

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



St. Mary & St. John
Station Road

Sunday 22-February-2009

Seventh Sunday In Ordinary Time
Day of Prayer for Temperance.

Christians are required to answer hatred with goodness, curses with blessings and ill treatment with prayer. As descendants of Adam, this is difficult, but through the power of Christ and his Holy Spirit, we can succeed.



Christ Our Light
Innishmore

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday next is Ash Wednesday, the start of Lent. As mentioned last week, this is a time for taking stock, for repentance and renewal. Should I give something up or should I do something for Lent or both (then comes the escape clause, the comforting thought that I wouldn't want to lose the run of myself). The blessing with ashes brings us up short. There are two forms. The sombre: turn away from sin and be faithful to the gospel, or the grim: remember, man, you are dust and to dust you will return. Something of a reality check, a reminder that we are on a journey through life, and the journey will come to an end.

The paralysed man in today's gospel reading needed friends to get out and about, and he had a little community of friends who made quite an effort to bring him face to face with Jesus. He moved into the larger community around Our Lord, but this community was impaired, divided. Some, like Jesus had sympathy with the paralytic, others were more focussed on religious niceties. They lost sight of the suffering, and failed to appreciate the hope, the forgiveness and the healing. Their focus was just on themselves, they were religious but in terms of religion they had lost the plot and had no real appreciation of the other-centred love implicit in God's calling. Their priorities were skewed.

We all face death, and need to know what is really important, to have healthy priorities. Family love and connectedness rather than individualism, generosity rather than self-centredness, living for others rather than for the self. Like the paralytic, we all need friends, and we need to be friends to those who have none. There is no real relationship with Jesus outside community and solitary Christianity is a contradiction in terms. We don't always succeed, so we need to remember that Jesus forgives, heals and makes us whole. He died for all of us and gave us a model of utter self sacrifice. This Lent let's pray for a renewed spirit of community and that we will recognise the sacred in the people around us, brothers and sisters for whom Christ died.

Billy O'Sullivan

Reflection for Parents

Whether our children are in preschool, national school, secondary school or college, we will always hope they make good choices in choosing friends. Today's gospel helps children of all ages recognise the value of true, faithful and believing friends. Even when we consider our own friends and the people with whom we spend our time, we thank God for the people who share our values and faith. We know it's true that people who share faith with us understand the struggles of raising children today and can be there to support us.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Priest

We are a people formed in the image of Jesus. Let us present our needs to our heavenly Father with confidence.

Reader

We pray for the Church; that it may speak the words of the Lord.

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

For our political leaders; that they may rule justly.

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

We pray for vocations; that the Lord may raise up priests from among the people and others to speak in his name.

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

For those who suffer from addiction to alcohol and other drugs that they may experience the Lord's healing touch.

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

For families; that husbands and wives may be devoted to each other and to their children.

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

For the dead; that they may be blessed with the gift of the kingdom.

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

Priest

Heavenly father, creator of the universe, grant the petitions we make this day in the name of Jesus, your Son, our Lord. Amen.

Heal my soul for I have sinned against you.

Visit Our Website: www.ballincolligparish.ie

BAPTISMS

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

Ikeala Taiwo Afolabi, Tuairin Glas.
 Kehin De Michelle Afolabi, Tuairin Glas.
 Theresa Temihoh, Ogunbana, Tuairin Glas.
 James Bowtife, Ogunbana, Tuairin Glas.
 Katelyn Ayomileun Ogunbana, Tuairin Glas.
 Joseph Christopher Hallahan, The Cloisters.
 Maireaed Pronseas Creedon O'Hurley, Castle Ave, Muskerry Est.

† **IN SYMPATHY** †

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

Gerard O'Brien, Beech Park.
 Jerry Russell, Blackrock.

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

Peter & Ellen Murphy, Windsor.
 James & Ellen Collins, Dunmanway.
 Fred Hutchinson, Barrack Street.
 Margaret Donovan, Glasheen.
 Mary Naughton, Faranree.
 Nora Barrett, Coolroe.
 Peter & Mary Kelly, Tipperary.
 Patrick & Catherine Howard, Ballinlough.
 Jim Deasy, Aherla.
 Raymond, Vincent & Chrissie Hogan, Tipperary.
 Con O'Mahony, Ballyvolane.
 John & Ellen O'Sullivan, Glanmire.
 Josephine Buckley, Manor Hill.
 Mary Condon, Model Farm Road
 Margaret Sexton, Bweeng.
 Mark & Thomas Quinn, Beech Road.
 Rachel Goulding, Aherla.
 Patrick O'Donovan, Church Road, Carrigrohane
 Teresa Strahan, Dublin.
 Eileen O'Grady, The Crescent.
 Deceased members of the O'Sullivan & Tully Families, West Cork & Longford.
 Deceased members of the Moran Family, Cork & London.
 Helen Lynch, Gurrans.
 Deceased members of the O'Mahony Family, Ballinora.
 Thomas Holmes, Leo Murphy Terrace.
 Deceased Members of the Dempsey Family, Leemount.
 Tim Cagney, Gardiners Hill.
 Tim & Lilly Lucey, Prosperity Square.
 Mamie Quinn, Powdermills.

Infant Jesus Sisters "Drishane"

Calling all friends, neighbours and past pupils for an informal get together in preparation for our centenary celebration in May.
 Our well-known Alice Taylor will introduce the evening
 Friday 20th March at 7.30 pm at the SMA Hall, Wilton
 All welcome

Calling all Family Carers!

Cork City and County Carers' Forum
 will take place on Thursday 26th February at
 The Ambassador Hotel, Military Hill at 8 pm.
 Speaker Kathy Sinnott MEP
 All are welcome. Refreshments served afterwards.
 For more information contact the carers association on 021 4806397

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Seventh Week In Ordinary Time

22 Sunday Is. 43: 18-19, 21-22, 24-25. Ps. 40. 2 Cor. 1: 18-22. Mk. 2:1-12. Lect I: 752

23 Monday Eccles (Sir) 1:1-10. Ps 92. Mk 9:14-29. Lect II: 81

24 Tuesday Eccles Sir. 2:1-11. Ps. 36. Mk. 9:30-37 Lect II: 83

25 Wednesday Joel. 2:12-18. Ps. 50. 2 Cor. 5:20-6:2. Mt. 6:1-6. 16-18. Lect I: 191

26 Thursday Deut. 30:15-20. Ps. 1. Lk. 9:22-25. Lect I: 194

27 Friday Is 58:1-9. Ps 50. Mt 9:14-15. Lect I: 196

28 Saturday Is 58:9-14. Ps85 Lk 5:27-32. Lect I: 198

Next Sunday's Readings 01-March-2009

Gen. 9:8-15. Ps. 24. 1 Pet. 3:18-22. Mk. 1:12-15. Lect I: 205

Ballincollig Scouts

Last week I was invited to attend the Beaver investiture, as all the beavers lined up to make their promise, I looked down the hall at all the beaming proud parents . Parents do a lot of work in keeping our group going, they are the forgotten part of scouting. Leaders are the high profile end of scouting; they get to go on all the perks, hill walking, camps, hikes and weekends away. Parents put a lot of work in to scouting, driving the kids here driving there waiting around and picking up pals. When the group runs it's annual Bazaar the parents are involved from the start, organising the collections, storing and sorting the stuff, setting up the tables and when the doors open, controlling the mob and manning the stalls. The parents enjoy it – its doing something instead of talking about it.

The scouts were doing basis in their patrols over the last number of weeks; pancake making is always a popular base. Great care was taken over the making of the batter, getting the pan to the correct frying temp. and the flipping of the pancake .Its a different matter when it comes to the wash up , a thorny subject with most scout leaders. The Scouts natural reaction when faced with a dirty pan and cooker. Inspection at arms length, assess the degree of difficulty in removing the pan rests , wave a cold , wet cloth about a centimetre or so above the pan , deposit upside down as far away as possible from the leaders eagle eye.

Every survival kit should include a sense of humour.

Ronan

CROWLEY FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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THE SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading: Is 43:18-19. 21-22. 24-25

In the introduction to this extract from Isaiah the prophet recalls the wonders God worked for His people when he helped Moses to lead them out of Egypt. However, there is no need to recall the past because God is now doing a greater miracle because He is going to blot out all their sins. Instead of offering God sacrifices they only burdened Him with their sins.

Second Reading: 2 Cor. 1:18-22

Paul is answering some calumnies that were put out about him. One such is that he has been fickle and inconsiderate, that he was a man who said "yes" to something today and said "no" to it the day after. On the contrary, he says, he always tried to be like Christ who never changed but always said "Yes" when he meant, "yes". He fulfilled all his promises.

Gospel: Mark 2: 1-12

The dispute with the Scribes which took place on the occasion of this miracle was the first of a series of such conflicts and gives the earliest indication of the growing opposition to Our Lord. He had begun to conduct his mission in complete independence of the traditional religious guides of the Jews. The Scribes watched him continually and finally determined to have him put to death. The miracle which Jesus works is clear proof that he is really the Son of God and can therefore forgive sins.

New Youth Choir

Boys and Girls welcome
3rd to 6th Class Pupils
Beginning Friday 27th February
4:30 pm to 5:30 pm
Coláiste Choilm

Christian Fasting

The Christian tradition of Lent as the "Great Fast" is a very ancient and universally respected one, with clear warrant in the Bible. In the present discipline of the Catholic Church the regulations prescribe that Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are to be observed as days of fast and abstinence. Fasting means that the amount of food we eat is considerably reduced. Abstinence means that we give up a particular kind of food or drink or form of amusement. Those over eighteen are bound by the law of fasting until the beginning of their sixtieth year, while all over fourteen are bound by the law of abstinence. There are many motives for fasting: To praise God by recognising that the good things we abstain from are gifts from God; to train ourselves in self-denial for times of temptation to sin; to do penance, fasting in atonement for sin to prepare for a feast - to heighten the enjoyment. So Lent prepares for Easter. To make an act of communion with those who live in want, fasting in solidarity with them, and then contributing to the needy. Other penitential exercises include: giving alms; abstinence from some foods or other pleasures; carrying out the duties of state; meditative reading of the scriptures or other religious books and magazines; controlling our desires for possessions that are newer, bigger, better and more automatic: controlling our desire for entertainment by TV and radio, films and spectator sport.

Bulletin Board

Ash Wednesday – February 25th – 2009

Ashes will be blessed and distributed during all Masses. It also marks the beginning of Lent. For the duration of Lent there will be evening Mass in **Christ Our Light at 6.30 pm** and **St Mary & St John at 8 pm.**

Lenten Retreat

Ballincollig Parish Lenten Retreat in Church of St Mary & St John on 2nd 3rd & 4th March 2009 at 7.30 pm. Retreat Masses St Mary & St John at 7.00 am & 9.30 am on 2nd 3rd & 4th.

Retreat will be conducted by the Redemptorists Fathers J.P. O’Riordan and John Hanna. The Redemptorists will speak at all Masses in both Churches on weekend preceding retreat.

There will be NO evening Masses during the Retreat

First Friday

Friday March 6th is the first Friday of the month. There will be exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in St Mary & St John from 6.30 pm to 8 pm, you are invited to come and spend some time with the Lord. Mass (for Lent) in both churches on Friday evening. The priests of the parish visit the sick of the parish on the first Friday of each month; please let us know if you have a family member or neighbour who is sick or housebound.

Mass Book

Diaries to book Mass Intentions for April, May & June will open in both churches on Saturday 14th March at 8.30am.

A Series of Talks for Lent

Presented by Fr. Charles Conroy MSC
Sacred Heart Centre, Western Road, Cork
7.30 pm Tuesdays - .March 3rd 10th 24th & 31st

Year of St Paul

Easter Pilgrimage to Rome and San Giovanni
13th – 19th April, 2009. Direct Flight Cork - Rome
Spiritual Director: Fr Martin O’Driscoll Tel: 028-22878
Enquiries: Premier Travel: Tel: 021 4277700

Children’s Mass

The Children’s Mass is on **Sundays at 11.00 am in Christ Our Light**. The Children of 2nd class retire to the crying room at the beginning of Mass where they celebrate The Liturgy of the Word in child friendly fashion – word searches, colouring and maze search are some of the methods used. Volunteers are welcome and needed to help, training and practice will be given. Parents are welcome to join their Children for the celebration of the Word of God. We invite Parents of First Communion children to please try and bring Children to this Mass. Bringing your Child to the Sunday Mass is an important preparation for your Child’s First Holy Communion. Looking forward to seeing you.

Citizens Information Service

Call-in-Centre – Ballincollig Library

Free-Confidential – Advice/Information Outreach Officer in Ballincollig Library 2nd and 4th Wednesday mornings of the month from 9.30a m – 1.00 pm

Baptism Notice

There will be **NO** Baptisms on Easter Saturday, 11th April, 2009

Catholic Paper

Copies of the Catholic Paper -**The Universe** - are available in both Churches every week.

Fr. George

Knock

Legion of Mary annual pilgrimage to Knock
on Sunday 31st May 2009.
Bus leaving village at 7 am sharp.
Early booking advised
Phone Sally 4870954 or Cathleen 4874730.

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

Feb-28 & Mar-01-2009

St. Mary & St. John Christ Our Light

6:00 pm (Vigil)
Carmel Keane
8:30 am
Triona Collins
10:00 am
Eileen O'Connell
12:00 Noon
Sean Hennessy
Shane Lehane

7:30 pm (Vigil)
Rosarie Cotter
Louise McGrath
11:00 am
Alex Hatsigrigoriou
Alison Henchion
12:30 pm
Kay Carew
Jane O'Leary
5:30 pm
Tom Reck

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	Tuesday	8:30 am
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	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. Michael O'Mahony C.C. 021-4877161
Fr. Billy O'Sullivan C.C. 021-4876171
Fr. James McSweeney 021-4873308

MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

Feb-28 & Mar-01-2009

St. Mary & St. John Christ Our Light

6.00 pm Michael Maher
Ber Bell
Betty Casey
Frank Riordan
Siobhan Riordan
Sr. Martha

7:30 pm Geraldine Lynch
Charlie Vaughan
Joan Stephenson

11:00 am Neil Jeffers
Eileen O'Donoghue
Bridie O'Donnell
Bridie Hanrahan

8:30 am Mary Buckley
Theresa Lucey
Triona Collins

10:00 am Anne Cahill
Pat Lee
May Delaney
Cathy Horgan
John O'Donovan
Betty Flavin

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

12 Noon Joan Barrett
Sheila Carroll
Seamus O'Donovan
Joe Coghlan
Rose Moore
Catherine Greene

5:30 pm Bernard Curran
Clare Curran

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Parish Office, The Presbytery, Ballincollig is open Mon - Wed from 9 am - 1 pm & 2 pm - 3 pm. Sat 10:30 am - 12 Noon. Phone No. (021) 4871206, Office Secretary Catherine Crowley.

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€10,000	456.82	317.97	248.82	207.55
€20,000	913.62	635.92	497.62	415.09
€30,000	1370.43	953.87	746.43	622.23

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