

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER

Sunday 20-December-2015



St. Mary & St. John
Station Road

Fourth Sunday of Advent

God's anointed was born by the power of God's spirit. He is the Son of God, and fulfils God's promise of an everlasting kingdom for his people.



Christ Our Light
Innishmore

Preparing for Jesus

Broken promises are part of everyday life, they leave a bitter taste, disharmony and also lead to cynicism. The person who does not keep their word leaves an ever widening ripple of distrust. The unfulfilled pledge is a wound that continues to fester. To break one's word to a child is to undermine confidence that may never be restored. However a commitment honoured, a promise kept, a covenant fulfilled creates bonds of peace and love that can survive any calamity.

Advent reminds us of such a promise. The promise in question is made by God, to send a messiah, a leader a saviour. He sent his only Son, Jesus born of Mary, a Jew of the house of David. Jesus declared "The spirit of God is upon me, I have come to bring good news for the poor, liberty to captives, sight to the blind and freedom to the oppressed." The rising of Christ from the dead enables us to believe in God and in our destiny. He gives his word to be our God now matter how we fail or how often. To seal that promise his Son Jesus was born to Mary and continues to live among us as a builder of peace and justice.

God continues to keep his word. Today is another invitation to respond in faith filled joy and generous fidelity.

George O'Mahony

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Priest

Let us turn to the Lord in our needs, confident that he will give us his saving help.

Reader

For the Church: that it may continue to work and pray for the coming of the kingdom of God.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For political leaders: that they may work to create a world where justice and peace may reign.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For those who are suffering the effects of war, famine and persecution in particular the people of Aleppo.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For all those who live without faith and have nothing to look forward to, and for all gathered here: that we who recognise Christ as our Saviour, may follow him in our lives.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For all our dead: that God may keep them in his care – those who have loved and those no one remembers.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

We pray for our parish community; may Christ come truly into our hearts this Christmas.

Lord, Hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

Priest

Heavenly Father, in your mercy keep us free from sin and protect us from anxiety as we wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. We ask this through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

Best Wishes for a Happy and Peaceful Christmas

The priests of the parish join in sending their Christmas greetings to all members of the parish and to all readers of the Ballincollig Parishioner. We thank you all for your help and co-operation during the past year.

You will be remembered in our Christmas Masses.

George O'Mahony & Cian O'Sullivan

God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

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

† IN SYMPATHY †

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

Eimer Higgins, Manor Hill.
 John Cullinane, Tower.
 Eugene O’Sullivan, Castleknock.
 Abraham Allen, Knocknaheeny.
 Josephine O’Kelly Lynch, Westgate.
 Fr. Freddie Keohan.
 Gerry Deady, Castletownroche.
 Mary O’Connor, Millstreet.
 Vincent O’Regan, Carrigfadda.
 William Forde, Glenville.
 Denis Carroll, Freemount.

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

Robert & May Curling, London.
 John O’Donnell & Family, Inniscarra.
 Patrick O’Donoghue, The Crescent.
 Neilly Harrington, O’Donovan Crescent.
 Jim O’Driscoll, Classis Lake.
 Brian Reddy, Dripsey.
 Noel McCarthy, Oaklands.
 Timothy & Hannah Cronin, Limerick.
 Cecily O’Sullivan, Beech Park.
 Marie O’Connor Hannon, Dublin.
 James Prendiville, Castlepark.
 Anthony McCarthy, Castlepark.
 John Kelleher, Rosewood.
 Michael Giltinan, Maglin View.
 George O’Mahony, Drimoleague.
 Arthur Rojas.
 Jerry Delaney, Maglin.
 Dermot Barry Murphy, Carriganarra.
 Denis & Ellen Hallahan, Ballingulley.
 Pat & Mary Horgan, Upton.
 Patrick Barry, Elm Lawn, Muskerry Estate.
 Pat McCullagh, Castle Avenue.
 Bridget & Michael O’Regan, Carriganarra.
 Bridie Sexton, Hillsboro.
 William Tracy, Castleknock.
 Denis McCarthy, Coolroe Meadows.
 Finn Buckley, Bishopstown
 Barry Kelly, The Crescent
 Patrick & Margaret O’Mahony, Clash
 Con, Mary & Con Kelly, Kilmichael
 Joan O’Connor, Blackrock.
 Dan McCarthy, The Crescent.
 The Harrington family, The Square.
 John & Lena Gaffney, Carrigrohane.
 Deceased members of Radley family, Powdermills.
 Deceased members of Gaffney family Limerick & Ballincollig.
 Deceased members of Ahern family, Fr. Sexton Park.
 Jeremiah & Mary Keohane, Rossmore.
 Frank & Noreen Keohane, Westcourt.
 Brendan Keohane, Ovens.
 Peter O’Sullivan, Rosewood.
 Flanagan Family, Castlepark.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Fourth Week Of Advent

20 Sunday Mic. 5: 1-4. Ps 79. Heb. 10:5-10. Lk. 1 :39-45. Lect I: 73
 21 Monday Song 2:8-14 or Zeph. 3: 14-18. Ps. 32. Lk. 1 :39-45. Lect I: 85
 22 Tuesday 1 Sam. 1:24-28. Ps. 1 Sam. 2:1, 4-8. Lk. 1:46-56. Lect I: 88
 23 Wednesday Mal. 3:1-4, 4:5-6. Ps. 24. Lk. 1:57-66. Lect I: 90
 24 Thursday 2 Sam. 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16. Ps. 88. Lk. 1:67-79. Lect I: 92
 25 Friday Is 52:7-10. Ps 97. Heb 1:1-6. Jn 1:1-18. Lect I: 109
 26 Saturday Acts 6:8-10, 7:54 - 9. Ps 30. Mt 10:17-22. Lect I: 125

Next Sunday’s Readings 27-December-2015

Eccles. (Sir) 3:2-6, 12-14. Ps. 127. Col. 3:12-21. Mt. 2:13-15, 19-23. Lect I:114



Fourth Sunday of Advent

We are about to take our final step in Preparation for our Christmas meeting with Christ.

In the Gospel we hear the words spoken to Mary: “Do not be afraid”.

Let us place our trust in God, who is very near us. With open hearts may we embrace the grace of our Saviour.

The 12 Days of Christmas

Religious symbolism of The Twelve Days of Christmas

1. True Love refers to God
2. Turtle Doves refers to the Old and New Testaments
3. French Hens refers to Faith, Hope and Charity, the Theological Virtues
4. Calling Birds refers to the Four Gospels and/or the Four Evangelists
5. Golden Rings refers to the first Five Books of the Old Testament, the "Pentateuch", which gives the history of man's fall from grace.
6. Geese A-laying refers to the six days of creation
7. Swans A-swimming refers to the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit, the seven sacraments
8. Maids A-milking refers to the eight beatitudes
9. Ladies Dancing refers to the nine Fruits of the Holy Spirit
10. Lords A-leaping refers to the ten commandments
11. Pipers Piping refers to the eleven faithful apostles
12. Drummers Drumming refers to the twelve points of doctrine in the Apostle's Creed

BAPTISMS

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

Sean Michael Birmingham, Berryfield.
 David John Burns O’Mahony, Inniscarra.
 Elizabeth Alison Tan, Granary Court.
 Abbey Suzanna O’Shea, Aylsbury.
 Sam Thomas Curtin, Limeworth.
 Ciara Patricia Manning, Innishmore Grove.
 Noah Stephen O’Sullivan, Long Range, Powdermills.

Carol Service

Today Sunday 20th December at 7pm
 Church of St Mary & St. John

THE SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading: Mic 5:1-4
 Jesus Christ is coming soon, as he once came to Bethlehem. His origin is ancient. His message is timeless. His truth is eternal. Jesus Christ is peace itself.

Second Reading: Heb 10:5-10
 The coming of Christ brings about our sanctification. As Jesus came to do the will of God, we too have the same purpose in life. We offer our bodies as a spiritual sacrifice to God. In his will is our peace.

Gospel: Luke 1:39 - 44
 Luke tells us much in this account of Mary's visit to Elizabeth. Mary went to Judah to visit her cousin, Elizabeth, who knew nothing of Mary's pregnancy before their encounter. Yet Elizabeth knew that there was something special about Mary and the baby she carried. This is made clear by her calling Mary the "mother of my Lord." The baby that Elizabeth carried leaped for joy at the sound of Mary's voice. This completes the prophecy of the angel that Elizabeth and Zechariah were expecting a baby and is symbolic of John's announcing Jesus' coming.

Bulletin Board

Christmas Collection

According to the Diocesan custom, the collection at Christmas Vigil / Day Masses is one of two occasions during the year when the offertory collection goes to the priests of the Parish.

Offertory Collection Boxes 2016

The boxes of envelopes for the Offertory Collection are available in both churches. Families are asked to take one box. Please use the envelopes for the Offertory Collection for the Vigil and Sunday Masses during the year. The Offertory Collection is solely for the upkeep, maintenance, insurance, lighting, heating and related expenses of both churches.

Parishioners, who avail of the Direct Debit system and who gave their name and offertory box number for Tax Rebate to the Church will have their boxes delivered to them. Thanks for your generosity and we look forward to your support for the coming year.

Fr. George

Saint Vincent De Paul

Collection last weekend amounted to €16,142.42. Sincere thanks to all who contributed so generously. This generosity will make big difference to many struggling families .

Legion of Mary

Rosary at The Crib (Near AIB)
 Christmas Eve at 12 Noon
All are welcome to participate

Ballincollig Parish Christmas Programme

Sacrament of Reconciliation for Christmas

Monday 21 st December	8 pm	Christ Our Light	Penitential Service
Tuesday 22 nd December	7 pm - 8 pm	St Mary & St John	Confessions
Thursday 24 th December Christmas Eve	11.00 a.m. - 2.00 p.m.	St Mary & St John	
	12.00 noon - 1.00 p.m.	Christ Our Light	



Mass Times



 Church of St Mary & St John	Thursday 24 th December Christmas Eve	6.00 p.m.	Vigil Mass
		10.00 p.m.	Christmas Mass
	Friday 25 th December Christmas Day	8.30 a.m.	Mass of Christmas Day
10.00 a.m.			
12.00 noon			
Thursday 24 th December Christmas Eve	6.00 p.m.	Children's Mass	
	8.00 p.m.	Vigil Mass	
	12.00 Midnight	Midnight Mass	
Friday 25 th December Christmas Day	11.00 a.m.	Mass of Christmas Day	
	12.30 p.m.		
	No 5:30 p.m. Mass on Christmas Day		



Church of Christ Our Light

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

Dec-26 & Dec-27-2015

St. Mary & St. John

Christ Our Light

6:00 pm (Vigil)
Aine Sheehan
Michael Collins»
8:30 am
Pat Fennell
Kate Healy
10:00 am
David O'Brien
Debra Daly
12:00 Noon
Oliver O'Donovan
Niamh Heelan

7:30 pm (Vigil)
Rebecca Feely
Josh Nyagaya
11:00 am
Tomas Buckley
Michael Buckley
12:30 pm
Bernard Valley
Colm Walsh
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, 6 pm & 10 pm	Thursday	8:30 am, 6 pm, 8 pm, Mid-night
8:30 am, 10 am & 12 noon	Friday	11 am, 12:30 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. Cian O'Sullivan C.C.	021-4876171

Funeral Pastoral Team Rota

Week 21st Dec to 27th Dec
Brid Dunne & Sr. Colette O'Leary

To all our Readers & Parishioners

Happy Christmas
Nollaig Shona Dhuit
Feliz Navidad
Boas Festas
Sretan Bozic
Ruumsaid juulup | hi
Hyvaa joulua
Joyeux Noel
Buone Feste Natalizie
Pricigus Ziemas Svetkus
Linksmu Kaledu
Wesolych Swiat Bozego Narodzenia
Sarbatori vesele
Cestitamo Bozic
May the Child Jesus and His Mother watch over you this Christmas and throughout the coming year.
As once they came to the stable of Bethlehem, may they come to you and bring you all the desires of your heart.

Merry Christmas & A Happy New Year

from The Parishioner Editorial Team
Con, Tom, Pat, Karen & Diarmuid
Next publication Sunday 10th January 2016



MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

Dec-26 & Dec-27-2015

St. Mary & St. John

Christ Our Light

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

8:30 am Mary Buckley
Theresa Lucey
Mary B. Murphy

10:00 am Cathy Horgan
Betty Flavin
Anne Spillane
Betty Sheehan
Ann O'Connell
Con O'Connell

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

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

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

12:30 pm Tom Murray
John O'Regan
Gerard Dunne
Sylvia Manley

5:30 pm Bernard Curran
John Canty

Mary's Dream

'I had a dream, Joseph. I don't understand it, but I think it was about a birthday celebration for our son. The people in my dream had been preparing for about six weeks. They had decorated the house and bought new clothes. They'd gone shopping many times and bought many elaborate gifts. It was peculiar though, because the presents weren't for our son. They wrapped them in beautiful paper and stacked them under a tree. Yes, a tree, Joseph right inside their homes! They'd decorated the tree with sparkling ornament. There was a figure like an angel on the top of the tree. Everyone was laughing and happy. They gave gifts to each other, Joseph, not to our son. I don't think they even knew him. They never mentioned his name. I had the strangest feeling if our Jesus had gone to this celebration, he would have been intruding. How sad for someone not to be wanted at his own birthday party! I'm glad it was only a dream. How terrible, Joseph, if it had been real!

May the Child Jesus rest at the inn of your heart this Christmas