

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



SUNDAY 17TH FEBRUARY 2002

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT



As Lent begins we are reminded of Adam's fall from grace and of the reality of sin in human life, we are also reminded that Christ is the new Adam overcoming temptation in himself and so making possible a new life, a new humanity for those who belong to him.

GOD'S LIVING WORD IN THE BIBLE

The last and most barbarous of the Christian persecutions by the Roman Empire was inaugurated by the Emperor Diocletian in the Year 298. It raged more or less until the edict of toleration by the Emperor Constantine in 312. One of the weapons which the tyrants used to stamp out Christianity was the burning of all of the Scriptures and religious books in the spread of Christianity. They rightly concluded that if they were to destroy Christianity they would have to destroy the books of the Christians. During the persecutions those Christians who weakened & willingly gave up the sacred books were branded with a special name, the 'Traditores', meaning those who handed over the books. From this latin word has come the word 'Traitors' in English.

The word, any word, has a formidable impact. Campaigning politicians, solicitors in court and successful salesmen and women are aware of its magic power and work miracles with it. The word is conveyed in its written form and in its spoken form. God's word is in the Bible. The Bible is a best seller and it remains unsurpassed by any book. In it we can read about God's living word. Do you read the Bible or listen to its words with faith?

If we do not make an effort to learn all we can about God, meeting him will be like meeting a stranger. Most of us prefer to meet and talk with friends rather than with strangers. Perhaps the reason many people find religion so burdensome is because God is a stranger to them. Is God your friend or is he a stranger to you?

We cannot all be great scholars, but we can give up a little of time which would otherwise be spent watching T.V. or reading light material to study our faith. Each one of us should make the effort to read and to learn more about the word of God. We should reflect on what we read and in doing so grow in our love of God. Now that we are in the season of Lent, what better time is there for us to begin.

John O'Donovan

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

PRIEST:

As we begin the lenten journey, let us remember all those in need.

READER:

For Pope John Paul, our Bishop John and all our leaders in faith, we pray.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For peace and reconciliation in our country and throughout the world, we pray

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For the hungry, the poor, the homeless, we pray.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For this community, particularly for our friends who are ill, we pray.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For those who have died recently and whose anniversaries occur at this time, we pray

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For our own needs and intentions we pray.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

PRIEST:

O God, you understand our weakness, you know our needs: give us the joy of your help, we pray, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY

NOT ON BREAD ALONE (GOSPEL)

The tempter suggests that Jesus should put his trust in material comfort, popularity, political power. They are familiar temptations. Jesus prepared for this moment by forty days of fast. Through our observance of Lent, we try to live more fully by the words that come from the mouth of God - and especially by the Word made flesh.

Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Visit Our Website: www.ballincolligparish.ie

Sunday 17th February 2002

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER**BAPTISMS**

WE WELCOME TO OUR COMMUNITY

ALL THOSE WHO WERE BAPTISED RECENTLY :

Alannah McDonnell, 18 The Brambles, Classis Lake
Eoin Francis Rea, 83 Rosewood**MARRIAGES**

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Colm Power, 36 The Close, Coolroe Meadows
Sinéad Margaret O'Herlihy, 63 Maple Lawn**+**
IN SYMPATHY

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF:

Peg Hurley, Midleton and Drimoleague
Timmy O' Keeffe, Shamrock Drive, Muskerry Est.,**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE
REPOSE OF THE SOULS OF**

Anthony McCarthy, 98 Castle Park
 Martin Murphy, Hodder's Villas
 John & Helena Walsh, Ballinhassig
 Gus & Vincent O'Connell, Ballinora
 Francis & Margaret O'Farrell, Station Rd.
 Tom Twomey, Raheen, Carrigrohane
 Jack Lucey, Station Rd
 Marjorie O'Mahony, Bandon
 Sadie Murphy, Dublin
 Molly Murray, Quaker Rd.
 Patrick & Bridget O'Brien, Cashel
 Frances O'Neill, Leo Murphy Terrace
 John Breen, Castle Ave.
 Johanna & Mattie Twomey, Coolen, Macroom
 Michael Buckley, Rock Lodge
 Pat O'Donovan, Church Rd.
 Theresa Strahan, Dublin
 Mary Sheehan, Douglas
 Eileen O'Grady, The Crescent
 Mary, Christy & Kieran O'Donoghue, St Bridget St.,
 Cornelius & Mary Kelly, Dunmanway
 Elizabeth Murphy, Carriganarra
 Ellen Collins, Dunmanway
 Garreth Collins, Dunmanway & England
 Marie Deasy, Bandon
 William & Julie Burke
 Michael Dilworth, Rock Lodge
 Sr. Agnes Hogan
 Daniel John McSweeney, Cathedral Rd
 William & Sheila Murphy, Model Farm Rd.
 Catherine Denis, Innishannon
 Patrick Cronin, Skibbereen
 McGuire and Twomey Families
 John Twomey
 Ted & Bridie Brennan, Kilkenny
 Jim Doyle, Westcourt
 Liam (Billy) Carroll, Inniscarra View
 Joey O'Driscoll, Rosewood

FIRST WEEK OF LENT**17 Sunday** Gen. 2:7-9. 3: 1 -7. Ps. 50. Rom. 5:12-19. Mt. 4:1 -11 *Lect I:201*

The Church has in mind the catechumens throughout the world who set out today on their great preparation for the Easter Vigil when they will become Christians. The faithful, who are already baptised, are the concern of the Church too. They must be awakened once more to the meaning of being in Christ. The faithful join with the catechumens in the struggle against the powers of darkness, confident that where sin abounded, grace abounds still more.

18 Monday Lev. 19:1 -2, H -18. Ps. 18. Mt. 25:31 -46. *Lect I:210*

The Gospel reminds us that Jesus came to preach good news to the poor. At the beginning of Lent we again get a reminder that good works are essential to our proper observance of the season, along with prayer and fasting.

19 Tuesday Is. 55:10-11. Ps. 33. Mt. 6:7-15. *Lect I:212*

The model for our prayer is the Lord's Prayer. It is a summary of the whole Gospel, the most perfect of all prayers. Being taught and given to us by our Lord, it is indeed the Word of God that goes out and succeeds in what it was sent to do. It is the foundation of the daily prayer of all Christians.

20 Wednesday Jon. 3:1-10. Ps. 50. Lk. 11:29-32. *Lect I:214*

Interior conversion is a radical turning away from sin and evil in our lives. It brings about a change in our lives through the working of God's grace.

21 Thursday Esther 14:1, 3-5, 12-14. (Vulgate) Ps. 137. Mt. 7:7-12. *Lect I: 216*

Queen Esther knew the practical things to be done and did them, but she did not rely on them. Her prayer shows that her confidence was in God: "I have no one but you, Lord".

22 Friday 1 Peter 5:1 -4 Ps 22 Mt 16:13-19 *Lect 11:540***23 Saturday** Deut 26:16-19 Ps 118 Mt 5:43-48 *Lect I: 221*

"The Lord Jesus, the divine Teacher and Model of all perfection, preached holiness of life to each and every one of His disciples of every condition. He Himself stands as the author and consumator of this holiness of life: 'Be you therefore perfect, even as your heavenly Father is perfect'. Indeed He sent the Holy Spirit upon all men that He might move them inwardly to love God with their whole heart and their whole soul, with all their mind and all their strength and that they might love each other as Christ loves them."

*Lumen gentium, 40***SAINTS THIS WEEK**

St Peter Damian stands out in Church history as a strong figure, one of the greatest reformers of the Middle Ages, who preached penance and love, not only by words, but by the example of his life: he died 22 February 1072.

The Chair of St Peter. This ancient feast relates to early Roman custom at this time of year of remembering the ancestors of the family, those who presided over the family fortunes. The texts today celebrate Peter as Bishop of Rome. We recall Christ's choice of Peter for service to the whole Church.

St Polycarp was born between the years 70 and 80. As a young man he became a disciple of Saint John the Evangelist; Later, John consecrated him bishop of Smyrna, a city now in modern Turkey. Eventually Polycarp was arrested and brought before the pagan authorities and they demanded that Polycarp deny Christ, the bishop quietly answered "I have been serving him eighty six years and He has never harmed, me. How then dare I blaspheme my King who has saved me?" This simple declaration of faith caused his death..

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Sunday 17th February 2002

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER**BALLINCOLLIG BASKETBALL CLUB**

Our girls u. 11 team played their first round of league games on last Saturday in LITTLE ISLAND. We entered one team but due to some teams withdrawing from the league we made two teams out of our squad. Both groups of girls showed that the future is bright for Ballincollig basketball.

U12 boys performed well in their tournament and were very unlucky to lose in the semi final to MAREE from GALWAY by just four points.

GIRLS U16 and U18 travelled to CARRIGALINE and came away with two good victories.

U16 had their best display of the season with some great shooting and teamwork fully deserved the league points. U.I 8 girls had a comfortable win and were never troubled by an understrength home side.

BOYS U13 were beaten by MALLOW while our u.15 had an easy win against the same opposition. U.I 7 boys were very unlucky to be defeated by the narrowest of margins in their match with ST. COLMS from LIMERICK.

ALL GIRLS TRAINING ON SAT 9 FEB. IS CANCELLED .

Normal Saturday training will resume on Sat. 16 Feb.

BALLINCOLLIG BASKETBALL CLUB NOTES

Our ladies Jun 1 team had a very sweet victory over their Glanmire opponents last week, having lost to them very narrowly two weeks ago. Ballincollig made no mistake about who was in charge this time and took control of the game from the start and maintained it through-out the match. The un 11 boys had a successful journey to Mallow last Tuesday where they had a good win. Having been beaten narrowly by Mallow recently, Ballincollig were very pleased to turn the tables and come home with the win. Our Div 2 men's team were not so fortunate in their game against Blue Demons A team last Friday in a Championship game. In what was a very close match, Ballincollig were desperately unlucky to lose by a single point but on the night Demons just had that edge and denied Ballincollig their shot at the double. However Ballincollig still remain unbeaten at the top of their league where they are very strong.

Men's Fixtures

Saturday 16th Feb - B.C.S. Ballincollig
 2pm Ballincollig v Blue Demons A Un-11
 3pm Ballincollig v Neptune A Un-13
 4pm Ballincollig v Neptune Un-15
 5pm Ballincollig v Blue Demons Un-17
 6pm Ballincollig v Fr. Mathews Div. 2

Friday 22nd - Parochial Hall
 6.45pm Ballincollig v Crescent Un-15

Sat 23rd - Parochial Hall
 10.30am Neptune A/Nep B v Ballincollig U-13

Sat 23rd - Coláiste Mhuire, Cobh
 8.15pm Cobh v Ballincollig Div 2

Ladies Fixtures

Thurs 21st Feb - Parochial Hall
 8.30pm Nets v Ballincollig Junior I

Sat 23rd - Carrigaline Com. Centre
 5.15pm Carrigaline v Ballincollig Un-12

Sat 23rd - Carrigaline Com. School
 2.15pm Carrigaline v Ballincollig Un-15

A special thank you to Fr. Ned Gould. P.P. on behalf of our Ministers of the Word Groups and other interested parishioners who had the privilege of Fr. Gould's words of wisdom together with spiritual insights on the Lenten Sunday Readings. A word of thanks also to Sr. Catherine who arranged the talk.

Sunday 17th February 2002

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER

ST. MARY & ST. JOHN	EACH SUNDAY	CHRIST OUR LIGHT
<p>Masses</p> <p>Sunday: 8.30, 10.00, 12.00 Mon- Fri: 9.30am, 8.00p.m. Saturday: 10.00am, 6pm (Vigil)</p>	<p>ROSARY RECITED AT BOTH CHURCHES EACH SUNDAY 3.00P.M. <i>Everyone most welcome</i></p>	<p>Masses</p> <p>Sunday: 11.00, 12.30, 5.30pm Mon-Fri: 8.30am., 6.30pm Saturday: 10.00am, 8.00pm (Vigil)</p>
<p>Confessions</p> <p>Saturday: after 10am Mass before 6pm Mass</p>	<p>SACRISTY SERVICES <i>Before and after all Masses Sundays & Weekdays</i> <u>CHURCH OF ST. MARY & ST. JOHN</u></p>	<p>Confessions</p> <p>Saturday: after 10am Mass</p>
<p>Baptisms</p> <p>Saturday: 5.00pm Sunday: 12.45pm</p>	<p>- Mass Card Signing - Requests for Baptism/Marriage Certs, etc. <u>CHRIST OUR LIGHT</u> - Mass Card Signing -</p>	<p>Baptisms</p> <p>Saturday: 7.15pm</p>
<p>PARISH CLERGY</p> <p>CHURCH NO. ☎ 087-2479140 Fr. L.O'Brien P.P ☎ 021-4871206 Fr. P. O'Donovan C.C. ☎ 021-4872808 Fax: 021-4872808 Fr. Paul O'Donoghue ☎ 021-4876055 Fr. John O'Donovan ☎ 021-4870434</p>		

**BALLINCOLLIG
 PARISH PASTORAL
 COUNCIL**

The thirty-third meeting of the council will be held in the Community Centre on Monday February 18th 2002 at 7.45p.m.

CONFIRMATION DATES

Confirmation ceremonies will take place as follows

Scoil Mhuire, Wed 17 April 2002

Scoil Eoin, Wed 24 April 2002

Scoil Barra, Thurs 25 April 2002

Gaelscoil Uí Riordan &
 Gaelscoil Uí Riada,
 Thurs 16th May at Ballineaspig



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“May God defend the cause of the poor and deliver the children of the needy.”

Psalm 72, verse 4



ST. JOSEPH'S YOUNG PRIESTS SOCIETY

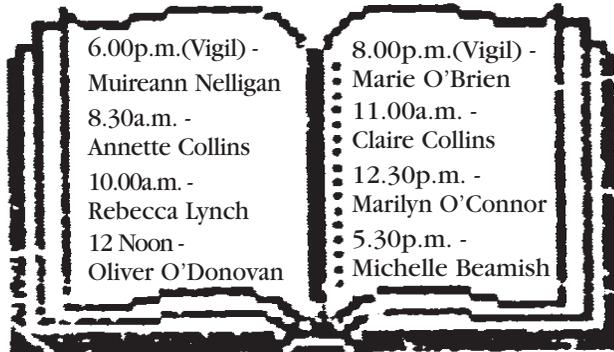
Monthly meeting of the St. Joseph's Young Priests Society will be held in the Community Hall (upstairs) on Monday 18th February at 8 o'clock.

Everyone welcome

NEXT SUNDAYS READINGS:

Gen. 12:1-4. Ps. 32. 2 Tim. 1:8-10. Mt. 17:1-9. Lect 1: 223 The Transfiguration

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



6.00p.m.(Vigil) - Muireann Nelligan	8.00p.m.(Vigil) - Marie O'Brien
8.30a.m. - Annette Collins	11.00a.m. - Claire Collins
10.00a.m. - Rebecca Lynch	12.30p.m. - Marilyn O'Connor
12 Noon - Oliver O'Donovan	5.30p.m. - Michelle Beamish

MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST 23rd / 24th February 2002 ST. MARY'S & ST. JOHN'S CHURCH



SATURDAY 23RD
6p.m.
Aisling Kelly
April Ryan
Eileen Murphy
Ted Nelligan
Angela Murphy
Ann O'Connell

SUNDAY 24TH
8.30a.m.
Helen Kelly
Roddy Martin

10a.m.
Miriam Maunsell
Mary Buckley
Breda Ring
Jerry O'Connor

12.00 Noon
Louie O'Leary
Imogen Ryan
John Walshe
Pat Kelleher
Irene O'Brien
Ellen O'Sullivan

CHRIST OUR LIGHT CHURCH

SATURDAY 23RD
8p.m.
John O'Donoghue
Eleanor O'Donoghue
Kathleen Daly

SUNDAY 24TH
11a.m.
Mary O'Mahony
Margaret Brown
Rose Cotter
Billy Barry
Nell Cantillon Murphy

12.30p.m.
Mary Twomey
Peggy Sheehan
Pat Manning
Terry O'Driscoll
Bernie O'Driscoll

5.30p.m.
Garreth Irish
Shelia Curran
Statia O'Callaghan

Sunday 17th February 2002

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER

Tráth na gCeist Boird Fundraising Table Quiz

organised by Coiste na dTuistí
Parents Association Gaelscoil Uí Riordáin

Teams of 4 €20
Dé Céadaoin - 20 Feabhra / February
8 p.m. Sharp

G.A.A Pavillion
Baile an Chollaigh

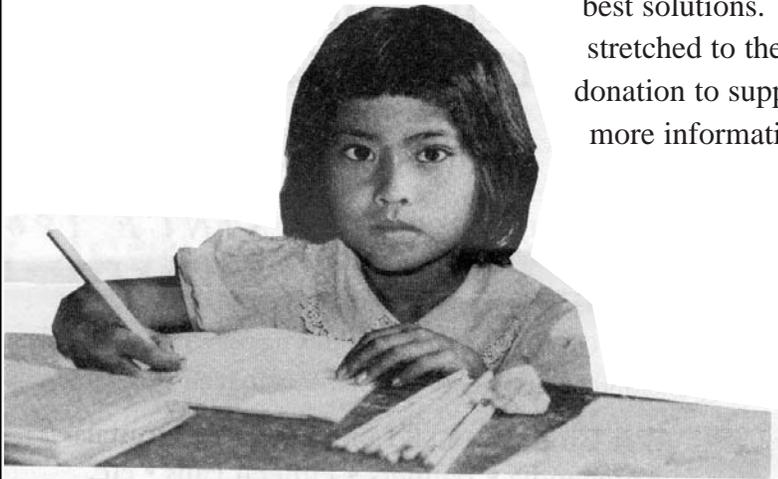
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best solutions. But our people and resources are stretched to the limit. You can help by making a donation to support our vital work or if you want more information, write to us or phone us at the contact address below.

Thank you.



169 Booterstown Avenue,
Blackrock, Co. Dublin.
Tel. (01) 288 5385

TRÓCAIRE'S LENTEN CAMPAIGN WILL BEGIN ON 13TH FEBRUARY

A STUDENT'S PRAYER

O Holy Spirit, help me to study well and to pass my examinations. Be my strength and grant me understanding and wisdom.

When I was confirmed, I received these gifts of fortitude, understanding and wisdom.

I now ask you to make them ever more active in my life so that my mind attains the clarity I so badly need these days. Spirit of understanding and enlightenment, teach me. Saint Rita of Cascia give me patience so that I will allow the same Holy Spirit to remind me of what I have learned.

Amen.

BURN OUT

Lord, I believe I have a just complaint,
Hear my story, don't let me down.
I have always tried to play fair.
Never have I resorted to the physical
I have kept my feet firmly on your paths,
Championed your cause, proclaimed your word.
You have told me of your love
In the words of your Book;
But true love is shown, Not only in words, but in deeds.
Now surprise me with your grace, and
Bless me with your help!
Those I serve don't appear to respond.
They seem indifferent to your word.
I reach out in concern and I am cold-shouldered,
They just don't want to know me.
Lord, I am weary of well-doing,
I feel burnt out.
Now, guard me as the apple of your eye.
Hide me in the shelter of your care.
Encourage me in the work I am doing,
That inner peace, you alone can bring.
I know that one day, I shall see your face,
And be filled with the sight of your glory.
'Guard me as the apple of your eye.
Hide me in the shadow of your wings
As you fly over me.' Psalm 17:8

CHURCH DIRECTORY 2002

The Church Directory 2002 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 ?3



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**STATEMENT OF THE IRISH EPISCOPAL CONFERENCE
ON THE PROPOSED ABORTION REFERENDUM
- PART 1 -**

1. It is the clear and consistent teaching of the Catholic Church that human life is sacred from the moment of conception. In his 1995 Encyclical Letter The Gospel of Life (Evangelium Vitae) Pope John Paul II re-stated the teaching that "the human being is to be respected and treated as a person from the moment of conception. Therefore from that same moment his or her rights as a person must be recognised, among which in the first place is the inviolable right of every innocent human being to life" (#60). Nothing can ever justify the deliberate killing of an innocent human being.

2. The basic right to life is a natural and moral right which does not depend on legal or political recognition for its value. However, the Church has always insisted that a primary function of law is to protect the most needy and vulnerable human beings, including the unborn.

3. For these reasons, it is the responsibility and the entitlement of the bishops of Ireland, in communion with the Universal Church and its Supreme Pastor Pope John Paul II, to offer guidance to our people regarding the proposed Constitutional amendment as set out in the Twenty-fifth Amendment of the Constitution (Protection of Human Life in Pregnancy) Bill, 2001.

4. At present, the law in Ireland concerning the right to life of the unborn is determined by Article 40.3.3 of the Constitution as interpreted by the Supreme Court in the "X Case". It remains our conviction that the judgement in that case is profoundly flawed. It is for this reason that we have called on many occasions for a new referendum which would effectively overturn this judgement and restore adequate protection for the unborn.

5 We welcome and support the new proposal as a significant improvement on the current unsatisfactory situation. In particular, this proposal would appear to set aside deficient aspects of the "X case" judgement, including the acceptance of the risk of suicide as a legitimate ground for justifying abortion.

6. We are satisfied that, on any reasonable interpretation, the specific and particular protection offered to the unborn by the new proposal does not dilute or weaken the general protection already afforded by Article 40.3.3 of the Constitution.

7. But even if this new proposal is enacted, outstanding issues remain which require the ongoing attention of our legislators. We believe that the existing rights of the unborn from the moment of conception under Article 40.3.3 of the Constitution need to be reinforced by precise legislative measures.

8. In particular, we are concerned that adequate and clear legal protection be offered to the unborn prior to implantation. This is particularly urgent in view of what is happening and what is likely to happen in the area of cloning and research on human embryos, and also in the area of assisted human reproduction where particular problems arise regarding the storage and disposal of human embryos. It is of vital importance that embryos are never treated other than as human persons whose inherent worth and dignity are valued and vindicated.

9. In this regard, we are about to make a substantial submission to the Government Commission on Assisted Human Reproduction setting out in detail our moral concerns in this area.

- Part 2 - (next week)