THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER Sunday 09-April-2023 Easter Sunday Today we face the greatest mystery of our faith, the mystery of how God works among us, bringing new life where before there was only death. With a sense of wonder and with joy, Christ Our Light St. Mary & St. John we come today to thank God for the risen life of Jesus. Innishmore **Station Road** Easter Sunday This is the day that the Lord has made! We have good reason to rejoice and be glad. Jesus has triumphed over sin and death: He is risen! The Easter Vigil begins in darkness. This darkness may be symbolic of all the suffering and pain in our lives - the pain of sickness, grief, loss, rejection, loneliness, abandonment, addiction, hopelessness. We wait in hope and expectation for our Gethsemane to end. Into this darkness a light shines when the Paschal Candle is carried in procession through the darkened Church. The Paschal Candle represents Christ who is the Light of the world and who rekindles his light in us by entering into the darkness of our lives bringing hope, joy and peace. In the Gospel for Easter Sunday, we hear of Mary Magdalen going early in the morning to the tomb of Jesus, only to see that the stone had been moved from the tomb. She goes running back to tell Simon Peter and John: 'they have taken the Lord out of the tomb and we don't know where they have put him'. Having returned to the tomb and seeing for themselves, they understood and they believed. Up to that moment, the Gospel says, "they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture that Jesus must rise from the dead".

The first Reading from the Acts of the Apostles tells us the story of the first believers. In the first Reading Peter is speaking after the baptism of Cornelius and his family. Because of his conviction that Jesus, who died on the Cross, is now alive, Peter is so filled with joy that he simply must share that joy and hope with the listening crowds. The celebration of Easter reminds us that we have the same mission as Mary Magdalene, Peter and the other disciples of Jesus. We renew our baptismal promises as a community of faith. Just as the resurrection of Jesus brought new hope in the disciples, the renewing of our baptismal promises is an invitation to us to proclaim the good news and continue to be witnesses to the risen Lord by the way we live our daily lives. Let us thank God for the gift of the Risen Jesus.

Ballincollig Alzheimer Café

are meeting on Thursday, 20th April from 4.00pm – 6.00pm in The Chapel Gate Café. They meet every 3rd Thursday of the month. This month's topic is: The Importance of Enduring Power of Attorney. Guest speaker: Kate Hallissey Solicitor. To register contact: Karen Fitzpatrick 087 348 7511 or ballincolligalzheimercafe@alzheimer.ie

Medjugorje Pilgrimage

Medjugorje Pilgrimage ex Cork May 31st to June 7th 2023. Only 9 places remaining. Spiritual Director Fr. Ted Sheehan. €849.00 pps. €300 deposit secures place. Contact Sean O'Shaughnessy 086 2959380 or contact Joe Walsh Tours 012410800

The priests of the parish join in sending their Easter greetings to all members of the parish and to all readers of The Ballincollig Parishioner. Fr's Alan O'Leary, Kamil Bachara & Ronan Sheehan.

Please note new Emergency/Priest on Duty in Parish Number is: 087 4021357

This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad.

Visit Our Website: www.ballincolligparish.ie

Sunday 09-April-2023

THE BALLINCOLLIG PARISHIONER

Bulletin Board

Easter collection for the Priests of the Parish

According to the Diocesan custom, the collection at Easter Masses is one of two occasions in the year when the offertory collection goes to the priests of the parish. Your generosity and support is very much appreciated.

Easter Greetings

We wish all our parishioners a very happy Easter. Spring is a special time of year; it brings new life in the animal world as well as the world of nature. The longer and brighter days help to lift the spirits of many. Easter is also a very special time for the Christian family. Holy week celebrates the major Christian truths. We have a saviour who died for us and is risen from the dead, giving us a promise and hope that we too will triumph over darkness and death. May we enjoy the Easter time and be refreshed by the promise of life and light from the Saviour Jesus.

Bank Holiday Monday

Monday April 10th Morning Mass at 9.30am in Church of St Mary & St John.

Trocaire Boxes

Please return Trocaire Boxes to the schools or to the church; when returned the money will be lodged in the Trocaire Account.

First Friday

On Friday 14th April we will hold the first Friday of this month. There is Mass in St Mary & St John on Friday evening at 7.30pm. The priests of the parish visit the sick of the parish this Friday; please let us know if you have a family member or neighbour who is sick or housebound.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 3 p.m. until 4 p.m. In St. Mary & St. John's Church every Friday.

Coeliac Hosts

Low gluten hosts are available that are suitable for Coeliac. Please inform the priest prior to Mass if possible if you require it.

Rosary

Family Rosary is on every Sunday at 9.15am in St. Mary & St. John Church.

Meditation

Meditation continues every Tuesday in Ballincollig Community Hall after 9.30am Mass. Please feel free to join any Tuesday

> Ballincollig Church Cantor Tony O'Brien available with accompanist To sing at funerals and weddings in Ballincollig. Tel. No.: 085 706 7564

† IN SYMPATHY †
PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF THE RECENTLY DECEASED :
Donie Hegarty, Leesdale.
John Bray, Castle Avenue.
Edmund Kenneally, Hilton.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS OF THE FOLLOWING WHOSE ANNIVERSARY OCCURS OR OTHERWISE REMEMBERED: Peter Carmody, Ennis. Gillian Drinan, Church View. Jerry Moynihan, Inniscarra View/Drinagh. Tony Murphy, Turners Cross/Glasheen. Catherine (Kitty) Murphy, Rossa Ave./Powdermills. Tony Allen, Inniscarra View. Eileen & Jim Riordan, Cork. Jean & John O'Keeffe, Hartlands Ave. Patrick Kenneally, Curraheen. Margaret Kenneally, Curraheen. Helen Kenneally, Beech Park.

A Thought for Today

The Greatest Man in history is Jesus. He had no servants, yet they called Him Master. He had No degree, yet they called Him Teacher. He had no medicines, yet they called Him Healer. He had no, army, yet kings feared Him. He won no military battles, yet He conquered the world. He committed no crime, yet they crucified him. He was buried in a tomb, yet He lives today.

Reflection for Parents

Most parents have discovered by now that things aren't always as they seem. A poured out bottle of laundry detergent wasn't really mischievous behaviour, but rather an attempt to surprise you with a generous gift of service. Or secret whispers are not an attempt to hide some wrongdoing but rather an effort to plan a surprise for you. Things weren't as they seemed to Mary Magdalene either that first Easter morning. Our errors in perception often work to remind us that God's plan is not always obvious, but that we are challenged to trust in the promise of the resurrection.

Death Has No Power over Him

The certainty of death hangs over every human life. In every human heart lies the fundamental question about what life means and where it leads. Today we celebrate our faith that God's eternal Son has died, as we must do, to show us that death with him is the gateway to a world in which our deepest questions are answered and our deepest longings fulfilled.