

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



St. Mary & St. John
Station Road

Sunday 20-February-2005

Second Sunday of Lent

In its desire to be self-sufficient, and to do without God, mankind loses itself. The journey back to true humanity was begun with Abraham, who relied only on God's promise.

This journey ends with the coming of Christ - in him is revealed the perfection of a humanity in union with God.



Christ Our Light
Innishmore

Lent, A Season of Growth

Early Spring is always an exciting time, suddenly Winter is past, the days lengthen, the sun strengthens, the birds sing and begin their nest-making. The garden comes alive again. The snowdrops and daffodils are the heralds of Spring. It is the time for pruning. Many plants are improved by being cut back, and careful pruning produces healthier and better plants. If left to themselves, they can become gnarled and twisted and don't produce the fruit or flower they are capable of producing. Other plants need to be split, divided up and replanted, and some of these can be given away. Plants, like people, thrive if they are not fighting for the same space, or if they are not in a space that has been used over and over. Spring is also a time to add some nourishment to the land.

I see Lent as a time of lengthening and letting God's power strengthen in our lives. If it is a time for cutting back, it is so that we can live fuller and more abundant lives, or so that we can have more to give away. I do not see Lent as a time of misery or pointless renunciation, but as a time of growth and hope. I do not ask people, "What are you giving up for Lent?" Better to ask, "What extra do you do for Lent?" "How do you live this Lenten time to the full?" All that pruning is only productive if it leads to growth and fullness of life.

I see Lent as a time for change, a change of direction, which is best described as a 'repentance' or a 'turning around'. What we need is a change of attitude – a move from a historic understanding of God to a personal relationship, usually referred to as Faith. And so we are faced with life-changing and life-challenging events.

If we want a nice garden, we have to work at it. Similarly, if we want a better and more fruitful life, we have to work at it. A garden left on its own will go to ruin. It may take years but its beauty and goodness will gradually be lost. Many people say that they do what comes naturally when it comes to their daily living. But doing what comes naturally produces weeds and briars. If we want to have a full and productive life we have to put some planning and effort into it. A wise old friend of mine who was a great gardener, once said to me, "Plan your work and work your plan." He was talking about the garden but I knew that he meant me to relate his words to the whole of my life.

Are we planning and working this Lenten time? Let this Lent be a positive time. A season of growth in all our lives.

John O'Donovan

Reflection for Parents

Children adapt to change. They love the excitement of something new. As parents, however, we'd like to slow down the changes we see changes in our community, our jobs, government, and even the changes in our growing children. As it was for the disciples, it's hard sometimes for us to understand and accept things changing in front of our eyes. However, change and constant motion are part of the divine plan as we journey to God. Today, instead of digging in our heels to slow the change, try lightening your heart as a child and accept with joy, the changes you face.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Priest

Let us keep our eyes on the glorified Jesus and on God's promises to us, as we bring our prayers with confidence.

Reader

For the gift of perseverance in faith and hope for all Christians.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For poorer nations and peoples, for those who have to emigrate because of poverty or oppression, that they may be generously assisted by wealthier nations and governments.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For all who feel excluded or ignored in our society, that they may experience Christian hospitality among us.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For those who work untiringly to bring about peace and reconciliation, that their labours be rewarded.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For all who suffer from illness, loneliness, depression or neglect, that they may be helped by the kindness of neighbours and friends.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For all who mourn the death of loved ones at this time, and for those who have died.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

Priest

Most loving God, we bring our needs and the needs of our brothers and sisters before you this day, knowing that you care for us and hear our prayer. We pray, as always, in the name of Jesus, your Son.

Amen.

May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.

Visit Our Website: www.ballincolligparish.ie

BAPTISMS

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

Alastar James Carroll, 112 Old Court, Greenfields.
 Daniel Cornelius Quinn, 19 Beech Road, Muskerry Est.
 Abbey Suzanne Moloney-Kelleher, 114 Cedardale.
 Callum Thomas McCoy, 30 Innishmore Square.
 Jamie William O'Callaghan O'Shea, 76 Rosewood Est.
 Muireann Catherine Daly, 4 Maglin View.
 Yasemin Yikilmaz, 55 Church View.
 Ben Anthony Bourke, 4 Millmount Ave., Drumcondra, Dublin.
 Fionnan Patrick MacDermott, 85 Westcourt Heights.
 Cathal McDermott, 85 Westcourt Heights.

† **IN SYMPATHY** †

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

Mick O'Mahony, Castle Park.
 Ellen Fitzpatrick.

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

Nora Hegarty, Skibbereen.
 Etienne Kinack, Dslhang, Cameroon.
 Theresa Collins.
 The O'Shea & Collins Families.
 Eileen & Con Connor, Kanturk.
 Mamie Quinn, Powdermills.
 Jack Dennehy, Castle View.
 Catherine O'Donnell, Drimoleague.
 May Murphy.
 Catherine & William O'Mahony, Tudor Grove.
 Jack, Sheila & Brian Hopkins, Rosewood Est.
 John McKechnie, Tower.
 The Harrington family, The Square.
 Deceased members of the Barry family, Freemount.
 Jim Deasy, Aherla.
 Lily Lucey, Prosperity Square.
 Tom Moloney, Mallow.
 Elizabeth & Tim Murphy, Carriganarra Road.
 Walter & Dan Proudfoot, Yorkshire.
 Eileen Corr, Bishopstown.
 Patrick & Margaret O'Callaghan, Dripsey.
 Liam (Billy) Carroll, Woodbine Lawn.
 Joey O'Driscoll, Rosewood Est.
 Maureen Noonan, Cathedral Ave.
 Rose Moylan, Earlwood Estate.
 Seán Ryan, Coolroe.
 Bridget & Vincent Moran, Powdermills.
 Margaret McSweeney, Kilnaglory.
 Deceased members of the Keelan & Lee families.
 Eugene & Margaret Teahan, Killarney.
 Nora Barrett, Coolroe.
 Margaret O'Keefe, Killeens.
 Mary Ann Sheehan.

Lenten Programme

Preparing the Sunday Gospel for Lent
 Tuesday morning 10 – 10:30 am
 In the meeting room over
 St. Vincent de Paul Shop
 All are welcome.

A coincidence is a small miracle where God chose to remain anonymous.
 Heidi Quade

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Second Week Of Lent

20 Sunday Gen. 12: 1-4. Ps. 32. 2 Tim. 1:8-10. Mt. 17: 1-9. Lect I: 223
 21 Monday Dan. 9:4-10. Ps. 78. Lk. 6:36-38. Lect I: 231
 22 Tuesday I Pet. 5:1-4. Ps. 22. Mt. 16:13-19. Lect II: 540
 23 Wednesday Jer. 18:18-20. Ps. 30. Mt. 20:17-28. Lect I: 234
 24 Thursday Jer. 17:5-10. Ps. 1. Lk. 16:19-31. Lect I: 236
 25 Friday Gen. 37:3-28. Ps. 104. Mt. 21 :33-43.45-48. Lect I: 239
 26 Saturday Mic. 7: 14-15, 18-20. Ps. 102. Lk. 15: 1-3.11-32 Lect I: 243

Next Sunday's Readings 27-February-2005

Ex. 17:3-7. Ps. 94. Rom. 5: 1-2, 5-8. In. 4:5-42. Lect I: 245

Recovery

Recovery Inc. has been helping people cope with mental health difficulties since 1937 and offers a self-help method for dealing with depression, anxiety, anger, fears or phobias, panic attacks.
 Your local group meet at The Capuchin Friary, Fr. Matthew Quay, Cork every Wednesday evening at 7.30 pm.

For more information contact
 01 / 6260775 or write to Recovery Inc.
 at P.O Box 2210, Dublin 13.

We come together, as pilgrim people, on this Second Sunday in Lent. Our Christian journey of penance is brightened today by the Transfiguration story. We know that we too are destined for glory.

Lent is Here

Can you give a little more time to the Lord?

“Let my People Go”.

Continues every Wednesday at 8 pm,
 Community Hall Annex
 and will finish with Passover Meal on March 23rd
 Looking forward to seeing you

Eucharistic Adoration

Church of St. Mary and St. John
 One hour per week, every Thursday during Lent.
 after 8.00 pm Mass, finishing at 9.30 pm.

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*

THE SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading: Genesis 12:1-4
 Abram was commanded by the Lord to leave his home and go to a new land. There the Lord God would make of him a great nation and all would be blessed because of him.

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1:8-10
 God saves all people and calls them to a holy life, not because of their own merit but because of the grace held out in Christ. Christ "destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel."

Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9
 The second Sunday of Lent always gives us an account of the transfiguration. Jesus asked Peter, James and John to go with him to the mountain top. While they were there, Jesus was transfigured and became dazzling white before them. Along with Jesus stood Moses and Elijah. The voice of God announced that Jesus was his son and that all should listen to him. The disciples were frightened, but Jesus calmed them. When Peter, James and John looked up, Jesus was the only one left . . . the one to whom we need to listen.



SAINT OF THE WEEK

St. Polycarp 23-February-2004

A letter about Polycarp, bishop of Smyrna, written from the Church at Smyrna to the other Christian churches after his death, and reproduced by the fourth-century historian Eusebius of Caesarea, gives most of the available information about him. He is also mentioned in the writings of Irenaeus of Lyons, who was his disciple. Polycarp had learned directly from John the Evangelist, and in his old age, he could remember John's words and even the inflexions of his voice. He became bishop of Smyrna in about 107, and was noted for his defence of the Christian faith against the Gnostics, a defence carried on by Irenaeus in his *Adversus Haereses*. He was much given to peace and reconciliation, and he travelled to Rome to meet Anicetus, bishop of Rome, to try to heal the growing breach between the Eastern and Western Churches. The two could not agree, and finally decided to differ in charity. Polycarp died in one of the sporadic riots stirred up by Roman governors against Christians from time to time. He refused to escape, and sat calmly waiting for his pursuers to find him. Taken before the governor, he refused to sacrifice to the Roman gods, and said that he had been a Christian for eighty-six years: he would not deny his master in his old age. He was despatched by a sword-thrust. The letter from the Church at Smyrna concludes by saying, 'He was the twelfth to die at Smyrna, but he alone is specially remembered by all, so that even the heathen everywhere speak of him.'

Human nature grows tired of always doing the same thing, and it is God's will that this should be because of the opportunity of practicing two great virtues. The first is perseverance, which will bring us to our goal. The other is steadfastness, which overcomes the difficulties on the way.

St. Vincent de Paul

Community Games

Church Gate Collection - As the local Ballincollig Community Games Committee begin preparations for another season they take the opportunity to express their gratitude to the Ballincollig community and commercial sectors for their continued financial support. Without which it would not be possible to continue to provide the youth of the area with the opportunity to represent Ballincollig and Cork at national levels.

With the start of a new season the local committee appeals for adult support in organising this year's programme. People interested in getting involved should contact the Chairman Rick O'Mahony at 087-2358347.

The annual **Church Gate Collection** will be held on Saturday and Sunday of next week. Once again they appeal for the continued generous support of the community on behalf of the youth of the area.

Musical

Following on the success of their productions of 'West Side Story' and 'A Chorus Line' students and staff of Cork Institute of Technology are producing 'Fame - the Musical' in the Cork Opera House, opening on Wednesday March 2nd. Director, John O'Connor, has called on the talents available across CIT's four campuses, Bishopstown, The Cork School of Music, The Crawford College of Art and Design and The National Maritime College of Ireland. They are busy in rehearsal and looking forward to a spectacular show at the Cork Opera House from March 2nd to 6th. Booking is on 021 4270022

For information contact

Ger O'Riordan 0879549017 or artsfest@cit.ie

Ballincollig Parish Pastoral Council

The next meeting of the council will be held in the Annex Room, Community Centre on Monday February 28th at 7.45 pm

Womens World Day Of Prayer

International And Interdenominational
 This years service takes place on Friday 4th March at 7.30 pm in St. Peter's Church, Carrigrohane.

The service prepared by women of Poland is entitled,

'Let Our Light Shine'

The speaker is Anne Alcock.

All welcome.

Any enquiries to

Sesca Tyrell Tel.: (021) 733 1158 or

Mary McLean Tel. (021) 487 1284.

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.,

36 Washington Street, Cork.

Tel: 021-4272213

Tuesday to Friday, Office Hours

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

Feb-26 & Feb-27-2005

St. Mary & St. John

Christ Our Light

6:00 pm (Vigil)
Aine Sheehan
8:30 am
Aisling Moore
10:00 am
Elaine Murphy
12:00 Noon
Oliver O'Donovan

8:00 pm (Vigil)
Joy O'Driscoll
11:00 am
Emma Flanagan
12:30 pm
Dick Beamish
5:30 pm
Michaela O'Connor

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 & 8 pm	Monday	8:30 am & 6:30 pm
9:30 am & 8 pm	Tuesday	8:30 am & 6:30 pm
9:30 am & 8 pm	Wednesday	8:30 am & 6:30 pm
9:30 am & 8 pm	Thursday	8:30 am & 6:30 pm
9:30 am & 8 pm	Friday	8:30 am & 6:30 pm
10:00 am & 6 pm (Vigil)	Saturday	9:00 am & 8 pm (Vigil)

CONFESSIONS

After 10:00 am Mass & before 6:00 pm Mass **Saturday** After 9:00 am Mass

BAPTISMS

5:00 pm **Saturday** 7:15 pm
12:45 pm **Sunday**

MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

Feb-26 & Feb-27-2005

St. Mary & St. John

Christ Our Light

6.00 pm	Steve Wills Margaret O'Sullivan Rita Aherne Rose Doyle Jim Walsh Frances O'Brien	8:00 pm	Anne O'Regan Mairead Healy Murphy Finbarr Murray
8:30 am	Mary Buckley Rita Murphy	11:00 am	Seamus O'Connell Mary O'Connell Alan O'Riordan Geraldine Keohane
10:00 am	Christina Walsh Peter Reilly Mary Collins Christy Roche Katie O'Shea	12:30 pm	Lucy O'Callaghan Jackie Sheehan Mary Green Michael O'Leary
12 Noon	Oliver O'Donovan Barbara Kelly John Jeffers Mary McLean Ellen Seymour	5:30 pm	Noelle Buckley Mary Breen Siobhan Burke

PARISH CLERGY

Priest on Duty 087-2479140

Fr. George O'Mahony P.P. 021-4871206
Fr. Michael O'Mahony C.C. 021-4877161
Fr. Paul O'Donoghue 021-4876055
Fr. John O'Donovan C.C. 021-4870434



Ballincollig Hardware

Key Cutting Service

While You Wait!



Unit 1 Shopping Centre,
Next to Quish's Supervalu,
West Village.

Tel.: (021) 4872401



Ballincollig Credit Union Ltd.



Harrington St. Ballincollig, Co. Cork.
Tel: 021-4872305. Fax: 021-4872532.

Now open all day Wednesday

New Opening Hours from March 29th 2004

Monday	10:30 - 5:00 pm
Tuesday	9:45 - 5:00 pm
Wednesday	9:45 - 5:00 pm
Thursday	9:45 - 5:00 pm
Friday	9:45 - 7:00 pm
Saturday	9:45 - 12:00 pm

*So go on ...
Give yourself some credit !!!
Ring us today !!!
Call 4872305*



SUTTONS OIL HOME HEATING OIL

SPREAD YOUR HOME HEATING BILL OVER 12 Months INTEREST FREE

Contact:
Shane Lordan 087/2613157
Gerard Lane 087/2613156

Home Heating Budget Payment Plan



For instant quotation Contact us NOW