

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



St. Mary & St. John
Station Road

Sunday 30-November-2008

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

St. Vincent de Paul Annual Appeal 13th & 14th December 2008

I believe our regional president of SVP hit the nail on the head recently when he wrote "our politicians have forgotten poverty or never experienced it, that they don't understand what its like to be in want, that they don't realize the damage done to the old, to children and to families, or is it simply "indifference" He went on to say: the Budget in its original form was a savage attack on the old, the young, the marginalised, the disabled and even though parts of the Budget have been withdrawn it remains a minefield of poverty traps the full affects of which will only become apparent as time passes. Does everyone in Government have the slightest idea of what it takes to balance your income at this level, constantly "robbing Peter to pay Paul"?"

At SVP in Ballincollig we witness poverty and its effects on families; we are constantly faced with families who live from week to week struggling to make ends meet. We meet with the parent struggling without enough food to feed their children, who has to decide which bill to pay this week from their meagre income, be it the ESB, Gas, Rent or Mortgage, and decide to wrap up well to keep warm as there is no money to buy coal this week.

In the past year SVP has funded local projects including healthcare, clothing, home assistance, education, summer breaks, etc, and where someone is in need we are there to assist in every way possible. We depend on your generosity to fund our work and you have not failed us. The goodness and generosity of the Ballincollig parishioners powers us on to keep up the work of those who have served the local community so well over the past decades.

"I was hungry and you gave me to eat"

Thank you once again. Your loyalty to SVP makes a valuable difference.

Tim Meehan
Vice President
St. Vincent de Paul, Ballincollig

Advent Retreat

The Ballincollig Advent Retreat will be held in the Church of Christ Our Light on 8th, 9th and 10th December, 2008. The Retreat will be conducted by the Redemptorists who will speak at all Masses on Saturday and Sunday 6th and 7th December.

Monday 8th		Tuesday 9th & Wednesday 10th	
7.00 a.m.	Mass	7.00 a.m.	Mass
12.30 p.m.	Mass	8.30 a.m.	Mass
6.30 p.m.	Mass	7.30 p.m.	Sermon & Prayer
			Penitential Service on Wednesday Evening

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"

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Priest

We present our petitions with confidence to the Lord of gentleness and compassion.

Reader

In this Advent season, we pray that the whole Church may prepare itself anew to receive the Christ-child this Christmas.

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

We pray for peace: peace in our world, peace in our homes, peace in our hearts.

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

We pray for vocations; that the Lord may send labourers to the harvest.

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

We pray for teachers and those who pass on the faith to the next generation.

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

We pray for the sick, especially the terminally ill; that they may know the Lord's healing touch.

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

We pray that those who have died may be received into the Father's house.

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

Priest

Heavenly Father, you guide those who act with integrity. Hear the prayers of those gathered here today. We make these, and all our prayers, through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son. Amen.



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

Visit Our Website: www.ballincolligparish.ie

BAPTISMS

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

Dara James Fogarty, Westcourt.
 Kelly Louise Naughton, The Elms, Classis Lake.
 Lesh Lowney, Berryfield, Classis Lake.
 Laura Clare O'Mahony, Old Court, Greenfields.
 Zoey Julia Jennings-McGrath, Carriganarra.

† **IN SYMPATHY** †

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

Charles O'Leary, Carrigrohane.
 Jackie Houlihan, Lismore.
 Jack Kennedy, Montenotte.
 John Buttimer, Church View, Dunmanway.
 Rita Whelton, Glendower Court.
 Donal O'Sullivan, Dunbar Street.
 John O'Halloran, Leemount.

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

Joe & Mona Thullier, Kinsale.
 Eve & Don Spillane, Westcourt Heights.
 Deceased members O'Mahony family, Barrack St.
 Mary Dineen, Shandon View.
 Joe O'Leary, Ovens.
 Kathleen O'Connor, Oaklands.
 Yva O'Donoghue, Ovens.
 Margaret O'Connor, Ovens.
 Con O'Mahony, Blarney.
 Tim Crowley, Coachfor.
 John & Hannah O'Shea, Beaufort, Co Kerry.
 Tomas Hannah & Jack Twomey, Raheen.
 John, Joseph, & Nora Fleming, Mallow.
 Patrick & Annie Murray, Curraheen.
 Dan Murphy, Clash.
 John Ring, Dungourney & Australia.
 Timothy & Eileen Keohane, Clonakilty.
 Mildred & David McCarthy, Union Hall.
 Nora & Willie Linehan, Blackrock.
 Agnes Kavanagh, Fr Sexton Park.
 Kathleen O'Connor, Oaklands.
 Catherine O'Connell, Turners Cross.
 Dec members of Aherne Family, Castlepark.
 The Lucy Family, Inchigeela.
 Mick Hennigan, Station Road.

Scout Toy Mass

Thursday 4th December at 7 pm in St. Mary & St. John

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READINGS FOR THE WEEK

First Week of Advent

30 Sunday Is 63:16-17. 64:1, 3-8. Ps 79. 1 Car 1:1-9. Mk 13:33-37. Lect I: 5
 01 Monday Is 2:1-5. Ps. 121. Mt. 8:5-11. Lect I: 10
 02 Tuesday Is 11:1-10. Ps. 71. Lk. 10:21-24. Lect I: 13
 03 Wednesday Is. 25:6-10. Ps. 22. Mt. 15:29-37. Lect I: 15
 04 Thursday Is. 26: 1-6. Ps. 117. Mt. 7:21, 24-27. Lect I: 18
 05 Friday Is. 29:17-24. Ps. 26. Mt. 9:27-31. Lect I: 20
 06 Saturday Is. 30:19-21, 23-26. Ps. 146. Mt. 9:35-10: 1, 6-8. Lect I: 22

Next Sunday's Readings 07-December-2008

Is 40:1-5, 9-11. Ps 84.2 Pet3:8-14. Mk 1:1-8. Lect I: 27



The Coeliac Society of Ireland

Date: Tuesday, 2nd of December, 2008
 Place: SMA Hall, Wilton
 Time: 8.00 p.m.
 Christmas Party Night "Bring something, taste something."
 Everyone welcome.

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.

Counsellor Available

Stressed? Anxious? Need to Talk?
 Contact: Ms. Carmel Savage - (085) 7787664
 B.A (Hons.) Counselling and Psychotherapy
Total Confidentiality Assured.

L 'Arche Community Cork

A Community helping people with Intellectual Disabilities are holding their Annual Craft Fair on **7th** December, 2008 at the Community Workshop in Togher, Cork.

CROWLEY

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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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.

First Sunday of Advent

The First Sunday of Advent marks the beginning of the Liturgical Year. The Advent season focuses on Christ's threefold coming: we celebrate his first coming in Bethlehem over two thousand years ago; secondly we give thanks for his continual coming to us each day, especially in the Eucharist, and thirdly we look forward with hope to his second coming on judgment day. On this first Sunday of Advent, the readings remind us to be on our guard at all times for the coming of Christ.

In today's Gospel, the doorkeeper is being warned to stay awake and be ready for his master's return. This is a warning for all of us. While none of us know the day or the hour that our Master will return, we do know for certain that that time will come for each one of us and we need to be ready. When Jesus tells us to 'stay awake' and not 'be found sleeping' he is warning us to avoid falling asleep spiritually. As each of us prepares for his coming at Christmas it may be a good time to reflect on one's own personal relationship with him and with those around us. In what areas of my life do I need healing and forgiveness? Is there something blocking me opening the door of my heart to welcome Jesus in? There is a well-known picture which shows an image of Jesus knocking on a door which has no handle on the outside to open it. It has to be opened from the inside. Today Jesus is knocking on my 'door' - waiting for me to open my heart and home so that he can come in and dwell there.

These days, there are so many reminders all around us that Christmas is fast approaching! It may be good to pause occasionally and ask oneself where is Jesus for me in the midst of all the 'busyness' of preparing for Christmas. MARANATHA (pronounced Ma-ra-na-tha) is an ancient Aramaic prayer which means 'Come Lord Jesus'. Saying this little word, or Mantra, can help one focus on the true meaning of Christmas. We can avail of moments each day during this season of Advent, to pray this word in the silence of our hearts, even while we wait at the supermarket or bus queues or as we drive, walk, etc!
 Let us prepare to welcome Jesus into our hearts and homes this Christmas.

'MARANATHA' - Come Lord Jesus.

Sr. Colette

Bulletin Board

Feast of The Immaculate Conception Holy Day of Obligation - Monday 8th December, 2008

Masses

St Mary & St John	Christ Our Light
8:30 am, 10 am & 8 pm	7 am, 12:30 pm & 6:30 pm
(Sunday Masses as normal)	

First Friday

Friday December 5th is the first Friday of the month. There will be exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in St Mary & St John from 10:00 am to 7.30 pm, you are invited to come and spend some time with the Lord. There is Mass in St Mary & St John on Friday evening at 8 pm. 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.

Baptism Preparation.

The next Baptism preparation will take place on **Saturday December 6th in the Library Room, Community Hall, Station Road at 1 pm.** The presentation lasts for approximately forty minutes. The following questions are addressed, what is Baptism? What are the symbols used in the Sacrament of Baptism? How can the family become involved in the ceremony? We recommend parents book baptisms a few weeks in advance in order to give ample time to take part in the preparation.

Mass Book

Diaries to book Mass Intentions for January, February & March will open in both Churches on Saturday 13th December at 9 am

Christmas Carol Service - St. Mary & St John

Wednesday 10th December, 2008 at 8 pm.

Christmas Cards

Christmas Cards are available for sale in the Parish Office.

Catholic Paper

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

Fr. George

Advent Early Morning Prayer

Begin your day and preparation for Christmas the best way possible with the **Morning Prayer of the Church.** Taking place during Advent in St. Mark's Centre (opposite Christ Our Light Church) Mon—Fri. at 6 am.
 Starting Mon. 1st Dec. Everyone Welcome



Blood Donor Clinics

- St. Finbarr's Hospital, Cork, Munster Regional Centre, Monday, Dec 1st, 11.30 am – 2.30 pm
- St. Finbarr's Hospital, Cork, Munster Regional Centre, Tuesday, Dec 2nd, 5.00 pm – 8.00 pm
- St. Finbarr's Hospital, Cork, Munster Regional Centre, Thursday, Dec 4th, 5.00 pm – 8.00 pm
- St. Finbarr's Hospital, Cork, Munster Regional Centre, Friday, Dec 5th, 10.00 am – 12.30 pm

The GAA Pavilion, Ballincollig.

- Monday, Dec 1st, 5 pm – 8 pm
- Tuesday Dec 2nd, 3 pm – 5 pm & 7 pm – 9 pm
- Wednesday Dec 3rd, 3 pm – 5 pm & 7 pm – 9 pm
- Thursday, Dec 4th, 3 pm – 5 pm & 7 pm – 9 pm

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

Dec-06 & Dec-07-2008

St. Mary & St. John

Christ Our Light

6:00 pm (Vigil)

Sandra Walsh
Brian Hennessy

8:30 am

Niamh Gallagher

10:00 am

Louise McCarthy
Robert Noonan

12:00 Noon

John Dorgan
Fergal Monahan

7:30 pm (Vigil)

Pauline Collins
Niall Cronin

11:00 am

Cormac Manning
Marie Ni Niada

12:30 pm

Tadhg Buckley
James Nyagaya

5:30 pm

Siobhan Keane-Hopcraft

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

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

021-4870434



MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

Dec-06 & Dec-07-2008

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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€30,000	1370.43	953.87	746.43	622.23

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