

THE PARISHIONER

Sunday 22-February-2026

First Sunday of Lent

As Lent begins we are reminded of Adam's fall from grace and of the reality of sin in human life, we are also reminded that Christ is the new Adam overcoming temptation in himself and so making possible a new life, a new humanity for those who belong to him.



The Family of Parishes of: Ballincollig | Ballinora | Kilmurry | Ovens and Farran

Lenten Fasting: Varied Approaches

Recently I came across some suggested ways to mark our Lenten observance, particularly on the Fridays of Lent. Many already keep to having 'fish on Fridays' but the Irish Bishops' Conference have set out a more expansive list of how we might observe these holy days of Lent: "abstaining from meat or some other food; abstaining from alcoholic drink or smoking; making a special effort at involvement in family prayer; making a special effort to participate in Mass on Fridays; visiting the Blessed Sacrament; making the Stations of the Cross; fasting from all food for a longer period than usual and perhaps giving what is saved to the needy; helping the poor, sick, old, or lonely."

However, I always like to add Pope Francis' list of 'fastings' that we can try our best to keep. He proposed a particular fast and offers what might take its place instead: "fast from hurting words and say kind words; fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude; fast from anger and be filled with patience; fast from pessimism and be filled with hope; fast from worries and have trust in God; fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity; fast from pressures and be prayerful; fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy; fast from selfishness and be compassionate; fast from grudges and be reconciled; fast from words and be silent and listen." These are just some possible ideas for us to ponder and perhaps practise.

In other news, this week marks a further step in growing this newsletter, the Parishioner, as a *Family of Parishes* entity, encompassing Ballincollig, Ballinora, Ovens, and Kilmurry. This remains a work in progress but today marks a return to the A3 format in order to capture the various bulletins from across the four parishes. Your feedback would be appreciated as we plough a new furrow. Many thanks to the team at The Parishioner and in the four parishes for pulling together.

I wish you a holy and blessed Lent. Ronan Sheehan CC

Week of Guided Prayer

Monday 2nd through to Friday 6th of March. Participants commit to spending part of each day in prayer and will be guided sensitively by their spiritual director when they meet. No prior experience of spiritual direction is necessary and those who have done it before are welcome to undertake it again. Places are limited, however. Expressions of interest can be sent to me directly at: fr.ronan2022@gmail.com

Fr. Ronan

Breakthrough Cancer Research

Have you ever dreamed of walking the Camino de Santiago? Breakthrough Cancer Research are taking on the final 100KM of the 'French Way', Sarria to Santiago from the 13th - 20th of April 2026 and would love for you to join them. Many people choose to walk the Camino with Breakthrough Cancer Research for deeply personal reasons. Some take part to honour a loved one, others to fulfil a bucket-list dream, and many simply wish to share a meaningful experience with a friend or partner - all while helping to raise vital, life-saving funds for cancer research. Starting in the charming town of Sarria, experience camaraderie and reflection as you walk toward Santiago de Compostela, creating lasting memories on this historic pilgrimage. For more information, please contact Edel, edel@breakcancer.ie or phone 021 422 66 55 for more details.

Maranatha

Maranatha is a full-day faith-based, high energy music event for young people from parishes across the diocese attending post-primary schools. Students from over half of our post-primary schools have been preparing for Maranatha 2026. This cumulates in a concert in Cork City Hall on Thursday 26th February with over 500 young people singing together. Maranatha was created to bring young people together to celebrate their faith through music and have fun at the same time. Please support our young people by coming to this event. Tickets are €15 (plus booking fee) and are available to book on eventbrite.ie, search Maranatha. Doors open 7pm, with concert beginning at 7.30pm.

Condolence

The Family of Parishes extends its condolences to Bishop Fintan following the recent death of his beloved father.

Michael Gavin

May he rest in peace in the arms of the Lord.

Missionaries of the Sacred Heart Pilgrimage

Join the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart Pilgrimage to Fatima from the 22nd to the 26th September 2026 ex Cork and Dublin. Spiritual Director Fr Joe McGee, MSC. For more details ring Karen in Barbers Travel or email kcallaghan@travelnet.ie

Ballincollig Parish Number for Priest on Duty is: 087 4021357 & Parish office Telephone is 089 4008181 Mon - Wed. 9.00am - 12.30pm

Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned.

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 :

Pat Buckley, Inniscarra View/Coachford.
Sheila O'Leary, Upper Cloghroe.
Paddy Barry-Murphy, Old Quarter/Waterfall.
Patrick (Paddy) Leahy, Westgrove/Skibbereen.
Robert O'Donoghue, Raheen.
Michael Gavin, Marino, Dublin.
Eileen Murray (nee Forde), UK/Curraheen.

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

Terry & Margaret Connolly, Elm Lane.
Lisa Dineen (nee Cronin), Frankfield/Ballincollig.
Helen Lynch, Gurrans.
Dec. mem. of The O'Mahony family, Ballinora.
Alex Myles, Churchview.
Mamie Quinn, former Sacristan/Powdermills.
Joe Kavanagh, Fr Sexton Park.
Jerry O'Leary, Inniscarra View.
Kay West, Douglas.
Dec. mem. of The Keating family, Cahersiveen.
Dec. mem. of The O'Mahony family, Newcestown.
Maura Butler, Ballincollig/Inniscarra/Carlow.
Rory O'Flynn, Powdermills.
Paddy O'Connor, Mayfield/Blarney.
Jim Deasy, Aherla.
Billy Whelton, Muskerry Est.
Jackie & Noreen Duggan, Dunmanway.
Rose and Ted Moylan, Earlwood.
Dec members of the Phelan Family, London.
Margaret White, Coolroe.
Margaret Donovan, Glasheen.
Betty Ahern, Cork City.
William Hennessy, Wilton Gardens.
Tim Sheehan, Alysburly.

Matt Talbot Mass and Novena 2026

The Way of the Cross Church, Togher.
Monday 23rd February 7.30 p.m. Fr. Dan Baragry C.Ss.R, Scala, Blackrock.
Monday 2nd March 7.30 p.m. Fr. Chris Byrne St. Patrick's Missionaries
Monday 9th March 7.30 p.m. Fr. Charlie Nyhan P.E.
Monday 16th March 6.30 p.m. Fr. John Walsh, P.P Togher Parish
Monday 23th March 7.30 p.m. Fr. Colin Doocey, Chaplain C.U.H.
Monday 30th March 7.30 p.m. Ronan Scully, Overseas Aid Development Worker with the Irish Charity Self Help Africa
You can also follow the Novena online www.churchservices.tv/togher

Family Carers Ireland Support & Services

Join Lynne Dennehy Support Manager for the South & West of Cork with Family Carers Ireland, together with Citizens Information to learn about Family Carers Ireland Support and Services and your rights and entitlements as a family carer. The Talbot Hotel Ballincollig February 26th at 10:30am-2pm. Tea & Coffee provided on arrival to give you a chance to meet other carers and lunch will be provided after the information session. For more information, contact Lynne at 086 0759064 or ldennehy@familycarers.ie

Seanad Voting - Registration Deadline for Graduates

Irish citizens with degrees from designated 3rd level colleges are eligible to vote in the 'Higher Education' constituency which replaces the NUI and Trinity panels in Seanad Éireann. Thousands of previous voters have been removed from the register. Ensure you are registered on www.seanadvoter.ie before February 26th. Evidence of a passport or pre-2005 birth certificate is needed. For queries email applications@seanadvoter.ie.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

First Week Of Lent

22 Sunday Gen. 2:7-9, 3:1-7. Ps 50. Rom. 5:12-19. Mt. 4:1-11. Lect I: 201
23 Monday Lev 19:1-2, 11-18. Ps 18. Mt 25:31-46. Lect I: 210
24 Tuesday Is. 55:10-11. Ps. 33. Mt. 6:7-15. Lect I: 212
25 Wednesday Jon. 3:1-10. Ps. 50. Lk. 11:29-32. Lect I: 214
26 Thursday Esther 14: 1, 3-5, 12-14. (Vulgate) Ps. 137. Mt. 7 :7 - 12. Lect I:216
27 Friday Ez 18:21-28. Ps 129. Mt 5:20-26. Lect I: 218
28 Saturday Deut 26: 16-19 Ps 118 Mt 5:43-48 Lect I:221

Next Sunday's Readings 01-March-2026

Gen. 12: 1-4. Ps. 32. 2 Tim. 1:8-10. Mt. 17: 1-9. Lect I: 223

MASS TIMES

St. Mary & St. John		Christ Our Light
8:30 am, 10 am	Sunday	11 am, 12:30 pm
9:30 am	Monday	No Mass
9:30 am	Tuesday	No Mass
9:30 am	Wednesday	8:30 am
9:30 am	Thursday	8:30 am
9:30 am	Friday	8:30 am
6:00 pm (Vigil)	Saturday	7:30 pm (Vigil)

Ballincollig Bulletin Board

Coeliac Hosts

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

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

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

Meditation

Meditation continues in the Ballincollig Community Hall on Tuesday morning after 9.30am Mass. New members welcome.

Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross are at 6.30pm every Friday during the lent in St. Mary and St. John's church. All welcome.

Confirmation

Congratulations to the girls and boys in Our Lady of Good Counsel who received the sacrament of Confirmation recently. Please pray for the girls in Scoil Mhuire who will receive the sacrament of Confirmation on Monday, 23rd February. Sincere thanks to the parents and dedicated teachers who work diligently preparing young people for the sacrament.

Adult Education Classes

Bishopstown School is now taking enrolments for its Adult Education classes, clubs and programs for the spring semester. There are new courses to choose from - Beginner's Bridge, Coffee Appreciation Course, Salsa Dancing to Irish Sign Language Course. To register simply go www.bishopstowncs.ie/adult-education or call 0852829409.

Ovens & Farran Parish

Parish Contact Details

Parish Phone No's.
 Fr. John McCarthy 021 4871180
 Mobile No.: 087 0956190
 Parish Centre / Sacristy: 0214289768
 Email: ovensfarranparish@gmail.com
 Ring for bookings : Baptisms & Marriages etc.
 Farran contact is Ann Brennan after Sunday Mass.

Weekend Masses

The vigil Mass will be in Farran on
 Saturday 14th of Feb. at 6pm
 Ovens: 11.30 am
 Farran: 9.30am

Weekday Masses

Ovens: 9.30 am Wednesday and Friday
 Farran: 9.30 am Tuesday and Thursdays

Ovens & Farran Bulletin Board

Vigil Mass will be at 6pm on Saturday 28th In Farran

Weekend Anniversaries

Ovens: 6pm Peggy and Denis Murphy, Castleinch
 Ovens: 11.30am Matty Murphy, Ballygroman
 Farran: 9.30am Cannon Michael Crowley

Recent Baptisms

Melissa Grace Dennehy, Aglish

1. Trocaire Boxes Available in the Porches of both Churches
2. Holy Hour every Tuesday night from 8-9pm
3. Rosary recited at 9.10 every Friday morning before 9.30am Mass
4. Eucharistic Adoration from 10am to 11am.

Éire Óg

Éire Óg Camogie club will be holding a registration information evening for girls born in 2021 On Wednesday the 25th of February at 8.15 in Room 2 in Éire Óg.
 Registration is now open in Foireann for all ages.

Ovens/Farran Active Retired.

Next meeting is on Monday the 23rd of Feb at 2.30pm in the parish centre

New members welcome

Totus Tuus 2026 Fatima Pilgrimage

The Totus Tuus annual pilgrimage to Fatima will take place from 28th August to 4th September. Learn about the Fatima Message, the Rosary, the First Saturdays, the lives of the three visionaries, and visit the tomb and home of Blessed Alexandrina Da Costa, who lived solely on the Eucharist for 13 years. The cost is €915 which includes, flights, half board accommodation, airport transfers, day trip to Balasar, trip to Valinhos and Adjustrel, trip to the Irish Dominican Sisters' Convent. There are places available to fly from Cork Airport, and also from Dublin Airport. Limited places are available.
 For more information call Damien on 087 20 49 048.

Ballinora Parish

Mass Times

Monday: 10am
 Tuesday: No Mass
 Wednesday: 10am
 Thursday: 10am
 Friday: 10am
 Saturday: 7.30pm
 Sunday: 10am
 Subject to Change

Mass Intentions

- Sat. 21st Feb: David Dowling
- Sun. 22nd Feb: Mary Lane
- Mon. 23rd Feb: Seán Whyte
- Wed. 25th Feb: May Sexton
- Thurs. 26th Feb: Tim O'Donovan
- Sat. 28th Feb: Eileen O'Mahoney and Danny Murphy
- Sun. 1st March: Peter Kelly
- Mon. 2nd March: Ger Lordan

Ballinora Bulletin Board

Legion of Mary

Weekly Meeting: Wednesday 12.30pm in the church.
 New Members always welcome.

St. Vincent De Paul Collection

Monthly Collection will be held the first weekend in each. (Except January, July and December) Volunteers urgently needed!! If you are willing to help with the monthly collections in Ballinora or Ballincollig, please call Des Hickey on 086-8347149

First Friday

The first Friday of each month there will be a Rosary recited in the church at 9.30am before Mass. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place after Mass until 11am.

Hour of Adoration

Every Tuesday there will be a Service of Word and Eucharist at 7pm followed by an Hour of Adoration in the Church

A Snapshot Through The Years

The book to celebrate our 40th anniversary as a parish will be launched on March 17th.
 The scouts have very kindly said that we can have this exciting event in conjunction with their annual coffee morning.

The scouts are having this coffee morning as a fundraiser for their summer camp. We are very happy to support them with this. We will have a table in the Scout Den where the book will be available for sale. The price is €14 and we look forward to seeing you all there to support two great occasions!
 Proceeds from the sale of the book will go towards funding other events to mark our Anniversary Year.

Ballinora Tidy Towns

Just a heads up that our annual fundraising quiz takes place in O'Shea's bar on Thurs 5th March! This is one of our main fundraisers every year and all funds raised go towards supporting our work programme in Ballinora and Waterfall, Your support would be greatly appreciated.

Kilmurry Parish

St. Mary's Church
Kilmurry - Parish Church

Mass Times
Sunday: 10:00am

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
10 am	10 am	10 am		10 am

Alternate weeks with Cloughduv

Working Holydays: 10:00am
Eve of Working Holydays:
(following 1st, 3rd, 5th Saturday) 8:00pm Vigil
Please note Mass Times may vary

Confession: Saturdays before and after Mass
Sacristy: Anne O'Callaghan

St. Joseph's Church
Cloughduv

Mass Times
Sunday: 11:30am

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
10 am	10 am	10 am		10 am

Alternate weeks with Kilmurray

Working Holydays: 8:00pm
Eve of Working Holydays:
(following 2nd, 4th Saturday) 8:00pm Vigil
Please note Mass Times may vary.

Confession: Saturdays before and after Mass
Sacristy: Tessie Buckley

St. John the Baptist Church
Canovee

Mass Times
Saturday 6:30pm Vigil

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
			10 am	

Please note Mass Times may vary.

Eve of Working Holydays: 6:30pm Vigil

Confession: Saturdays before and after Mass
Sacristy: Nuala Crowley 026-48111

First Reading: Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7
The Lord God created Adam and Eve and set them in the Garden of Eden. They had all they needed, but the serpent tempted them, and they disobeyed God's command.

Second Reading: Romans 5:12-19
Just as through Adam's disobedience all became sinners, through Christ's obedience all shall become just.

Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11
Following his baptism in the Jordan River, Jesus went out to the desert to pray and understand God's will. He was alone in the desert for 40 days and nights. Satan waited until Jesus emerged from the desert before tempting Jesus to use his powers. Of course, Jesus was hungry after fasting for 40 days, so the devil tempted him first with food. "Command these stones to become loaves of bread," was the first dare. Later the devil tempted Jesus to use his power to prove that God would send angels to help Jesus if he jumped from the top of the temple. Finally, Satan offered Jesus the glory and power of the entire world if he would but worship Satan. To each temptation, Jesus held fast to what he knew was God's will for him.

TROCAIRE

On this First Sunday of Lent, the Church invites us to listen to the Gospel account of the Temptation of Jesus. It may seem strange that Jesus, who had just been Baptised and was "filled with the Holy Spirit", experienced the temptation to abandon the mission entrusted to him, and to prioritise wealth and influence. The Gospel reminds us that even if we are close to God, we can be tempted. While the circumstances may differ, the temptation is usually the same, to put ourselves and our own agenda first. In his preaching Jesus asks us to "seek first the kingdom of God". That is the focus of this season of Lent. Images of poverty and hunger, war and natural disaster appear regularly on all our devices, almost as they happen. It is simply not possible for us to separate the suffering and the struggle of others from the reality of our own lives. Just by way of example, the coffee we drink each day is harvested by women like Uwamahoro in Rwanda. She works long hours in the heat of the day to produce it, but at the end of the day, she can't afford to feed her family or put a new roof on her house. Why is her reality so different from ours? Forty years ago, Pope John Paul II wrote about how sinful attitudes, such as thirst for power and the desire for excessive profit, give rise to what he described as "sinful social structures", resulting in poverty for individual people and whole populations in other parts of the world. In his letter "Dilexi Te" (DT), Pope Leo comments that, once these sinful structures take hold: "it then becomes normal to ignore the poor and live as if they do not exist. It then likewise seems reasonable to organise the economy in such a way that sacrifices are demanded of the masses in order to serve the needs of the powerful". (DT, 93). Pope Leo is not asking us to give up coffee; he is asking us for a "change of mindset". Beginning with each one of us, the sinful personal attitudes that shape our world can be replaced with the attitude of Christian solidarity or "social charity", which sees people like Uwamahoro and her family, as people like us, with all the hopes and fears and needs that we have. A new mindset will not just change how we act; it will also motivate us to be "influencers" for change in the way that governments and large multi-nationals act towards the people who live in the communities from which they draw their wealth How might you be an influencer for change?.

Reflection for Parents

One of our primary goals as parents is to help our children discover their gifts and use them generously in a way that glorifies God. From a very early age we can remind our children of the source of their gifts and encourage them to use them humbly.