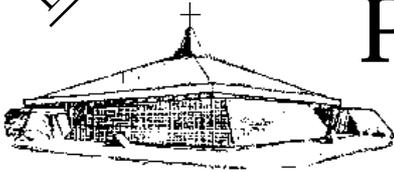


6 PAGE
EDITION

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



CHRIST OUR LIGHT
INNISHMORE



ST. MARY & ST. JOHN
STATION ROAD

SUNDAY 25TH FEBRUARY 2001
EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Day of Prayer for Temperance



The Gift of speech is a tremendous power, but it can be used for good and evil. As a rule, our speech reflects the kind of person we are: if we allow Christ's victory to dominate our lives, then our speech will be kindly, tolerant and non-judgmental.

ALCOHOL OR NOT, IT'S YOUR CHOICE

It was with sadness that I listened to the figures concerning the abuse of alcohol by some of the young people of our country. Being told that we have the biggest under-age drink problem in Europe is not a very good thing to hear. Alcohol itself is not bad, many of us take a drink from time to time and in the right company, it can be very pleasant and enjoyable. In the present time we have moved far on from the days of the Pioneer pin and all that was associated with it to an age when drink can be taken and should be enjoyed in moderation. Sadly this has led to the Pub Culture and I guess the more plentiful money is, the more there is for the purchase of alcohol. I remember some time ago being in a "student pub" and I saw £20 notes passing across the counter as if they were bits of paper. I still cannot understand how people can afford it. I do think that the Government in some way put their finger on it when they began to promote the saving of money. From experience I have learned that there are some people amongst us that simply cannot take alcohol. They lose control of themselves and the consequences don't bear thinking about. I need not remind anyone about Alcoholics Anonymous and all that is associated with the good work that this organisation does. I feel that they have taken over from the Pioneer movement in many ways.

When and if anyone of us is to take a drink, is as far as I'm concerned, a personal decision. At a young age it should be taken with the help of parents who will take responsibility to help their son or daughter respect what they are adding into their lives. Open discussion of the issues involved must take place at home and in school. Remember the good Lord saw nothing wrong with alcohol, it is the abuse of alcohol that is wrong. The law of the land has its own concerns with the danger of drink driving.

I would still, despite all, approve of the careful and respectful use of alcohol amongst young people. To ban or impose strict rules makes a thing more sought after. It has to be a matter of choice. When I mention the Confirmation pledge, many take it, I fear that it will soon wear off. Up to recently the fear was the drug culture, sadly, the wheel seems to have moved on and back to alcohol again. I could be wrong in saying that the same problem bedevilled the start of the last century.

Careful use and perhaps the scaling down of advertising may go a long way to curbing the problem. After all our young people are no fools either.

Fr. Pat O'Donovan C.C.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY

Never give in (Second Reading)

The suffering in the world is vast - war and famine, disease and bereavement, loneliness and disappointment. Where does it all lead? Is it all not under the shadow of death? The 2nd reading is triumphant. 'Death is swallowed up in victory'. 'In the Lord, you cannot be labouring in vain'.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

PRIEST

God is a rock for us -
so we trust that we will
receive help in all our needs.

READER

For all who are part of the Church,
that their words may reflect
a heartfelt faith.

Lord, hear us;

Lord, graciously hear us.

For those who work with other
people, that they may use words
to encourage rather than to hurt

Lord, hear us;

Lord, graciously hear us.

For a greater commitment to
temperance in our community,
that all may work for the
liberation of the addicted

Lord, hear us;

Lord, graciously hear us.

For those who have suffered as a
result of intemperance, that they
may be blessed with the
gift of compassion.

Lord, hear us;

Lord, graciously hear us.

For those from our community who
are ill, that God's healing power
may make them well again

Lord, hear us;

Lord, graciously hear us.

Visit Our Website: www.ballincolligparish.ie

It is good to give you thanks, O Lord

BAPTISMS

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



Samuel Elliot Kelleher-Devoy, 59, Oakmount, Tower
 Aaron Richard Guilfoyle, 5, Maglin View
 Anna Josephine Hourihan, 20, Bishops Way
 Michael O'Shea, 11, Westgrove
 Conor O'Shea, 11, Westgrove
 Benjamin Ross Jeffries, 12, The Meadows
 Natacha Ciara Mulroy, 23, Castle Park



IN SYMPATHY

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF:

Paul Balentine, 65, Castle Park
 Maura Ahern, Muskerry Estate
 Nora Hegarty, Caher & Skibbereen

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS OF

Charles McCarthy
 Patrick & Nora Murphy, Glengariff
 Johanna Towney, Coolea
 Catherine & Patrick Howard
 Michael & Mary O'Leary
 Dave & Katherine O'Carroll, Barrett St.
 Martin & Eily Murphy, Hodders Villas
 Jack & Claire Horgan, Tipperary
 John O'Sullivan, Glanmire
 Joe Kearney, Beech Park
 Lily Lucey, Prosperity
 The O'Mahony Family, Ballinora
 Maureen Noonan, Cathedral Ave.
 Michael & Noreen O'Connor, College road
 Frances O'Neill, 5, Leo Murphy Terrace
 Theresa Gilleran, Lake Lawn, Well Road
 Elizabeth Cronin, 5, Leo Murphy Terrace
 Michael Murray, Quaker Road
 Teresa Strahan, Dublin
 Jim Kelly, Bishopstown
 McCarthy Family
 James & Kathleen Whooley, Glanmire
 Deceased members of Maguire & Twomey Family
 Tom Cotter, Passage West
 Sean Callaghan, Galway
 John & Ellen O'Sullivan, Glanmire
 John & Mary Kelly
 Denis Mannix, Doneraile
 Denis Sullivan, Albert Road
 Patrick & Nora Riordan, Ballingearry

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

25 Sunday Sir. 27:4-7. Ps. 91. 1 Cor. 15:54-58. Lk. 6:39-45. *Lect I:859*
 Green *Day of Prayer for Temperance*
 HOURS Proper. Te Deum. Psalter Week 4
 MASS Proper. Gloria. Creed. Preface: Sundays, 29-36

No Masses for the dead, except funeral Masses, are permitted today.
 The words that come from anyone's mouth will reveal what is in the heart. We are to be careful in our judgments of others.
 As Lent approaches we seek for moderation in all things.

SECOND EVENING PRAYER of the Sunday.
 26 Monday Sir. 17:24-29. Ps. 31. Mk. 10:17-27. *Lect II:94*
 Green HOURS Psalter Week 4 Mass of choice
 The demands of the kingdom begin with the need to turn away from sin back to the ever-merciful God, then to leave all behind and follow Christ, with a detachment of the heart from the attractions of the world.

27 Tuesday Sir. 35:1-2. Ps. 49. Mk. 10:28-31. *Lect II:96*
 Green HOURS Psalter Week 4 Mass of choice
 Generosity in the service of the Lord is renewed. Token sacrifices are not enough, there has to be a complete giving, with cheerful heart. Leaving everything to follow Christ brings its own reward.

28 Wednesday Ash Wednesday Day of Fast and Abstinence
 Violet HOURS Psalter Week 4
 Psalms of Friday Week 3 may be used at morning prayer
 Mass Proper. Preface: Lent IV, no 11

Readings Joel 2:12-18. Ps. 50. 2 Cor. 5:20-6:2. Mt. 6:1-6. 16-18. *Lect I:191*
 In the readings today there is a great consciousness of our sinfulness, as we pray "Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned." There is also a sense that the time to repent and turn back is now. The Gospel tells us how to approach that renewal of our lives. It puts before us the remedy in prayer, fasting and almsgiving. These three strands of Lenten observance are as ancient as Christianity itself. There is no substitute for them. "Fasting is the soul of prayer, mercy is the lifeblood of fasting. If we have not all three together, we have nothing" says Peter Chrysologus.

No Masses for the dead, except Funeral Masses, are permitted today.
 March 2001: 1 Thursday Deut. 30:15-20. Ps. 1. Lk. 9:22-25. *Lect I:194*
 Violet HOURS Psalter Week 4 Mass Proper. Preface: Lent 8 -11
 Memorial may be made of St David, bishop

Today we are called to make a choice, a choice between life and death. "Let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armour of light, that having sailed across the great sea of the Fast, we may reach, on the third day, the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Saviour of our souls." *Byzantine vespers*

2 Friday Is. 58:1-9. Ps. 50. Mt. 9:14-15. *Lect I:196*
 Violet HOURS Psalter Week 4 Mass Proper. Preface: Lent 8 -11
 Christian fasting began as a voluntary practice; as a support to prayer, as penance for sin, as a way to save something for the poor, and as a way to prepare for a feast. It was a suitable practice to prepare for the celebration of Easter. The need for fasting is still there.

3 Saturday Is. 58:9-14. Ps. 85. Lk. 5:27-32. *Lect I:198*
 Violet HOURS Psalter Week 4 Mass Proper. Preface: Lent 8 -11
 Isaiah calls out for greater service of God and fellow human beings. Lent gives us the opportunity to jettison much that is unnecessary and unhelpful in our way of life. The following of Christ implies a leaving behind of much that causes unhappiness in our own lives and in the lives of others.

SAINTS THIS WEEK

Thursday 1st - St. David, is the patron saint of Wales, where he was an abbot and bishop in the sixth century. He is reputed to have founded a number of monasteries of strict regime. Several Irish saints were his pupils, and he seems to have influenced monastic development in Ireland.

THE SEASON OF LENT

"The annual observance of Lent is the special season for the ascent to the holy mountain of Easter. Through its twofold theme of repentance and baptism, the season of Lent disposes both the catechumens and the faithful to celebrate the paschal mystery. Catechumens are led to the sacraments of initiation by means of the rite of election, the scrutinies, and catechesis. The faithful, listening more intently to the word of God and devoting themselves to prayer, are prepared through a spirit of repentance to renew their baptismal promises."

"The faithful should be urged to take a greater and more fruitful share in the Lenten liturgy and Penitential services. They should be advised particularly to approach the sacrament of penance during lent, in accordance with the law and traditions of the Church, so that they may share the joys of Easter Sunday with the purity of heart. It is very appropriate for the sacrament of reconciliation to be celebrated during lent in a more solemn form, as described in the Rite of Penance."

A Message from the Peace Movement

P.E.A.C.E. will be celebrating this March the Silver Jubilee of Cork Peace Week. Please join in the celebration.

1. Concelebrated Peace Mass - Sunday 4th March at St. Augustine's Church, Cork at 3.30pm. Bishop John McAreavey, Northern Ireland will preach.
2. Hear Fr. Neal Carlin (Derry & Donegal) speak at the Charismatic Prayer meeting for Peace at the Nano Nagle Hall, Evergreen St. on Wednesday 7th March at 8pm.
3. Holy Hour and Mass for Peace conducted/celebrated by Fr. Jerry Hickey, O.S.A. on Friday 9th March beginning at 7.30p.m. at the Convent Chapel, St. Marie's of the Isle, Sharman Crawford St.
4. 25th Ecumenical Service for Peace and Reconciliation in Ireland at Trinity Presbyterian Church, Cork. The Preacher will be Rev. Dr. Jim Williamson, Belfast.
5. A special evening of Sacred song music and liturgical dance and the performance of an opera, Judith (Old Testament Heroine) composed by John Gibson at the North Cathedral, Cork on Sunday 29th April at 8pm.
6. Come to the Everyman Palace, Sunday 4th March at 8pm for the Sixth National Song Contest for Peace. Book now at the Everyman.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

On Friday 2nd March, the Women's World Day of Prayer Service for the Ballincollig/ Carrigrohane/ Blarney Area will be held at 8.30p.m. in St Peter's Church, Carrigrohane.

All (women and Men) are welcome to attend this international and interdenominational prayer service, prepared this year by the women of Samoa.

The Misuse of Language

One may suppose that "cursing" as we now call it, has become acceptable in most social circles, including the workplace and even the family home. After all, we are told, it is not really cursing as we are only expressing ourselves by using crude language. Even when we take the Holy Name in vain we tell ourselves it is not really a sin, that we don't mean it. Did not some of the greatest ever Irish writers ever use it regularly and look at the popularity of their work? Nowadays, one hears vulgarities expressed on the 'respectable' radio stations and may sometimes read them in our most eminent newspapers. Yet, it must be admitted, many of us realise that it is wrong to use bad language, particularly the Holy Name which we directly sin against the second Commandment of God. It may be considered not only a bad example to children but unfortunately may become a familiar part of every day speech. But what can we do about it? How may we effectively contribute to eliminating or even reducing this abuse of God's gift to man, the unique means of verbal communication? It is true that every building must be constructed upon a foundation stone and perhaps if we start work on ourselves, if we pray every night and ask God's help to overcome this apparently acceptable social habit (for that is all it is). He will help us to gradually give up our degrading use of language and strive for those words that do not upset our serenity or cause offense to others. We ought remember that 'In the beginning was the Word and the Word was God and the Word was with God.'

E. Chandler

MINISTERS OF THE WORD 24TH/25TH FEB

ST. MARY & ST. JOHN

CHRIST OUR LIGHT

6.00p.m. (Vigil) - Karen Sheehan	8.00p.m. (Vigil) - Tom Ryan
8.30a.m. - Elizabeth Barry	11.00a.m. - Phil O Connell
10.00a.m. - Margot Twomey	12.30p.m. - Pat McGeogh
12 Noon - Tony Hegarty	5.30p.m. - Margaret Murphy

MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST 3rd/4th March 2001

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

SATURDAY 3RD

6p.m.
Mary O Donoghue
Cait O Grady
Margaret O Sullivan
Angela Roche
Betty Sheehan

SUNDAY 4TH

8.30a.m.
Theresa Lucey
Rita Murphy

10a.m.
Maureen Roche
Christina Walshe
Peter Reilly
Mary Collins

12.00 Noon
Oliver O Donivan
Patrick Kelleher
Ellen Seymour
John Jeffers
Joan Tobin
Ita Walsh



CHRIST OUR LIGHT CHURCH

SATURDAY 3RD

8p.m.
Charlie Vaughan
Joan Stephenson
Maura O'Driscoll

SUNDAY 4TH

11a.m.
Ann O'Regan
Neil Jeffries
Eileen Byrne
Mary Coleman
Dan Coleman

12.30p.m.
Con O'Connell
Rose Cotter
Denis O'Mahony
Christine O'Mahony
Tom Murray

5.30p.m.
Marie O'Brien
Patsy Galvin
Bridie O'Donnell

ST. MARY & ST. JOHN	EACH SUNDAY	CHRIST OUR LIGHT
<p>Masses Sunday: 8.30, 10.00, 12.00 Mon-Tues: 9.30am Wed-Fri: 9.30am 8.00pm Saturday: 10.00, 6pm, (Vigil)</p>	<p>ROSARY RECITED AT BOTH CHURCHES EACH SUNDAY 3.00P.M. <i>Everyone most welcome</i></p>	<p>Masses Sunday: 11.00, 12.30, 5.30pm Mon-Tues: 8.30am Wed-Fri: 8.30am 6.30pm Saturday: 10.00am, 8.00pm (Vigil)</p>
<p>Confessions Friday: 7.30pm Saturday: after 10am Mass</p>	<p>FRIDAY 2ND MARCH 2001 (First Friday) EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT <i>Church of St. Mary & St. John Following 9.30a.m. Mass Concluding with Rosary & Benediction at 7.45p.m. & Mass 8.00p.m.</i></p>	<p>Confessions Saturday: after 10am Mass</p>
<p>Baptisms Saturday: 5.00pm Sunday: 12.45pm</p>		<p>Baptisms 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



ENROLMENT WEEK

MARCH 5TH - 9TH 2001

If you have a child beginning school this September, you are invited to call to Scoil Barra, any day, March 5th to 9th between 9.00a.m. and 3.00p.m.

There will be an Open Night on Tuesday March 6th from 7.00p.m. - 8.30p.m. If you wish to bring your child along on that night to look around the school or if you would just like to come and talk to us, you will be very welcome.

*Donal O'Sullivan (Principal)
 Innishmore, Ballincollig
 Tel: 021-4873459*

“CIRCLES OF THE LIVING ROSARY”

**A meeting will be held on
 Thursday March 1st 2001 in the
 Old Library Room,
 Community Centre at 7.30pm**
*Present and New Members
 are all welcome to attend*



SUTTONS OIL
HOME HEATING OIL
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 Centre Park Road, Cork
 Tel: 021-4911700

Fax: 021-4911701



Home Heating Budget Payment Plan

THE WORKAHOLIC

Lord, I thank you for this timely reminder,
 I work too much.
 I believe myself to be indispensable.
 Hard work for me is an addiction.
 Except that it has a respectable name.
 When earthly goods have at last
 Been amassed, there is still no rest.
 The same amount of labour
 I spent to acquire them,
 Must now be expended
 If they are to be retained.
 I am caught up in a treadmill of ceaseless activity.
 Help me now to work
 With you in mind.
 The loving awareness of my
 Dependence on you, your caution:
 'If the Lord does not build the house,
 In vain do its builders labour. ' (Psalm 127:1)
 You alone, Lord,
 Can give peace and contentment
 Teach me to be quiet and resigned
 That the fruits of my life, Are what God wants them to be.
 It is foolish to work hard
 From morning till night.
 For God wants his loved ones,
 To have the proper rest.
 'In vain you get up earlier,
 Put off going to bed...
 For it is the reliable who provides,
 For the chosen ones they sleep.' Psalm 127:2
 Reflection from Psalm 127

DAY OF RENEWAL

All the members of the Galilee Prayer Group, Ballincollig, wish to express sincere thanks to all those who facilitated us in the running of our recent day of renewal. Special thanks also to the priests of the parish, particularly Fr. Leonard O'Brien P.P. for his blessing on the day, our speakers Fr. Tom Clancy, and Joe Dalton, and Jim Keohan for his inspiring music ministry.

For information on

- PRE -MARRIAGE COURSES
- NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING
- ACHIEVING A PREGNANCY
- MENOPAUSE COUNSELLING

Contact N.A.O.M.I., 36, Washington St., Cork.

Tel: 4272213

Tuesday to Friday - Office Hours

Community Games

The annual Church Gate collection will be held before all Masses next weekend. It is with a great deal of reluctance that the Ballincollig Community Games Committee, appeal for support again. The Church Gate collection is one of the primary sources of funding Community Games, at local, county, provincial and national levels. The Committee ever conscious of the financial demands on the community, stress that through their most generous support, the levy on the children of Ballincollig is kept to a minimum. Your generous support will be greatly appreciated, once again next weekend.

Ash Wednesday 28th February 2001

Ash Wednesday is the official start of the Season of Lent. A season for penance, reflection and fasting in order to prepare ourselves for Christ's Resurrection and for our Redemption.

Why we receive the ashes

Following the example of the Nine vites, who did penance in "sackcloth and ashes" signs our foreheads with ashes to humble our hearts and reminds us of our mortality on Earth, and the only Redemption is with Our Lord. "Remember, Man is dust, and unto dust you shall return". Ashes are a symbol of penance made sacramental by the blessing of the Church to help us develop a spirit of humility and sacrifice. The custom is from an old ceremony. Christians who had committed grave faults were obliged to do public penance. On Ash Wednesday the Bishop blessed the hair shirts which they were to wear during the forty days, and sprinkled over them ashes made from the palms from the previous year. Then, while the faithful recited the Seven Penitential Psalms, the penitents were turned out of the holy place because of their sins, as Adam, the first man was turned out of paradise on account of his disobedience. They did not enter the Church again until Maundy Thursday after having won reconciliation by the toil of forty days' penance and sacramental absolution. Later on, all Christians, either public or secret penitents, came out of devotion to receive ashes.

The Ashes

The ashes are made from the previous years blessed palms from Palm Sunday. God is gracious and merciful, patient and rich in mercy to those who call on Him with repentant hearts and lives. Divine mercy is of utmost importance: the Church calls on us to implore it during the entire Lenten season with reflection, prayer and penance. Ash Wednesday is a day of fast and abstinence.

WEEK OF DIRECTED PRAYER

On the 25th March, 2001, due to popular demand, we will again host a week of Directed Prayer. This week gives participants an opportunity to gain a deeper insight into the Bible, and their own prayer life. A team of trained guides from outside the Parish will direct the week. Each director will, on an individual and private basis, help the participant to pray, and to reflect on what God is saying to them in their lives. All parishioners and prayer groups are asked to please pray for all those taking part in this week.

The opening ceremony will be held on Sunday 25th March, 2001 in Christ Our Light Church commencing at 7.00p.m. sharp. The Monday to Fridays programme will comprise of half-an-hour a day at a time to suit you. On Saturday 31st the closing ceremony will take place at 4.00p.m.

WHO CAN COME?

Anyone who would like help in prayer and anyone

WHERE?

who can give the time - 30 minutes each day
Christ Our Light Church, meeting rooms, and private areas of the Church.

WHEN?

25th to the 31st March, 2001 inclusive.

HOW DO I APPLY?

Complete Application Form and return it to the sacristy of either Church, before the 13th March. Forms available in the Parishioner on Sunday 11th, and in the sacristy of both churches.

ANY QUESTIONS?

Bernadette 4873839 - Clare 4871364
Angela 4873364 - Sr. Elizabeth 4870625

Irish friends of the foyers of charity
inspired by Marthe Robin

A F T E R N

(1.30 pm to 6.00pm)

Cork

Imperial Hotel, South Mall

Sunday 4th March 2001

Theme:

“Adore the Cross”

Directed by:

Father Michael Fitzgerald

(afternoon programme includes Mass)

also a Talk, Rosary & Adoration

Refreshments

Offering for the day £3.00

Further information: Gearoid Duffy - Cork Tel: 4541207