THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



St. Mary & St. John Station Road

Sunday 27-November-2005

First Sunday Of Advent

God comes to those who wait for him. Our waiting needs to be prayerful if we are to be truly ready to receive him when he comes.



Christ Our Light Innishmore

Advent 2005

The decorating and the advertising are already well under way for Christmas. Plans are being hatched for the Christmas cards and for all sorts of fun and games and of course the office parties are booked and planned. The next few weeks can be the busiest of the year for many; they are also a time to look forward to Christmas. This time of year is very difficult for many families and individuals.

However, Advent is a season in its own right. Familiar themes and characters are revisited during this season. We are invited to follow the example of key Advent characters of Isaiah, John the Baptist and Mary. We are invited to watch, to wait and to pray. The call issued is to silence, a silence that helps us to listen to the Word and wait on the Word. Surrounded by silence, surrounded by night, the Word who is with God—who is God—is made flesh. To those who accept him 'he gave power to become the children of God'.

Advent is also a time, when we remember that 'the people who walked in darkness have seen a great light'. During these Advent days, light – represented by the candles on the Advent wreath, and darkness – provided by the natural darkness of the time of year, present an opportunity to reflect on the contrast. We recognise God present in our world in a hidden way and so our hope is strengthened; we are better able to copy with darkness because we know darkness is no stronger than light.

Advent is the time in the church's calendar when we are asked to pay special attention to waiting. Waiting tends to irritate and annoy us. However when we wait for a friend we are treating them with respect and dignity. Waiting during Advent can also be a creative moment when we grow spiritually. When we wait we are in touch with an essential aspect of our humanity; which is that we are dependent on God and on one another... It is also an act of love, since by waiting for others, we pay them the respect of letting them be free. We also remember the great waiting experiences in human history, in the Bible and especially in the life of Jesus.

George O'Mahony

First Sunday of Advent

Lord, help us to remember that YOU are near us always as we struggle, step by step, to get nearer to YOU, in this special season. "God of Hosts, bring us back; Let Your face shine on us and we shall be saved"



Reflection for Parents

There is more work for parents to do in a day than will ever get done. Some of us work outside our homes while some stay at home. In either case there are always bills to pay, laundry to wash, meals to prepare, errands to run and things to fix. Unless we deliberately set aside time to prepare ourselves and our families for Jesus' return, we will continue with the busyness of everyday life like the people of Noah's time and the workers in the field and at the mill. Especially at this time of year, it is easy to get caught up in the demands centred on Jesus' birth rather than his return.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Priest

At the beginning of this Advent time we are filled with new hope. In that spirit, we present our prayers before the Lord.

Reader

That this Advent time may be a time of grace and blessing for all who look to Jesus as Saviour, we pray.

Lord, Hear us, Lord, graciously hear us.

That the glamour and glitz of this pre-Christmas time may not lure our hearts away from the true meaning of the season, we pray.

Lord, Hear us, Lord, graciously hear us.

That the cry of the poor and needy among us may not go unheeded, we pray.

Lord, Hear us, Lord, graciously hear us.

That all who are sick or in pain, whether at home or in hospital, may find peace and healing, we pray.

Lord, Hear us, Lord, graciously hear us.

That those who come to us from other nations and cultures may find a welcome among us.

Lord, Hear us, Lord, graciously hear us.

That all who have gone before us on the journey of faith may have eternal happiness in the company of Mary and the saints. We pray especially for all those in our thoughts today.

Lord, Hear us, Lord, graciously hear us.

Priest

Hear our prayer, 0 loving God. Turn our hearts to you this Advent time, and grant us what we need. This we ask in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Saviour.

Amen.

God of hosts, bring us back; Let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

Visit Our Website: www.ballincolligparish.ie

Sunday 27-November-2005

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BAPTISMS

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

Charlie Denis O'Sullivan, 15, Limeworth.

Stam Finbarr Sheehan, 21, West Grove.

Eaveen Lauren Cronin, 15, Mill Range.

Leigha Fiona Buggy-Rath, 24, Innismore Park.

Alyssa Caitlin Cotter, 25, Aisling Close.

Aoibhe Catherine O'Donnell, 95, The Green, Coolroe Meadows

Tara Lynn O'Connell, The Lodge, Ballingully.

Conor John Raggett, 38, Rath Gailene, Dublin Road, Portlao-

† IN SYMPATHY †

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

Gretta Crowley, Dunmanway. Mourned by John Crowley, 38, Bridgewater

Ellen Devine, Madonna House. Mourned by John O'Rourke, Greenwood Estate, Togher

Padraig Allen, Greenwood Estate, Togher, Cork. Mourned by John Allen & Family, Inniscarra View.

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

Tommy Daly, Leemount.

Stephen Spitere, Glasheen.

Joe & Mona Thullier, Kinsale.

Fr. Gerard Kelleher.

Frances Cunningham, Crookstown.

Deceased members O'Mahony family, Barrack St.

Yva O'Donoghue, Ovens.

Denis McCarthy, Ballinadee,

Timothy O'Leary, Farranes.

William Buckley, West Village.

Margaret Broderick, Wyndham Downs.

Ellen & Eugene Mohally, Lough Road.

Michael Ring; & John Ring, Dungourney & Australia.

Eileen, Frank & Noel O'Donovan, Raheen.

Deceased members of the McGrath Family.

Dan Murphy, Clash.

Ellie Thornhill, Skibbereen.

Dan & Mary O'Leary, Doneraile.

Denis Calnan, Church View.

Noel Buckley, Carrigdene.

Kathleen Murphy, Glounthaune.

L'Arche Christmas Fair

Sunday 4th December 10 am – 5 pm

L'Arche Community Centre, Togher (next to Parish Church & National School)

All Welcome - Admission Free

Advent Retreat

At St Dominic's Retreat Centre at Ennismore December 2 – 4 - Weekend Retreat "Come Lord Jesus come

Jim Donleavy OP

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

First Week of Advent

27 Sunday Is 63:16-17. 64:1, 3-8. Ps 79. 1 Car 1:-9. Mk 13:33-37. Lect 1: 5

28 Monday Is 2:1-5.Ps 121.Mt8:5-11. Lect 1: 10

29 Tuesday Is 11:1-10. Ps 71. Lk 10:21-24. Lect 1: 13

30 Wednesday Rom 10:9-18. Ps 18. Mt 4:18-22. Lect 11: 1279

01 Thursday Is 26:1-6. Ps 117. Mt 7:21, 24-27. Lect 1: 18

02 Friday Is 29:17-24. Ps 26. Mt 9:27-31. Lect 1: 20

03 Saturday Is 30:19-21, 23-26. Ps 146 Mt 9:35-10:1, 6-8. Lect 1: 22

Next Sunday's Readings 04-December-2005 Is 40:1-5, 9-11. Ps 84.2 Pet3:8-14. Mk 1:1-8. Lect 1: 27

Advent Programme

The Advent Programme will take place on four consecutive Tuesday's, beginning on Tuesday 22nd
November and ending on Tuesday 13th December.

It will be held in the upstairs room of the St. Vincent de Paul premises. Time 10.00 to 10.30 am.

The programme is based on the readings for the coming Sunday. All are welcome.

Ministers of the Eucharist St. Mary & St. John and Christ Our Light.

Talk on the Eucharist by Fr. Finbarr O'Halloran on Sat. 3rd December at 11.00 am in the Church of St. Mary & St. John.

Preparation for Baptism

Baptism is our first step on the journey of Faith, the sacrament of initiation into the Christian faith and the Life of Christ. It is also a sacrament of welcome into the Christian community. The importance of preparation for Baptism was highlighted at the Parish Council and also by some parents requesting help for themselves. For the past number of months a group of parishioners have come together to provide some resources and help for parents bringing their children to Baptism. I am glad to say that they are now in a position to begin this preparation. So beginning at 2.00 pm on Saturday 3rd December and once a month thereafter parents who wish to have children baptised in the parish of Ballincollig will have an opportunity to prepare for the sacrament. I am confident that this presentation will be of benefit to parents and godparents in their role as Christian educators.

Fr. George O'Mahony

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Sunday 27-November-2005

THE SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading: Is. 63:16-17; 64:1. 3-8

The first reading from the Prophet Isaiah expresses sentiments of longing for the coming of the Saviour.

Second Reading: 1 Cor 1:3-9

St Paul gives a word of encouragement to all who are waiting for Jesus

Gospel: Mark 13:33-37

We are reminded in today's gospel that the world as we know it will pass away, and God's Kingdom will come in full. Jesus tells a parable about a master who went away and left each of his servants with a specific task to do. No one knew when the owner would return, just as no one can know when God's plan will be fulfilled. The words of Jesus were quite clear to the early Christians and to us today. We must be watchful and always ready for Jesus' return.

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SAINT OF THE WEEK

St. Francis Xavier 3-December-2005

St. Francis Xavier: 1506-1552, one of the first seven Jesuits. He was sent to India by St Ignatius. It is extraordinary that one man in the space of ten years could have visited so many countries, preached the Gospel to so many nations and converted so many infidels. His initial journey from Lisbon to Goa in a sailing ship was in itself a tremendous undertaking. From India he travelled on to the island of Ceylon. In 1549 Francis Xavier landed in Japan where he spent a year learning the language. When he was able to express himself he began preaching Christianity but the political authorities had him expelled from the city. Bravely he continued to preach in other Japanese cities and towns building up the nucleus of a Christian community. During this time he heard much of the Celestial Empire of China and eventually he arrived on a small island off the coast of that great empire. While planning the best means of reaching the mainland he was taken ill and died in a rude hut built to shelter him. In these wretched surroundings, the greatest missionary since St. Paul passed to his reward.

First Friday

Friday 2nd December 2005 Church of St. Mary & St. John

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament following 9.30 am mass.

Rosary 6.45 pm. **Directed prayer** 7.00 pm. **Benediction** 7.45 pm **Holy Mass** 8.00 pm.

Leaving Certificate Oral Revision Courses

The Cork College of Commerce is now offering five week and one day Leaving Certificate Oral Revision Courses in Irish, French, German, Spanish and Italian. Five week courses commence in January whereas the one day intensive courses take place in February and March.

All courses are offered at honours and pass level to suit the needs of the individual student.

Further information can be obtained by ringing 021-4223847 or email: adulted@ccoc.ie.

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER

Pike Theatre Group

Are holding a **Night of Drama**In **Ballincollig Community Hall**on **Sunday** 27th **November**, 2005 at 8.00pm.
3 One Act Plays

A great nights entertainment guaranteed.
Admission €5.00 Bookings 4646223 – Mr. Charlie Conway.

Ursuline Invitation

The Ursuline Sisters in Blackrock, Cork are extending an invitation to single women who may have an interest in finding out more about religious live.

Date: Sunday November 27th
Time: 2.30 – 7.00pm
Venue: Ursuline Convent, Blackrock, Cork

For further information: Sr. Jean or Sr. Karen – (021) 4358663 e-mail: irishursulines@eircom.net

Messiah by G.F. Handel Presented by East Cork Choral Society

St. Patrick's Church, Dunmanway Saturday 3rd December at 8.00 pm

Tickets €15 from St. Patrick's Church, D. Crowley & Co, and Signals, The Square Proceeds to Renovation Fund

Art Exhibition

at Bru Cloumbanus Cardinal Way, Wilton Friday 2nd to 9th December from 11 am to 7 pm. Many professional and amateur artists exhibiting. Admission €5

Please support this home from home accommodation for families of patients in Cork Hospitals and Hospices.

Christmas Flower Arranging

In aid of Inniscarra Community Centre At Ballyanly

On Wednesday 7th December @ 8 pm.

The Theme is Christmas arrangements for your home.

Demonstrator; Norma Moylan .

Admission €10.00 inc. refreshments.

Door Prize Barry's Tea Hamper.

All are welcome.

Ballincollig Scout Unit - Annual Bazaar.

This now famous Bazaar, will take place on **Sunday 4th December** in **Ballincollig Community Centre** on Station
Road. The doors will open at **2.30 pm**

If you are doing a Pre-Christmas clean, please remember the Ballincollig Scout Unit. They will gladly accept Books Briq a Brac, Toys that are in good condition, bikes etc. Unfortunately the Unit is not in a position to accept clothes. If you wish to donate any item towards the bazaar it can be organised by contacting any member of the unit or calling to the Scout Centre behind the Church of St Mary & St John on Station Road any Tuesday, Thursday or Friday night.

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

Dec-03 & Dec-04-2005

St. Mary & St. John

Christ Our Light

6:00 pm (Vigil) Muireann Nelligan 8:30 am Niamh Gallagher 10:00 am Jessica Looney 12:00 Noon Sean Dorgan

8:00 pm (Vigil) Amy Ni Cheallaigh 11:00 am Lisa Madden 12:30 pm Cliona Ryan 5:30 pm Phil O'Connell



12 Noon

MINISTERS OF THE **EUCHARIST**

Dec-03 & Dec-04-2005



St.	Mary	& St.	John	Christ	0
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50. 141	ary & St. John	CIII	ist our Light
6.00 pm	Steve Wills Margaret O'Sullivan Rita Aherne Rose Doyle	8:00 pm	Anne O'Regan Mairead Healy Murph Finbarr Murray
8:30 am	Jim Walsh Frances O'Brien 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

Oliver O'Donovan Barbara Kelly John Jeffers Mary McLean Ellen Seymour

Nora Hennessy

Dur Light

Anne O'Regan
Mairead Healy Murphy
Finbarr Murray

5:30 pm Noelle Buckley Mary Breen Siobhan Burke

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	Wednesday	8:30 am
9:30 am	Thursday	8:30 am
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 &	Saturday	After 9:00 am Mass
before 6:00 pm Mass		

BAPTISMS

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

PARISH CLERGY

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Parish Office, The Presbytery, Ballincollig is open Monday - Thursday from 9 am - 3 pm. Saturday 10:30 am - 12 Noon. Phone No. (021) 4871206



Ballincollig Credit Union Ltd.

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

Harrington Street

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

Notice To Members

Our new Sub Office in the Town Centre	New Town	n Centre Office
	Monday	9.30 - 5.00 pm
Is now open	Tuesday	9.30 - 5.00 pm
	Wednesday	10.30 - 5.00 pm
The hours of business in our offices will be	Thursday	9.30 - 7.30 pm
The hours of business in our offices will be	Friday	9.30 - 7.30 pm
	Saturday	9.30 - 5.00 pm