

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



St. Mary & St. John
Station Road

Sunday 16-December-2018

Third Sunday Of Advent

John the Baptist was sent by God to prepare for Christ's coming. His task was to make people attentive to the Spirit who would be fully present in God's anointed.



Christ Our Light
Innishmore

Rejoicing Sunday

"Rejoice in the Lord always, again I say, rejoice. Indeed the Lord is near." Isaiah 40, 27 reads, "Had you not heard? Did you not know?, the Lord is an everlasting God, He does not grow tired or weary; His understanding is beyond fathoming, He gives strength to the wearied." The above passage is part of the first reading for Wednesday the second week of Advent.

Today is also known as Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete means 'Rejoice'. The third candle in the Advent Wreath is lit. It is a rose/pink colour. The rose/pink colour signifies the sense of expectancy building to a moment of rejoicing and hope as the long awaited promise of the Messiah is born among us.

This Sunday also invites us to capture and hold on to some of the quiet Joy that Pope Francis speaks about in his letter "The Joy of the Gospel". The joy of the gospel fills the hearts and lives of all who have a friendship with Jesus. It is our personal friendship with Jesus that we celebrate and give thanks for at Christmas, God becoming one of us, the Good News announced by John the Baptist in today's Gospel. This is the reason for our joy, the reason for Advent and Christmas.

Fr. George O'Mahony

Third Sunday of Advent



We are a step nearer to our celebration of His coming. As we approach Him we must bring Him everything! Our dreams, our successes, our rejoicing. If we have little to rejoice over, bring Him that little. If you feel you have only empty hands - bring Him those empty hands. IN HIS HANDS ALL ARE MADE GOOD!
"Let us rejoice in the Lord"

Reflection for Parents

So often our identity is tied to another person. We are Jim's mom, Tom's wife, Sue's husband, or Mary's daughter. Like John did in today's gospel, we may even define ourselves by who we are not. John made it clear he was not the Messiah, a prophet, or Elijah returned. What John is, is the same thing we are, and that is a herald - the person who brings the Good News about Jesus Christ into the lives of others. In our families we do this by our faithful participation in worship, prayer, and actions.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Priest

Joy is a central theme of the liturgy on this third Sunday of Advent. Let us joyfully lift up our hearts in prayer.

Reader

We ask the Lord to give a spirit of joy and peace to his Church.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

That God may bless the work of all those who seek to relieve suffering.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For priests everywhere; that they may be credible servants of people's joy.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For all who are sad or troubled at this time, that they may find kindness.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

May St. Joachim and St. Anne, the most famous Grandparents of all time who brought up their daughter in love and prayer in their family home, bless you.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For the faithful departed, that they may hear the words, 'Enter into the joy of your Master.'

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

Priest

Father, may we experience the joy of glad fellowship with your Son, Jesus Christ, through whom we make these and all our prayers.
Amen.

Sing and shout for joy for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

Visit Our Website: www.ballincolligparish.ie or Facebook www.facebook.com/BallincolligParish

† IN SYMPATHY †

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

Michael White, Coolroe.
 Frances Shorten, Crookstown.
 Cathal Lehane, Ovens.
 Jimmy Crowley, Roches Buildings.
 Mary O'Driscoll, Clonakilty.
 Donal Farmer, Blackpool/Dublin.
 Sheila O'Leary, Beech Rd./Blackpool.
 Richard Flanagan, Passage West/Castlepark.
 Mary Murphy, Ballinhassig.
 Noel Byrne.
 Eileen Farrell, Ballincollig/Coppeen.

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

Susan O'Driscoll, Carrigdene.
 Hannah Long, Pinewalk.
 James & Catherine O'Sullivan, Kilmichael.
 Seamus O'Donovan, Maple Lawn.
 Philip Bogue, Ballincollig/Ballyhooly.
 John Keohane, Clonakilty.
 Teddy O'Leary, Maple Lawn.
 Paddy Cullinane, Magazine Road.
 Denis & Ellen Hallahan, Ballingulley.
 Pat & Mary Horgan, Upton.
 Sheila White, Inniscarra View.
 Bill & Kit Foley, Essex.
 Dec. Members of O'Shea & Sexton Families.
 Rose Crotty, Coolroe.
 Joan & Harry O'Reardon, Carriganarra Est.
 Ann Thuillier, Kinsale.
 Joe & Mona Thuillier, Kinsale.
 Christy Lucey, Beech Park.
 Seán Coakley, Muskerry Estate.
 Marie Horstmann, Parknamore House.
 John J O'Connell, Maglin.
 Patrick O'Shea, Scot's Farm, Carrigrohane.
 Denis Buttimer, Toames.
 Dec. Members of Flanagan Family, Castlepark.
 Peter O'Sullivan, Rosewood.
 Jack & Beatrice Shanahan, Fr. Sexton Park.
 Michael, Rita, David Barry, Ladysbridge.
 Jerry Delaney, Maglin.
 Aoibhín Power, Coolroe Meadows.

Communion for the Sick

Remembering and praying by the family of believers is part of every worship especially the Mass. Ministers of the Eucharist or a priest go from the praying community to the sick with Holy Communion. Please let the celebrant of Mass know when you wish communion to be taken to the sick. Bringing Holy Communion to the sick is both a privilege and a responsibility.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Third Week Of Advent

16 Sunday Zech. 3: 14-18. Ps. Is. 12. Phil. 4:4-7. Lk. 3: 10.18. Lect I: 51
 17 Monday Gen. 49:2,8-10. Ps. 71. Mt. 1 :17. Lect I: 76
 18 Tuesday Jer. 23:5-8. Ps. 71. Mt. 1:18-24. Lect I:79
 19 Wednesday Jg. 13:2-7, 24-25. Ps. 70. Lk. 1 :5-25. Lect I: 81
 20 Thursday Is 7:10-14. Ps. 23. Lk. 1:26-38. Lect I: 83
 21 Friday Song 2:8-14 or Zeph. 3: 14-18. Ps. 32. Lk. 1 :39-45. Lect I: 85
 22 Saturday 1 Sam. 1:24-28. Ps. 1 Sam. 2:1, 4-8. Lk. 1:46-56. Lect I:88

Next Sunday's Readings 23-December-2018

Mic. 5: 1-4. Ps 79. Heb. 10:5-10. Lk. 1 :39-45. Lect I: 73

BAPTISMS

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

Claire Anne O'Sullivan, Rosewood.
 Karl Njumbe Peleke, Tuairin Glas.
 Sonny Alan Browne, Wyndham Lawn.
 James Michael Lehane, Church View.
 Séadna James O'Grady, Westcourt Heights.
 Liam Charles Twomey, Muskerry Estate

THE SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading: Zeph 3:14-18
 The Lord your God is in your midst, a victorious warrior.

Second Reading: Phil 4:4-7
 God asks us all to be happy through prayer.

Gospel: Luke 3:10-18
 The crowds approached John the Baptist and asked how they should live in order to be ready to follow the Messiah. John responded by telling them to share and to not take more than they are entitled to. The people wondered if John might be the Messiah for whom they had been waiting, but he cleared up any misunderstanding by saying that he was not. For sure, the Messiah would come after John, but John was not worthy even to be the Messiah's slave who would untie his sandal.

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

Christmas Confession

Going to confession for Christmas has been part and parcel of Irish Catholic life for generations. Older people will recall long slow-moving queues at the confessionals on Christmas Eve. Even today when attitudes have changed Catholics still see a close connection between the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the celebration of the birth of Christ.

The old style Confession was an ordeal for many people: they found the slow queuing unnerving, they were afraid the priest might be deaf and that his questions and comments might be overheard by those waiting in line; they were afraid that if they were kept in longer than usual it might embarrass them. Children also were afraid that they might 'get stuck' in the Act of Contrition.

Perhaps it is because of all these considerations that the Reconciliation Service, the modern form of the Sacrament has taken on so well. In the new communal celebration we prepare ourselves together for confession and give thanks together for the forgiveness received. There are readings, a homily; an examination of conscience conducted in common, a shared request for forgiveness and a thanksgiving in common. Central to the ceremony is the opportunity given to each person to come up to the priest of their choice and make a brief confession of their sins. At the Penitential Ceremony there may be some people who for one reason or another do not wish to make a confession. These may ask the priest for a blessing and no one will know whether or not they have made a confession.

The confession of sins, in a sense, frees us from the power sin had over our lives. By telling his sins to the priest, man looks squarely at the sins he is guilty of, takes responsibility for them, and thereby opens himself again to God and to the communion of the Church in order to make a new future possible. Being open to the communion of the Church refers, not to Holy Communion or the Blessed Eucharist but rather to our sense of belonging to the parish community. Sin damages or even breaks brotherly friendship in the family, in the neighbourhood or in the wider community in which we live. To steal, to aggress others, to hate, to insult, to drive drunkenly - all such actions offend God but they also offend against other people. Sin is an act of aggression against our fellow man as well as against God. The Sacrament of Penance repairs and restores our union with our fellow man. Because the Penitential Service is shared publicly with our neighbours it expresses our desire to admit our sin and our desire to 'make up' with our families, our neighbours and all of God's children throughout the world.

Penitential Service

Monday 17th December, 2018
Church of Christ Our Light at 8pm

Bulletin Board

Christmas collection for the Priests of the Parish

According to the Diocesan custom, the collection at Christmas Masses is one of two occasions in the year when the offertory collection goes to the priests of the parish. Your generosity and support is very much appreciated.

Mass Diaries

Mass Diaries to book Mass intentions for January, February and March will be opened in both churches on Saturday 8th December at 9.00am. Priority will be given to those booking 1st Anniversary Mass.

World Meeting of Families

December 16th
Bambinelli Sunday (Blessing of Crib Figures of Baby Jesus)
Christ Our Light Church at 11 am mass
St Mary and St John's Church at 12 noon mass

Coeliac Hosts

Low gluten hosts are available that are suitable for Coeliac. Please inform the priest prior to Mass if possible if you require it.

Altar Servers

Parents are invited to encourage their children to become Altar Servers in either Christ our Light Church or St. Mary & St. John's Church. Please contact one of the priests or the sacristans.

Confirmation Dates 2019

Scoil Eoin	Tuesday, 12th March
Scoil Barra	Friday, 15th March
Our Lady of Good Counsel	Friday, 15th March
Gaelscoil Uí Ríordáin	Monday, 25th March
Scoil Mhuire	Friday, 5th April

First Holy Communion Dates 2019

Scoil Barra	11th May
Our Lady of Good Counsel	11th May
Gaelscoil Uí Ríordáin	18th May
Scoil Eoin	25th May
Scoil Mhuire	8th June

Carol Service

Church of St Mary & St John
Sunday 16th December, 2017 at 7.00pm

Family Mass

The next Children's Mass for children in second class preparing for their first Holy Communion will take place on Sunday 16th December at 11.00am in Church of Christ Our Light. The Parents of children who are seven and eight are asked to bring them to this Mass. Preparation with these children commences in the main body of the church at 10.45am.

Tax Rebate

Many thanks to the Parishioners who returned their CHY4 Cert for 2017. The parish, being a registered charity, is entitled to claim tax back paid by its donors. Thank you for your support and I look forward to your continued support.

Fr. George

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

Dec-22 & Dec-23-2018

St. Mary & St. John

Christ Our Light

6:00 pm (Vigil)
 Niamh O'Riordan
 Ciara O'Sullivan
8:30 am
 Pat Fennell
 Kate Healy
10:00 am
 Erin Holmes
 Saoirse McGuinness
12:00 Noon
 Declan Chalmers
 Sean Manley

7:30 pm (Vigil)
 Pauline Collins
 Dylan Ebili
11:00 am
 Ciara Healy
 Luke Telford
12:30 pm
 Laura O'Leary
 Brian Dore
5:30 pm
 Kevin Tuohy

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	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. Cian O'Sullivan C.C.	021-4876171

Funeral Pastoral Team Rota

17-Dec-2018 to 23-Dec-2018

Michael O'Leary
 Kay O'Sullivan

Winter Time Crime Prevention

Crime prevention for your home

- ◆ Break-ins at wintertime occur mostly in hours of darkness - lock up and light up.
- ◆ Replace any broken or loose window handles.
- ◆ Have an alarm in place, use it when away from your home.

Crime prevention for vehicles.

- ◆ Lock vehicles at all times especially at hours of darkness and overnight. Most thefts of property from vehicles take place when vehicles are left unlocked.
- ◆ Park vehicles in well-lit areas.
- ◆ Never leave property in vehicle, remove property before making your journey.

*Anthony Mc Sweeney Community Garda,
 Ballincollig Garda Station*

MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

Dec-22 & Dec-23-2018

St. Mary & St. John

Christ Our Light

6.00 pm Bernadette Bell
 Betty Casey
 Frank Riordan
 Siobhan Riordan
 Pauline Quane
 Aisling Leahy

7:30 pm Geraldine Lynch
 Charlie Vaughan
 Joan Stephenson
 Bernie Bowen

8:30 am Mary Buckley
 Mary B. Murphy

11:00 am Neil Jeffers
 Eileen O'Donoghue
 Pdraig Fleming
 Hugh / Catherine Moran
 Imelda Power / Martina Woods

10:00 am Betty Flavin
 Anne Spillane
 Anne O'Connell
 Con O'Connell

12:30 pm Tom Murray
 John O'Regan
 Gerard Dunne
 Brid Dunne

12 Noon Seamus O'Donovan
 Eleanor Knowles
 Catherine Greene
 Joan Barrett
 Frances Hogan
 Mary O'Leary

5:30 pm Bernard Curran
 John Canty

Offertory Collection Boxes

The boxes of envelopes for the Offertory Collection are available in both churches. Families are asked to take one box. Please use the envelopes for the Offertory Collection for the Vigil and Sunday Masses during the year. The Offertory Collection is solely for the upkeep, maintenance, insurance, lighting, heating and related expenses of both churches.

Parishioners who gave their name and offertory box number for Tax Rebate to the Church will have their boxes delivered to them. Thanks for your generosity and we look forward to your support for the coming year.

Thought for Today

"I encourage you to bear witness to Christ in your personal life and families: a witness of gratuitousness, solidarity, spirit of service."
 Pope Francis

Home Instead Senior Care

We are currently looking for Carers in the Ballincollig to assist our clients in the local community.
 Please contact Richard O'Connell at 021-4307907.