

# THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



St. Mary & St. John  
Station Road

Sunday 08-May-2022

Fourth Sunday of Easter  
(World Day of Prayer for Vocations)

*Like Paul and Barnabas, those whose vocation it is to preach the gospel, will meet opposition. Today we are encouraged by the thought that the Christ we serve knows his people intimately and promises them eternal life--no opposition can snatch them from the Father's love.*



Christ Our Light  
Innishmore

## Vocations Sunday

On this 4th Sunday of Easter the Gospel is always taken from the 10th chapter of John where Jesus speaks of himself as the "Good Shepherd". Jesus declares that he knows his sheep and they know him and they cannot be separated.

Everyone who is entrusted with the care of others is a shepherd. Hence priests, parents, teachers, doctors, nurses, government officials and caregivers, among others, are all shepherds. We become good shepherds by loving those entrusted to us, praying for them, spending our time, talents and blessings for their welfare and guarding them from physical and spiritual dangers.

Parents should be especially careful of their duties toward their children, giving them good example and praying with and for them. Since good priests, deacons and people embracing the consecrated life come from good Christian families, all Christian parents need to live their faith on a daily basis.

On this day we are asked to pray that the Church may be provided with 'good shepherds', the leaders needed to do its work of spreading the Gospel. We know that at the present time there is a shortage of such leaders, at least in the traditional sense – priests and religious. We should pray for new vocations.

But, in fact, every single one of us has a vocation. God is calling every single one of us to work for the Gospel. For a small number it may be as a priest or religious – and that call can come at any time in one's life. But there are hundreds of other ways of serving the Church and helping to build up the Christian community.

A huge thank you to those, ordained and lay people, who pray for vocations every day. This a good opportunity for our parish community in Ballincollig to thank Fr. Cian, who besides being curate here, is also the Diocesan Director of Vocations and does his best to help those discerning their vocation to become a priest or a religious.

Lord, we thank you for your unwavering support of us as our Shepherd. We thank you for those who act as your instruments of this deep love and commitment. Help us to fulfill our roles of shepherding your people, the people you have placed in our lives. May we never run from the responsibility to those you have called us. Jesus, we trust in you.

Let us pray for all leaders of the Church that they may truly imitate the Good Shepherd.

Let us pray that all those called to the priesthood and the consecrated life may respond with courage and generosity.

'Know that he, the Lord, is God.

He made us, we belong to him,

we are his people, the sheep of his flock' (Ps 99:3)

*Fr. Kamil Bachara*

## Prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood in the Diocese of Cork and Ross

Loving God, at baptism you have gifted each of us with a call to serve you and all people in everything we do.

Give us the strength to share your message of love, justice, hope and peace in every part of our Diocese of Cork and Ross.

We ask you, Lord, for the gift of new vocations to priesthood in our diocese.

In your fatherly care, accompany those who are seeking to know your will for them.

Inspire those you invite to serve as priests and fill them with the courage to answer that call.

Through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

*Please take a prayer card*

*We are his people, the sheep of his flock.*

Visit Our Website: [www.ballincolligparish.ie](http://www.ballincolligparish.ie) or Facebook [www.facebook.com/BallincolligParish](https://www.facebook.com/BallincolligParish)

† IN SYMPATHY †  
PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF THE RECENTLY DECEASED :

Tim Walsh, Dublin & Ballinhassig.  
Imelda Horgan (nee Lyons), Inniscarra & Conna.  
Ann O'Sullivan, Carrigrohane & Ovens.  
Donal O'Leary, Dunmanway.

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

Kathleen Murphy, Clash.  
Pat Burke, West Village.  
Rody & Maureen Hayes, Donegal.  
Jerry & Kitty Hallahan, Kilmichael.  
James O'Donoghue, West Village.  
Essie Buttimer, Macroom.  
Niamh Nolan, Farran.  
Timmy & Teresa Devane, Annascaul.  
Doris O'Sullivan, Glasheen.  
John O'Mahony, Carriganarra.  
Paddy & Nora Lucey, Carriganarra.  
Olive Henchy, Ballyburden.  
Aine Harkin, Classes Lake.

**Reflection for Parents**

Our culture has changed since the days of our parents and grandparents when just about anyone dropped in at any time. We now call ahead and make arrangements for our children to visit friends. In comparing our own day to 50 years ago, we begin to really appreciate the invitation of Jesus to follow him, just as we are, anytime of the day or night. Where would we be if we had to call ahead to see if Jesus was available. Today, we celebrate Good Shepherd Sunday, which is also the Day of Prayer for Vocations. We rejoice that we are God's people, the sheep of his flock, and we pray that the Lord will send labourers to the harvest.

**The Synod, our Diocese and Parishes**

It's not every day that the Holy Father asks every Catholic in the world to have a say in the life of the Catholic Church! During this month of May, our diocese will be opening up ways for people to have a say and to listen and have an input into next year's Synod meeting in Rome which is called by Pope Francis.

The easiest way to find out more and to have your say is to go to <http://synod.corkandross.org> where an online confidential questionnaire is available to be filled in. (It'll take about 15 minutes.)

It's open until May 24th. All the responses will be collated and added to the feedback from meetings being held across the diocese with randomly selected groups during May. A summary document will be forwarded from our diocese at the end of May. So, it's time to have your say at <http://synod.corkandross.org>.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Fourth Week Of Easter

08 Sunday Acts 13:14, 43-52. Ps. 99. Apoc. 1:9, 14-1, Jn. 10:27-30. Lect I: 493

09 Monday Acts 1:1-18. Ps 41. Jn 10:1-10. Lect I: 496

10 Tuesday Acts 11: 19-26. Ps. 86. Jn. 10:22-30. Lect 1:499

11 Wednesday Acts 12:24-13:5. Ps. 66. Jn. 12:44-50. Lect I: 501

12 Thursday Acts 13: 13-25. Ps. 88. Jn. 13: 16-20. Lect I:503

13 Friday Acts 13:26-33. Ps. 2. Jn. 14: 1-6. Lect I: 505

14 Saturday Acts 1: 15-17. Ps. 112. Jn. 15:9-17. Lect I: 1023

**Bulletin Board**

*First Holy Communion*

Congratulations to the boys in Scoil Eoin who received the sacrament of Holy Communion today/yesterday. Please pray for the boys and girls in Gaelscoil Uí Ríordáin who will receive the sacrament of Holy Communion on Saturday next Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May. Sincere thanks to the parents and dedicated teachers who work diligently preparing young people for the sacrament

*Trocaire Boxes*

Please return Trocaire Boxes to the schools or to the church; when returned the money will be lodged in the Trocaire Account.

*Parish Council Message*

We , the parish council invite and welcome people from Ukraine, to attend coffee and tea mornings and receive free English classes, every Saturday morning at 11am in the Sonas house on Station road

*First Holy Communion Dates 2022*

Gaelscoil Uí Ríordáin	Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup> May
Scoil Mhuire	Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup> May
Gaelscoil an Chaisleáin	Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup> May
Scoil Barra	Saturday 28 <sup>th</sup> May

Fr. Alan

First Reading: Acts 13:14. 43-52

Paul and Barnabas preach the gospel with courage and with joy.

Second Reading: Apoc. 7.9. 14-17

We are given a vision of a heavenly scene, where the re-deemed are gathered around the throne of The Lamb.

Gospel: John 10:27-30

There are two notions that need to be taken on faith as they are presented in the Gospel passage where Jesus identifies himself as the Good Shepherd. The first mystery is that those who are given the gift of faith to hear the invitation Jesus presents, will follow him. The second mystery involves the unbreakable bond that exists between the Shepherd and the person who hears the invitation. Once a person responds to the invitation, he or she belongs to God forever.