

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



St. Mary & St. John
Station Road

Sunday 15-March-2015

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Jesus came among us to light our way to true humanity, our way to God. Our reaction to him is a sign of the kind of people we are. It is also a sign of what our future will be. Our judgement will depend on our faith in him.



Christ Our Light
Innishmore

St. Mary and St. Johns' 150 years / Mission

To date the 150 years jubilee of St. Mary and St. Johns' has been marked by three events. The most recent was the parish mission during the week of March 2nd to the 6th. Many hours of planning and preparation went into organising this mission. There were many encouraging features to the mission} the dedication and application of so many parishioners to ensure that no stone was left unturned in the preparation, the commitment of the Redemptorist team, Niamh, Fr Seamus and Fr Dan plus the support and attendance of many parishioners morning and evening during the mission. The comments and feedback is very encouraging. Looking forward to the coming events including St Patrick's Day parade.

The word of God this week gives prominence to the serpent, one of the ambiguous symbols of our traditions, going back to the book of Genesis with its serpent villain. Here in Ireland a land without snakes (thanks to St Patrick) the serpent lore is embedded in our ancient culture, with images of coiling serpents on Celtic manuscripts and high crosses. Like the serpent coiled around the standard familiar to us from its' association with pharmacies and medicine; this serpent owes its origin to the bronze serpent that Moses had fashioned and raised on a pole so that all who saw it could be healed. Christ recalls this story in the gospel today thus reclaiming, in the tradition of Moses, the image of the serpent as an image of healing. Christ comes as the antidote to the poison of sin introduced to creation by the serpent of the book of Genesis. Christ is the symbol of faithfulness and love, a sign of healing for the world. Christ in today's gospel reclaims the symbol itself so that the serpent becomes a sign of healing.

George O'Mahony

Reflection

Salvation, not being lost, and having eternal life are ideas which belong together. They are part of the way that our Christian tradition has tried to explain a fundamental insight into human nature, namely, that even before we commit individual acts of wrong doing, by our very nature as human beings, we are in need of a saviour. This need has been recognised by God and he has acted accordingly.

**Happy Mothers Day & St. Patricks Day
to all our Readers & Parishioners**

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Priest

God sent his son into the world so that we might have life through him. Let us pray to him with confidence for our own needs, and the needs of the church and the world.

Reader

For the followers of Christ: that they may walk in the light of truth and goodness.

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

For those holding public office: that the light of truth and justice may shine in their words and actions.

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

For the sick, the lonely, and those who are on a wrong course: that the light of Christ may shine gently on them.

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

For ourselves: that the words of Christ may be a lamp for our steps and a light for our path.

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

For all our departed brothers and sisters; that God's eternal light may shine brightly on them.

**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

God of love and mercy, you call us to walk in the light Christ your Son brought into our world of shadows. Free us from darkness and keep us in the radiance of truth. We ask this through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

O let my tongue cleave to my mouth if I remember you not!

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

BAPTISMS

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

Emily Marian Courtney, Parknamore Rise.
 Sebastian O'Connell, Coopers Grange Old Quarter.
 Michael Kayden Faulkner, An Caislean.
 Kevin Patrick Sweeney, Lee Valley Golf Club.
 Maja Grace Power, Poulavone Manor.
 Rowan Angelo Curtin, Tuairin Glas.

† IN SYMPATHY †

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

Jim Clarke, Westgate.
 Eileen McGurry, Rosewood.
 John O'Keeffe, Albert Road.

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

Nora Vaughan, Kilnamartyra.
 Kate Noonan, Innishmore.
 Willie & Marty Murphy, Kilmichael.
 Joe, Terry & Declan Butler, Inniscarra View.
 Jack & Valerie French, Cobh.
 Jerry & Kitty Hallahan, Kilmichael & Wales.
 Dan & Kathleen Dorgan, Powdermills.
 Nora Barry, Redemption Road.
 Madge & Joseph Owens, Blackpool.
 Daisy & Paddy Buckley, Farranree.
 John & Joe McCarthy, Lissydaniel, Ballydehob.
 Charles McCarthy, Lissydaniel, Ballydehob.
 Francis O'Sullivan, Station Road.
 Pat Murphy, Rosewood.
 Annie Cotter, Fr. Sexton Park.
 John O'Connell, Westcliffe.
 Donal O'Mahony, Wyndham Downs.
 Helen Kenneally, Beech Park.
 Frank Whelan, Maglin Vale.
 James O'Connell, Muskerry Estate.
 McCarthy family, Ballymacoda.
 Peg Kavanagh, Powdermills.
 Paddy Kinnane, Magazine Road.
 Neil McGroaty, Beech Park.
 Tim Murphy, Glountane.
 Denis Cremin, Bishopstown.
 Billy Wilson, Luton/Carlow.
 Tom & Joe Heaton, Pearse Road.
 Elizabeth & Gerard Higgins, Pouladuff.
 Mary Schwartu, Cloyne.
 John & Eleanor O'Mahony, Castletownbere.
 Eileen Foley, Castletownbere.
 Nancy Hogan, The Crescent.
 Neilie Cleary, Westgate & Ballydehob.
 Breda Ryan, Highfield.
 Bill Dwane, Douglas.
 Rita Kinsella, Blarney.
 Michael O'Leary, Ballinlough.
 Andrew & Joan O'Keeffe, Carrigrohane.
 Hamida Khatun Power.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Fourth Week of Lent

15 Sunday 2 Chron 36:14-16, 19-23. Ps 136. Eph 2:4-10. Jn 3:14-21. Lect I: 281
 16 Monday Is 65:17-21. Ps 29. Jn 4:43-54. Lect I: 290
 17 Tuesday Jer 1:4-9. Ps 116. Rom 10:9-18. Mk 16:15-20.
 18 Wednesday Is. 49:8-15. Ps. 144. In. 5: 17 -30. Lect I: 294
 19 Thursday 2 Sam 7:4-5, 12-14, 16. Ps. 88. Rom. 4: 13, 16-18, 22. Mt. 1:16, 18-21 or Lk. 2:41-51 Lect I: 970 or II: 980
 20 Friday Wis 2:1, 12-22. Ps 33. Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30. Lect I: 300
 21 Saturday Jer 11:18-20. Ps 7. Jn 7:40-52. Lect I: 303

Next Sunday's Readings 22/March/2015

Jer 31:31-34. Ps 50. Heb 5:7-9. Jn 12:20-30. Lect I: 310

THE SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading: 2 Chronicles 36: 14-16, 19-23
 The Sacred Writer sees the misfortunes of God's people as a well deserved punishment for their infidelity and sins. The King of Babylon (present day Iraq) conquered them, burned the Temple and took them away to his country between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers where they languished for seventy years. God, however, did not abandon his people. He brought about their liberation when the Persians came to power (present day Iran) and liberated them.

Second Reading: Ephesians 2: 4-10
 Just as God liberated and purified his people by sending the King of Persia to help them so he sent his only Son Jesus to liberate us from our sins. We did nothing to deserve this great gift. We are God's work of art.

Gospel: John 3: 14-21
 Salvation not judgment is the direct purpose of the mission of the Son of God. Men make their own judgment by their attitude to him. He who believes incurs no damnation. The unbeliever is already in a state of damnation because he has established himself as an unbeliever in the mission of Jesus. The person who confesses and accuses his sins is already on the side of God.

St. Patricks Day 2015

Get your club/organisation involved
 Contact admin@ballincollig.ie / or 086 0551911

CROWLEY FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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St. Patrick

In the 1990's, Brian Keenan and John McCarthy spent years in captivity after they were taken hostage in the Middle East. When they returned after undergoing an appalling and prolonged ordeal they were like two young men who had returned from the dead. They had lost some of the best years of their youth. They had been deprived of the company of their friends and had lived under the shadow of violent death during those long bitter years. No one would have been surprised if they returned as angry embittered men calling for a crusade of vengeance against their captors and the movements they supported. In fact both men returned as crusaders for peace and international understanding. Far from hating the men who inflicted so much suffering on them they had developed a respect for them and the points of view they held. The years of captivity had brought a new spiritual dimension to their lives.

Today we think of another man in another age yet similar in his experience of captivity. Patrick, in his autobiography, tells us that as a young man he had no interest in religious matters. He was too busy enjoying the good life of a young man in the comfortable and wealthy Roman world. All that ended when an Irish raiding party invaded his village and carried him off to slavery. In the cold and loneliness of his captivity he found the one from whom life takes its meaning. He wrote: "When I came to Ireland I was tending herds every day and I used to pray many times during the day. In the course of a single day I would say as many as a hundred prayers and almost as many in the night. Before dawn I used to be roused up to pray in snow or frost or rain. I never felt the worst for it."

Patrick suffered greatly at the hands of the Irish, yet he held not the slightest trace of bitterness towards them. This ability to forgive enabled him to be open to God's call to go back to the Irish to bring them the true Faith. The flowering of that Faith is still to be seen today in sophisticated works of art like the Ardagh chalice, the cross of Cong and the Book of Kells.

Landmarks of East Muskerry

Muskerry Local History Society are presenting an illustrated lecture on Landmarks of East Muskerry at 8.00 pm on Monday 16th March in Ballincollig Rugby Club. Tim O'Brien will present the show and he has taken a trip around the parishes of Blarney, Grenagh, Donoughmore, Inniscarra, Aghabullogue, Ovens, Kilmurry and Ballincollig to highlight some existing landmarks and to seek out information on many others that have long since faded into the background. Amongst the items being featured are the recently purchased Dripsey Castle; the round tower and its beautiful surrounds at Waterloo, near Blarney; the one time Speddings private school and temporary hospital in the famine era at Ballincollig; the former Howards Mills at Crookstown; Leader's Folly at Clonmoyle; Warren's Court in Kilmurry and the monument at Dripsey that commemorates the men killed by the British in 1921.

Bulletin Board

St Patrick's Day Tuesday 17th March Mass times

Christ Our Light
 Vigil Monday 16th 7.30pm
 Tuesday 17th , 12.30pm (Irish Mass) & 6.30pm
 St. Mary & St. John
 Tuesday 17th 8.30am & 10.00am & 8.00pm

Ballincollig St Patrick's Day Parade 2015

Ballincollig Parish would like to invite people of all cultures and denominations living in Ballincollig to walk with us in the St. Patrick's Day Parade on Tuesday 17th March at 3pm. Children must be accompanied by their parents.

Passover Meal

The Passover Meal will be celebrated on Tuesday 31st March. Limited to 50 people. Please phone Parish Office (021) 487 1206 if interested.

Morning & Evening Masses during Lent

Church of Christ Our Light 8.30am & 6.30pm
 St Mary & St John 9.30am & 8pm.

Spring Dues

Envelopes are currently being distributed to homes throughout the parish of Ballincollig; contribution of the dues is for the support of the priests of the parish. Please return it by placing it in the basket at Mass. Should your home be missed spare envelopes are available from the back of the church.

Baptism Preparation

The next Baptism preparation will take place on Saturday April 11th at 12.00 noon in the Annex, Community Hall, Station Road. The presentation lasts for approximately forty minutes. The following questions are addressed, What is Baptism? What are the symbols used in the Sacrament of Baptism? How can the family become involved in the ceremony? Parents might book the baptism a few weeks in advance to give ample time to take part in the preparation.

Children's Mass

The next Children's Mass for children in second class preparing for their first Holy Communion will take place this Sunday March 15th 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 the children commences in the main body of the church at 10.45am. The Children retire to the crying room where they celebrate the Liturgy of the Word in a child friendly fashion. They will return to the main church at the start of the offertory procession.

Mass Diaries

Mass Diaries to book Mass intentions for April, May and June are open in both churches. Priority will be given to those booking 1st Anniversary Mass.

Coeliac Host

Coeliac Host is available at all Masses in both churches. Generally the Priest celebrating the Mass has the Coeliac Host. To help the Celebrant you might please let him know before the Mass.

Car Parking at both Churches

Please keep to left hand side as you approach the car parks. This is important from a health and safety point of view. Please also be careful of pedestrians who walk to Mass or from their cars to the church. Take care also not to obstruct entrance and exit to the car parks and church doors.

Fr. George

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

Mar/21 & Mar/22/2015

St. Mary & St. John

Christ Our Light

6:00 pm (Vigil)
Adrian Cotter
Alan Murphy
8:30 am
Pat Fennell

10:00 am
Lauree Hegarty
Mary O'Driscoll
12:00 Noon
Declan Chalmers
Sean Manley

7:30 pm (Vigil)
Pauline Collins
Morgan Smith
11:00 am
Jack Dorgan
Harry O'Brien
12:30 pm
Adaugu Ebili
Caterina Nugent
5:30 pm
Siobhan Keane-Hopcraft

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 & 8 pm

Monday

8:30 am & 6:30 pm

8:30 am, 10 am & 8 pm

Tuesday

12:30 pm & 6:30 pm

9:30 am & 8 pm

Wednesday

8:30 am & 6:30 pm

9:30 am & 8 pm

Thursday

8:30 am & 6:30 pm

9:30 am & 8 pm

Friday

8:30 am & 6:30 pm

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. Dave O'Connell C.C.

021-4876171 or frdaveoconnell@gmail.com

Fr. James McSweeney

021-4873308

Funeral Pastoral Team Rota

Week 16th Mar to 22nd Mar

Brid Dunne

Sr. Colette O'Leary

Social / Coffee Mornings

Continue every Friday morning in parish house "Sonas"
on Station Road at 10 am.

Everyone welcome as it is an ideal opportunity to get
and know people from our community.

MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

Mar/21 & Mar/22/2015

St. Mary & St. John

Christ Our Light

6.00 pm Michael Maher
Bernadette Bell
Betty Casey
Frank Riordan
Siobhan Riordan
Pauline Quane

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

8:30 am Mary Buckley
Theresa Lucey / Triona
Collins
Mary B. Murphy

11:00 am Neil Jeffers
Eileen O'Donoghue
Bridie Hanrahan
Padraig Fleming /
Imelda Power
Hugh & Catherine Mo-
ran

10:00 am Cathy Horgan
Claudine Tiendioh
Betty Flavin
Anne Spillane
Betty Sheehan

12:30 pm Denis O' Mahony
Christine O'Mahony
Tom Murray
John O'Regan
Gerard Dunne

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

5:30 pm Bernard Curran
John Canty

Children's Corner

A Prayer to say...

Dear Jesus, thank you for loving us
and bringing light into our world.
Help me to live like you did and to
love other people. Help me to bring
light to the world too. Amen.

In the Gospel today...

God loves us so much that he sent us his
Son, Jesus. God sent Jesus into the
world so that everyone can have new
life with him. Jesus helps us to know
God better. People can see by the way
we behave that we love God.

Trocaire Lenten Campaign 2015

Out of death comes new life. Have you ever seen someone come back to life? It may have been a friend who got over a really tough break-up or someone who after many months of grief or failure started to get their life back together again. Resurrection is all around us, all the time. It is easy for us to be cynical when we think of an issue like climate justice. As Christians we are called to be resurrection-focused. There are always ways to turn a situation around, to make things right, to strive for life again and again. This is the vision that Jesus gives each of us. There are contrasts in this passage of being lost compared to having eternal life, and each instance calls for the option to love and hope rather than despair. We have been journeying this Lent with Mahlet and her family from Sebeya. Her name actually means 'Life' and Mahlet wants to be a doctor when she grows up. Mahlet helps out on the farm at home after school and her family depends solely on their crops for food. When the rains fail, Mahlet's family become food insecure. Mahlet and her family have contributed nothing to the problem of climate change, yet they are the ones who will suffer the most. Her family will benefit from a new irrigation system being built with help from Trocaire this year. This will make a huge difference to their lives and help to ensure food security for Mahlet's family and other's in her village. We can make a real difference to people's lives through the small choices we make: the donations, the promise to live more simply and more sustainably. It is up to us and we can choose to be part of the solution rather than the problem. Take the option for radical love, for hope, for climate justice. .