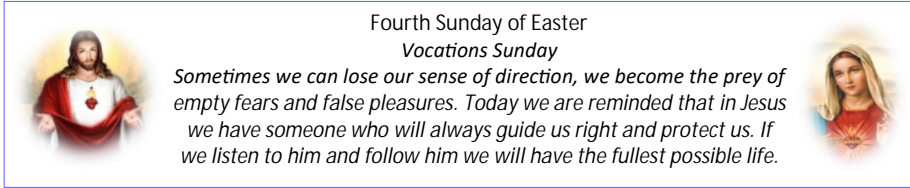


# The Parishioner

Sunday 26-April-2026



Fourth Sunday of Easter  
Vocations Sunday

*Sometimes we can lose our sense of direction, we become the prey of empty fears and false pleasures. Today we are reminded that in Jesus we have someone who will always guide us right and protect us. If we listen to him and follow him we will have the fullest possible life.*

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

## World Day of Prayer for Vocations

Today is called Good Shepherd Sunday, and, appropriately, this day is also the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. Today, the Church calls us to reflect on the meaning of God's call for each of us and to pray for generous respondents to God's personal call (vocation), to the priesthood, the diaconate, and the consecrated life, because the entire Christian community shares the responsibility for fostering religious vocations. Both the Old and New Testaments use the image of a Shepherd and His flock to describe the unique relationship of God with Israel and Christ with Christians. The first reading is taken from St. Peter's first sermon, given on Pentecost. Here, he exhorts his listeners, Jewish people gathered for the Feast of Weeks – the "Sabbath" of the seven weeks that have elapsed since Passover — to know beyond any doubt that the One they have allowed to be crucified is the true Shepherd, whom God has made both Lord and Messiah. Peter then proclaims that the proper response to the Good News about Jesus is to repent and be baptized "in the name of Jesus Christ," and thus to become members of the Good Shepherd's flock. Through the Sacrament of Baptism, they will receive forgiveness for their sins. The Responsorial Psalm (Ps 23), introduces Yahweh as the Good Shepherd of Israel and describes all of the things the Lord does for us, His sheep, in providing for our needs. The second reading, taken from Peter's First Letter to the Church, continues the "shepherd" imagery. Peter encourages the suffering Christians to follow in footsteps of their shepherd ("the suffering servant"), and to remember that they have been claimed by him. Peter also explains how Jesus, the innocent sufferer, was a model of patience and trust in God, and he reminds us that it is Jesus' suffering which has enabled us to become more fully the adopted children of God. In today's Gospel, two brief parables about sheep reveal Jesus as our unique means to salvation. He is the selfless, caring "shepherd" who provides protection and life itself, and he is the "sheep gate," the one gateway to eternal life.

### I Chose To Look The Other Way

I could have saved a life that day,  
But I chose to look the other way.  
It wasn't that I didn't care;  
I had the time, and I was there.

But I didn't want to seem a fool,  
Or argue over a safety rule.  
I knew he'd done the job before;  
If I spoke up he might get sore.

The chances didn't seem that bad;  
I'd done the same, he knew I had.  
So I shook my head and walked by;  
He knew the risks as well as I.

He took the chance, I closed an eye;  
And with that act, I let him die.

I could have saved a life that day,  
But I chose to look the other way.

Now every time I see his wife,  
I know I should have saved his life.  
That guilt is something I must bear;  
But isn't something you need to share.

If you see a risk that others take  
That puts their health or life at stake,  
The question asked or thing you say;  
Could help them live another day.

If you see a risk and walk away,  
Then hope you never have to say,  
I could have saved a life that day,  
But I chose to look the other way.

by: Don Merrill

### Eucharistic Procession 2026

"This year we will mark that centenary when we gather once again for the Eucharistic Procession through the city on Sunday 7th June, the Feast of Corpus Christi — renewing that public witness of faith and unity in Cork."

Ahead of the Corpus Christi Procession this year, the diocese will host a visit of the relics of St. Carlo Acutis – the young Italian who was declared the first millennial saint by Pope Leo last September.

Carlo often said that the Eucharist was "the highway to heaven".

"Patrick in the fifth century and Saint Carlo Acutis in our own time both remind us of the same truth: that an encounter with Christ in the Eucharist has the power to transform lives."

+ *Fintan Gavin*

✠ Fintan Gavin  
Bishop of Cork and Ross

## TRÓCAIRE

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you most sincerely for your support for Trocaire's Lenten Campaign this year. We here in Trocaire are all aware that your support is absolutely vital to the success of our Campaign. Each year, we take encouragement from the wonderful efforts made throughout the country in distributing the Lenten boxes, in encouraging support amongst parishioners and also in collecting and counting the coins. This support will allow the agency to continue its work with the world's poorest people.

Please return your Trócaire Box to your local parish or school

Seán Farrell, CEO, Trócaire

*The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.*

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

Visit Our Website: [theparishioner.ie](http://theparishioner.ie) or Facebook [www.facebook.com/BallincolligParish](http://www.facebook.com/BallincolligParish)

Scan for Website



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

Theresa Lucey, Peter O'Donovan Cres.  
Shaun Murphy, Beech Park.  
Catherine Ross, Wyndham Downs.  
Kathleen O'Riordan, Dunmanway.  
Catherine Ross, Wyndham Downs.  
Dave McCullagh, Ballincollig/Crosshaven.

MONTHS MIND - THIS WEEKEND WE REMEMBER:  
David Lucey, Prospect Lawn.

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

Darren Gibbons, Glincool.  
Brian Twohig, Park Rd.  
John Meehan, Cork/Glasgow.  
Denis (DD) Burke.  
Vera Walsh, The Maltings.  
Fr. George O'Mahony, P.P.  
Margaret & Michael Murray, Greenhills.  
Margaret & Patrick Kenneally, Curraheen.  
Jeremiah & Catherine Cunningham, Dillon's Cross.  
Con & Eileen Bradley, Leemount.  
Michael 'Mick' Herlihy, Blarney/Clondrohid.  
Dec. Mem. of the Herlihy & O'Sullivan families.  
Maureen O'Brien, Cleburne Mews.  
Essie Buttimer, Toames, Macroom.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Fourth Week Of Easter

26 Sunday Acts 2:14, 36-41. Ps. 22. 1 Pet. 2:20-25. Jn. 10:1-10. Lect I: 487  
27 Monday Acts 11:1-18. Ps. 41. Jn. 10:11-18. Lect I: 496 & 498  
28 Tuesday Acts 11: 19-26. Ps. 86. Jn. 10:22-30. Lect I: 499  
29 Wednesday 1 Jn 1:5-2:2. Ps. 102. Mt. 11 :25-30. Lect II: 1009  
30 Thursday Acts 13: 13-25. Ps. 88. Jn. 13: 16-20. Lect I: 503  
01 Friday Acts 13:26-33. Ps. 2. Jn. 14: 1-6. Lect I: 505  
02 Saturday Acts 13:44-52. Ps. 97. Jn. 14:7 -14. Lect I: 508

Next Sunday's Readings 03-May-2026

Acts 6: 1-7. Ps. 32. 1 Pet. 2:4-9. Jn. 14: 1-12. Lect I: 511

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)

**Cork International Choral Festival**

As part of this year's Cork International Choral Festival, we will have a visiting choir from the Church of The Annunciation, Blackpool on today Sunday April 26th at the 10.00 am Mass in St. Mary & St. John's Church.

On Sunday May 3rd we will welcome a 58 strong Welsh mixed voice choir called Cordydd to the 11.00 am Mass at Christ our Light Church.

*We look forward to welcoming both choirs to Ballincollig.*

**Dementia Information Day**

Invitation to attend a Dementia Information Day taking place on Thursday, May 7th 2026, from 10:00am to 3:00pm at the Vienna Woods Hotel, Glanmire, Cork.

This event offers a valuable opportunity for individuals, families, carers, and professionals to access information, support, and advice about dementia. The day will include: A range of guest speakers, including healthcare professionals and individuals with lived experience, information stands providing resources and guidance, a "Singing for the Brain" performance, access to services such as dementia advisory supports and memory technology resources. Booking is essential.

To reserve a place contact:

[Elaine McKoy @087 3444124/ Elaine.McKoy@hse.ie](mailto:Elaine.McKoy@087.3444124)

**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.

*Weekday Morning Masses*

We have introduced laminated copies of hymns. Please if you are a singer we would love if you could just pick up one and join in the singing. I know we are blessed presently that Tadg and Siobhan lead us. It's not always possible for them to be present and we are heading into holiday time. Please help us with your participation and return the sheets at the end of Mass. In St. Mary's and St. John's Church we are looking for Readers and Ministers of the Eucharist who are present to help us out.

*First Friday*

Friday 1st May is the first Friday of the month. There is Mass in St Mary & St. John's church on Friday evening at 7.30pm. 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.

*Cork & Ross Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes | September 18th to 23rd*

The Cork and Ross Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place from the 18th to the 23rd this year under the patronage of Bishop Fintan Gavin. Flights are from Cork Airport direct to Lourdes Airport. You can travel as a pilgrim with a full daily pilgrimage program, or if you require assistance to travel then you can come as one of our Assisted Pilgrims and stay in special assisted accommodation. To make this pilgrimage possible for our assisted pilgrims we need in the region of 130 volunteers to come, so maybe you might be someone who can come as a helper, and have a very rewarding and fulfilling experience? Choice of hotels are available from €939. Call Joe Walsh Tours on 01 2410800 to book a place. For any general enquiries email or call Mary on [lourdes@corkandross.org](mailto:lourdes@corkandross.org) or 085 2525 040.

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 May 2026*

Ovens 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	Farran 9 <sup>th</sup> May	Ovens 16 <sup>th</sup> May	Farran 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	Ovens 30 <sup>th</sup> May
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Vigil Mass is held in Ovens every 1st 3rd and 5th Saturday and every 2nd and 4th Saturday in Farran

*Weekend Anniversaries 25th/26th April*

Ovens: 11.30am: Sister Zita Lynch, Lower Farran  
 Farran: 9.30am: Dan Murphy, Roovesmore 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary .

*Recently Deceased*

Jerry O'Leary, Aglish

*Trocaire Boxes* Any remaining Trocaire Boxes to be returned to Ovens or Farran Church as soon as possible please.

*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.

*Farran Ministers of The Word*

The New Ministers of the word Rota for Farran Church is available for Collection In the Sacristy in Farran Church.

*Rosary for the Month of May at The Grottos*

Farran: 7.30pm each Wednesday

Ovens: 7.30pm each Friday

*Walshestown Mass*

The Annual Washestown Grotto and Holy well Mass will be held on Tuesday 26th of May at 7.30pm

*Ovens/Farran Active Circle*

Meeting this Monday, the 27th April at 2.30pm in the Parish Centre

*National Epilepsy Week*

National Epilepsy Week takes place on 18th-25th May.

For further information please visit

www.epilepsy.ie/content/national-epilepsy-week-2026-epilepsyweek.

**Speed Dating for Catholics aged 25 - 45**

*In aid of Whinnie's Wish Kenya*

On Sunday 3rd May, at The Kingsley Hotel, Cork. Meet single Catholics who share your faith while raising funds for a great cause. This event is the perfect opportunity to meet like-minded people in real life! Tickets €30, see www.eventbrite.ie, search for 'Speed Dating for Catholics' and put Cork as the location. Email: littlerosesevents@gmail.com

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. 25th April: Con O'Sullivan
- Thurs. 30th April: Karen Fenton
- Sat. 2nd May: Don & Sheila Connolly
- Fri. 15th May: Douglas Ferguson

*St Vincent DePaul*

The monthly collection of St. V DePaul will take place on Saturday May 2nd and Sun 3rd May 2026  
 Your support is greatly appreciated.

**Rosary at the Grotto in Curraheen Schedule**

In honour of "Our Lady of Fatima"  
 Month of May Nightly at 8 pm

June to October 13th, every Monday night at 8 pm  
 On 13th of each month to commemorate The "Apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima"

**Confirmation Class**

Congratulations to Rang a Sé who received The Sacrament of Confirmation last week. The ceremony was celebrated by Bishop Pdraig Harrington and con celebrated by Fr John and Fr Kerry Murphy O'Connor. It was a beautiful ceremony and congratulations to the school and especially Ms Kelleher for the wonderful work in preparing the students for this special occasion.

*Pet Mass*

At St. James Church, Ballinora  
 Sunday May 24th at 10:00am

**Reflection for Parents**

*Imagine your child wandering off in a crowd of strangers—perhaps at an amusement park or a shopping mall. After an anxious period of separation, your child hears your voice above all the others calling out his or her name. The relief and joy your child would feel is the same emotion Jesus promises us when we follow his voice. The thieves that separate us from our children are not necessarily people. Sometimes we allow thieves of busyness, work priorities or even social engagements to steal control of our lives. This Gospel reminds us it is better to listen to the trusted voice of the Good Shepherd.*

**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.

**Kilmurry Parish**

**St. Mary's Church**

Kilmurry - Parish Church

*Mass Times*

Sunday: 10:00am

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
10 am				10 am

Monsignor O'Callaghan will celebrate the Friday Mass at 10am

Confession: Saturdays before and after Mass

Sacristy: Anne O'Callaghan

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**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

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**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

**Parish Suggestion or 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

**Notice to Parishioners**

To have items included in the next Kilmurry Parish newsletter, please send details to Peter at [kilmurry.news1@gmail.com](mailto:kilmurry.news1@gmail.com)

Before lunchtime on Wednesday.

**Prayer for Peace**

Afternoon of Prayer for Peace with Fr. John Keane in Inchigeelagh Church on Sunday 26th April commencing at 3 pm - Come and pray for peace in our troubled world. Everyone Welcome

**Prayer in Time of Bereavement**

Lord, you are close to the broken-hearted.

Be with me now in my grief and loneliness.

Give me the courage to face my loss and not to grieve in silence.

Be with me as I struggle

With many different and painful feelings.

Ease the hurt in my heart.

Encircle me in your love.

Help me to believe that one day

I will no longer have this deep sorrow.

May I find comfort in sharing my grief

With those who understand the strong bonds of love.

Stay with me, Lord, support me.

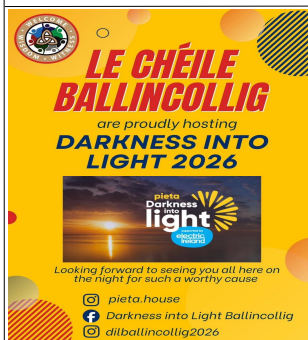
Help me to know that your power is at work within me

As I deal with my grief. Amen.

First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 2:14, 36-41  
Peter proclaimed that only in the name of Jesus Christ are sins forgiven and the Holy Spirit received.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:20-25  
Jesus suffered for the sins of all people, and by his death on the cross, all can live in accord with God's will. People who strayed like sheep "have now returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls."

Gospel: John 10:1-10.  
Using the image of shepherd and sheep, Jesus made an analogy for us to listen to the voice of God. Sometimes we are distracted by other voices that Jesus called "thieves." These thieves rob us of our desire to follow Jesus. True sheep, however, know the voice of the shepherd. The shepherd provides safety and life for the sheep.



**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 Chéile Secondary School at 4.15 am. You can register online. All support will be greatly appreciated.

*Death is not extinguishing the Light, but putting out the Lamp because the Dawn has come.*

**The following is food for thought...**

- The most destructive habit is worry.
- The greatest joy is giving.
- The greatest loss is that of self respect.
- The most satisfying work is helping others.
- The most endangered species are dedicated leaders.
- Our greatest natural resources are our young people.
- The greatest boost we can get is encouragement.
- The greatest problem to overcome is fear.
- The most effective sleeping pill is peace of mind.
- The most crippling parasites to progress are excuses.
- The most powerful force in life is love.
- The greatest soother and comforter is prayer.
- The most dangerous pariah is a gossip.
- The world's most incredible computer is our brain.
- The worst thing to be without is hope.
- The deadliest weapon is a sharp tongue.
- The two most powerful words are 'I can'.
- Our greatest asset is faith.
- The most worthless emotion is self pity.
- The most beautiful attire is a smile.
- The most appreciated word is 'Thanks'.
- The most contagious spirit is enthusiasm.
- To the world you may be one person but to one person you may be the world. Finally, I am never ever on my own. No matter how dark, sad or impossible my personal story is, I can always turn to someone to share my burden.