

# THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



St. Mary & St. John  
Station Road

Sunday 13-December-2009

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

## Christmas Attitudes

Advent is a time of preparation for Christmas, John the Baptist shows us how. Anticipating the coming of Jesus, he cried, "prepare the way of the Lord." As we prepare a way for the Lord in our lives, we may reflect on what our attitudes to Christmas should be, our attitudes to life at this time. John preached repentance, a changing of attitudes from selfishness to generosity. Our Advent preparation must include striving for honesty and integrity. God comes to make a change for the better, his coming is something to be eagerly anticipated, he is coming to save us, to rescue us from sin, fear, unhappiness and death. And the Baptist tells us: "be content;" an attitude of contentment may not be in tune with our consumerist society, but it does bring happiness and the freedom to enjoy what we have. Jesus tells us that life is more than food and clothes, more than material goods.

Christmas is a time of giving, giving presents to those we love, giving gifts to those in need. It is a time of sharing; giving of our surplus to ensure others have food and clothes, have the basic necessities of life. We need to remember that religious observance without generous giving is worthless, and that it is more blessed to give than to receive. We wish each other "Happy Christmas," and St Paul says to the Philippians, and to us, that God wants us to be happy. "Rejoice in the Lord always, again I say rejoice." If we find our joy in the Lord, we will be without worry or fear, and experience a peace beyond human understanding, the peace of God. The promise of Jesus is: "My peace I leave you, my own peace I give you." And as we hope to rejoice in the peace of God this Christmas, it is good to remember that God rejoices in us. Zephaniah tells us that "He will exult in joy over you," that is, over us. We pray for an attitude of thankfulness, that our prayer may be from a thankful heart, grateful and gracious. We pray for an attitude of acceptance of God's salvation, of the message of Christ. As we pray for joy and peace this Christmas, we pray also that the peace of God will renew our attitudes and guard our hearts.

Billy O'Sullivan

The SVP Annual Christmas Collection will be taken up at all Masses this weekend of 12th / 13th December. May we take this opportunity to thank our priests, sacristans, our church-gate collectors, the indoor church collectors and all who help in various ways and to whom we are greatly indebted.

**We wish you all, Peace and Goodness for Christmas.**

*"Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."*  
SVP Ballincollig

### 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"



## PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

### Priest

St Paul tells us in the Second Reading: 'if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God with praise and thanksgiving'. Let us present our needs before the Lord:

### Reader

For all who follow Christ; that they may be joyful in their following and enthusiastic in speaking of their faith.

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

For all who work in public service; that they may promote justice and support the most needy groups in society.

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

We pray for the gift of tolerance; that we may learn to accept the perceived failings of others.

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

We pray for those who are living in poverty; that those with something to eat may share with those who have nothing.

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

We pray that we may become more and more a community that actively cares for and protects the most vulnerable sections of our society.

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

For those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith; that they may be raised to eternal life.

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

### Priest

Father in heaven, with you in our midst we have nothing to fear. Hear the prayers we make through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen.

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

**Visit Our Website: [www.ballincolligparish.ie](http://www.ballincolligparish.ie)**

**BAPTISMS**

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

Kate Anne Hannigan, The Willows Classes Lake.  
 Heather Ashling McCormack, The Lawn, Coolroe Meadows.  
 Tadhg Eoghan Guerin Tuohy, The Vale, Coolroe Meadows.  
 Saidhbh Ellen Randle, Ballyshonen, Waterfall.  
 Donnacha Anderson O’Riordan, The Grove, Wyndham Downs.  
 Siun Bernadette Henchy, Ballyburden.

† **IN SYMPATHY** †

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

Helen Walsh, Horgans Buildings.  
 Liam Wool, Silversprings.  
 Tim Murphy, Kenmare.  
 Niall Fitzsimons, Cork & Ballyferriter.  
 Eileen Hanley, Adrigole & Bristol.  
 Mary Russell, Limerick.  
 Jim O’Mahony, Dublin.  
 John Manning Ballyphehane.

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

Mary Drinan, Waterfall.  
 Aoibhinn Power, Coolroe Meadows.  
 John O’Donnell, Donegal.  
 Tommy Daly.  
 Paul Wall, Churchfield.  
 Eric Scott, Coolroe.  
 Maureen Cuddihy, Coolroe.  
 John & Josephine Cuddihy, Silvermines, Tipperary.  
 John & Mary O’Leary, Ovens.  
 Patrick O’Donovan, The Crescent.  
 Martin Cuddihy, Silvermines, Tipperary.  
 The Aherne family, Fr Sexton Park.  
 Joseph Casey, Friars Walk.  
 Bridget & Michael O’Regan, Carriganarra.  
 Beatrice Shanahan, Fr Sexton Park.  
 Dan & Ann Kenny, McCurtain Villas.  
 Betty Hickey, Los Angeles.  
 Margaret & Joseph Barry, Dublin.  
 Mary Lucey, Carriganarra.  
 Mary Creed, Woodside & Inniscarra View.  
 Nancy Hogan, The Crescent.  
 Seamus O’Donovan, Maple Lawn, Muskerry Estate.  
 Frank O’Donovan, Raheen & Blackrock.  
 Sean Coakley, “Hillview” Muskerry Estate.  
 Daniel & Margaret Murphy, Knockburden.  
 Daniel Murphy, Bray .  
 Anthony McCarthy, Castlepark.

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Third Week Of Advent**

13 Sunday Zech. 3: 14-18. Ps. Is. 12. Phil. 4:4-7. Lk. 3: 10.18. Lect I: 51  
 14 Monday Num. 24:2-7, 15-17. Ps. 24. Mt. 21:23-27. Lect I: 53  
 15 Tuesday Zeph. 3:1-2,9-13. Ps. 33. Mt. 21:28-32 Lect I: 56  
 16 Wednesday Is 45:6-8, 18, 21-26. Ps 84. Lk 7:19-23. Lect I: 58  
 17 Thursday Gen. 49:2,8-10. Ps. 71. Mt. 1 :17. Lect I: 76  
 18 Friday Jer. 23:5-8. Ps. 71. Mt. 1:18-24. Lect I: 79  
 19 Saturday Jdg. 13:2-7, 24-25a. Ps. 70. Lk. 1 :5-25. Lect I: 81

**Next Sunday’s Readings 20-December-2009**

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

***A Birthday Present for Baby Jesus***

The plan is, during Advent, for each child to do an extra ‘job’ around the house to earn a coin (20c is the maximum allowed per child per week)

There will be a box to collect the coins in front of the altar at the Children’s Mass each week.

On the last Sunday of Advent we will count the money and the children, as a group, will choose a gift for that value (or thereabouts) from one of the charity gift catalogues.

The gift certificate will be brought to the altar at the Children’s Mass on Christmas Eve as a Birthday present for Baby Jesus from the children.

We have a number of aims in organising this project:

- To emphasise that Christmas is Jesus’ Birthday
- To show that Advent is a time for preparation for Christmas - and the little ‘jobs’ that the children do to help at home are a positive way to prepare.
- To show the children that they can make a difference.
- To show that small efforts, when joined together, can add up to something big.
- To encourage the children to think of those less fortunate.

If you would like to see the gifts available and maybe discuss them with your child - most of the charities have catalogues on their website.

***The Gift of a Vegetable Garden***

Joseph and Mary were forced to become refugees when they left Bethlehem for Egypt to protect Jesus. There are many millions of modern day refugees in our world today. On your behalf Trocaire tries to ensure their safety and survival. Trócaire gave Joseph (17), a young refugee, and his mother seeds, tools and training when they returned to their home after years living in a refugee camp in Uganda. Joseph grows beans, potatoes, millet, cabbage and egg-plant in his family’s vegetable garden. This year for €25 / £22 you can help many people in India plant seeds of hope.

To order your gift log onto [www.trocaire.org/globalgift](http://www.trocaire.org/globalgift) or call 1850 408 408 (ROI) 0800 912 1200 (NI)

**CROWLEY FUNERAL DIRECTORS**

*Bóthar Saclay, Ballincollig, Co. Cork  
 Tel: 021-4874777 Mobile: 087-2759254*

*Email: [michaelfd@eircom.net](mailto:michaelfd@eircom.net)  
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**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.

**Scout news**

Last weekend the Scout Bazaar was held and once again the people of Ballinacollig and the Businesses rowed in behind us in donating goods for which we are very grateful and say a big Thank You. We would like also to thank all the Beavers, Maccoimh, Scouts, leaders and Parents who worked so hard over the weekend to make it a success.

All the sections are very busy, on the meeting nights the Maccoimh and scouts are learning knots such as figure of eight, clove hitch, and reef knot.

With Christmas coming this is what Baden-Powell had to say about Courtesy, a word and deeds which seems to have gone out of fashion.

“And look here! Here is a very important bit of courtesy that is often forgotten, but which a true Scout will never omit, and that is to **thank** for any kindness you receive. **A present is not yours till you have thanked for it.** You have not finished your camp, even if you have packed up your kit and cleaned up the ground, until you have thanked the owner for the use of it and have thanked God for giving you a good time. (1932)

*Many a young Scout comes out of his shell because the rest of his Patrol egg him on.*

**ADVENT EARLY MORNING PRAYER**

There is no better way to start off your day, than to pray. Come to the MORNING PRAYER of the CHURCH, taking place during Advent. Come to St. Mark's Centre (opposite Christ Our Light Church) Mon. — Fri. at 6 am. Starting Mon. 30<sup>th</sup> Nov. **EVERYONE WELCOME.**

**Muskerry Local History Society**

Lecture on Tuesday December 15th on the Life and Works of sculptor Joseph Higgins will be delivered by Dermot O'Donovan at the Ballinacollig R.F.C. Hall at 8 o'clock. Open to the public. Admission fee €3. Higgins was born in 1885 and attended Ballinacollig National School. His son in law was the renowned sculptor Seamus Murphy.

**Would you like to help a street child this Christmas?**

Chose a Gift of Hope: school shoes, €5; school uniform, €10; educational toys and gifts, €15; A Hospital Care Pack, €20; and many more to help the poorest children in Calcutta. Gifts available from Cork charity The Hope Foundation. Tel: 021 4292990 or Visit: [www.hopefoundation.ie](http://www.hopefoundation.ie)

**Bulletin Board**

**Mass Book**

Diaries to book Mass Intentions for January, February & March will open in both Churches on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 9.00 am.

**Penitential Service**

**St Mary & St John's Church**

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> December, 2009 at 8 pm

**Christmas Cards**

Christmas Cards are available for sale in the Sacristy and Parish Office.

**Carol Service**

St Mary & St John' Church

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30 pm

**Autumn Dues.**

The Priests of the parish would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your generosity. Your generosity is very much appreciated.

**Offertory Collection**

Envelopes for the offertory collections for 2010 are now available in both churches. There is one envelope for each Sunday in every box and it is an opportunity for every member of the family to contribute. The offertory collection is solely for the upkeep, maintenance, insurance, lighting, heating and related expenses of both churches. Thank for your generosity and we look forward to your support for the coming year.

**Fr. George.**



Please visit our website  
[www.ijs.ie](http://www.ijs.ie)

**New content:**

Centenary year - Magnificat  
History - An exchange of gifts  
Reflection - December

**Bake Sale**

Cakes, Buns, Scones, Christmas Cakes.

**When!!** - Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December, 2009

**Where!!** – Christ Our Light Church  
(After 11 am Mass)

All Proceeds to the **Hope Foundation.**

**Rejoice**

1. Rejoice at his coming into our lives, especially in holy communion.
2. Show an act of kindness to someone you have neglected
3. Thank god in prayer for his kindness to you

**Scoil Barra 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Calendar**

Scoil Barra opened its doors to students 25 years ago this year. To celebrate this event a **Calendar** has been launched. If you are a past pupil of Scoil Barra, you can get your copy from the School Office during school hours for just €3. Your photo might be in it!!

**Foster Carers**

‘Have you considered becoming a Foster Carer, could you foster a child or young person, if you would like to find out more about fostering please contact 1850 211 593’

**Make a Child in Hospital Smile**

Join our volunteer Team

Volunteers give two/three hours once a week (either morning, afternoon or evening- Monday to Friday) Training and on-going support is provided. Local 1890 252 682 Email: [info@childreninhospital.ie](mailto:info@childreninhospital.ie) Web: [childreninhospital.ie](http://childreninhospital.ie)

**MINISTERS OF THE WORD**

Dec-19 & Dec-20-2009

**St. Mary & St. John**

**Christ Our Light**

**6:00 pm (Vigil)**  
Muireann Nelligan  
**8:30 am**  
Niamh Gallagher  
**10:00 am**  
Eileen O'Connell  
Diaandra Buckley  
**12:00 Noon**  
Tony Lynch  
Even Keating

**7:30 pm (Vigil)**  
Fiona Feely  
**11:00 am**  
Aisling O'Leary  
Amy McCarthy  
**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	<b>Sunday</b>	11 am, 12:30 pm & 5:30 pm
9:30 am	<b>Monday</b>	8:30 am
9:30 am	<b>Tuesday</b>	8:30 am
9:30 am	<b>Wednesday</b>	8:30 am
9:30 am	<b>Thursday</b>	8:30 am
9:30 am	<b>Friday</b>	8:30 am
10:00 am & 6 pm (Vigil)	<b>Saturday</b>	7:30 pm (Vigil)

**CONFESSIONS**

After 10:00 am Mass & before 6:00 pm Mass **Saturday**

**BAPTISMS**

4:30 pm	<b>Saturday</b>	4:30 pm
Except First Saturday of Month		First Saturday of Month
12:45 pm	<b>Sunday</b>	



**MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST**

Dec-19 & Dec-20-2009

**St. Mary & St. John**

**Christ Our Light**

**6.00 pm** Eileen Murphy  
Ted Nelligan  
Angela Murphy  
Ann O'Connell  
Sheila Walshe  
Ann McCarthy

**7:30 pm** John O'Donoghue  
Mary Dineen  
Kathleen Daly  
Mairead Keenan

**8:30 am** Helen Kelly  
Mary O'Connor  
Michael Crowley

**11:00 am** Mary O'Mahony  
Mona Bowen  
Billy Barry  
Mary Aylward  
Pauline Baston

**10:00 am** Miriam Maunsell  
Mary Buckley  
Breda Ring  
Mary O'Regan  
John Henchy  
Martin O'Leary

**12:30 pm** Mary Twomey  
Maura O'Driscoll  
Mary Lehane  
Dympna Byrne  
Suzanne Leetch

**12 Noon** Ann-Marie Cosgrove  
Pat Kelleher  
Phil Kennedy  
Ellen O'Sullivan  
Ursula McAuliffe  
Sally Crowley

**5:30 pm** Shelia Curran  
Elizabeth O'Sullivan

**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 021-4873308**



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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.**

**Free Hamper Giveaway**



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**Offer open from now to Christmas**

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