

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



**St. Mary & St. John
Station Road**

Sunday 15-December-2019

Third Sunday of Advent

The coming of Christ brought joy to the world as He healed every sickness and overcame human deprivation. For those who suffer, the joy of Christ's first coming must be tempered by patience as they await their restoration at his Second Coming.



**Christ Our Light
Innishmore**

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 will take place on Monday 16th December
in the Church of Christ our Light at 8 pm***

Reflection for Parents

It would have appeared to Jesus that John began to doubt. Perhaps it was the confinement of prison that let his mind question what he once so clearly understood. But even so, Jesus affirmed John in this scripture as the greatest of all prophets. From this experience, it is reassuring as parents to know that even when we doubt, either ourselves or God, we are still great in God's eyes. Our strength is in knowing God is with us as a loving parent.

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"



The Advent Wreath

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.

Come. Lord. and save us.

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 :

Seamus Broolly, Derry.
 Billy Power, Glendower Estate.
 Mary Lehane, Muskerry Estate.

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

Richard Flanagan, Passage West/Castlepark.
 Susan O'Driscoll, Carrigdenne.
 Tom & Rose Scanlon, Bishopstown.
 Sheila, Ted & Paul O'Mahony, Barrack Street.
 Robert Tyrell, Oaklee, Carrigrohane.
 Georgina Jackson-Bucci, Cork.
 Patrick Jackson, Dubliin.
 Patricia O'Donovan, Raheen.
 Dec members of O'Donovan & Ring families.
 Denis Buttimer, Toames.
 Teddy O'Leary, Maple Lawn.
 Hannah Long, Pine Walk.
 Denis & Ellen Hallahan, Ballingully.
 Pat & Mary Horgan, Upton.
 Con Delaney, Kilnaglory
 Bill & Kit Foley, Essex.
 Philip Joseph, India.
 Bella Maverley, Hawthorne Ave.
 Bridie Sexton, Hillsboro.
 Rose Crotty, Coolroe.
 Sean & Margaret Linehan, Churchfield.
 Joan & Harry Reardon, Carriganarra Estate.
 Aoibhin Power, Coolroe Meadows
 Sean & Elizabeth Crowley, Poulavone.
 John Coleman, Blackrock.

Church Vacancy

Applications are invited for the position of Sacristan at the

Church of Christ Our Light, Ballincollig.

This position can be fulltime or part-time, Is 25 hours a per week approximately and involves a range of duties.

Please apply in writing with references and applications to:

Fr. George O'Mahony,
 The Presbytery,
 Station Road,
 Ballincollig. Co. Cork.

Closing date for receipt of application Is 12 noon on December 23rd, 2019.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Third Week Of Advent

15 Sunday Is. 35:1-6, 10. Ps. 145. Jm. 5:7-10. Mt. 11:2-11. Lect I: 46

16 Monday Num. 24:2-7, 15-17. Ps. 24. Mt. 21:23-27. Lect I: 53

17 Tuesday Is. 49:2, 8-10. Ps. 71. Mt. 1:17 Lect I:76

18 Wednesday Jer. 23:5-8. Ps. 71. Mt. 1:18-24. Lect I:79

19 Thursday Judg 13:2-7, 24-25. Ps 70. Lk 1:5-25. Lect I: 81

20 Friday Is 7:10-14. Ps 23. Lk 1:26-38. Lect I: 83

21 Saturday Song 2:8-14 or Zeph 3:14-18. Ps 32. Lk 1:39-45. Lect I: 85

Next Sunday's Readings 22-December-2019

Is. 7:10-14. Ps. 23. Rom. 1:1-7. Mt. 1:18-24. Lect I:68

BAPTISMS

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

Aude Michelle Ywuong Botsimbo, An Caislean.
 Nell Ywuong Botsimbo, An Caislean.
 Clodagh Louise O'Sullivan, Lisheen Woods.
 Alex Morgan O'Donovan, Miller Court, Old Quarter.
 Faye Adrienne O'Donovan, Miller Court, Old Quarter.
 Leon James O'Flynn, Castlepark.

THE SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading: Isaiah 35:1-6, 10
 Isaiah now describes the joy of the kingdom. Advent is a time of gladness because we know that Christ is coming.

Second Reading: St. James 5:7-10
 The prophets of old were teachers; they spoke God's truth. The second reading reminds us to take them as our models.

Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11.
 John the Baptist had disciples of his own and while in prison he sent some of them to Jesus. At John's request, the disciples asked Jesus if he was the Messiah or were they to wait for another. Jesus did not answer them directly, but pointed to the miracles he had performed in the name of God's love. If John himself did not wonder, it was likely that his followers did. Jesus did not fit the image of "Messiah," and so it was possible that people began to doubt their original perception.

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PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Priest

Let us raise our hearts in prayer, that our faith may grow stronger, our love more concrete and our hope more lively.

Reader

May the church always proclaim the happiness of those who keep faith in Christ.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For those who oppose and mistrust faith, may they be confirmed in their faith.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For those who suffer doubt, who wonder if Christ is really the answer to the longings of their heart.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

Even in his imprisonment, John the Baptist sought to understand Jesus. May life hardships and challenges not deflect Christians from following Christ as their Lord and Master.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

May our faithful departed take their place in the kingdom of heaven with St. John the Baptist and all the saints.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For a moment, we remember in silence our own particular needs.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

Priest

Give us joyful hearts, Father, on our Advent journey, as we make these and all our prayers. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

***Review of Safeguarding
Diocese of Cork and Ross***

The Diocese of Cork and Ross has invited the National Board for Safeguarding Children in the Catholic Church in Ireland (NBSCCCI) to conduct a review of safeguarding practice. This review will take place from January 20th – 23rd 2020. If you have any views about Safeguarding in Cork and Ross, we invite you to come forward to Ms. Cleo Yates, Director of Safeguarding, Diocesan Offices, Diocese of Cork and Ross, Redemption Road Cork (021 4301717) or to the NBSCCCI (01-5053124). If you wish to report a child safeguarding concern, please contact Ms. Cleo Yates, An Garda Síochána or TUSLA

Carol Service

Church of St Mary & St John
Sunday 15th December, at 7.00pm

Bulletin Board

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.

Autumn Dues

The priests of the Parish would like to thank you for returning the Autumn Dues Envelopes. Your continued support is much appreciated.

Family Mass

The next Children’s Mass for children in second class preparing for their first Holy Communion will take place on Sunday 15th 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.

Pope John Paul 11 Award for Young People

In our diocese the John Paul 11 awards for young people 16+ were launched by Bishop Fintan Gavin in conjunction with the Pastoral Development Office. In our parish we will introduce this award in January 2020. If you are interested in participating as a young person or if you would like to know more about what the award involves please contact the Parish Office, Phone 021 4871206.

Car Parking

People have an expectation that their cars will be safe while attending Mass or other Church Services.

On Sunday December 8th a car parked on Station Road was damaged. The Culprit might come forward and own up to the damage. If you know of anything untoward happening you might be good enough to let us know.

Mass Diaries

Mass Diaries to book Mass intentions for January, February and March opened in both churches on Saturday 14th December.

Priority will be given to those booking 1st Anniversary Mass.

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. Thank you for your generosity and we look forward to your support for the coming year.

Fr. George & Fr. Cian

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

Dec-21 & Dec-22-2019

St. Mary & St. John

Christ Our Light

6:00 pm (Vigil)
Karen Sheehan
Darragh Lankford
8:30 am
Pat Fennell
Kate Healy
10:00 am
Oisín Morin
Emer Conway
12:00 Noon
Dia Harry Thomas

7:30 pm (Vigil)
Rebecca Feely
Siobhan Keane
11:00 am
Jamie O'Sullivan
12:30 pm
Brian Dore
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	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	



MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

Dec-21 & Dec-22-2019

St. Mary & St. John

Christ Our Light

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

8:30 am Mary Buckley
Mary B. Murphy

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

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

7:30 pm Sheila O'Connor
Brid Healy-Harris
Kit Cahill
Mary Murphy

11:00 am Angela Cunningham
Laurence Cunningham
Eileen Byrne
Bernadett Spillane
David Mahony

12:30 pm Eileen Garvey
Betty Walsh
Theresa O'Driscoll

5:30 pm Sheila Curran
Margaret Kelly
Noelle Buckley

Winter Time Crime Prevention, Crime Prevention for your Home

Break-ins at wintertime occur mostly in hours of darkness, lock up and light up.

- Always have doors and windows locked and secure.
- Light up your home, use indoor timer switches. Ensure outdoor sensor lighting are working.
- Replace any broken or loose window handles.
- Have an alarm in place, use it when away from your home.
- Keep side gates locked. If away from your home for a lengthy period of time, invite a neighbour to park one of their cars in your driveway.

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.
- Where practicable remove expensive work gear and tools from vehicles when parked overnight. Don't leave cash in your vehicle while working/visiting your place of work.
- Ensure pedal cycles are kept securely indoors, take note of serial numbers or distinctive marks.
- Keep keys out of sight, avoid fishing of keys (where a fishing rod/pole with a hook is pushed through a letter box to remove keys from hallway table).

Funeral Pastoral Team Rota

16-Dec-2019 to 22-Dec-2019

Michael O'Leary
Kay O'Sullivan

PARISH CLERGY

Priest on Duty	087-2479140
Fr. George O'Mahony P.P.	021-4871206
Fr. Cian O'Sullivan C.C.	021-4876171

A thought for Today

Perhaps the most radical statement
Jesus ever made is

"Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate".

Ballincollig Garda Station contact number 021-4214680