NOTE

**As our Christmas Edition
will go to print early next week
all contributions should be
submitted by Tuesday 19th
December at 8.30p.m.**

PERSON OF THE YEAR AWARDS
will be presented at the **Blarney Park Hotel** on
January 27th 2001 by Minister **Micheál Martin,**
T.D. Minister for Health and Children.

**Categories for awards are Community; Sport;
Arts/Culture; Business; Employee of the Year.**

**Forms are available in the library and
from Angela Corcoran at West End Shoes.**

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**A Happy and Peaceful
Christmas to all our Clients**

from Jean, Annette & Mary



SOLAS DÉ CHOIR

WEST AID

Price £8

*All proceeds in aid of
Sheltered Housing Project,
Ballincollig*

**Christmas C.D 'West Aid'
will be on sale at all Masses
this weekend (17th-18th)**

ALSO ON SALE AT

**Maurice Healy's Post Office,
McNamara's Super Valu and
New Gift Shop, West Village**

*Most Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary,
I consecrate myself and
my whole family to you....*

*We consecrate to you:
our very being and all our life...
All that we are...All that we have...
and all that we love...*

*To you we give our bodies, our hearts
and our souls...*

*To you we dedicate our home
and our country...Mindful of this
consecration, we now promise you
to live the christian way
by the practice of christian virtues,
without regard for human respect...*

*O Most Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary,
accept our humble confidence and this*

ACT OF CONSECRATION

*by which we entrust ourselves
and all our family to you...
In you, we put all our hope.*

SLEEPING BEAUTY

It's that time of the year again.

**Ballincollig Entertainment Theatre are presenting
their 4th Pantomime and this year it's Sleeping Beauty.**

**Much effort has gone into making this the best Panto ever:
The Panto will start it's run in Ballincollig Community Theatre
on 1st January 2001 and runs until 7th January
Programme starts at 8p.m. each night and there will be matinees
at 3p.m. on the 6th and 7th of January**

**ADMISSION TO THIS GREAT SHOW IS £3 FOR ADULTS
AND £2 FOR KIDS AND SENIOR CITIZENS.**

**BALLINCOLLIG BASKETBALL CLUB
NOTES & FIXTURES**

LADIES

Our Un-18 Ladies showed good form in their game against Brunell on Thursday last in the Parochial Hall. It was a very tough match and while Ballincollig played well, Brunell had managed to take the lead at the end of the first half. However, Ballincollig came back in the second half looking very strong and went on to even the score and then take the lead for a great win. Our Un-14's did not fare well against a strong Mallow side. The Ballincollig girls could not match the pace and experience of the Mallow Ladies and were well beaten. The Un-16 Ladies had a better night, putting in a very good performance. This was a tough and close game but unfortunately Mallow just managed to hold out and take the win.

At our home games here in B.C.S. in Ballincollig on Friday night our Un-12's played Donoughmore in what was a good and exciting game. Unfortunately our girls were just that little bit younger than their opponents and the stronger Donoughmore side won out in the end.

The Un-14 Girls had a great game against Carrigaline who always have a very strong side. However, our girls put in a very good performance and went on to win the game comfortably. The Inter Ladies met Cobh in their match in which Ballincollig had a good first half, but as Cobh put on the pressure in the second half Ballincollig were not able to respond and the win went to Cobh. Skibbereen was the venue last Saturday night for the Un-11's Tournament. The girls did exceptionally well, winning three of their four games and were very unlucky in that last game which they lost by only 4pts. Their coach, George Meade was very pleased with their performance on the night. Well done girls!

MEN

The boys Un-13's met a very strong Blue Demons side in their match last Friday 8th in the Parochial Hall. Demons dominated the game from the start and outplayed the Ballincollig lads who, despite their enthusiasm, lacked the experience of their opponents.

UN-17'S TOURNAMENT - Our Un-17's were disappointed with their performance on Saturday 9th when they played in the Un-17 Intermediate Tournament in Parochial Hall. They played St. Colmans, Limerick in their first game and lost by 16pts, not playing up to their usual standard. Next up was the game against Tramore, Waterford which Ballincollig this time won very comfortably by 17 points showing a much stronger side. The final game was against the Middleton Coasters and Ballincollig were most unlucky to lose this match which the Coasters snatched by a single basket. The lack of one of our key players, Paul Fitzgerald was most definitely a disadvantage.

UPCOMING FIXTURES - LADIES

Thursday 14th December - Parochial Hall		
8.15pm	Ballincollig v Glanmire	Jun I
Saturday 16th December - Carrigaline		
4.15pm	Ballincollig v Pumas	Un-18
Sunday 17th December - Cobh		
11.00am	Ballincollig v Cobh	Un-15
12.00noon	Ballincollig v Cobh	Un-16
Sunday 17th December - Bantry		
4.00pm	Ballincollig v Bantry	

UPCOMING FIXTURES - MEN

Friday 15th December - B.C.S., Ballincollig		
6.00pm	Ballincollig v Neptune	Un-17
7.00pm	Ballincollig v Neptune	Un-19
8.00pm	Ballincollig v East Cork Glenmary	Div. 2
Saturday 16th December - Parochial Hall		
3.00pm	Ballincollig v Glanmire	Un-15
Saturday 16th December - Edmund Rice Hall, Limerick		
1.30pm	Ballincollig v St. Colms	Un-17

LEGION OF MARY

The junior members of the Legion of Mary will recite the Rosary at the Crib in the Square at 5.30p.m. on Christmas Eve and would love other children to join them.

Everybody most welcome

Christmas Cards

in aid of Gaelscoil for Sale at Christ Our Light Bookshop

£2.50 per pack of 6

REFLECT/QUOTATION

"A gift of £10 will pay for a clutch of 40 day-old chicks which, shared amongst several families in rural Central America, will provide a simple, life-changing gift"

- from an appeal by Trócaire to Irish people this Christmas to consider the real difference a meaningful Christmas gift could make.

CIRCLES OF LIVING ROSARY PRAYER GROUP AND FAMILY APOSTOLATE GROUP

PLEASE NOTE

THE FOLLOWING DATES:

The Rosary will be recited in the Church of St. Mary & St. John on the following dates and times

DECEMBER 24TH

- Christmas Eve - The Birth of Jesus

The Rosary will be recited at 9.40p.m. prior to the 10p.m. Mass

DECEMBER 31ST

- New Year's Eve

The 15 Decades of the Rosary will be recited at 3p.m.

All are welcome