



The Parishioner

Sunday 22-March-2026

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Jesus as a man like us, wept for Lazarus his friend, as eternal God he raised Lazarus from the dead, in his love for us all, Jesus gave us the sacraments to lift us up to everlasting life.



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

Resurrection and the Life

Jesus, a close friend of Lazarus and his two sisters, was a frequent visitor to their home at Bethany. So when Lazarus became very ill, Mary and Martha immediately sent him a message. But Jesus remained where he was for two more days before leaving for Bethany. On his arrival there, Jesus finds that Lazarus has been in the tomb for four days. Martha goes out to meet Jesus and reproaches him saying: if you had been here my brother would not have died.

The message of today's gospel is in Jesus' response to Martha: 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die they will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' Martha replies: 'Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.' Later, when she objects to the stone being removed from Lazarus' tomb, Jesus reminds her 'have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God'. After the stone was removed, Jesus thanks his Father for always hearing his prayer and prayed for the faith of those around him. He then called Lazarus forth and asked those gathered to unbind him and let him go free.

Everyone of us has to deal with death as part of life, both for ourselves and for those around us. After the consecration at Mass, we often pray these words, 'Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life ... Lord, by your cross and resurrection you have set us free..' Like Martha, do we believe what these words really mean for us? Jesus' raising of Lazarus from the dead is a sign for us of God's promise to raise up all who have died in Christ to everlasting life. We as Christians profess our faith and hope in the Resurrection. St Paul tells us "If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit which dwells in you". All who have experienced the death of loved ones, know the pain of grief and loss. In today's readings we are reminded that there is hope beyond death for those who believe in the God of life and that one day we will be reunited with our loved ones. Christ by his death, has conquered death. He has won eternal life for each and everyone of us - a resurrection to an eternal life of happiness where families and friends will rejoice together in the presence of God for all eternity.

This prayer of hope in the Resurrection is expressed in Psalm 27: "I am sure that I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living! Trust in the Lord, be strong and courageous yes, put your hope in the Lord!"

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.

Easter Reconciliation Services for Family of Parishes

- Ballincollig Monday, 30th March at 7.30pm in Christ our Light Church.
- Farran Sunday 29th March after 9.30am Mass
- Ovens Sunday 29th after 11.30am Mass.
- Kilmurry will be held in St. Mary's Church on Tuesday, 31st March at 7.30pm
- Ballinora in St. James's Church on Wednesday, 1st April at 7.30pm.



Summer Time

Day Light Savings time begins next Sunday morning March 29th.
At 1 am clocks will go forward by one hour to 2 am.

'A friend knows the song in my heart and sings it to me when my memory fails'

Shalom World

Deepen Your Lenten Journey. This Lent, set aside time for reflection and spiritual renewal with your family. Explore exclusive Lenten programming, including daily reflections, meditative music, and inspiring stories of faith designed for all ages.
Start your journey today by visiting: shalomworld.org/lent

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

With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

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

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

Máire McCullagh, Inniscarra.
Brendan O'Brien, Castle Farm.
Kelly Cremin, Innishmore.

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

Eileen Collins, Model Farm Road.
Dan & Peggy McCarthy, The Crescent.
John & Mary Boyd, Main St.
Rita & Denis Murphy, Fr Sexton Park.
Bernie O'Connell, Kilnaglory.
Eileen O'Donovan, Rosewood.
Vincent Atilano, Philipppines.
Leon Obiedzinski, Beech Park.
Kitty McSweeney, Cathedral Rd.
Con, Bernie & Billy O'Connell, Kilnaglory.
Joan Nelligan, Castleisland.
Ger Glavin, Parknamore.
Pat & Billy Coomey, Carriganarra.
Edward & Joan Murphy, Powdermills.
John (Frank) Rea, Begley's Forge.
Martin Muldoon, Crossbarry.
Terry, Joe & Declan Butler, Inniscarra View.
Pat Buckley, Fergus, Coachford.
Patricia Cotter, Parknamore.
Teresa O'Driscoll, Sunningdale.
Veronica Downey, Castlepark.
Derry Mannix, Mallow.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Fifth Week Of Lent

22 Sunday Ez. 37: 12-14. Ps. 129. Rom. 8:8-11. Jn. 11: 1-45. Lect I: 305
23 Monday Dan. 13: 1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62. Ps. 22. Jn. 8: 1-11. Lect I: 319
24 Tuesday Num. 21:4-9. Ps. 101. Jn. 8:21-30. Lect I: 326
25 Wednesday Is 7:10-14, 8:10. Ps 39. Heb 10:4-10. Lk 1:26-38. Lect I: 985
26 Thursday Gen. 17:3-9. Ps. 104. In. 8:51-59. Lect I: 331
27 Friday Jer 20: 10-13. Ps. 17. In. 10:31-42. Lect I:333
28 Saturday Ex 37:21-28. Ps Jer 31:10-13. Jn 11:45-56. Lect I: 336

Next Sunday's Readings 29-March-2026
Is. 50:4-7. Ps 22. Phil. 2:6-11. Mt. 26:14-27,66. Lect I: 346

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)

Matt Talbot Mass and Novena 2026

The Way of the Cross Church, Togher.
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

"Priesthood in Ireland Today"

Book Launch with Bishop Phonsie Cullinan

Priesthood in Ireland Today is a new book edited by Bishop Phonsie Cullinan (Bishop of Waterford & Lismore) featuring reflections on the role of the priest today. The book includes a contribution from one of our own priests, Msgr Gearóid Dullea, and aims to encourage men discerning a call to the priesthood. Bishop Phonsie will launch the book in Mardyke House, Cork City (T12 W8RP) on Monday 23 March at 6pm, and will speak about some of the themes explored in the book. He will be available afterwards to sign copies.
All are welcome. Refreshments will be served afterwards.

Come and See Afternoon
Sunday 29 March (2-5pm)
Mardyke House, Cork

Are you interested in becoming a priest in the Diocese of Cork & Ross? There will be a "Come and See" afternoon for men aged 18-40 who may be thinking about priesthood in the Diocese of Cork and Ross. The afternoon will include time for prayer, reflection, conversation and an opportunity to meet others also exploring this call. Registration is not required — just come along.
For more information email vocations@corkandross.org

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 Gaelscoil Uí Riordáin who received the sacrament of Confirmation on Friday, 20th March. Please pray for the girls and boys in who will receive the sacrament of confirmation on Sunday, 22nd March. Sincere thanks to the parents and dedicated teachers who work diligently preparing young people for the sacrament.

Spring Dues
The priests of the Parish would like to thank you for returning the Spring Dues Envelopes. Your continued support is much appreciated.

Diocesan Envelope Collection
The quarterly envelope collection in aid of the Diocesan Funds will be taken up at all Masses next weekend 28th/29th March in all Family of Parish churches.

FATIMA Pilgrimage/Holiday
Ex CORK Airport. Thursday July 2nd to 9th. Our Spiritual Director is Rev. Fr. (Archdeacon) Neilus O'Donnell. For further details please contact Patsy Foley on 087-6798810.

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

Sunday Masses

Ovens: 11.30 am
 Farran: 9.30am

Weekday Masses

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

Vigil Masses for March

21 st March	28 th March
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: Con Murphy, Turners Cross
 Ovens: 11.30 am: Paul Murphy, Ballineadig
 Farran: 9.30am: Jer Donovan, Currahaly, 1st Anniv.

Recently Deceased.

John O'Mahony Kilcrea Hill, Ovens.

Baptism's

Derek Ryan Searson, Farnanes.
 Finn Ronan Hallissey, Classes Lake.
 We congratulate their parents and welcome them to our family of parishes.

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 Active Retirement

Ovens/Farran active Retirement meeting next Monday 23rd of March at 2.30pm

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.

"March winds and April Showers bring forth May Flowers"

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

- * March 21st Conrad O'Sullivan
- * March 22nd Liam O'Keefe (Ballymaw)
- * March 23rd Tom Williams (Dublin)
- * March 25th Eileen Goggin (Blarney)
- * March 27th Thomas and Hermine Ball (London)
- * March 29th The deceased members of The Lucey Family (Ballincollig)
- * March 30th Margaret O'Sullivan and Dean O'Connor
- * April 1st Don and Joan McCarthy
- * April 2nd John Sheahan and remembering his parents Patrick and Hannah
- * April 11th Andrew Twohig
- * April 13th Rosarie O'Mahoney
- * April 18th Denis and Peggy Kelleher

Recent Baptisms

We welcome to our Christian Community the following children who were baptised recently.
 Daithí Colin Kelly son of Shane Kelly and Lisa O'Shea, Aisling Close Ballincollig.
 Freddie Martin O'Riordan son of Barry O'Riordan and Elaine Kehily, Earls Well Waterfall.
 Áine Julia T Cahill daughter of Donal Cahill and Julie Anne Long, Ballyhank Waterfall.

A Snapshot Through The Years

What a great morning we had on St. Patrick's Day. A gorgeous start to the day with a beautiful Mass celebrated by Fr John with lovely music from our choir. It was fantastic to have children from our local school so involved. Four very confident readers and two children who brought gifts to the altar. A liturgical dance was an appropriate finish to the celebration for our patron saint. Then it was into the Scout Den for their annual coffee morning to fundraise for their summer camp. This year they very kindly let us launch our book "Snapshot Through The Years" at their event. We are extremely grateful to them for this. This book has been put together as part of our 40th Anniversary Celebration. We are delighted to say this was very successful and the book sold well and people are very happy with it.

For anyone who couldn't make it on the morning the book will be available for purchase after the weekend Masses in the main porch. The price of the book is €14 and we would appreciate it if people could have cash. Many thanks to all involved in this project.

BALLINORA GAA • CAMOGIE • LGFA

Join us for a night celebrating our club's success
AWARDS NIGHT, Friday 27th March, 7PM Rochestown Park Hotel
 Tickets €45; **TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW**
 To reserve your ticket contact: Aoife - 086 0510726
 Catherine - 086 0667325
 Revolut: €45 to 086 0510726 or 086 0667325 (please include your name), CASH ALSO ACCEPTED

Ballinora Tidy Towns

It's that time of year again! Our annual Spring Cleanup!
 Good Friday April 3rd we are meeting in the car park of O'Sheas pub at 9.00am!. We hope to see as many of you as possible. Remember many hands make light work!

Kilmurry Parish

St. Mary's Church

Kilmurry - Parish Church

Mass Times

Sunday: 10:00am

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
10 am				10 am

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		

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			

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

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 very early age we can remind our children of the source of their gifts and encourage them to use them humbly

Independence Museum Kilmurry

Flower Arranging Demonstration Friday March 27th at 8pm by Nora Gallagher AOIFA and Macroom Flower and Garden Club. Arrangements will be raffled at end of evening. Light refreshments. Tickets e15 must be bought in advance. Phone 086 1767295 for tickets. This is a fund-raising event for the museum.

Reflection for Parents

The healing power of Jesus brings new life to all of us. Are there some things in our lives that cause us to die to others? Perhaps we are impatient, ungrateful, critical, or quick to anger. Maybe we're proud, boastful, or envious. Jesus promises us new life if we trust in him and allow our actions to follow his ways.

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

Darkness into Light 2026

Darkness into Light 2026 will take place on the morning of Saturday May 9th 2026. The walk will leave from Le Chéille Secondary School at 4.15 am. You can register online. All support will be greatly appreciated.

First Reading: Ezekiel 37:12-14

The Lord God told the people that soon the graves of the dead would open and they would rise. "I will put my spirit in you that you may live . . . says the Lord."

Second Reading: Romans 8:8-11

"Whoever does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him." God, who raised Jesus from the dead, will raise also those in whom the Spirit dwells.

Gospel: John 11:1-45

In this Gospel, John tells the story of Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead. The story is significant because it is likely that his action was his last miracle before Jesus began the journey toward his own death. Jesus was called to Bethany to save his friend, but instead waited several days to return. This action confused Lazarus' sisters, Mary and Martha, because they knew that Jesus could have healed their brother. Jesus used the incident to strengthen the faith of Mary, Martha, and all who believed. He made sure that Lazarus was raised from death so that the people could witness God's glory.



"Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again'."

Shortly before the arrest and crucifixion of Jesus, his friend Lazarus died. Saint John tells us the story of his death and of the grief of his sisters Martha and Mary. We know from St Luke's Gospel (Luke 10), that Jesus was a "friend of the family". He had visited Martha and Mary in their home and enjoyed their hospitality. In human terms, this was a personal loss for Jesus.

As often happens, Jesus was away when his friend died. His return to Bethany is an expression not just of his own care for Martha and Mary, but also of the compassion of God. It seems strange, perhaps, that he doesn't rush back to save Lazarus. His mission, as he tells his disciples, is to reveal the power of God over death. "This sickness will end not in death but in God's glory". The tombs of the dead were generally sealed with a huge stone. We see this in the case of Lazarus and also in the case of Jesus himself. The stone had the practical purpose of keeping animals out of the tomb, but it also seems to symbolise the barrier between life and death. Moving away the stone is the first step in setting Lazarus free from the chains of death. Lazarus was raised back to his ordinary life, so we must assume that he died again. The account of his being raised from the dead on this fifth Sunday of Lent prepares us, however, for the Resurrection of Jesus is a few weeks' time; a Resurrection after which there is no more death. It strikes me that the stone across the entrance of the tomb is a helpful symbol of the burden of poverty which weighs down, day after day on the four women in Rwanda, who have been introduced to us by Trécaire. For Verediana, it is the burden of having to depend entirely on her daughter. For Ineza and Vanessa, it is the experience of a childhood without a father and without material comforts, and an education which is interrupted by lack of resources. Uwamahoro, like any mother, wants nothing more than to provide the best of care and of opportunity for her family. For her, the rock symbolises the daily burden of knowing that everything depends on her and that if, for any reason, she cannot work, the whole family will suffer.

We know the compassion of Jesus. We are the people of Jesus. Who, in the name of Jesus, will take away the stone that cuts this family off from the life that they should have?