

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



St. Mary & St. John
Station Road

Sunday 14-January-2007

Second Sunday In Ordinary Time

A wedding is a time for joyful celebration; it is a time of hope and promise. According to John the wedding at Cana marked the beginning of Jesus' ministry. It showed the joy and plenty that his coming brings because in him, God's promised love is present reality.



Christ Our Light
Innishmore

No shortage of Wine at Cana!

Perhaps you are one of the people who got engaged over Christmas. If so, Congratulations! Like many couples who plan to get married this year, you will need to plan and prepare for your wedding. Please contact one of the priests in the parish in good time and you will be given all the help and advice you need to plan for a Christian celebration of marriage that is personalized for you. A good web site to get you started is www.gettingmarried.ie The gospel reading of today has a connection with marriage and is a popular choice at wedding liturgies.

It deals with the story of the wedding at Cana. Jesus and some of his disciples and his mother were guests. Jesus performs an astounding miracle - in terms of scale perhaps second only to the feeding of the multitude. Up to 180 gallons of water are turned into wine. An absolutely enormous amount! And yet this scale only seems to underline the enigmatic nature of what is going on here. You see, the miracles of our Lord usually occur in plain sight, with everyone present aware of what has taken place - the various healing miracles, for example. And often there is an element of public challenge and controversy about what Jesus has done - like, for example, healing on the Sabbath. But this miracle is different. It is rather involved-complicated even-and there is a strong element of dramatic irony in everything that happens: The steward knows he is sampling good wine when he tastes what is brought to him from the stone jars, but he does not know where it came from. The servants know where it came from, but they do not know that it is wine, at least not from their own experience. And do all the other wedding guests even know that a miracle has occurred?

As "the first of the signs" the Cana miracle points us toward the mysterious story that is to be unfolded for us throughout the Gospel. It warns us that this Gospel does not necessarily play by the rules of our expectations, and it suggests that there might be something un-bargained for at the end of it. Taken in this way, I would suggest that the symbolism of the wedding at Cana centers, not in various details of the story, but in the larger theme of the unimaginable generosity of God - a generosity that confounds our usual meanness of expectation. It is revealed in that huge amount of wine that Jesus produced - way, way more than could have ever possibly been needed. We are surely to understand that the gifts of Jesus extend well beyond meeting the needs of the moment.

So, shall we take that as our meaning today: the unimaginable, mystifying generosity of God, revealed enigmatically at a wedding in Cana, and speaking of a new order that is coming? Let us be open to experiencing the generosity of God in our lives this year.

Sean O'Driscoll

Reflection for Parents

The point Jesus wanted to illustrate by performing this sign was to introduce a change. Many scholars interpret the wedding as the new age and the huge stone jars represent the magnitude of the wonder. There is great abundance in the story and that is the message of the new order Jesus promises - God lavishes us with his abundant love and we come to know that love through

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Priest

Let us pray for the needs of the world, confident that our generous God hears our prayers.

Reader

We pray that the Church may reveal in our time, through the lives of Christians, the glory of God.

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

We pray for couples preparing for marriage, and for all agencies and persons who help and support married couples.

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

We pray for migrants, asylum seekers and refugees, that they may experience hospitality and the possibility of a better life in their adopted country.

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

We pray for all who suffer because of war or famine.

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

We pray for those making a fresh start in life, those who are taking up new employment or moving into new surroundings, that they may find the welcome and support they need.

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

We pray for the intentions of all here present.

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

Priest

Loving God, you come to the help of those in need. Hear our prayers which we make in the name of Jesus, your Son, who is Lord forever and ever.

Amen.

Proclaim the wonders of the Lord among all the peoples.

Visit Our Website: www.ballincolligparish.ie

BAPTISMS

WE WELCOME TO OUR COMMUNITY ALL THOSE WHO WERE BAPTISED RECENTLY :
 Pierrette Tonle Tetsowo, 43 Castle Avenue, Muskerry Estate.

† **IN SYMPATHY** †
PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF THE RECENTLY DECEASED :
 David O’Sullivan, Farranree.
 Alice O’Callaghan, Dundalk.
 Jimmy Lucey, Station Road, Bishopstown.
 Peggy Healy, Inniscarra.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS OF THE FOLLOWING WHOSE ANNIVERSARY OCCURS:
 Ellen Hallahan, Ballingulley.
 Frank Collins, Ballingulley.
 Dermot Cronin, Connolly Park.
 Alison Murphy, Wyndham Downs.
 John Comerford.
 Catherine Forbes.
 Deceased members of O’Mahony Family, Carriganarra.
 Patrick & Nora Riordan, Ballingearry.
 Maureen & Timothy O’Connell, Ballingulley.
 Daniel O’Riordan, Rathcoole.
 Josie O’Leary, Kilnaglory.
 Paddy & Margaret Kenneally, Curraheen Village.
 Eileen & Con O’Connor, Kanturk.
 John Hogan, Tipperary.
 Patrick Barry, Ardnacrostig.
 Mary & Raymond McKenna, Sharman Crawford Street.
 Thomas Reid, Curraheen.
 Brendan Lingwood, Bishopstown.
 Deceased members of the Maverly family, Quaker Road.
 Mary Nagle, Coachford.
 Jimmy Fitzgerald, Farranferris Park.
 Harry Lane, Pouladuff.
 Mary Knight, Muskerry Estate.
 Michael Whelan, Muskerry Estate.
 Dan, Hannah & Ellen Dempsey.
 Mona Hourigan, Co. Limerick.
 John O’Shea, Killarney.
 Michael Carroll, Coolroe.

The Marriage Feast of Cana is our invitation to what the Book of Revelation calls, the *Wedding of the Lamb*. We are not only children of God. We are invited to be in a spousal relationship with Him. From this bond there arises the security of knowing that we are in a covenant relationship with the King.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Second Week In Ordinary Time

- 14 Sunday Is 62: 1-5. Ps. 95. 1 Cor 12:4-11. Jn 2:1-11. Lect I: 838
- 15 Monday Heb 5:1-10. Ps 109. Mk 2:18-22. Lect II: 15
- 16 Tuesday Heb 6:10-20. Ps 110. Mk 2:23-28. Lect II: 17
- 17 Wednesday Heb 7:1-3, 15-17. Ps 109. Mk 3:1-6. Lect II: 19
- 18 Thursday Heb 7:25-8:6. Ps 39. Mk 3:7-12. Lect II: 21
- 19 Friday Heb 8:6-13. Ps 84. Mk 3:13-19. Lect II: 23
- 20 Saturday Heb 9:2-3, 11-14. Ps 46. Mk 3:20-21. Lect II: 25

Next Sunday’s Readings 21-January-2007
 Neh 8:2-6, 8-10. Ps 18. 1 Car 12:12-30. Lk 1:1-4, 4:14-21. Lect I: 841

Training Begins for New Ministers of the Eucharist

The recent appeal for new Ministers of the Eucharist has seen a very generous response from 24 people to date. Training begins on Thursday 18th next, at 7.30 pm in the Annex of the Parish Hall. All those currently serving as ministers are also welcome (think of this as a refresher!) to come and offer support to those embarking on the ministry.

Acknowledgement

David Holden acknowledges the receipt of € 100 left anonymously at his home address. This has been passed on to the SVP as requested with many thanks.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

The week of prayer for Church Unity commences on January 18th and continues to January 25th. This week is an opportunity for each of us to promote and pray for a better understanding of the various Christian traditions. Faith is a precious gift from God, let us be grateful for this great gift and learn to respect all people of Faith. This year an Ecumenical Prayer Service will be held in St Mary and St John’s on Sunday 28th January at 6 pm. Please make the effort to come along and join our Christian brothers and sisters in prayer.

Fr. George

Sick Or House Bound?

If you have a friend or relative who is sick, house bound or in hospital, please let the Priests of the Parish know,

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THE SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading: Is 62:1-5

God's people will be shown to be right; this will be their day of vindication. God will take his people to himself, like a bridegroom, like a new husband.

Second Reading: Cor 12:4-11

People have many different gifts. Nevertheless, the Church is united, because all these gifts come from the one God.

Gospel: John 2:1-11.

While the Wedding in Cana is a familiar story, it only appears in John's Gospel. Scholars call it the first of Jesus' signs.

Mary, Jesus' mother, observed that the wine was running low at a wedding feast she and Jesus were attending. She didn't specifically ask Jesus to do something about the situation, but he understood the implication. He instructed the servants to fill six stone jars with water and then take some to the waiter in charge. The waiter was surprised that the bridegroom had saved the best wine for last. The servants were surprised because they knew the jars were filled with water and they had witnessed something remarkable.

Ballincollig Parish Pastoral Council

The next meeting of the council will be held in the Annex Room, Community Centre on Monday January 15th at 7.45 pm

49th Cork Ballincollig Scout Group

The New Year has just started; all the sections have their plans in place for the coming 6 months. The following is an extract from the Troop log about a hike we went on in November.

Log written by Evan Keating.

We recently went on a Sunday hike to Mullaghanish (649m). It was a grand day out and everyone had lots of fun. Padraic led his Patrol the wrong way, while Keith and Jason's patrol arrived first which was great as I was happy to be on top of the hill first, ahead of Andrews Patrol, (with all his talk) Anyway all enjoyed and it passed away a wet Sunday. Despite almost getting Hypothermia, I enjoyed it.

Today if a Scout obeys you the first time he is spoken to , you should best have his temperature taken.

Suicide Helpline

1800 742 745

6 to 10 pm daily

The Southern Health Board will provide advice, support and assistance to individuals who are feeling suicidal and to family members, friends, professionals and others who know someone who is showing symptoms of depression, anxiety or who is threatening suicide or self-harm.

The Bible should fill the memory, rule the heart, and guide the feet. The Bible is meant not to inform, but to transform. Men do not reject the Bible because it contradicts itself but because it contradicts them.

Today is World Day for Migrants and Refugees

Home is the place where, when you have to go there, they have to take you in.

Robert Frost looks at the more unusual scenario. Usually, home is the place where we want to go - a place associated with special times like Christmas or New Year, occasions like Mother's Day, celebrations like birthdays or simply a leisurely, long weekend. And even when home is the place to which we go only when we have to, we, nevertheless, still have that place which we can call home'.

For refugees, home is the place which they had to flee, and mostly at very short notice, it is not just four walls that are left behind but cherished belongings - even those as apparently insignificant as a child's trinket, a faded photograph or a cap knitted by a beloved granny. Often, too, there is no choice but to leave without personal documents such as birth certificates, passports, records of education and employment. Left behind, too, are village, town or countryside, fields or garden, church and school. But, above all, a refugee loses family and neighbours - sometimes forever. Dear ones, even when their lives are spared, are often forced to go in various directions, never again to be reunited. In an instant, language, signs, symbols and surroundings, all those everyday channels of meaning and understanding, are wiped out. With the loss of the most intimate people, experiences, and places, it is as if all that was familiar, the whole of one's past life, is forever erased.

Today, we remember the 35 million people who are refugees - and outside their home country - or who are uprooted and displaced within their country. We remember, too, the 250 million international migrants in the world today many of whom had no choice but to leave home for the sake of the livelihood of themselves and their families.

Epiphany - the manifestation of God's love for all peoples everywhere - assures us Jesus has come among us as the brother of all. It challenges us too to be universal sister and brother, to hunger and thirst for justice and, like Jesus, to open our hearts to the stranger.

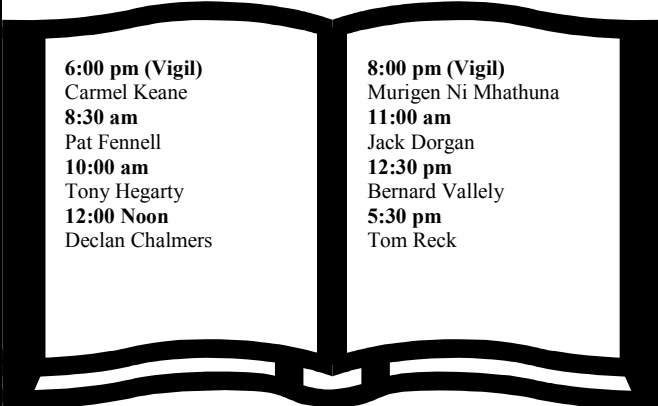
Concern about Mass Cards.

A number of Irish Bishops have expressed concern about pre - signed Mass cards that are on sale in some shops. Some of these cards bear illegible names and others bear names that are not known on the missions or by members of religious orders. I have received queries from benefactors who are concerned about this practice. These cards are made available to the shops for one euro fifty cents and sold on by the shops for four or five euro. The Bishops advise Catholics not to buy these cards

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

Jan-20 & Jan-21-2007

St. Mary & St. John Christ Our Light



6:00 pm (Vigil)
Carmel Keane
8:30 am
Pat Fennell
10:00 am
Tony Hegarty
12:00 Noon
Declan Chalmers

8:00 pm (Vigil)
Murigen Ni Mhathuna
11:00 am
Jack Dorgan
12:30 pm
Bernard Vallely
5:30 pm
Tom Reck



MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

Jan-20 & Jan-21-2007

St. Mary & St. John Christ Our Light

6.00 pm	Eileen Murphy Ted Nelligan Angela Murphy Ann O'Connell Sheila Walshe Betty Sheehan	8:00 pm	John O'Donoghue Mary Dineen Kathleen Daly
8:30 am	Helen Kelly Annette Murphy Mary O'Connor	11:00 am	Mary O'Mahony Mona Bowen Billy Barry Mary Aylward
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
12 Noon	John Walshe Pat Kelleher Irene O'Brien Ellen O'Sullivan Chris Cotter Sally Crowley	5:30 pm	Garreth Irish Sheila O'Connor

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	8 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. Sean O'Driscoll C.C. 021-4870434
Fr. Anthony O'Mahony



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Fax: 021-4872532

Monday	Closed
Tuesday	9.30 – 5.00 pm
Wednesday	10.30 – 5.00 pm
Thursday	9.30 – 5.00 pm
Friday	9.30 – 5.00 pm
Saturday	9.30 – 12.30 pm

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Monday	9.30 – 5.00 pm
Tuesday	9.30 – 5.00 pm
Wednesday	10.30 – 5.00 pm
Thursday	9.30 – 7.30 pm
Friday	9.30 – 7.30 pm
Saturday	9.30 – 5.00 pm