

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



**St. Mary & St. John
Station Road**

Sunday 17-December-2006

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**

The Jesse Tree

We have all heard of Family Trees, but what's the Jesse Tree? The Jesse Tree is named from Isaiah 11:1: "A shoot will spring forth from the stump of Jesse, and a branch out of his roots." It is a vehicle to tell the Story of God in the Old Testament, and to connect the Advent Season with the faithfulness of God across 4,000 years of history. It could be said to be the family tree of the descendants of Abraham, all called by God to be part of his plan to prepare his people for the coming of the Saviour.

Through the many trials and exiles of the Jewish people throughout history, God was faithful to his promise, and a new King was born in Bethlehem. The Jesse Tree helps us retell this story, and express this hope. The story of God in the Old Testament can be told either in terms of the main characters of the story, or of pivotal events that helped shape and define the people's journey of Faith through the Old Testament. The symbols on the Jesse Tree are symbols of these events, each corresponding to a scriptural text.

The continuity of God's love, patience, and grace across the centuries to the most unlikely people in the midst of their failures is the central focus. Even though we can have Peace and Joy through the presence of Jesus Christ, we still long for deliverance from the oppression of sin in the world. We long for the full reign of the Kingdom of God. So, while we celebrate the birth of the Branch, the new shoot from the stump of Jesse, we still anticipate with hope the Second Advent, and await the completion of the promise.

Sean O'Driscoll

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Priest

Let us bring our petitions before God, whose goodness knows no bounds.

Reader

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

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

That Christians everywhere may be people of peace.

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

That all may rejoice in the nearness of Christ, not only at this Advent time, but always.

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

That our faith in Jesus may be a source of strength in time of difficulty.

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

That those who are suffering because of loss, trauma or loneliness may be helped according to their need.

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

That those who have gone before us on the path of faith may receive the fullness of joy and eternal happiness.

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

Christmas Day Masses

St. Mary & St. John

6.00 pm (vigil)

10.00 pm

8.30 am

10.00 am

12 Noon

Christ Our Light

6.00 pm (Children's')

8.00 pm

12 Midnight

11.00 am

12.30 pm

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

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"



Priest

Saving God, you hear the cries of those who call out to you in their need. Answer our prayers as we ready ourselves for the coming of your Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

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

Visit Our Website: www.ballincolligparish.ie

BAPTISMS

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

Emily Margaret Power, 39, Berryfield, Classes Lake.
 Robyn Kate O'Brien, 90, Fernwalk, Greenfields.
 Aoibheann Grainne McNeill, 93, Old Court, Greenfields.

† **IN SYMPATHY** †

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

Iris Twomey, England.
 Mary Murphy, Dillons Cross & Farran.
 Finbarr O'Mahony, Bishopstown.
 Catherine Dorgan, Mallow.
 Jerry O'Brien, Parknamore Rise.
 Tony Finn, Coolroe Heights.
 Timmy Moynihan, England
 Thomas Kilty, England.
 Nora Ryan, City West Mews.

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

Ted Roche, Inniscarra View.
 Michael Hickey, Greenfields.
 Pat O'Donoghue, The Crescent.
 Deceased members of the Naughton & Callanan Families.
 Deceased members of the O'Sullivan Family, Bonane, Kenmare.
 John & Brid Lehane, Wolfe Tone Street.
 Eric Scott, Coolroe.
 Morgan Murphy, Inniscarra.
 William Treacy, Castleknock.
 John & Mary O'Leary, Ovens.
 John & Josephine Cuddihy, Tipperary.
 Noreen O'Driscoll, Castle Park.
 Daniel & Margaret Murphy, Knockburden.
 Martina McCarthy, Castle Park.
 Deceased members of the Bowen & Kelleher families, Shandon Street.
 Jerry Delaney, Station Road.
 John & Maura Kelly, Beech Park.
 Mary Lucey, Carriganarra.
 Mary Herlihy, Rosscarbery.
 Seamus O'Donovan, Maple Lawn.
 Deceased members of the Hurley family, Friar St.
 Michael & Bridget O'Regan, Carriganarra.
 John & Catherine McKechnie, Tower.
 Nancy Hogan, The Crescent.
 Jane Sisk, Westcourt.
 Nellie Murphy, Station Road.
 John Kelly, Beech Park.
 Jane Callanan, Poulavone.
 Billy Greene, Station Road.
 Richard Cronin, Kilnamartyra.

Christ Our Light

The door into the crying from the car park will remain closed before and during the eleven o'clock Mass each Sunday. This is for the children's well-being and to allow the children's Liturgy to proceed uninterrupted.

Thanking you in anticipation. Fr George.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Third Week Of Advent

- 17 Sunday Zech. 3: 14-18. Ps. Is. 12. Phil. 4:4-7. Lk. 3: 10.18. Lect I: 51
- 18 Monday Jer. 23:5-8. Ps. 71. Mt. 1:18-24. Lect I:79
- 19 Tuesday Jg. 13:2-7, 24-25. Ps. 70. Lk. 1 :5-25. Lect I: 81
- 20 Wednesday Is 7:10-14. Ps. 23. Lk. 1:26-38. Lect I: 83
- 21 Thursday Song 2:8-14 or Zeph. 3: 14-18. Ps. 32. Lk. 1 :39-45. Lect I: 85
- 22 Friday 1 Sam. 1:24-28. Ps. 1 Sam. 2:1, 4-8. Lk. 1:46-56. Lect I:88
- 23 Saturday Mal. 3:1-4, 4:5-6. Ps. 24. Lk. 1:57-66. Lect I: 90

Next Sunday's Readings 24-December-2006

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

Parish / PAYE

Help Ballincollig parish without spending a cent Do more without spending more thanks to the Revenue. If you are a PAYE taxpayer, you can increase the value of the money you already give to the parish. The parish (which is registered as a charity) can claim back tax on your behalf and use this to help develop the faith of the young people of the parish. I need your help to claim back this money from the taxman. Those parishioners who contribute at least five euro a week can help by offering to sign up for this scheme, be assured of the strictest confidentiality for every person who signs up for this scheme. The benefits for the parish are considerable, for every €250.00 a PAYE taxpayer contributes, the parish can recoup €63.00 annually (if you are paying tax at the standard rate) needless to say it would be more if you pay tax at the higher rate. You can call or phone me to discuss this scheme and I will provide answers to your queries. Some parishioners have already signed on for this scheme and I wish to say thanks to those people.

Yours Fr George.

Christmas Retreat 2006

The Christmas Retreat was a great success and very well supported. Thanks to Fr. Dan Baragy and Fr Derek Meskell the Redemptorist Fathers who lead the retreat To my colleague priests, members of the parish council, Geraldine in the Sacristy and many others who helped out a sincere thank you. Finally thanks to the many parishioners who came along in big numbers to take part.

CROWLEY FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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

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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.

49th Cork Ballincollig Scout Group

All helpers were on hand for our Bazaar, it was a great success and credit is due to all on the committee who organised it. The doors opened at 2.30 pm and the rush began. It was all go till 6 pm when the last bike was sold for a €1. We held our toy giving mass along with the Irish Girl Guides, The youth members all turned up in uniform along with a toy. Fr. George celebrated the Mass and everyone sang with great gusto, 100s of toys were collected and it was the biggest gathering of Scouts and Guides in Ballincollig for some years. All the toys will be distributed to a child in need. Scouts learn from an early age that "caring is sharing" and they did so with great enthusiasm. *As any leader knows, the highest branch is not the safest roost.*

Christmas Carol Concert

For over 30 years Cantairi Mhuscraí have enjoyed taking part in this event. It will be held in The Church of St Mary and St John's on Sunday December 17th at 8 pm. The Church Choir, Ceoltoiri Mhuscraí, and Note Perfect will join them again this year. So take a well-earned break from the hustle and bustle and enjoy the music singing and readings, and share in the real meaning of Christmas

Early Morning Prayer.

Morning Prayer of the Church is taking place during Advent
In the Crying Room, Christ Our Light Church.
Mon - Fri at 6:25a m.
All are welcome.

**Christmas Collection
For The Priests of the Parish**

The collection on Christmas Day is for the support of the priests of the parish. This is my letter to Santa I am looking forward to your generosity.
Thanking you in anticipation Fr George.

Ballincollig Country Market Ltd.

Every Friday
10:00 to 11 30 am.
In The Community Centre
All Local Produce
Home Baking, Honey, Jam, Pickles,
Eggs, Plants, Vegetables in season,
and a variety of handcrafts.

Penitential Service

Christ Our Light, Monday 18th @ 6.30 pm
Theme: Reflecting on the real me inside
A multi media thought provoking service to focus on connecting with our true selves.

Trócaire thanks for Global Gift support

Congregations all over the country have been tremendously supportive of Global Gift this year as in previous years and there is still time to purchase gifts on behalf of family and friends. These gifts make a life-changing difference to their recipients in developing countries.

For example in 2004 the public bought over 30,000 clutches of chicks for families in Central America. In the village of San Juan Pueblo, a close-knit community in northern Honduras, 47 families received chicks. When they received news of their gift the community worked together to build hutches from wood and corrugated metal with individual pens of sticks and mud. The chicks have provided an extra source of food and income for the whole community and this has made life easier for all 200 people who live in the village.

There are four easy ways to purchase your gifts:

By Post: Post completed order form with payment to Trócaire, FREEPOST, Maynooth, Co. Kildare (or fax it to +353-1-505 3295) or Trócaire, FREEPOST, BEL1230, Belfast, BT1 6BR.

By Phone: CALLSAVE Trócaire at 1850 408 408 (ROI) or FREEPHONE 0800 912 1200 (NI) with details of your order, your address and your credit/debit card details.

On-line: Order your gifts on-line at www.trocaire.org/globalgift or through O2 i-mode on enabled mobile phones.

In Person: At Trócaire offices in Maynooth; 12 Cathedral Street, Dublin; 9 Cook Street, Cork & 50, King Street, Belfast or at your nearest Veritas store in Dublin, Cork, Clare, Sligo, Donegal, Derry or Monaghan. .

Diary for Mass Intentions

The diary to book mass intentions for January, February March 2007 will be open in the Sacristy of St. Mary John and the Sacristy of Christ Our Light on Saturday 9th December at 9 am.

Church Collection Envelopes

Boxes are available in both churches this weekend. Each box contains an envelope for each Sunday, plus a separate envelope for the special church collection. I am asking families to please take one box and be good enough to use one envelope weekly to make your family contribution to the offertory collection. The offertory collection goes exclusively towards the maintenance, heating, lighting, insurance and other running costs associated with buildings and a parish. Thanking you for your support.

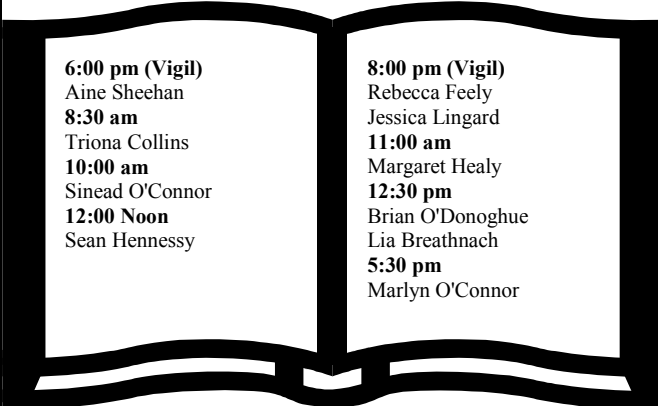
Fr. George

And then there was the little boy who remarked to his companion: "The people in heaven must think I'm dead - I haven't said my prayers for a week"

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

Dec-23 & Dec-24-2006

St. Mary & St. John Christ Our Light



6:00 pm (Vigil)
Aine Sheehan
8:30 am
Triona Collins
10:00 am
Sinead O'Connor
12:00 Noon
Sean Hennessy

8:00 pm (Vigil)
Rebecca Feely
Jessica Lingard
11:00 am
Margaret Healy
12:30 pm
Brian O'Donoghue
Lia Breathnach
5:30 pm
Marlyn O'Connor



MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

Dec-23 & Dec-24-2006

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	

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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**Confessions on Saturday December 22nd from 11.00 am to 1.00 pm
and from 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm in St Mary and St John's Church.**

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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Option of Future Loans for Insurance and Tax
No Penalties for Early Repayment
Loan Protection Insurance at no Extra Cost
Interest Repayments Decrease as you Pay Off Your Loan
Easy Application Procedure and Speedy Decision*

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