

THE PARISHIONER

Sunday 08-March-2026

Third Sunday of Lent

Christ quenches our spiritual thirst with the living water: the love of God which is poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit. We pray for those who are prepared for this baptism.

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



The Samaritan Woman

Water; the lack of it and the subsequent thirst, threat to life and frustration is the background to the passage from the Book of Exodus. The Gospel passage is an account of the Samaritan woman at the well preparing to draw some water for her household needs.

The Exodus passage is an account of people grumbling and moaning and perhaps even making threats to Moses. These people had plenty of why's to shout out and that is understandable as they are trying to survive thirst in the desert. However God does not write off these people, his love and care for the people comes to the fore. God's shows his love for them by providing water for this parched people. St Paul states this message in the second reading "what proves that God loves is that Christ died for us while we are still sinners." This teaching is being fulfilled in the Exodus passage today. This is a central message in the life of Jesus Christ.

The Gospel is an account of Jesus having a conversation with the woman at the well. Jesus treats the woman with respect and asks her for a drink of water. Through the dialogue Jesus opened her heart and mind and gently lead her to faith. Being accepted and understood enabled her to open her life story to Christ and by this route she came to faith.

Jesus comes to meet each of us as we are. He tells us "if you only knew the gift God wants to give you." God loves us just as we are and it is in our failings and sins we can welcome Christ.

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.

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 Alzheimer Café

Thursday, 19th March, 3:00 – 5:00 PM in the Chapel Gate Café, Ballincollig, Cork (P13 XP38). The Ballincollig Alzheimer Café will take place this March with guest speaker Dr Denis Curtin, who will discuss: Healthy Ageing. Alzheimer Cafés provide a relaxed and friendly space for people living with dementia, their families, friends, and healthcare professionals to come together, share experiences, and learn from one another.

Community Connect Ireland Baby Bank

Help a Mother in Need for other's Day.

Today Sunday 8 March at Christ our Light Carpark from 10:30 - 12:30. Community Connect are appealing for new baby supplies for families in need. Can you donate? Every donation goes to a family in need. Below is a full list of accepted items:

ITEMS THAT CAN BE ACCEPTED (NEW ITEMS ONLY):

- ◆ Nappies – size 1 to 2, baby wipes, Nappy Sacks.
- ◆ Baby Wash/Shampoo, Nappy Cream, Baby Sponges, Baby Cotton Wool
- ◆ Packs of sleepsuits and vests (newborn to 3 months)
- ◆ Packs of baby hooded towels, Baby cellular blankets, Packs of baby bibs, Baby bottles
- ◆ Hospital bag items - maternity nightdresses, slippers/ fluffy socks, toilet bags, sanitary towels, breast pads, nipple cream, shampoo, conditioners, body wash, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant
- ◆ Unopened Gift Items for Mothers: hand cream, lip balm, body lotion, cosmetic gift sets (no candles or glass items please)

For more information see:

www.communityconnect.ie/driveanddrop/

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

O that today you would listen to his voice: 'Harden not your hearts.'

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

† IN SYMPATHY †
PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF THE RECENTLY DECEASED :

- Des Nangle, Model Farm Road.
- Liam Madden, Ballyphehane / Carrigaline.
- Martin Kenny, Castlepark.
- Edward Delea, Ballincollig / Rosscarbery.
- Eleanor Heinen, Aisling Lawn.
- Bobbie O'Reilly, Glasheen Rd.
- Eileen O'Herhily, Goggin.
- Ann Carroll, Ballincollig/Ovens.
- Margaret McCarthy (nee Russell), Leamlara / Farran.
- Paddy Allen, Rosewood / Farranree.
- Claire O'Riordan, Ballincollig / Waterfall.
- Jim Lynch, Waterfall.

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

- Kathleen & Dan Dorgan, Powdermills.
- Kate & Fred Nash, Powdermills.
- Shelia O'Reilly, Poulavone.
- Vincent Manley, Glincool.
- Ann Aherne, Park Rd.
- Dec. Mem. of the Troy & O'Herhily families, Thurles/Tara Lawn.
- Peggy McCarthy, The Crescent.
- Seán O'Callaghan, Carrigrohane.
- Colm Cremin, Blarney.
- Mary O'Sullivan, Galway.
- Mary O'Sullivan, Rosscarbery.
- Jerry Buckley, Meelin, Newmarket.
- Josie Purcell, Kilcrea Park.
- Pat Sheehan (Jnr), Coachford.
- Angela Ryan, Classis Lake.
- Derek Buckley, Beech Park.
- Jose Isaac García Rodríguez, Mexico.
- Seán Connolly, Skibbereen.
- Sharon Connolly, Ballincollig/Athlone.
- Stephen Murphy, Chapel Lane West/Drimoleague.
- Joan Harrington, Carrigrohane.
- John & Mary Lucey, Coolroe.
- Neil McGroarty, Beech Park.

Matt Talbot Mass and Novena 2026

The Way of the Cross Church, Togher.
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



Mass Times

St. Patrick's Day
Tuesday 17th March

Church of St. Mary & St. John
Monday 16th March Vigil 6.00pm
Tuesday 17th March
8.30am & 10.00am

Christ Our Light Church
Monday 16th March Vigil 7.30pm
Tuesday 17th March
11.00am (Irish Mass) & 12.30pm

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.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Third Week Of Lent

- 08 Sunday Ex. 17:3-7. Ps. 94. Rom. 5: 1-2, 5-8. In. 4:5-42. Lect I: 245
- 09 Monday 2 Kgs. 5:1-15. Ps. 41. Lk. 4:24-30. Lect I: 262
- 10 Tuesday Dan. 3:25,34-43. Ps. 24. Mt. 18:21-35. Lect I: 264
- 11 Wednesday Deut. 4:1, 5-9. Ps. 147. Mt. 5:17-19. Lect I: 267
- 12 Thursday Jer. 7:23-28. Ps. 94. Lk. 11:14-23. Lect I: 268
- 13 Friday Hos. 14:2-10. Ps. 80. Mk. 12:28-34. Lect I: 271
- 14 Saturday Hos. 5: 15-6:6. Ps. 50. Lk. 18:9-14. Lect I: 273

Next Sunday's Readings 15-March-2026

1 Sam. 16:6-7, 10-13. Ps. 22. Eph. 58-14. Jn. 9:1-41. Lect I: 276

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 Morning Mass
9:30 am	Tuesday	No Morning 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

Please pray for the boys in Scoil Eoin who will receive the sacrament of Confirmation on Monday, 9th March. Sincere thanks to the parents and dedicated teachers who work diligently preparing young people for the sacrament.

Envelope Collection

The Irish Bishop's Commissions Collection will be taken up at all Masses this weekend 7th & 8th March.

First Saturday. Devotions to Our Blessed Mother.

On the 07th of March 2026 at 1200 hrs (12 Noon) in the Church of Saint Mary & Saint John, Station Road, Ballincollig, Cork. Please Come along and Pray with our Blessed Mother.

Trocaire Boxes

Trocaire boxes are available at the back of both churches in Ballincollig. Parishioners are asked to please take one and to make a weekly contribution during lent. Boxes will also be distributed to the schools.

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.

Ovens & Farran Bulletin Board

OFFICE OPENING HOURS
 Tuesday 5pm – 7pm
 Wednesday 10am -12 pm
 Thursday 10am -12pm

Sunday Masses

Ovens: 11.30 am
 Farran: 9.30am

Vigil Masses for March

7 th March	14 th March	21 st March	28 th March
Ovens 6pm	Farran 6pm	Ovens 6pm	Farran 6pm

Vigil Mass is held in Ovens every 1st 3rd and 5th Saturday and every 2nd and 4th Saturday in Farran

Vigil Mass will be at 6pm on Saturday the 7th of March in Ovens

Weekend Anniversaries

Ovens: 6pm: Neilus Buckley, Ballincollig.
 Ovens: 11.30am Cal and Sheila McCarthy, also Diarmuid, Marian and Callie, Lackenareague
 Farran:9.30am John Joe and Joan Flynn, Farran

Recently Deceased

Jenny Murphy, Monkstown

Second Collection

There will be a second collection at all masses during the weekend of the 7th/8th of March for the Irish Bishops commission

Holy Hour every Tuesday night from 8-9pm

Rosary recited at 9.10 every Friday morning before 9.30am Mass

Eucharistic Adoration from 10am to 11am.

Ovens/Farran Parish Assembly

The March meeting of the Ovens/Farran Parish Assembly is taking place on Monday the 9th of March at 8pm in the Parish Centre

St Patricks Day Masses

Vigil Mass will be held in Ovens Church at 7pm on Monday the 16th of March and on St Patricks day in Farran at 9.30am and Ovens at 11.30am.

Book Club

Book Club meeting on this Monday 9th Of March at 7pm
 Please note change of time for this Month only.

Ovens/Farran Active Circle

Meeting on this Monday, 9th of March at 2.30pm sharp
 New members welcome

Cork Lions Club

Cork Lions Club are holding our annual Patrick's Hill Ball Run in aid of the Cork City first Responders and Glounthaune First Responders and Local Cork Charities at 2pm on Sunday March 15th. It is a fun family event and all are welcome. We will also be collecting old spectacles for recycling to the third world so bring along any old glasses and give them a new lease of life. Please support the fundraiser by buying balls information for newsletter

Ballinora Parish

Mass Times

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
10am	No Mass	10am	10am	10am	7.30pm	10am
Mass Times are Subject to Change						

Mass Intentions

- * Sat. 7th March: Noel Hodge
- * Sun. 8th March: Danny & Una O'Shea
- * Mon. 9th March: The Manley Family
- * Wed. 11th March: Olivia Culinane
- * Thur..12th March: Retired Gentlemen's Club Living & Dead
- * Fri. 13th March: Jim Lynch
- * Sat. 14th March: Eileen Collins.

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.

40th Anniversary Year Of Celebration!

Upcoming Events To Take Place This Year!

- ◆ March 17th Book Launch
- ◆ May 24th Pet Mass
- ◆ July 26th St. James Coffee Morning
- ◆ Sept. 13th Special Parish Mass
- ◆ Sept. 18th Dinner Dance
- ◆ Oct. (tba) Marymount Coffee Morning
- ◆ Dec. (tba) Concert

Some dates to be decided. Other events may be added. We hope to have huge support for all these events. It's a great opportunity for us all to come together as a community and for all the different groups to meet up in social settings.

Kilmurry Parish
St. Mary's Church
 Kilmurry - Parish Church

Mass Times
 Sunday: 10:00am

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
10 am				10 am

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		

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: Exodus 17:3-7
 The Israelites grumbled against Moses for leading them out of Egypt. They were thirsty, and there was no water in the desert, so Moses struck a rock with his staff, and water flowed out for the people to drink.

Second Reading: Rom. 5: 1-2, 5-8.
 "The love of God has been poured out into our hearts," and that love is immeasurable; "While we were still sinners Christ died for us."

Gospel: John 4:5-42
 Jesus approached a Samaritan woman at Jacob's well and asked her for a drink of water. This surprised the woman for several reasons. In the first place, it was unlikely that a man would ask a woman for anything and even more unbelievable that Jesus, a Jew, would ask something of a Samaritan, a great enemy of the Jewish people. Jesus explained to her that our thirst would return if we drank water from the well; but if we drank the water Jesus offered us, we would never thirst again. After Jesus told her many things about herself, she came to believe that he was the Son of God and called others to him.

TROCAIRE Women possess the same dignity and identical rights as men

If you have ever gone trekking, especially in warm weather, you will know how important it is to carry plenty of water. You will also have discovered that a litre of water weighs one kilo and, whatever you bring, you have to carry. The Samaritan woman who came to the well was almost certainly planning to return home with a very heavy load. Pope Leo reminds us in his recent letter of encouragement "Dilexi Te" that, even today, women are expected to carry disproportionate burdens in many societies. "The organisation of societies worldwide is still far from reflecting clearly that women possess the same dignity and identical rights as men". Going for water is often the work of women and children. For Uvamahoro, the problem seems to be too much water in the wrong place. It would be a great help to her family if somebody would fix her roof. But their real need is for the kind of authentic development that solves problems at their source. Imagine the difference it would make if sufficient funding were invested in drainage. Imagine what it would be like to have clean water coming from a well in the centre of every village, and local people who were trained to install those wells and to repair them. In our Gospel, Jesus invites the Samaritan woman to come to him for "living water". He tells her that there is more to life than the daily routine of coming to the well. Her life is worth much more than that. Yes, of course, she and her family will be thirsty again tomorrow, and she may still have to come to the well. But the new life that Jesus offers her, changes her understanding of herself and of her place in the world. She cannot wait to tell everyone what has happened to her. The Gospel of the Samaritan woman is used on the Third Sunday of Lent, because Lent is traditionally a time of preparation for Baptism. For us who are already Baptised, it is a time for thinking once again about what it really means to be Baptised. In much the same way Baptism gives us a new understanding of our meaning as persons and our mission in the world. As members of the Body of Christ, we look at things with his eyes. We see clearly that it is not enough to have compassion from a distance. We need to come close to the poor, as He did and to work for a world in which "people no longer die of hunger or survive in conditions unfit for human beings". (Pope Leo, Dilexi Te, # 11)

Reflection for Parents

This Sunday's Gospel is about the woman at the well. Jesus asks her for a drink but it is he that gives her a drink from the living water. The living water is a taste of faith in God and God's everlasting love. The woman could have told Jesus to go away, she told Jesus to go away, she could have ignored him yet she chose to have a chat with him and to listen to him and really hear him. Jesus is our saviour Gospel he tells us so. Are and in this Sunday's you listening, and if you are can you hear what Jesus is telling us as we journey through Lent?