

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



St. Mary & St. John
Station Road

Sunday 16-December-2007

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

Matthews Gospel Reflections

The stories of Matthew's Gospel often refer the life of Jesus back to the Hebrew Scriptures and this would likely have caused friction with the Jewish community. The fact that both orthodox Jews and Christians both considered the Hebrew Scriptures as their own meant that there would have been a certain rivalry between them. Not surprisingly, the authors of Matthew latched on to stories that reminded them of famous Hebrew accounts. The story of the Holy Innocents is meant to remind readers of the pharaoh's attempt to kill all infant Jews before their liberating exodus from Egypt while Jesus' birth and the flight to Egypt from which the Holy Family returns is designed to make the claim that Jesus was a leader on a par with Moses, that he had travelled across the desert and had brought a message of hope and salvation for his people. There are other examples too and sometimes the language is uncompromising. We hear Temple priests (Saducees) and Pharisees (lay orthodox preachers) castigated as "vipers" (Mt 3: 1-12 reference) and there is a threat of axes laid to the root of trees in reference to the old ways. In general, there is an apocalyptic tone to these declarations. They are meant to signal that a new age has dawned, that the old ways are past, that the Messiah has come. In the meantime such bold statements are probably the fruit of a rejection by Jewish orthodoxy of these claims. Their tone reflects the degree to which they had been banished from the centre of Jewish worship, their banishment perhaps from Jerusalem itself. As a result the Gospel makes frequent reference to persecutions Mt 13:21; 10: 22; 10:18 and betrayal 24:12 reflecting some turmoil in the period before the composition of the Gospel. The dominance by Rome of Jerusalem and its public, religious and cultural life after Titus sacked the Temple in the year 70 would also have sharpened these differences, since both sides could claim intransigence by the other as the reason for such catastrophe. At any rate it seems clear that the main centre of the new Christian movement turned to Antioch in the 70s..

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

We present our needs and prayers before the Lord of mercy and goodness.

Reader

That the Church may be faithful to its mission to preach the Good News to all nations.

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

For those who have the courage to speak out against injustice in society, may their voice be heard.

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

For prisoners and those who minister to them, that they may experience the love of Christ.

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

For those who are suffering because of loss or trauma, that they may be helped according to their need.

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

For the sick and those who care for them, that they may be blessed. Lord, hear us.

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

For all Christians, that they may know joy as they prepare for the Lord's coming.

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

Priest

Father, hear these prayers we place before you, confident in your infinite mercy. We make these and all our prayers through Jesus Christ, your Son, who is Lord forever and ever. Amen.

Come. Lord. and save us.

Visit Our Website: www.ballincolligparish.ie

BAPTISMS

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

Aaron John Harty, 91 Leslies Arch, Old Quarters.
 Dylan Bernard Brown, 19 Old Court, Greenfields.
 Heather Eileen Butler, 128 Pine Walk, Muskerry Estate.
 Illan David Murphy, 46 Aylsbury

† **IN SYMPATHY** †

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

Sean Ahern, Carrigrohane & Cloghroe.
 Sheila Devoy, Inniscarra View Estate.
 Suzanne Crosbie, Cork.
 Maeve O'Leary, St. Lukes Post Office.

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

Deceased members of the Flanagan Family, Castle Park.
 Pat & Josephine Lucy & Family, Inchigeela.
 Margie O'Mahony, Bandon.
 Betty Hickey, Los Angeles.
 Daniel Coomey, Carriganarra Road.
 Pat McGrath, St. Finbarr's Park.
 Mary Lucy, Carriganarra.
 Mary Murphy, Bishopstown.
 Timothy & Eileen Keohane, Clonakilty.
 Seamus O'Donovan, Muskerry Estate.
 Jerry Ring, Carriganarra & Cheshire.
 Nancy Hogan, The Crescent.
 Dick & Ina Murphy, Mount Farran.
 Nellie Murphy, Station Road.
 Sean Coakley, Hill View, Muskerry Estate.
 Jerry Delaney, Maglin & Station Road.
 Jim Spencer, West Village.
 Con, John & Julia Harrington, Adrigole.
 Frances & William Buckley, West Village.
 Bridge Ann & Mary Murray, Derry & Cork.
 Michael Hickey, Greenfields.
 Jack & Eileen McCarthy.
 Jane Callanan, Poulavone.
 Tommy Daly.
 Paul Wall.
 Cuddihy Family.
 Patrick O'Donoghue, The Crescent.
 Maureen Cuddihy, Coolroe.
 John & Mary O'Leary, Ovens.
 John & Josephine Cuddihy, Tipperary.

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.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Third Week Of Advent

16 Sunday Is. 35:1-6, 10. Ps. 145. Jm. 5:7-10. Mt. 11:2-11. Lect I: 46
 17 Monday Is. 49:2, 8-10. Ps. 71. Mt. 1:17 Lect I:76
 18 Tuesday Jer. 23:5-8. Ps. 71. Mt. 1:18-24. Lect I:79
 19 Wednesday Judg 13:2-7, 24-25. Ps 70. Lk 1:5-25. Lect I: 81
 20 Thursday Is 7:10-14. Ps 23. Lk 1:26-38. Lect I: 83
 21 Friday Song 2:8-14 or Zeph 3:14-18. Ps 32. Lk 1:39-45. Lect I: 85
 22 Saturday 1 Sam 1:24-28. Ps 1 Sam 2:1, 4-8. Lk 1:46-56. Lect I: 88

Next Sunday's Readings 23-December-2007
 Is. 7:10-14. Ps. 23. Rom. 1:1-7. Mt. 1:18-24. Lect I:88

Prayers and Wishes for Advent and Christmas in Bethlehem 2007

For the eighth consecutive year Christmas celebrations will take place in a difficult climate for all peoples in the Holy Land. At this time of year we pray for justice, peace and security for Palestinians and Israelis. This year you are invited to send a message of solidarity to the people of Bethlehem, the place where Jesus was born.

All individuals and parishes are invited to email Christmas wishes, and prayers for peace, before the 25th of December. Messages can be submitted on Pax Christi's website at www.paxchristi.net emailed to peace-message@paxchristi.net.

Over the coming weeks we are encouraged to pray specially for a just and lasting peace in the Holy Land and to join with the Bishops of Ireland in their prayer for the Holy Land.

'Living Lord, ignite in us a passion for justice and a yearning to right all wrong. Strengthen us to work for peace in the Land we call Holy; for peace among Jew, Christian and Muslim; for reconciliation between communities; for harmony between faiths. Inspire us to act with the urgency of your quickening fire, for blessed are the peacemakers, they shall be called the children of God.'

CROWLEY FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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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.

Bulletin Board

Christmas Carol Service

St Mary & St John
Wednesday 19th December 2007 at 7.30 pm
(Note change of time)

Penitential Service

Will be held on Monday December 17th at 7.00 p.m. in Christ Our Light church. This is an opportunity to come as a community to celebrate the Lord's love and respond to his call to forgiveness and a change of heart.

Christmas Day Masses

St. Mary & St. John	Christ Our Light
6.00 pm (vigil)	6.00 pm (Children's')
10.00 pm	8.00 pm
8.30 am	12 Midnight
10.00 am	11.00 am
12 Noon	12.30 pm

There will be no 5:30 pm Mass on Christmas Eve & Christmas Day in Christ Our Light

Autumn Dues

Many parishioners have returned their autumn dues envelopes. Sincere thanks to each of you for your kind generosity.

Mass Book

Some dates to book Mass intentions for January, February & March are still available at Christ Our Light.

Fr. George

Christmas Concert

In aid of St. Vincent de Paul
Wednesday 19th December 2007 at 7.30 pm
in St. Mary & St. John's Parish Church, Ballincollig
featuring:- Cantairí Mhuscraí Choir, Note Perfect Choir,
Ballincollig Concert Band, Scoil Mhuire &
Scoil Eoin Primary Schools.

Please Support.

Scout News.

Last Thursday night saw the groups Toy Mass, along with the local guide group all the sections, beavers, ladybirds, Macoinh, brownies, Scouts and guides, arrived with gifts, to make others in the community happier at this time of the year. The good deed is part of what Scouting and Guiding is about and over the last thirty years the Scouts have hosted the Toy Mass in Ballincollig. The event was also attended by, Councillor Derry Canty and Lucy Kay County Commissioner of the Lee Valley Scout County. After the Mass was over some of the leaders were presented with their long service medals, a presentation was made to Sean Dinneen for his for his sustained service to scouting in Ballincollig. The Scouting Ireland Community award was awarded to Ballincollig Parish for their long services to scouting and a special presentation was made to Geraldine the Sacristan for her long friendship with Scouting.
One of the nice things about Christmas is that you can make people forget the past with a present.

Vacancy for the position of Sacristan at St. Mary and St John's Church, Ballincollig.

Applications are invited for the position of sacristan in Ballincollig parish at St. Mary and St John's Church, Station Rd. Ballincollig.

Applications are invited in writing to Fr George O'Mahony, The Presbytery, Station Rd. Ballincollig. Co. Cork.

Closing date for applications 23rd December 2007.

CD Launch

The Folk Groups of Christ Our Light Church have produced a CD to help raise much needed funds for the Westgate Foundation and Our Lady of Good Counsel Special Needs School.

The CD is called 'Le Chéile' it has twenty tracks of reflective songs and readings. It will be on sale from this Saturday and will be available after all the Masses price €15.00. Help us to help two local organizations this Christmas. *Thank You.*

*Msza św.
Mass in Polish*

w języku polskim
W. Ballincollig

15 grudnia
15th December

sobota – 19⁰⁰
Saturday - 19⁰⁰ hrs

Zapraszamy
Powiadom znajomych

Dedication:

*Progress has little to do with speed,
but much to do with direction. Anon.*

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

Dec-22 & Dec-23-2007

St. Mary & St. John Christ Our Light

6:00 pm (Vigil)
Ailish O'Reilly
Daniel McAuliffe
8:30 am
Niamh Gallagher
10:00 am
Louise McCarthy
Robert Noonan
12:00 Noon
Tony Lynch
Evan Keating

8:00 pm (Vigil)
Rosarie Cotter
Louise McGrath
11:00 am
Jack Dorgan
12:30 pm
Tadhg Buckley
5:30 pm
Christine O'Brien

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. Ted Sheehan 021-4876171



MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

Dec-22 & Dec-23-2007

St. Mary & St. John Christ Our Light

6.00 pm Eileen Murphy
Ted Nelligan
Angela Murphy
Ann O'Connell
Sheila Walshe
Rita Hodge

8:00 pm John O'Donoghue
Mary Dineen
Kathleen Daly

8:30 am Helen Kelly
Breeda Feehily
Mary O'Connor

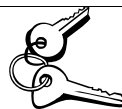
11:00 am Mary O'Mahony
Mona Bowen
Billy Barry
Mary Aylward
Pauline Baston

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

12 Noon Joy Daly
Pat Kelleher
Theresa O'Donovan
Ellen O'Sullivan
Ursula McAuliffe
Sally Crowley

5:30 pm Garreth Irish
Shelia Curran
Elizabeth O'Sullivan



Ballincollig Hardware

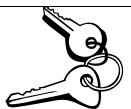
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**Parish Office, The Presbytery, Ballincollig is open Mon - Wed from 9 am - 1 pm & 2 pm - 3 pm.
Sat 10:30 am - 12 Noon. Phone No. (021) 4871206, Office Secretary Catherine Crowley.**

Ballincollig Credit Union Ltd.

Harrington Street
Tel: 021-4872305
Fax: 021-4872532



New Town Centre Office
Tel: 021-4208300
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