THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



St. Mary & St. John

Station Road

Sunday 18-January-2009

Second Sunday In Ordinary Time (World Day for Migrants and Refugees) The call of God comes in different ways. To Samuel it came by night, mysterious, uncertain. To Andrew it came as an invitation from Jesus 'Come and see'. Whatever our vocation (and we all have one) our response must always be 'Speak Lord. Your servant is listening'

The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time.

The church's calendar is divided into various seasons. We start the church year with the Advent season, then comes Christmas and some weeks following Christmas. Lent takes up seven weeks leading to Holy week and then the Easter season continues up to Pentecost. The rest of the year, thirty-four Sundays (give or take one or two) are known as Ordinary time, green vestments are worn.

Throughout history many individuals claimed to be called by God or to have heard the voice of God. Individuals claiming to have heard the voice of God have committed some barbaric atrocities. Before we claim to have heard the voice of God we might note that Samuel sought the advice and guidance of the elderly Eli before he knew what to make of the voice. The Word of God this weekend gives us an account of the call of Samuel and the call of two men one named Andrew. Their calls were very different Samuel sought the advice of his mentor Eli before he responded to the voice, Andrew and his companion were guided by John the Baptist, John "stared hard at Jesus and said, Look there is the lamb of God."

Samuel was called to be a prophet, where Andrew and his friend were called to be disciples. The initiative was taken by God, the call is always his. God's call can take many different forms, God speaks to each of us in the depth of our hearts calling us to intimacy with himself and inviting us to be co-workers with him. Rather than a voice his call is a tug of our hearts, most times it likely to be as gentle as a breeze. Each of us is called by God to carry out some task for him, may we have the faith and courage to answer that call.

This year as we strive to cope with difficult times, help us to realise that a word of encouragement, a hand of support can make a big difference. Whatever our circumstances may we realise that you Lord are as close to us as you are to Samuel and Andrew in your Word today.

George O'Mahony

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

The week of prayer for Christian Unity commences today January 18th. The week ahead 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. To mark this occasion, you are invited to an ecumenical prayer service on the

18th January at 7 pm in St Mary & St John. Please make every effort to attend.

Reflection for Parents

Try to imagine the excitement these first disciples felt when they heard Jesus' words. There must have been something very compelling in what Jesus said and the hope he gave these men in order for them to drop everything and not only follow him, but to go to others with the exciting news. That's how our enthusiasm should reach our children. It would be good to check our own level of enthusiasm for Jesus' call to us so that whenever our children hear our words and stories about Jesus, they will immediately recognize our passion.



Christ Our Light Innishmore

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Priest

In the Gospel Jesus asks the disciples, 'What do you want?' Let us present our needs to the Lord with confidence.

Reader

We pray for the Church; that it may, through its members, continue to bring people to Jesus.

Lord, Hear us, Lord, graciously hear us.

For those who make the rule of law and those who put it into practice; that they may be guided by principles of justice. Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For vocations; that those who the Lord's calls may answer 'Here I am Lord. I come to do your will.'

Lord, Hear us, Lord, graciously hear us.

That all people may respect their bodies as temples of the Holy Spirit.

Lord, Hear us, Lord, graciously hear us.

For refugees and migrants; that they may be welcomed into the countries to which they flee and that they may soon have the opportunity to return to their homes and be reunited with their loved ones.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For the dead; that the Lord may raise them up on the last day. Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

Priest

Lord, you know us intimately. You have called each one of us from the womb. Hear the prayers we make this day. Grant us what we need. We make these and all our prayers through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will. Visit Our Website: www.ballincolligparish.ie

Sunday 18-January-2009

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BAPTISMS

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

Molly Mary Treacy, Manor Hill. Sean Ted Buckley, The Willows, Classis Lake. Sam Frank O'Connor, The Meadows, Belgooly.

† IN SYMPATHY † PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF THE RECENTLY DECEASED : Mary O'Regan, Westcourt.

Mary Horgan, Carriganarra.

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

Michael Carroll, Coolroe Heights. Amelia Greaney, Greenmount. Ted Dineen, Ovens. Frank Keohane, Rossmore & Ballincollig. Deceased members of the Greene & O'Mahony families. William & Ellen Cronin. Patrick & Nora Riordan, Ballingeary. Mary O'Sullivan, Avoncourt. Rita Kinsella, Carrigrohane. ohn, Peggy & Ellen O'Sullivan, Poulavone. Eleanor O'Mahony, East Gate & Castletownbere. Jimmy Fitzgerald, Farranferris. Jack Lynch, Kilmurry. Sonny & Sheila O'Mahony, Dunmanway. Deceased members of the Boyce Family, Milford. Deceased members of the Ahern Family, Ballyagran Jim Green, The Square. Mary Whelan, Rosewood. Mary O'Mahony, Castlepark. Daniel & Mary O'Leary, Aglish, Farran. Deceased members of the Linehan Family, Kanturk & London. Denis & Mary Desmond, French's Villas. James & Kathleen O'Dwyer, Co. Limerick. Tony Florish, Leeview. Mamie Kavanagh, East Gate. Deceased members of the Reilly & Hanney Families Dan Cronin, Rathmore. Timothy Dinneen, Curraheen.

St Dominic's Retreat Centre, Ennismore

Saturday January 31st - 10.00 am - 5.00 pm Science, Religion and the Wonder of the Universe - An early spring, quiet day of prayer and reflection on the relationship between science and Christian belief. Benedict Hegarty OP €30 including light (lunch soup/roll)

Coffee Mornings

Following the success of The Coffee Mornings held in the Church of Christ our Light during 2008, we would again like to invite all Parishioners to join us for a cuppa & chat in the crying room after the 12:30 pm Masses on:

Sunday 18th January Sunday 15th February St, Patrick's Day, Tuesday 17th March Communications Group – Ballincollig Parish Council.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Second Week In Ordinary Time

18 Sunday 1 Sam 3:3-10,19. Ps 39. 1 Cor 6:13-15, 17-20. Jn 1:35-42. Lect I: 740

19 Monday Heb. 5: 1-1 O. Ps. 109. Mk. 2: 18-22. Lect II: 15

20 Tuesday Heb. 6: 10-20. Ps. 110. Mk. 2:23-28. Lect II: 17

21 Wednesday Heb. 7: 1-3, 15-17. Ps. 109. Mk. 3: 1-6. Lect II: 19

22 Thursday Heb. 7:25-8:6. Ps. 39. Mk. 3:7-12. Lect II: 21

23 Friday Heb. 8:6-13. Ps. 84. Mk. 3:13-19. Lect II: 23

24 Saturday Heb.9:2-3, 11-14. Ps. 46. Mk. 3:20-21. Lect II: 25

Next Sunday's Readings 25-January-2009 Jon 3:1-5, 10. Ps 24. 1 Cor 7:29-31. Mk 1:14-20. Lect I: 743

World Day for Migrants and Refugees

The 95th World Day of Migrants and Refugees 2009

The theme for this year's World Day of Migrants and Refugees is St Paul migrant, 'Apostle of the Peoples'.

Pope Benedict XVI describes the coincidence of the theme coinciding with the Year of St Paul:

"It is inspired by its felicitous coincidence with the Jubilee Year I established in the Apostle's honour on the occasion of the two thousand anniversary of his birth. Indeed, the preaching and mediation between the different cultures and the Gospel which Paul, "a migrant by vocation" carried out, are also an important reference point for those who find themselves involved in the migratory movement today."

'Migrants contribute to their host country's well-being, and also because of this their human dignity must be respected and their freedoms guaranteed: the right to a dignified life, to fair treatment at work, to have access to education, health and other social benefits, to grow in competence and develop humanly, to freely manifest their culture and practice their religion.'

'But rights and duties go together,' he added. 'Therefore, at the same time, migrants have the duty to respect the identity and the laws of the country of residence, strive for proper integration (not assimilation) into the host society and learn its language. They are to foster esteem and respect for their host country, even to the point of loving and defending it.'

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.

CROWLEY FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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Sunday 18-January-2009

THE SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading: 1 Samuel 3: 3-10,19

Like John the Baptist, Samuel was born when his mother thought she would never have a child. She dedicated him to the service of God in the Temple where he received his special calling from God. This extract recounts the moment of that calling and states that the Lord remained with him in a special way all his life.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians, 6: 13-15, 17-20

St. Paul explains the foundations of Christian chastity. The human body made for God must not be debased for present pleasure. The body is eternal and should be respected. The popular modern sentiment: "my body is my own" is contradicted by Paul who says: "You are not your own property; you have been bought and paid for." Jesus bought and paid for us with his own blood shed on Calvary.

Gospel: John 1: 35-42

This is the moment when the Church began to find its Saviour. The solemnity and grace of the simple narrative are equal to the occasion: John the Baptist standing, two disciples nearby. The disciples follow Jesus. The heavenly attraction had begun to exercise its power. Jesus turned and gazed on the two men following him and spoke the first words from the lips of the Saviour reported by St. John: a "What do vou want?". That same question is asked of all of us who follow Jesus: "Why do we follow him? What is it that we seek?

Msza Św. Mass in Polish

w jêzyku polskim w Ballincollig 21 luty - 21 February sobota - 19:00 - Saturday 19:00 Zapraszamy Powiadom znajomych

Ballincollig Parish **Bereavement Support**

The next Bereavement Support Programme will commence on Tuesday 3rd February 2009 and will continue each Tuesday night for 8 weeks. This programme is held in a small group setting and is open to all who are grieving the death of loved ones.

During grief it is normal to experience many emotions such as shock, numbness, anger, guilt, loneliness, depression. A Bereavement Support Group provides a safe place where the bereaved can, in a confidential setting, share their experiences with others, explore the different stages of grief, and be supported during a difficult time.

For further information, please contact Sr Colette O'Leary: 086.3557375 or the Parish Office: 4871206.

'Mothers Prayers' Groups

Have re commenced and continue Every Wednesday, 10.30 am Meeting Room at Christ our Light Church Every Thursday, at 10.00 am **Annex of Parish Hall**

Please note return to Annex venue Thursday mornings All Mothers, Grandmothers, Godmothers are welcome to come along one of these mornings to pray for their children and the youth of our Parish. (for approximately 30 minutes)

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Bulletin Board

Offertory Collection Boxes

Envelope boxes for the Offertory Collection are now available in both churches. Families are invited to take one box and use the envelopes for the Offertory Collection at all Vigil and Sunday Masses for the year ahead. Families who make contributions by Direct Debit are not expected to donate to this collection and can refrain from collecting a box.

The Offertory Collection is used solely for the upkeep, maintenance, insurance, lighting, heating and related expenses of both churches.

Thanks for your generosity and we look forward to your support for the coming year

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, so they may visit.

Confirmations 2009.

dnesday 22nd April
1 00 110 1
nday 23rd March
ursday 23rd April
ursday 23rd April
esday 19th May
urday 6th June

Scoil Eoin Scoil Barra Our Lady of Good Counsel Gaelscoil Uí Ríordáin

d April May June

Saturday 23rd May Saturday 16th May Saturday 16th May Saturday 9th May

Decision Time

This time of year Leaving Cert. pupils are busy completing their CAO forms. This is a particularly stressful time for students. Perhaps we could all make an effort to keep these young people in mind and in our prayers this week and indeed in the weeks ahead also.

Catholic Paper

Copies of the Catholic Paper -The Universe - are available in both Churches every week.

Fr. George

Canon John O'Donovan

Assistant Priest in Clonakilty parish, has died recently. Canon O'Donovan was a native of Newcestown and was ordained a priest in 1960. Canon John was also well known as the principal presenter of Faith Matters on Sunday evenings on the west Cork radio station C103. He usually signed off his programme each Sunday by saying "When all is said and done, what matters to God is you".

May he rest in the peace of the Lord.

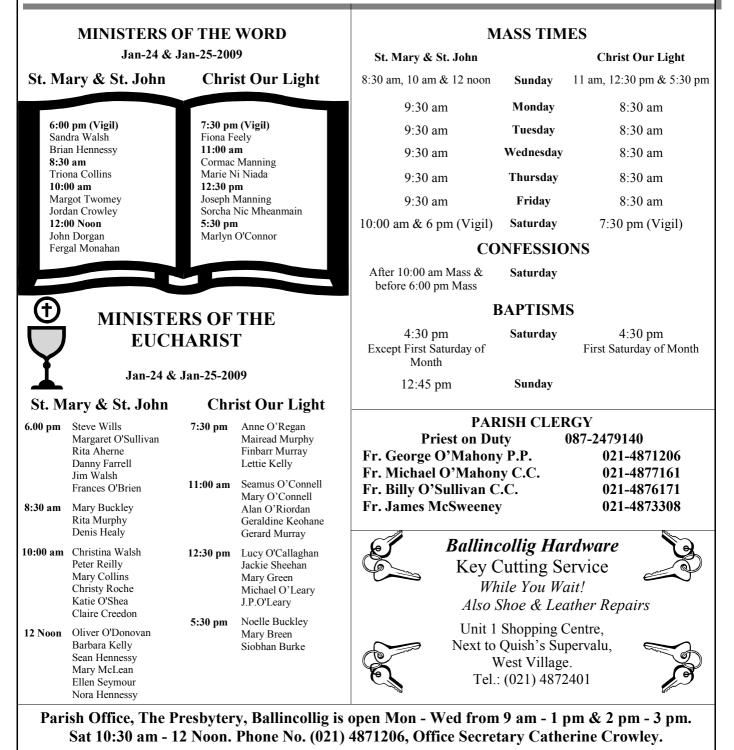
Short Bible Programmes January - February 2009

Singing in the Reign: An Introduction to the Psalms over 5 Tuesday nights beginning 20th January in Frankfield, Grange Parish Centre. 8 to 9.30 pm each night. Rediscovering Paul: An Introduction to the Life, Letters and Theology of the Apostle to the Gentiles over four Thursday nights beginning 22nd January in Brú Columbanus, Wilton

For bookings and information on either programme contact the Office of Adult Religious Education at 021-4357765 or email are@corkandross.org. The total cost of each programme is €20 (€10 for Seniors and Students).

Sunday 18-January-2009

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