

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



St. Mary & St. John
Station Road

Sunday 16-May-2010

The Ascension of The Lord
(World Communications Day)

Jesus ascended to heaven so that his influence and power might be felt not just in one place but in all the world. Today he is present everywhere through his Church, bringing all people to God.



Christ Our Light
Innishmore

The Ascension of Jesus

For forty days after his Resurrection, Jesus appeared to his disciples and spoke to them about the Kingdom of God. In both today's first Reading and the Gospel we have two stories from St Luke about Jesus' final departure and his Ascension. In the Acts of the Apostles, the disciples, having watched Jesus being taken up to heaven, seem rooted to the ground as they continue staring up at the sky. Jesus had commissioned them to carry on his mission and now they are being questioned as to why they keep looking up at the sky when they have a task to do! They are to wait in Jerusalem, where they will be filled with the Holy Spirit - "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth."

We know that 'Jesus who has been taken up into Heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way'. We look forward in hope to his return. In the Preface for today's Eucharistic Celebration we reflect on those beautiful words: that Christ, our mediator, 'has passed beyond our sight, not to abandon us but to be our hope, that where he has gone, we hope to follow'.

Though Jesus will be with the disciples in a different way than when he walked the roads of Galilee with them, his presence through the Spirit will empower them to continue his mission of proclaiming the Good News in places far beyond Israel. Jesus continues to be very much present in our lives today. He is present in the Sacrament of the Eucharist. He is present in the Word that is spoken to us from the Scriptures. In today's second reading we pray, in the words of St Paul, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, will also give us a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring us to full knowledge of him. We are being challenged today to look around us and see in what ways we can continue to be the presence of Christ for others. We together, as a Christian community, make up the Body of Christ and as the prayer of St Teresa reminds us:

"Christ has no body now but yours, no hands, no feet on earth but yours. Yours are the eyes through which he looks with compassion on this world. Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good, Yours are the hands with which he blesses all the world. Yours are the hands, yours are the feet, Yours are the eyes, you are his body Christ has no body now but yours."

Sr. Colette

Reflection for Parents

Jesus assures us in this Gospel reading that we belong to God's family. As parents we work hard to help our children know that they are loved and valued as members of our families. We are a living example of God's love when our children see how we treat them and others and how we forgive one another. It is this acceptance and living unity that shows our children the love God has for Jesus, his Son, and all of us, his children. Today we celebrate the Ascension of the Lord. While we bid goodbye to Jesus' earthly form, we are strengthened because we are clothed with power from on high. We rejoice and give thanks for the coming of the Spirit.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Priest

Let us present our needs before the Lord.

Reader

We pray for the Church; that it may witness to the Lord to the ends of the earth.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For our political leaders; that they may govern for the good of all putting personal opinions aside in favour of the common good.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

We pray for vocations; that those who God chooses will answer that call.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

We pray that all who work in communications and the media may be blessed in their work; may they search for the truth in order to share it with others.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For all who receive the sacrament of Confirmation this year; that they may be clothed with power from on high and receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit openly, Witnessing to Christ in their lives.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For those who have died; that they may live forever in the kingdom of God, experiencing the rich pleasures promised to the saints for their inheritance.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

Priest

Heavenly Father, you sent your Holy Spirit upon the apostles and clothed us in power from on high. Hear our prayers today, which we make in the name of Jesus, your Son, our Lord. Amen.

God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.

Visit Our Website: www.ballincolligparish.ie

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

James, Breda & Denis O'Donoghue, West Village.
 Cyril, David & Frances Power, Monkstown.
 Ned Hogan, Bandon.
 Ann O'Regan.
 Dan & Tim O'Regan, Douglas.
 Thomas & Nora Lynch, Carrignavar.
 Mike Cullinane, Coolroe Heights.
 Andy & Mollie Nolan, Wicklow.
 Mary O'Sullivan, Raheen.
 Sheila Spillane, Glenflesk.
 Nellie Sheehan, Well Rd, Douglas.
 Jim Galvin, Model Farm Road.
 Gerry Canny, Castle Avenue.
 Frank O'Callaghan, Grange, Ovens.
 Sheila O'Mahony, South Douglas Road.
 Dec members of the Cunningham Family.
 Trevor Philips, Waterford & England.
 Vincent Murphy, Inniscarra View.
 James Murphy, Knocknagree.
 Frederick & Kate Nash, Powdermills.

Cork University Hospital

All patients with appointments to "Out Patients Departments" in the hospital will be seen in order of their appointment time and not on a first come first serve basis as was previously the case. Patients are, therefore, advised not to arrive more than 15 minutes before their appointment time as they will not be registered (checked in) on the appointment system.

HSE 24hr Flue Information Line: 1800 94 11 00
 WWW.swineflu.ie

CURA

Need to Talk?

We are there 6 days a week.
 Unplanned pregnancy can be hard to take. Also when baby is born coping can be difficult. We are there to listen and support you.
Call CURA at 021 427 7544

Miscarriage Association of Ireland, Cork

A voluntary organisation offering support and information to people who have experienced loss of a baby through miscarriage. This Group meets on 2nd Monday of every month in the Bon Secours Hospital from 8-9.30 pm.

Ennis Padre Pio Pilgrimage

Ennis Padre Pio Pilgrimage to San Giovanni, also visiting Rome and Loreto. Audience with the Holy Father. Leaving Cork Airport, September 5 - 15.
 Please contact Mrs. Mire Coll, 086 8804603.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Seventh Week Of Easter

- 16 Sunday Acts 1: 1-11. Ps. 46. Eph. 1: 17-23 or Heb. 9:24-28, 10: 19-23. Lk. 24:46-53. Lect I: 556
- 17 Monday Acts 19: 1-8. Ps. 67. Jn. 16:29-33. Lect I: 576
- 18 Tuesday Acts 20:17-27. Ps. 67. Jn. 17:1-11. Lect I: 578
- 19 Wednesday Acts 20:28-38. Ps. 67. Jn. 17:11-19. Lect I: 580
- 20 Thursday Acts 22:30, 23:6-11. Ps. 15. Jn. 17:20-26. Lect I: 583
- 21 Friday Acts 25:13-21. Ps 102. Jn 21:15-19 Lect I: 585
- 22 Saturday Acts 28:16-20,30-31. Ps 10. Jn 21 :20-25. Lect I: 588

Next Sunday's Readings 23-May-2010

***Ballincollig Parish
 Gospel of John***

Following our series of talks of the life and letters of Paul the Apostle last year, a series of eight talks on St John's Gospel will be presented this year. As before, the talks will be held in the St Mark Centre, opposite the Church of Christ Our Light in Innishmore. These will include presentation of the material by Fr Billy O'Sullivan followed by tea and group discussion. Copies of information leaflets will be available for everybody. Four meetings will be held before the summer and four in the autumn/winter period before Christmas. The schedule of meetings for May and June is as follows.

| | | |
|--------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| | Mon, 7.30 pm | Wed, 10.00 am |
| Talk 2 | 17 th May | 19 th May |
| Talk 3 | 31 st May | 2 nd June |
| Talk 4 | 14 th June | 16 th June |

'Mothers Prayers' Groups

Continue every

Wednesday at 10.30 am

Meeting Room at Christ our Light Church

Thursday at 10.00 am

Annex of Parish Hall

All Mothers, Grandmothers, Godmothers are welcome to come along one of these mornings to pray for their children and the youth of our Parish

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THE SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading: Acts 1:1-11

At the very beginning of the Acts of the Apostles we are told of the promise of the Holy Spirit. Then follows an account of the Ascension of Jesus, his departure in a physical sense, from this world. But this is a guarantee of his presence powerfully with us by his Spirit.

Second Reading: Eph 1:17-23

Paul speaks concretely of life in Christ. It is an empowered life.

Gospel: Luke 24:46-53

Luke stresses that the disciples who witnessed the Ascension were 'full of joy'.

Well Done

The Diocesan Advisor for Religious Education for Primary Schools visited the schools in the Parish recently. Scoil Eoin, Scoil Mhuire and Scoil Barra.

In these schools there is a very high standard in the knowledge and living of Our Catholic Faith. The children are well versed in their prayers; stories and questions of their religion; they take great pride in their written work and in the singing of their songs. The walls of the school are beautifully decorated with the themes of lessons being studied and Sacred Space in their class rooms are frequently updated in line with the Church Calendar. Parents are encouraged to take an active part in their children's Faith Formation by listening to their oral home work and checking and signing their written home work .

WELL DONE TO ALL

Stella O'Keeffe (Ms). Primary Diocesan Religion Advisor

Catechesis for Adults and Youth

"This is my gift to you, a peace which the world cannot give you"(Jn.14:27)

COME and LISTEN

Have you ever wondered what it's all about?
Did your life turn out as you thought it would?
Do you think there could be more to life?

St. Mark's Centre

(opposite Christ Our Light Church)

Innismore, Ballincollig

on Sundays and Wednesdays at 8 pm.

Comfort for Cancer

Meetings every Wednesday at 10.30 am and on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 8 pm in Room 3, St. Francis Friary, Liberty Street, Cork. People who have suffered a bereavement as a result of cancer are welcome. Confidential support group for cancer patients and their families.

Tel: 021 4272410

Night-time numbers: 021 4546290 or 021 4966087

Bulletin Board

Confirmation Dates

Scoil Mhuire Tuesday 18th May

First Holy Communion 2010

Scoil Mhuire Saturday 29th May

Gaelscoil Ui Riordain Saturday 22nd May

Children's Mass

The Children's Mass is on **Sundays at 11.00 am in Christ Our Light**. The Children of 2nd class retire to the crying room at the beginning of Mass where they celebrate The Liturgy of the Word in child friendly fashion – word searches, colouring and maze search are some of the methods used. Volunteers are welcome and needed to help, training and practice will be given. Parents are welcome to join their Children for the celebration of the Word of God. We invite Parents of First Communion children to please try and bring Children to this Mass. Bringing your Child to the Sunday Mass is an important preparation for your Child's First Holy Communion. Looking forward to seeing you.

Fr. George

Trip to Pallotti in Tanzania

On the 28th of June 2010 four 5th year students from Ballincollig will be travelling to Pallotti in Tanzania to work in an Orphanage and teach young children how to play Basketball and Ladies Football.

To make this a success we must raise €4000 each. The money raised will be going towards a :

- Women's Development Centre
- Kindergarten
- Centre for HIV Support Group
- Mother and Child Healthcare Unit

In Pallotti there is extreme poverty, unemployment, poor housing, lack of sanitation and a high incidence of HIV/ Aids.

We would like to better serve the whole community and to build on what has already been achieved.

On 12th and 13th of June we are holding a cake sale in the church of Christ Our Light after all Masses

Knock

Legion of Mary Annual Pilgrimage will take place on Sunday May 30th.

Bus leaving village at 7 am sharp.

Early booking advised

For details contact

Sally 021-4870954 or Cathleen 0214874730



Please visit our website
www.ijs.ie

FACILITATOR'S REPORT

I would like to welcome you all here tonight to our AGM and to thank you for coming. Ballincollig Parish Council had an extremely busy and fulfilling year. We undertook many projects which were challenging and to which we responded magnificently.

The first of these, a Workshop on Awareness of Depression and Suicide, was the second meeting organised by Dick Beamish. This session was attended by a smaller gathering, but was very worthwhile. It is hoped to hold another session in the future.

Our Patrick's Day Celebrations were very successful in 2010. This year we were exceptionally busy as we also, as a Parish Council, participated in the first Patrick's Day parade in 25 years in Ballincollig. Thanks to everybody who got involved in the organisation of the celebration after mass in Christ Our Light and also in the Parade. It is anticipated that the involvement in the Parade will become an annual event – so thinking hats on everybody and come up with some good ideas for next year.

The Eucharistic Procession was attended by a large gathering. It was wonderful to see such a large turn out from the first communicants. Considerable work went into organising this and I want to thank everybody involved and also thanks to An Garda Síochána for their help and co-operation.

Fr. George expressed a wish to hold a function to celebrate all the various working group in our vibrant Parish. Following on from this wish our "Fiesta" Day or Parish Day of Celebration was perceived. What a great day it proved to be with warm sunshine, food and dancing together with a great spirit of friendship and a sense of belonging to our Parish. It was wonderful to everybody enjoying themselves – from babies to old age pensioners. It hoped this will become an annual event as it brings all the groups within the parish together.

Our Child Protection Policy was forwarded to the Diocesan Office for approval with the recommendation that we have an officer at Parish level as opposed to a the Diocesan Officer but we were advised by the Diocesan Office that there will be only one DLP for the whole dioceses and that is Fr. Liam O'Driscoll. We await further developments in the light of the recently published reports.

The Paraliturg during July and August, once again, proved to be very successful and our thanks goes to all involved.

The Constitution of the Parish was looked at by the Core Group to see if it conformed to Diocesan Guidelines. As a result some changes were made.

The 25th anniversary of Christ our Light was acknowledge on November 22nd with the con-celebration of Mass by Bishop Buckley, priests of our Parish and former priests and some of the priests who were ordained in that church. There was a truly amazing atmosphere in the church on that day and the church looked magnificent as it had been decorated

by the Altar Society/Ballincollig Flower Club. Once again hospitality was extended to parishioners of Ballincollig and indeed surrounding parishes. We received tremendous co-operation from the Neo Catechumens, they opened the doors of their St. Mark's Centre in Innishmore to us and afforded us the use of their facilities and were of immense help to us on the day. To all the members at St. Mark's Centre we extend a special thank you and wish them well.

Our Advent Retreat was held on 30th of November and 1/2nd of December in the church of Christ Our Light. The Redemptorists were unable to provide us with a priest so Fr. George managed to organise Fr. Tom Clancy at short notice. Fr. Clancy was outstanding and everybody was very impressed with him. Our thanks also go to him for stepping in at short notice.

In 2009 relatives of deceased parishioners were written to and given the option of booking first anniversary mass before the mass book was opened officially. Also, a decision was made to offer the Church of Christ Our Light to couples, from outside the parish, who wished to get married in Ballincollig.

November 2009 saw the Parish Council undertake its biggest and most challenging task to date; this was the organising of the Parish Mission to be held in March 2010. Because of the hands on approach of all the parish council members we have bonded very well as a result of organising this mission and there is a great sense of friendship amongst us. Thanks to everybody involved – it was an amazing and uplifting experience. Young, middle

aged and older parishioners participated in the week and as a result the life of our parish has been enhanced. A special thank you is extended to everyone involved for making this a memorable occasion and affording the parishioners the chance to become actively involved.

December 2009 saw the new parish council members, recruited in November, being introduced to the existing Parish Council at a social gathering in Fr. George's house. It was an excellent way to introduce the "new" to the "old" in an out of meeting session. Little did our new members know what was ahead of them with the organising of the Parish Mission!! - it was a baptism of fire!!! and they truly immersed themselves in the organisation of same. Well done to you and keep up the enthusiasm.

Also, the organisers of the Children's Mass recruited 20 new members to help out at the 11.00 a.m. Mass on Sundays in the church of Christ Our Light. This is a huge number to acquire and the recruitment was done after the children's mass when parents were attending.

Despite these times of recession two collections were organised in the Parish - one for the flood victims in our midst and the other for the people of Haiti. The response to both was magnificent and well done to everyone who contributed. The generosity of the people of the parish of Ballincollig is well known and once again the parishioners came up trumps to help those less fortunate.

The Council devoted a full meeting to discuss the letter from the Pope to the people of Ireland. It is felt that this was a very worthwhile exercise and it is hoped to carry out a similar exercise with the various ministries within our parish. This process enables people to voice their opinion in a safe place and allows them to be heard.

Fr. George organised four very successful trips for young people last summer – to Glendalough, Gougane Barra, Taize and Knockadoon. The feedback was terrific and thanks to everybody who was involved in organising and leading these young people. It is great to see young people being included and involved in our church this way and we have every reason to be very proud of them.

On a sad note – Margaret Healy of the Baptism Preparation Group passed away and also Jerry O'Connor, a Parish Council Member. To their families we extend our sympathy.

Before I finish I want to thank all of you for your contribution and dedication to the Parish Council. Without your involvement the parish of Ballincollig would not flourish or be as vibrant. Looking back on the past 14 months we can see what was undertaken and each project had considerable work attached to it. The success of these events is a measure of the effort and work undertaken by each of you. To be involved at the level that you are all at shows your commitment and dedication to our parish life.

As you all know there are many sub-groups attached to the Parish Council – Communications Group, Baptism Preparation Group, Liturgy Group, Visitation Group to mention a few. Without your contribution and dedication these groups would not function. Again a special "thank you" to you all.

Our thanks to Catherine Crowley in the Parish Office, Catherine is always pleasant and co-operative no matter what task she is asked to undertake. I would also like to thank Rosemary for providing us with tea, coffee and biscuits on the nights of our Parish Council meetings.

Finally, on my own behalf I would like to thank everyone on the Council for the kindness, friendship and help offered to me as Facilitator. I have thoroughly enjoyed being involved – a lot has been achieved and please God our work will continue into the future to ensure that Ballincollig Parish remains active and inclusive.

My thanks to Fr. George and Fr. Billy – they were always there at the end of the phone when and if I needed advice.

A parish the size of Ballincollig is always looking for volunteers to help out. If you are reading this article maybe you might consider getting involved. We would love to have you and would welcome your input. Many of the groups within the Parish are now looking for new members and would welcome new life and new ideas. Should you feel the "call" to take part please contact the priests of the parish or indeed contact the Parish Office. It is up to all of us to develop the Parish of Ballincollig.

Many thanks to you all.

Phyl Kennedy

Facilitator

Ballincollig Parish Council.

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

May-22 & May-23-2010

St. Mary & St. John Christ Our Light

6:00 pm (Vigil)
Ailish O'Reilly
Daniel McAuliffe
8:30 am
Eadaoin O'Leary

10:00 am
Margot Twomey
Lauree Hegarty
12:00 Noon
Declan Chalmers
Chloe Dalton O'Connor

7:30 pm (Vigil)
Rosarie Cotter
Louise McGrath
11:00 am
Maebh Nic Mheanmain

12:30 pm
Brian O'Donoghue
Chide Ebili
5:30 pm
Tom Reck



MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

May-22 & May-23-2010

St. Mary & St. John Christ Our Light

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

8:30 am Mary Buckley
Theresa Lucey
Triona Collins

10:00 am Anne Cahill
Pat Lee
Cathy Horgan
John O'Donovan
Betty Flavin

12 Noon Helen Plunkett
Sheila Carroll
Seamus O'Donovan
Joe Coghlan
Catherine Greene

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

11:00 am Neil Jeffers
Eileen O'Donoghue
Bridie O'Donnell
Bridie Hanrahan

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

5:30 pm Bernard Curran
Siobhan Burke

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

7:30 pm (Vigil)

CONFESSIONS

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

Saturday

BAPTISMS

4:30 pm
Except First Saturday of
Month

Saturday

4:30 pm
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. Billy O'Sullivan C.C. 021-4876171

Fr. James McSweeney 021-4873308



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Sat 10:30 am - 12 Noon. Phone No. (021) 4871206, Office Secretary Catherine Crowley.**

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