

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



St. Mary & St. John
Station Road

Sunday 22-December-2013

Fourth Sunday of Advent

The angels announced the good news of a Saviour. God sent his only Son to earth to save us, because he loves us! "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him."



Christ Our Light
Innishmore

Sunday of The Angel Candle

Advent is one of my special times of the year for many reasons. There is excitement and a buzz in homes as preparation for Santa gathers pace. "Then the house has to be decorated, cards sent and received and so on. Then the shopping goes on for some families, regrettably for other families much of pre-Christmas is stressful, difficult and full of demands as heightened expectations are usually expensive and beyond the reach of many. We might perhaps keep families in our thoughts, important that as adults and children we learn to share and think of others. So many are very generous, Christmas reminds us that God is very generous to us sending his Son as a baby to give us hope and freedom.

The special part of Advent for me is some of the readings. (Especially Isaiah Ch 40 and 41) I like especially the readings from Isaiah during Advent preparing us for the coming of the Messiah. The prophet Isaiah speaks about a very special child coming to us. Every child in King David's line was the embodiment of God's promise to be with the people. However we believe that Isaiah's prophecy found complete fulfilment in Jesus.

The reading from St Paul and the Gospel tells us more about this child. He has a double identity, human identity and also Son of God. He is Emmanuel "God with us". This part of the identity of Jesus was gradually understood, it was only after his death and Resurrection that the fuller implication came to people.

We also have a double identity, human from our birth and after Baptism we have become children of God. Like Jesus our divine dignity is recognised and revealed by the Father. Our divine dignity is a matter of faith like that of Jesus.

George O'Mahony

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Priest

Let us pray that the whole world may be flooded with the grace of the Lord's coming.

Reader

For all Christians: that they may celebrate the birth of Christ with the faith and joy of Mary, Joseph, and the shepherds

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

For all temporal leaders: that in their administration of justice they may ensure that the poor and vulnerable members of society are not left out.

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

For those whom Christmas may be a time of loneliness and sadness: that they may experience the warmth of Christ's presence.

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

For husbands and wives: that they may find comfort in time of sorrow, strength in time of trial, and be blessed with an enduring love for one another.

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

For all those who are travelling this Christmas: that they may reach their destinations safely.

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

For a moment, we remember in silence our own particular needs.

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

Priest

O God, Father of every family, against whom no door can be shut, convert our heart and our homes into fit dwelling places for Christ your Son. We ask this through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

Best Wishes for a Happy and Peaceful Christmas

The priests of the parish join in sending their Christmas greetings to all members of the parish and to all readers of the Ballincollig Parishioner. We thank you all for your help and co-operation during the past year.

You will be remembered in our Christmas Masses.

George O'Mahony, Dave O'Connell & James McSweeney

Let the Lord enter! He is the King of glory.

Visit Our Website: www.ballincolligparish.ie

BAPTISMS

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

Tessa Elsie Ryan, An Caislean View.
Riadh Beth Randles, Ballyshoneen, Waterfall.

† IN SYMPATHY †

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

Tom Cullagh, Cork City & Camp Co Kerry.
Kevin Murphy, Aisling Close.
Jim Collins, Drinoleague.
Vincent Murphy, London & Powdermills.
Lily Kavanagh, Carriganama & Wexford.
Ann Nee O’Riordan, Cork.

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

Kate Carson, Fair Hill.
Donal O’Brien, Castlefarm.
Eric & Kitty Gould, Knocknaheeny.
Patrick O’Donoghue, O’Donovans Crescent.
Dan & Eva Spillane, Westcourt Heights.
Christy & Kathleen Daly, Mayfield.
Paddy Cronin, Togher.
Cecily O’Sullivan, Beech Park.
Maureen Healy, East Gate.
Brendan Fitzgerald, Scotch Farm.
Tom, Margaret & Julia Enright, Nadd.
Jerry Delaney, Maglin.
Denis Minihihane, Skibbereen.
James Prendiville, Castlepark.
Pat McCullagh, Ballincollig/Coachford.
Dermot Barry Murphy, Carriganarra.
Fin Buckley, Bishopstown.
Brendan O’Sullivan, Glendower.
Bridget & Michael O’Regan, Carriganarra.
Mary Murphy, Bishopstown
Billy Green, Station Road.
Dec. members of John A Woods Workforce.
William & Annie Cotter, Fr. Sexton Park.
Mathew & Bridie O’Leary, Macroom.
Barry Kelly, The Crescent.
Patrick & Margaret O’Mahony, Clash.
Kelly Family, Kilmichael/London.
Florence & Noreen Kelly, Fr. Sexton Park.
John O’Callaghan, Fr. Sexton Park.
Billy & Catherine Kelly, Fr. Sexton Park
Donal Brosnan, Muskerry Estate.
Patrick Sheehan, Kilmurray.
John & Lena Gaffney, Carrigrohane.
Dec. members of the Gaffney Family, Carrigrohane.
Dec. members of the Twohig Family, Farranree.
Peter & Hannah Crowley, Leemount.
Dan McCarthy, The Crescent.
Dec members of the Harrington Family, The Square.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Fourth Week Of Advent

22 Sunday Is. 7:10-14. Ps. 23. Rom. 1:1-7. Mt. 1:18-24. Lect I:68

23 Monday Mal. 3:1-4,23-24. Ps 24. Lk 1 :57-66. Lect I: 90

24 Tuesday 2 Sam. 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16. Ps. 88. Lk. 1:67-79. Lect I: 92

25 Wednesday Midnight Mass Is. 9: 1-6. Ps. 95. Tit. 2:11-14. Lk. 2: 1-14. Lect I: 104

26 Thursday Acts. 6:8-10,7:54-59. Ps. 30. Mt. 10:17-22. Lect I: 125
Mass during the Day Is. 52:7-10. Ps. 97. Heb. 1:1-6. In. 1:1-18. Lectl: 109

27 Friday 1 Jn 1 :1-4. Ps 96. Jn 20:2-8. Lect 1: 127

28 Saturday 1 Jn. 1 :5:2:2. Ps. 123. Mt. 2: 13-18. Lect I: 129

Next Sunday’s Readings 29-December-2013

Eccles. (Sir) 3:2-6, 12-14. Ps. 127. Col. 3:12-21. Mt. 2:13-15, 19-23. Lect I:114



Fourth Sunday of Advent

We are about to take our final step in Preparation for our Christmas meeting with Christ.

In the Gospel we hear the words spoken to Mary: “Do not be afraid”.

Let us place our trust in God, who is very near us. With open hearts may we embrace the grace of our Saviour.

The 12 Days of Christmas

Religious symbolism of The Twelve Days of Christmas

1. True Love refers to God
2. Turtle Doves refers to the Old and New Testaments
3. French Hens refers to Faith, Hope and Charity, the Theological Virtues
4. Calling Birds refers to the Four Gospels and/or the Four Evangelists
5. Golden Rings refers to the first Five Books of the Old Testament, the "Pentateuch", which gives the history of man's fall from grace.
6. Geese A-laying refers to the six days of creation
7. Swans A-swimming refers to the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit, the seven sacraments
8. Maids A-milking refers to the eight beatitudes
9. Ladies Dancing refers to the nine Fruits of the Holy Spirit
10. Lords A-leaping refers to the ten commandments
11. Pipers Piping refers to the eleven faithful apostles
12. Drummers Drumming refers to the twelve points of doctrine in the Apostle's Creed

Reflection

I pray Lord, for the needy of our world: come among us as one, who will help, and call us all to help the hungry and sick, the uneducated and homeless, those who are victims of violence and war, the lonely and depressed.
May your coming this Christmas be for them a time of peace and love; may we bring to them, in what way we can the joy of your coming.

THE SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading: Isaiah 7:10-14

The first reading contains Isaiah's prophecy of the events we celebrate at Christmas.

Second Reading: Romans 1:1-7

Paul's message is another reminder of what we are preparing to celebrate.

Gospel: Matthew 1:18-24

Matthew recounts the circumstances of Jesus' birth by telling us the story of Mary's engagement to Joseph and the child she carried originating from the Holy Spirit. This reality made no sense to Joseph, but he did not want to dishonour Mary so he planned to quietly divorce her. An angel came and told Joseph not to be afraid, that Mary's child was conceived by the Holy Spirit and that they should call him Emmanuel meaning, "God is with us."

Bulletin Board

Christmas Collection

According to the Diocesan custom, the collection at Christmas Vigil / Day Masses is one of two occasions during the year when the offertory collection goes to the priests of the Parish.

Offertory Collection Boxes 2012

The boxes of envelopes for the Offertory Collection are available in both churches. Families are asked to take one box. Please use the envelopes for the Offertory Collection for the Vigil and Sunday Masses during the year, families who avail of the Direct Debit system are not expected to take one. The Offertory Collection is solely for the upkeep, maintenance, insurance, lighting, heating and related expenses of both churches. Thanks for your generosity and we look forward to your support for the coming year.

Garda Vetting.

Many thanks to the Ministers of the Eucharist who returned their Garda Vetting forms. Please return outstanding forms without delay, to the Parish Office or Sacristy. Thank you for your co-operation.

Parishioners, who gave their name and offertory box number for Tax Rebate to the Church, please collect your offertory box from the Sacristy (St. Mary & St. John) or from the Parish Office. Thanks for your generosity and we look forward to your support for the coming year.

Fr. George

Legion of Mary
Rosary at The Crib (Near AIB)
Christmas Eve at 12 Noon
All are welcome to participate

Ballincollig Parish Christmas Programme

Sacrament of Reconciliation for Christmas

Monday 23 rd December	7 pm - 8 pm	St Mary & St John	Confessions
Tuesday 24 th December Christmas Eve	11.00 a.m. - 2.00 p.m.	St Mary & St John	
	12.00 noon - 1.00 p.m.	Christ Our Light	



Mass Times



Church of St Mary & St John	Tuesday 24 th December Christmas Eve	6.00 p.m.	Vigil Mass
		10.00 p.m.	Christmas Mass
	Wednesday 25 th December Christmas Day	8.30 a.m.	Mass of Christmas Day
10.00 a.m.			
12.00 noon			
Church of Christ Our Light	Tuesday 24 th December Christmas Eve	6.00 p.m.	Children's Mass
		8.00 p.m.	Vigil Mass
		12.00 Midnight	Midnight Mass
	Wednesday 25 th December Christmas Day	11.00 a.m.	Mass of Christmas Day
		12.30 p.m.	
No 5.30 p.m. Mass on Christmas Day			

Sunday 22-December-2013

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

Dec-28 & Dec-29-2013

St. Mary & St. John

Christ Our Light

6:00 pm (Vigil)
Muireann Nelligan
Padraig McAuliffe
8:30 am
Eadaoin O'Leary
Gerard O'Leary
10:00 am
Jordan Crowley
Fergal Monahan
12:00 Noon
Sean Hennessy
Shane Lehane

7:30 pm (Vigil)

11:00 am

12:30 pm

5:30 pm



MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

Dec-28 & Dec-29-2013

St. Mary & St. John

Christ Our Light

6.00 pm Michael Maher
Bernadette Bell
Betty Casey
Frank Riordan
Siobhan Riordan
Pauline Quane

8:30 am Mary Buckley
Theresa Lucey / Triona
Collins
Mary B. Murphy

10:00 am Anne Cahill
Cathy Horgan
Claudine Tiendioh
Betty Flavin
Anne Spillane
Betty Sheehan

12 Noon Helen Plunkett
Seamus O'Donovan
Eleanor Knowles
Catherine Greene
Joan Barrett
Geraldine Lynch

7:30 pm Geraldine Lynch
Charlie Vaughan
Joan Stephenson
Bernie Bowen

11:00 am Neil Jeffers
Eileen O'Donoghue
Bridie Hanrahan
Catherine / Hugh Moran
Padraig Fleming

12:30 pm Denis O' Mahony
Christine O'Mahony
Tom Murray
John O'Regan
Gerard Dunne

5:30 pm Bernard Curran
John Canty

MARY'S DREAM

'I had a dream, Joseph. I don't understand it, but I think it was about a birthday celebration for our son. The people in my dream had been preparing for about six weeks. They had decorated the house and bought new clothes. They'd gone shopping many times and bought many elaborate gifts. It was peculiar though, because the presents weren't for our son. They wrapped them in beautiful paper and stacked them under a tree. Yes, a tree, Joseph right inside their homes! They'd decorated the tree with sparkling ornament. There was a figure like an angel on the top of the tree. Everyone was laughing and happy. They gave gifts to each other, Joseph, not to our son. I don't think they even knew him. They never mentioned his name. I had the strangest feeling if our Jesus had gone to this celebration, he would have been intruding. How sad for someone not to be wanted at his own birthday party! I'm glad it was only a dream. How terrible, Joseph, if it had been real!

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER

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, 6 pm & 10 pm	Tuesday	8:30 am, 6 pm, 8 pm, Mid-night
8:30 am, 10 am & 12 noon	Wednesday	11 am, 12:30 pm
9:30 am	Thursday	No Mass
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. Dave O'Connell C.C.	087-2479140
Fr. James McSweeney	021-4873308

To all our Readers & Parishioners

Happy Christmas
Nollaig Shona Dhuit
Feliz Navidad
Boas Festas
Sretan Bozic
Ruumsaid juulup | hi
Hyvaa joulua
Joyeux Noel
Buone Feste Natalizie
Pricigis Ziemas Svetkus
Linksmu Kaledu
Wesolych Swiat Bozego Narodzenia
Sarbatori vesele
Cestitamo Bozic

May the Child Jesus and His Mother watch over you this Christmas and throughout the coming year.

As once they came to the stable of Bethlehem, may they come to you and bring you all the desires of your heart.

Merry Christmas & A Happy New Year

from The Parishioner Editorial Team

Con, Tom, Pat & Karen

May the Child Jesus rest at the inn of your heart this Christmas