

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER

Sunday 25-March-2007



St. Mary & St. John
Station Road

Fifth Sunday Of Lent

Men and women are judged every day - often too quickly condemned by whispering calumny and over-righteous indignations. Today's gospel is a reminder that judgement belongs to God and not to human persons. We cannot expiate our own guilt by pointing the finger at others.



Christ Our Light
Innishmore

Who Among Us Can Throw The First Stone

In today's Gospel we once more see Jesus reaching out in compassion, healing and forgiveness. When He challenges the Scribes and Pharisees to 'let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her', they all left the place one by one recognising that they too were sinners. He offers the adulterous woman and her accusers an equal opportunity to repent and make a fresh start in their life.

We can picture the woman standing there in her vulnerability, waiting to hear the verdict, too fearful perhaps to even utter a word in her defence. She sees the curious and judgmental looks of those around her. When Jesus looks at the woman, He sees a fragile heart in need of love and acceptance. He doesn't tell her what she did was right, but neither does He condemn her - He says those simple but meaningful words that no doubt changed her life: 'you are forgiven, go and sin no more'. He is showing her that he understands the human heart and in offering her forgiveness, healing and compassion He liberates her from oppression. Life for her could never be the same again.

This is a lesson for all of us when we too may be tempted to be judgmental of the weaknesses and failings of others. We too are called to show respect for the dignity of the human person. The woman in today's story was seen as an outcast with little or no respect shown for her human dignity. How do I respect the dignity of those who may be labelled the outcasts of our society today? In our own lives many of us may have experienced hurt, humiliation, rejection, oppression. We are equally aware of moments in our lives when we experienced the compassion and loving forgiveness and acceptance of others. This Gospel story is an encouragement to all who have felt the sting of judgement and rejection in their weakness and frailty to encounter a loving God who does not stand in judgment over us. Whether we are powerful or weak, oppressors or oppressed, we are all equally in need of God's compassion, healing and liberation.

Jesus continues to offer each of us another chance to do things better or differently. We can be confident that whatever wrong we have done, no matter what it is, or what people think, Jesus reaches out with love and compassion offering us healing and forgiveness. Like the woman in today's story we too have a choice. God is willing to let the past be the past and that gives us the freedom to experience the fullness of life. As Jesus said: 'I have come that you may have life and have it to the full'

As we enter the last two weeks of Lent, let us throw away the stones and in opening our hearts to God's loving forgiveness and healing, we in turn can reach out in compassion and forgiveness to others.

Sr. Colette

Reflection for Parents

Of course we will never fully know what Jesus drew in the sand. Whether his drawing was with purpose or not has been lost to history and most likely would not change the story. As parents, an important lesson we can gain from his action is that he took the time to gather his thoughts before speaking. How often do we say the first thing that comes to mind and end up regretting it? Thinking first helps us present a Christ-like presence to our children even if we are dealing with serious misbehaviour.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Priest

Filled with confidence in the God of all kindness, we present our prayers.

Reader

That the Church may constantly preach the good news that God is compassionate and merciful.

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

That those who profess to follow Jesus may be slow to condemn and quick to show compassion.

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

That governments and lawmakers may protect the family as the basic unit of society.

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

That those who suffer because of broken relationships or rejection may find healing and hope.

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

That human rights may be everywhere respected.

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

That those who have gone before us on life's journey may rejoice in the company of Mary and the saints.

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

Priest

God of mercy and compassion, hear the prayers we make this day in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.

Visit Our Website: www.ballincolligparish.ie

BAPTISMS

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

Fiachra Patrick Roarty, 2, Chelmsford.
Jennifer Alison Olden, 23, Bridgewater.
Finn Mark O'Mahony, 44, Fernwalk, Greenfields.
Adam Michael Brett, "Seantuath" Greenfields.

MARRIAGES

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Adam Andrei Wiclera, Poniadowsn, Poland & Bajena Aynuska, Gonolink, Poland.

† **IN SYMPATHY** †

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

Jimmy Roynane, Glengariff & Cork.
Nicholas Cronin, Berrings.
Margaret Carmody, New St., Limerick.
Michael O'Driscoll, Castlefrefre.
Michael Kavanagh, Co. Tipperary.
Richard Murphy, Innishmore.

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

Derek Rose.
Rose & Ted Moylan.
Bernie O'Connell, Kilnaglory.
Deceased members O'Connell family.
John O'Sullivan, Bantry.
Bill & Kitty O'Connell, Pouladuff.
Cornelius O'Regan, Carriganarra.
Pat & Billy Coomey, Carriganarra
Con Guinevan, Leemount, Carrigrohane.
Margaret Keating, Lee View.
John Emperor, Rockchapel
Bridie & Dan Hurley, Turners Cross.
Ann Hogan, Co. Tipperary.
Alan O'Callaghan, Aherla.
Nora & Patrick Harrington.
Bernie O'Brien, Douglas.
John Landers, Co. Kerry.
Geraldine O'Sullivan - O'Brien, Timoleague & Wales.
Kitty Barry, Hodder's Villas.
Eileen O'Donovan, Rosewood
Fr. Caheragh MacCarthy.
Valeria Horgan, Kerry Pyke.
Eana O'Shea, Innishannon.
Denis & Kay Coughlan, Glasheen.
Denis Coughlan Jnr, The Orchards, Glasheen Road.
Joe Barrett, Whitethorn Drive.

Cork Simon Community

Volunteers will be doing their annual food collection in Rosewood Estate on Monday March 26th.

St. Vincent de Paul

The Easter Collection in aid of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul will take place at the gates of this church on Saturday night 31st March and Sunday 1st April 2007

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Fifth Week Of Lent

25 Sunday Is. 43:16-21. Ps 125. Phil. 3:8-14. Jn. 8:1-11. Lect I: 313
26 Monday Is 7:10-14, 8:10. Ps 39. Heb 10:4-10. Lk 1:26-38. Lect I: 985
27 Tuesday Num. 21:4-9. Ps. 101. In. 8:21-30. Lect I: 326
28 Wednesday Dan. 3:14-20,24-25,28. Ps. Dan. 3. Jn. 8:31-42. Lect I: 328
29 Thursday Gen. 17:3-9. Ps. 104. Jn. 8:51-59. Lect I: 331
30 Friday Jer. 20:10-13. Ps. 17. Jn. 10:31-42. Lect I: 333
31 Saturday Ez. 37:21-28. Ps. Jer. 31:10-13. Jn. 11:45-56. Lect I: 336

Next Sunday's Readings 01-April-2007

Are you active in community education and development on either a paid or voluntary basis?

Would you like to have nationally and internationally recognised qualifications in this area?

The BA degree programme at Cork Institute of Technology can provide you with such an opportunity, while you continue your current community work.

BA Degree in Community Education and Development
This is a three-year programme consisting of lectures, workshops, seminars, and tutorials and a significant work practice element based in the community. Subject areas covered include: education and development; management, leadership and change; groupwork in the community; social stratification, and action research.

For those who do not wish to make a commitment for the full three years, there is an option to leave the programme after two years with the qualification **Higher Certificate in Community Education and Development**.

Admission to the BA programme is based on interview. Interviews will be held in CIT in April 2007.

Application forms and further information on the course may be obtained from:

Anne Deasy
Department of Education Development – DEIS
School of Humanities
Cork Institute of Technology.
Telephone: 021 – 4326700
Email: ann.deasy@cit.ie

CROWLEY FUNERAL DIRECTORS

*Bóthar Saclay, Ballincollig, Co. Cork
Tel: 021-4874777 Mobile: 087-2759254*

**Email: michaelfd@eircom.net
www.crowleyfuneraldirectors.ie**

*Complete Funeral Arrangements
24 Hour Service Embalming Service
Member I.A.F.D.*

*Golden Charter Funeral
Pre-Planning Available*

The Garment of Suffering

The Garment of Suffering is done every Lent as there is a lot of pain and suffering in life, that's never given expression in the church. Anyone with any unresolved grief or pain, or any kind of hurt, would take a piece of cloth about six inches by six and place it in the basket at the front of the altar. All the elements are represented bereavement, break-up of a relationship, misunderstandings between parents and children, the pain of parents having to let their children go, especially when they didn't like the direction they were taking, the pain of addiction, the pain of being gay, of being homosexual, lesbian, and not being understood, not being able to talk about it, the pain from the past, the hurt the church itself had inflicted. On the Tuesday of Holy Week a number of women come to the altar with their sewing machines, needles and thread, and sew them on a long roll of white cloth. On Good Friday it is brought forward by the women and draped over the cross and spread across the width of the church. It is left there, representing the pain and suffering of the people of the parish, and on the eve of Pentecost it is taken out and burned. Every day during Mass there are prayers of healing for those whose pain and grief is represented on the Garment of Suffering.

Please place your piece of cloth about six inches by six e.g. handkerchief in this basket, and every day during mass, there will be prayers of healing for those whose pain and grief is represented on the Garment of Suffering.

Bulletin Board

Mass Book

Diaries to book Mass intentions for April, May & June 2007 are open in both churches.

Penitential Service

Monday 2nd April 8 pm St Mary & St John's

Confirmation

Scoil Eoin Monday 26th March 2007 at 10:30 am in Church of St. Mary & St. John. There will no 9:30 am Mass on this day.

St Vincent De Paul

Require Collectors on 1st Sunday of each Month before all Sunday Masses.

Chrism Mass

Bishop Buckley invites you to the Chrism Mass in the in the Cathedral on Holy Thursday, April 5th at 10 am. It is also an occasion of special thanksgiving as we bless the Oils for the Celebration of the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Orders and the Anointing of the Sick. This is an invitation to the people of the Parish of Ballincollig and I encourage as many as possible to attend

Fr. George

Vocations Information Day will be held this year at St. Dominic's Retreat Centre, Ennismore, Montenotte on Saturday Mach 31st from 11 am to 5 pm

49th Cork Ballincollig Scout Group

Fire lighting has always been part of Scouting, when people think of Scouting they think of camping, sitting around a campfire singing and cooking sausages on an open fire. Scouts been able to fend for themselves and be independent and be able to cook without adult help. They have to be expert firefighters and fire tenders or so non-Scouters believe. To let non-Scouters into a secret that scouts all know, there are two basic kinds of fire: the smudge and the inferno. The smudge is what you use when you are desperately in need of heat. By hunching over the smudge the scout could usually manage to thaw ice from his hands before been blinded by the smoke. The inferno was what you always used for cooking. Experts on camp cooking claimed you were supposed to cook over something called "a bed of glowing embers". The bed of embers was a fiction concocted by experts on camp cooking. As a result, the camp cook was frequently pictured, by artists who should have known better, as a tranquil Scout hunkered down by a bed of glowing embers, turning plump trout in the frying pan with the blade of his knife. In reality, the camp cook is a wildly distraught scout who charged though waves of heat and speared savagely with a long sharp stick at a burning hunk of meat he had tossed on the pan from twenty feet away. Meat roasted over an inferno was either raw or extra well done. The cook, if he was lucky came out medium rare. **To produce hot embers for your cooking fire, hardwood is best.**



Getting to know your Trocaire Box

Many people have contacted Trocaire with messages of support following the banning of their Lenten ads on radio over the past weeks. The controversy over the banning has ended, and the ads have returned. The Broadcasting Commission agreed to allow the ads back on the air once the two words 'Lenten Campaign' were removed. Trocaire agreed to this compromise because it meant all elements of the Lenten campaign remained in place including fundraising and public awareness. The dropping of the ads for a week and the associated publicity may still have a damaging effect on fundraising for Trocaire and on Trocaire's work in the developing world. This year, please make a special effort to support the Lenten campaign here in the parish.

Cork's Lifelong Learning Festival

Monday March 26 – Sunday April 1, 2007

'Over 200 events promoting learning of all kinds across all ages, interests and abilities in a city-wide celebration - Nothing like the Lifelong Learning Festival takes place anywhere in Ireland. The idea that learning is for everyone and can be fun is illustrated through events taking place right across the city in a variety of venues including shopping centres, libraries, community centres, schools and museums, and all events in the festival are free. The Cork Lifelong Learning Festival is organised by the Cork City Learning Forum, a group set up under the Cork City Development Board to promote the culture of learning across the city. The full brochure will be available from mid-March from libraries and community groups or online from www.corkcity.ie/learningfestival

ISANDS

'Support Group for bereaved Parents & Families whose baby has died'

Service of Remembrance

To remember all babies who have died

St. Joseph's SMA

Wilton, Cork

Today Sunday 25th March 2007 @ 3 pm

Everyone Welcome

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

Mar-31 & Apr-01-2007

St. Mary & St. John Christ Our Light

6:00 pm (Vigil)
Muireann Nelligan
8:30 am
Triona Collins
10:00 am
Tony Hegarty
12:00 Noon
Declan Chalmers

8:00 pm (Vigil)
Pauline Collins
11:00 am
Lisa Madden
12:30 pm
Dick Beamish
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 & 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	8 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**

MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

Mar-31 & Apr-01-2007



St. Mary & St. John Christ Our Light

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

8:00 pm Geraldine Lynch
Charlie Vaughan
Joan Stephenson
Brid Healy-Harris
11:00 am Marie Ui Chrualaof
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 Con O'Connell
Denis O' Mahony
Christine O'Mahony
Tom Murray
John O'Regan

12 Noon Joan Barrett
Sheila Carroll
Seamus O'Donovan
Joe Coghlan
Geraldine Graham
Catherine Greene

5:30 pm Patsy Galvin
Bernard Curran
Clare Curran

PARISH CLERGY

Priest on Duty 087-2479140
Fr. George O'Mahony P.P. 021-4871206
Fr. Michael O'Mahony C.C. 021-4877161
Fr. Sean O'Driscoll C.C. 021-4870434
Fr. Anthony O'Mahony



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Sympathy is extended to Fr. Sean on the death of his father Michael O'Driscoll. May he rest in peace.

Ballincollig Credit Union Ltd.

Harrington Street
Tel: 021-4872305
Fax: 021-4872532



New Town Centre Office
Tel: 021-4208300
Fax: 021-4872532

Monday	Closed
Tuesday	9.30 – 5.00 pm
Wednesday	10.30 – 5.00 pm
Thursday	9.30 – 5.00 pm
Friday	9.30 – 5.00 pm
Saturday	9.30 – 12.30 pm

Our Great Benefits

Avail of 100% Finance and Own Your Car from Day One
Option of Future Loans for Insurance and Tax
No Penalties for Early Repayment
Loan Protection Insurance at no Extra Cost
Interest Repayments Decrease as you Pay Off Your Loan
Easy Application Procedure and Speedy Decision

Monday	9.30 – 5.00 pm
Tuesday	9.30 – 5.00 pm
Wednesday	10.30 – 5.00 pm
Thursday	9.30 – 7.30 pm
Friday	9.30 – 7.30 pm
Saturday	9.30 – 5.00 pm