

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER



St. Mary & St. John
Station Road

Sunday 29-November-2009

First Sunday of Advent

God comes to those who wait for him. Our waiting needs to be prayerful if we are to be truly ready to receive him when he comes.



Christ Our Light
Innishmore

First Sunday of Advent

On this first Sunday of Advent we focus on the coming of Christ - we celebrate his first coming in Bethlehem over two thousand years ago; we look forward with hope to his second coming at the end of time and we give thanks for his continual coming to us each day, especially in the Eucharist.

As each of us prepares for the coming of Jesus at Christmas and his final coming at the end of time, it may be a good time to reflect on our own personal relationship with him and with those around us. St Paul shows us a way to prepare for Christ's coming when he says: 'may you love one another and the whole human race' so that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his saints. We are his witnesses in this world bringing light, love and hope in the midst of darkness. We can ask ourselves do we recognize and welcome the Lord in the people and ordinary events we encounter each day?

As we begin this New Liturgical Year it is a chance to make a new beginning in our following of Christ, to renew and deepen our relationship with him. All of us are sinners and we sometimes stray from the kind of life that he wants for us. Jesus is inviting us to 'let go' of the dark areas of our lives and to walk in his light. During our Advent Retreat this week we will have the opportunity to experience Christ's compassion, love and forgiveness in the Sacrament of Reconciliation as we prepare to welcome him in to our hearts this Christmas.

The symbolism of the Advent Wreath that we see in our Churches, helps focus our attention in preparing for Christmas. The circular shape of the wreath is a symbol of eternity and a reminder that God has no beginning or end. The greenery of the Advent wreath symbolizes God coming to us with new life and our hope of eternal life. The four outer candles represent the weeks of Advent. The three purple candles symbolize the spiritual preparation during Advent. The pink candle is lit on the third Sunday of Advent symbolizing the theme for this 'Gaudete Sunday' - Joy at Christ's coming. The centre white candle which is lit Christmas Eve celebrates Christ's birth.

Sr. Colette

Advent Retreat 2009

The Ballincollig Advent Retreat will be held in the Church of Christ Our Light on 30th November, 1st and 2nd December, 2009. The Retreat will be conducted by the Redemptorists who will speak at all Masses on Saturday and Sunday 28th & 29th November.

Masses; Monday Tuesday & Wednesday at 7.00 am & 9.15 am
Retreat Homily, Devotions & Prayers - Monday & Tuesday at 7.30 pm (No Mass)
Penitential Service; Wednesday Evening at 7.30 pm

First Sunday of Advent

Lord, help us to remember that YOU are near us always as we struggle, step by step, to get nearer to YOU, in this special season. "God of Hosts, bring us back; Let Your face shine on us and we shall be saved"



PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Priest

Let us present our needs to the Lord who fulfils his promise:

Reader

For the Church; that it may help people to prepare for Christmas, to stay awake praying at all times.

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

For the leaders in our community; that they may act with justice and integrity and foster good relations.

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

For all present; that we may make progress in the life that God wants us to live as we prepare for the coming of Christ this Advent.

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

We pray that we may become more and more a community that actively cares for and protects the most vulnerable members of our society.

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

For those who are sick; that they may experience the healing touch of the Lord.

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

We pray for those who have died; that they may receive eternal life.

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

Priest

Heavenly Father, you reveal your covenant to those who revere you. Hear the prayers we make today through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

Amen.

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

Visit Our Website: www.ballincolligparish.ie

BAPTISMS

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

Lexie Louise O'Sullivan, Silverwood.
 Cian Anthony Williams, Citi West Mews.
 Ruby Sophie Runayne, Leecourt.
 Ewan Duffy Kent, Leslie Arch, Old Quarter.
 Denis Eoin Shanahan, Parknamore.
 Jake Patrick Coughlan, Chestnut Grove, Classes Lake.
 Alex Michael Scott, The Glenties, Macroom.
 Saoirse Marie Fitton-O'Hanlan, Rosewood.

† **IN SYMPATHY** †

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

Paddy Byrne, Westcourt.
 Eileen Healy, Curraheen.
 Margaret Healy, Muskerry Estate.
 Agnes O'Sullivan, Glengarriff.
 Maeve McCarthy, Model Farm Road.
 Tony Burke, Fermoy.
 Teresa O'Leary, Woodlawn, Model Farm Road.
 Denis O'Donoghue, Rathmore.

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

Con O'Mahony, Tower.
 Joe & Mona Thullier, Kinsale.
 John & Peg O'Hanlon, Kerry.
 Tommy Daly, Leemount.
 Tim & Sheila Coakley, Castlehaven.
 Timothy O'Leary, Farnanes.
 Patrick O'Riordan, Castle Park
 John & Ellen Beamish.
 Jim & Katie O'Grady, Sligo.
 Christy Callanan, Muskerry Estate.
 Sherrie O'Riordan, Boston.
 Kevin McCarthy, Rosewood.
 Eileen O'Flynn, Lyras, Aherla.
 Thomas Farrell, Beech Park.
 Pat McGrath, Glasheen Road.
 Catherine O'Connor, Turners Cross.
 Phil Coughlan, Tower Street.
 John Ring, Dungourney & Australia.
 Tim Murphy, Ballyphehane.
 Rita Kinsella, Carrigrohane.
 Dan Murphy, Clash.
 Kevin McCarthy, Rosewood.
 Tim Crowley, Coachford.
 John, Nora & Joseph Fleming, Mallow.
 Francis Raften, Mallow.
 Timothy & Eileen Keohane, Clonakilly.
 Jim Butler, Inniscarra.
 Daniel Coomey, Carriganarra.
 Agnes Kavanagh, Fr Sexton Park.
 Dan & Eva Spillane, Westcourt Heights.
 Kitty, Denis & William O'Mahony, Tudor Grove.
 Mary Dineen, Shandon View.
 Joan & Michael Hennigan, Woodbine Lawn.
 Stephen Spitere, Glasheen.

St Dominic's Retreat Centre

LECTIO DIVINA - 3 Thursdays in Advent

Starting 3rd December 7.30 - 9.00 pm

Scripture Reflection - Meditating on Sunday Gospel concluding with celebration of the Eucharist.

Directed by Benedict Hegarty OP & Martina Lehane Sheehan.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

First Week of Advent

29 Sunday Jer. 33: 14-16. Ps. 24. 1 Thess. 3: 12-4:2. Lk. 21 :25-28,34-36. Lect I: 8

30 Monday Rom. 10:9-18. Ps. 18. Mt. 4:1 8-22. Lect II:1279

01 Tuesday Is 11:1-10. Ps. 71. Lk. 10:21-24. Lect I: 13

02 Wednesday Is. 25:6-10. Ps. 22. Mt. 15:29-37. Lect I: 15

03 Thursday Is. 26: 1-6. Ps. 117. Mt. 7:21, 24-27. Lect I: 18

04 Friday Is. 29:17-24. Ps. 26. Mt. 9:27-31. Lect I: 20

05 Saturday Is. 30:19-21, 23-26. Ps. 146. Mt. 9:35-10: 1, 6-8. Lect I: 22

Next Sunday's Readings 06-December-2009

Bar. 5:1-9. Ps 125. Phil. 1 :3-6,8-11. Lk. 3:1-6. Lect I: 30

A Birthday Present for Baby Jesus

The plan is, during Advent, for each child to do an extra 'job' around the house to earn a coin (20c is the maximum allowed per child per week)

There will be a box to collect the coins in front of the altar at the Children's Mass each week.

On the last Sunday of Advent we will count the money and the children, as a group, will choose a gift for that value (or thereabouts) from one of the charity gift catalogues.

The gift certificate will be brought to the altar at the Children's Mass on Christmas Eve as a Birthday present for Baby Jesus from the children.

We have a number of aims in organising this project:

- To emphasise that Christmas is Jesus' Birthday
- To show that Advent is a time for preparation for Christmas - and the little 'jobs' that the children do to help at home are a positive way to prepare.
- To show the children that they can make a difference.
- To show that small efforts, when joined together, can add up to something big.
- To encourage the children to think of those less fortunate.

If you would like to see the gifts available and maybe discuss them with your child - most of the charities have catalogues on their website.

CROWLEY

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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THE SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading: Jer. 33:14-16
The time is ripe to mend our ways, to correct our faults, to be ready for the return of Jesus Christ. Jeremiah speaks to us today, urging us to repent and believe.

Second Reading: Thes. 3:12-4:2
In this reading, Paul congratulates the early Christians on their progress in serving God. The words we are about to hear are also written for us, that we too may grow in faith.

Gospel: Luke 21:25-28. 34-36
Exactly what will happen with the moon and stars and sun, is not known, but this Gospel makes clear that we will recognise some cosmic change when Jesus returns. The Gospel encourages us to not be afraid but to be ready. Specifically, Jesus told his listeners not to get caught up in the business of everyday living and all of its distractions. By the time Luke wrote for his community, it was clear that Jesus' return would not be immediate. The message Mark wanted people to understand, though, was one of hope - but also to remain in a state of readiness.

Christ our Light – Silver Jubilee

Thank you
The Sub group of parish council who planned and organised this 25 yrs celebration.
The Altar Society and Flower club of Christ Our Light. Sacristan, Siobhan and Pat. The Parish Council.
The Liturgy group; The publicity group of parish council.
Karen O' Sullivan and Helen Hallissey for the mimes and those who took part. The cantors and musicians, Ministers of Word and Eucharist. The collectors.
The Ebili family for bringing the gifts. The Scouts.
The Neo Catecumenate for their support with catering.
The Schools. BCS, Scoil Barra, Our Lady of Good Counsel, Gaelscoil Ui Riordan. Families and Individuals who provided Photographs. Paper cuttings, and the booklet from the opening ceremony. Those who gave time and work to prepare building and surrounds.
Con and the parishioner group for their help.

ADVENT EARLY MORNING PRAYER

There is no better way to start off your day, than to pray. Come to the MORNING PRAYER of the CHURCH, taking place during Advent. Come to St. Mark's Centre (opposite Christ Our Light Church) Mon. — Fri. at 6 am. Starting Mon. 30th Nov. EVERYONE WELCOME.

The Annual Ballincollig Boy Scout Bazaar

Will be held on Sunday 6th December in the Community Hall @ 2 pm. All proceeds remain in Ballincollig.
There is still time to donate some plants, toys, books or bric-abrac before the Big Day
Please drop them to the Scout Hall
Tuesday to Friday evenings.
All items must be of good resalable quality.
(No Computers - No Electrical Items - No Large Furniture)
Thank you for supporting Ballincollig Boy Scouts.
ALL WELCOME

Faith in A Time of Recession

A Talk by Sr. Jennifer McClear
A talk to give hope and inspiration during times of recession/economic down turn and despair.
Venue: Church of the Immaculate Conception, The Lough, Cork
Date: Thursday, 10th December, 2009 at 8 Pm
Admission Free All Welcome
Organised by the Lough Parish Assembly

Bulletin Board

First Friday

Friday December 4th is the first Friday of the month. There will be exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in St Mary & St John from 6.30 pm to 8 pm, you are invited to come and spend some time with the Lord. There is Mass in St Mary & St John on Friday evening at 8 pm. The priests of the parish visit the sick of the parish on the first Friday of each month; please let us know if you have a family member or neighbour who is sick or housebound.

Mass Book

Diaries to book Mass Intentions for January, February & March will open in both Churches on Saturday 12th December at 9.00 am.

Fr. George.

Scoil Barra 25th Anniversary Calendar

Scoil Barra opened its doors to students 25 years ago this year. To celebrate this event a *Calendar* has been launched. If you are a past pupil of Scoil Barra, you can get your copy from the School Office during school hours for just €8. Your photo might be in it!!

Cork Theology Forum

Beyond Violent Futures: Cultivating Peace
Speaker: Prof. Linda Hogan
Date: Saturday 5th December, 2009
Time: 8.30 am – 1.15pm
Place: Rochestown Park Hotel, Douglas.

Foster Carers

'Have you considered becoming a Foster Carer, could you foster a child or young person, if you would like to find out more about fostering please contact 1850 211 593'

The Coeliac Society of Ireland

Southern Branch will hold the following meeting in December:
Date: Tuesday, December 1st 2009
Place: S.M.A. Centre, Wilton, Cork
Time: 8.00 pm
Topic: Christmas Party Night. "Bring something."
All welcome.

Make a Child in Hospital Smile

Join our volunteer Team
Volunteers give two/three hours once a week (either morning, afternoon or evening- Monday to Friday) Training and on-going support is provided. Local 1890 252 682 Email: info@childreninhospital.ie Web: childreninhospital.ie

The Pike Theatre Group

Would like to thank everybody who attended the Ballincollig Drama Festival held recently for supporting this successful event. It is nice to see such talent being displayed by the various groups around the county.

Future events to note are as follows

The Pike Theatre & Active Pulse annual dinner dance is on Thursday 3rd December at 7 pm in the Castle Hotel Blarney. Music by Pat Clohessy. Tickets €30 available from Charlie Conway on 021 4646223

The Pike Theatre will be holding its Christmas social on Tuesday 8th December at Tanner Park, Ballincollig. Fancy dress optional. Music by Fergal Doody.'

Thanking you in advance & Merry Christmas.

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

Dec-05 & Dec-06-2009

St. Mary & St. John

Christ Our Light

6:00 pm (Vigil)
Michael Fitton
Paul Kearns
8:30 am
Pat Fennell
Susan Fennell
10:00 am
Ciaran Noonan
Shannon O'Brien
12:00 Noon
Declan Chalmers
Chloe Dalton O'Connor

7:30 pm (Vigil)
Rebecca Feely
Jessica Lingard
11:00 am
Cormac Manning
Marie Ni Niada
12:30 pm
Brian O'Donoghue
Chide Ebili
5:30 pm
Brian O'Donoghue

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	7:00 am & 9:15 am
9:30 am	Tuesday	7:00 am & 9:15 am
9:30 am	Wednesday	7:00 am & 9:15 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	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. Billy O'Sullivan C.C.	021-4876171
Fr. James McSweeney	021-4873308



MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

Dec-05 & Dec-06-2009

St. Mary & St. John

Christ Our Light

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

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

8:30 am Mary Buckley
Theresa Lucey
Triona Collins

11:00 am Neil Jeffers
Eileen O'Donoghue
Bridie O'Donnell
Bridie Hanrahan
Cath / Hugh Moran

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

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

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

5:30 pm Bernard Curran
Siobhan Burke



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



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