

Parish of Malin (Clonca) Sunday 26th July 2020
Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A Week 4)

Fr. Peter Devlin P.P. Fr Charley Logue C.C.
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Mass Times
St. Patrick's Church - Saturday 6pm, Sunday 10:30am
Star of the Sea Church - Saturday 8pm, Sunday 12 noon
St. Mary's Church - Sunday 9am

Weekday Masses:

St. Patrick's Church, Aughaclay: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at 7:30pm.
Star of the Sea Church, Malin Head: Monday, Tuesday at 10am and Friday at 7:30pm.
St. Mary's Church, Lagg: Wednesday at 7:30pm and Thursday at 9:30am.

Details on the times of online Masses and Prayers for the Covid 19 Crisis: <https://www.catholicbishops.ie>

Months's Mind Anniversary: Danaí Ward, Northtown, Malin Head on Friday 31st July, at 7:30pm in Star of the Sea Church, Malin Head.

Holy & Saints Days: 29th July – 1st August: Wednesday: *St. Martha* Thursday: *St. Peter Chrysologus*
 Friday: *St. Ignatius of Loyola* Saturday: *St. Alphonsus Liguori*

Parishioners are reminded to use sanitiser on entering and leaving our churches, and to practise social distancing at all times. Please do not gather at the doors or outside the church entrances.

Parishioners are strongly encouraged to attend one of these 10 weekday masses available during the week.

Sincere Thanks to those who have sent in their collection envelopes, cheques and donations for the Parish during the past week. Please make cheques payable to "Malin Parochial".

Messenger Magazine: The August copy is available free online: www.messenger.ie

Cleaners for Star of the Sea Church in August: Eileen McLaughlin, Margaret McLaughlin, Teresa Woods

The Net – July-August 2020: The July-August edition of 'The Net' will only be available on the Diocesan website at this stage - <https://www.derrydiocese.org/news/the-net-july-august-2020>.

The Parish Draw: Promoters are asked to bring returns for the second half of the year to the Parochial House, Drumcarbit on Monday 10th August, 8-9pm. Results for the Draw since March below:

DATE	200	100	50
15/03	HALEY MC LUCAS,	DANNY FARREN,	MARY SHIELS,
22/3	BRIAN HARKIN,	SEAMUS DOHERTY,	SHEILA DOHERTY,
29/3	SEAN KELLY,	EUGENE MC LAUGHLIN,	HALEY MC LUCAS,
5/4	MARIAN DOHERTY,®	BREEGE O NEILL,	SEAN MC LAUGHLIN (O)
12/4	MAIRE DOHERTY,	NEIL J DOHERTY,	NELL GALLAGHER,
19/4	CHRISSEY MC LAUGHLIN,	HENRY MC CLOSKEY	SEAMUS MC LAUGHLIN
26/4	JAMES&S MCLAUGHLIN	PEGGY DOHERTY	PATRICIA MC DAID`
3/5	MAURICE PORTER	JAMES QUIGLEY	EAMON & M DEVLIN
10/5	MONICA SIMPSON	MAX, MILLIE, ANNIE	PATRICIA MC DAID
17/5	EVELYN MATTY	MARY HANNIGAN	CATHY DOHERTY
24/5	KATHLEEN KEARNEY	LINDA MC DAID	ANNE SYNOTT
31/5	SUSAN MC LAUGHLIN (H	HENRY DOHERTY	MARIAN DOHERTY
7/6	PADDY, F MC LAUGHLIN	PAT MC LAUGHLIN (F)	MAJELLA MC DAID
14/6	MCLAUGHLIN (R)	NOEL MC LAUGHLIN (F)	LINDA MC GEOGHEGAN
21/6	PACKIE DOHERTY	KATHLEEN COFFEY	EILIS MC LAUGHLIN
28/6	ELLEN DOHERTY	BRIAN BARRET	ANGELA MC DAID
5/7	BREEGE GALLAGHER	S & M MC LAUGHLIN (F)	PEGGY DOHERTY
12/7	PEGGY DOHERTY	MARY B JOHNSON	CARMEL MC LAUGHLIN
19/7	PEGGY DOHERTY	MICHAEL MC DAID	MARGARET MC CARTER
26/7	MARY CLARE DOUGLAS	MONICA SIMPSON	DAVID DOHERTY

Gospel: Matthew 13:44-52

Three parables: the treasure, the pearl and the net. The kingdom to be prized beyond everything else

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great price, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. “Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.”

The Priceless Pearl

Those of us reared in the country are familiar with how fiercely an old farmer can cling on to his land. Even a miserable patch of grassy bog feels like an insurance against abandonment. But hanging on is not the answer. It only sows bitterness and frustration in sons whose best years are squandered in waiting. Sons who in turn never learn themselves from the mistakes of their fathers. Love alone can guarantee security and care in one’s declining years. Possessions provide only the illusion of security.

Elderly farmers are not the only ones who hold on to things for security. Others have their own holdings from which only death can separate them. It may be property and wealth, status and prestige or power and influence. It may even be an awful lot less, trivial comforts and an easy life. It may be a sixteen-hour day or the thankless responsibility of high office. Or a reputation we can no longer live up to. There is nothing more pathetic than an ageing beauty queen who refuses to accept the ravages of time.

“Ask what you would like me to give you,” God said to Solomon. “Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil,” he replied. It is the kind of gift we all need. Possessions come in many forms. It is not so much these possessions that we should rid ourselves of, as the demon of possession itself that should be exorcised. Poverty has become a dirty word in the world we live in. We should not let an Ethiopian famine or a Rwanda disaster make us forget that poverty is also a Christian virtue. It is no accident that Christ began his Sermon on the Mount with “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” Or that the only condition for his followers is that “they leave all things.” Or that the rich young man should have failed all because he failed this one test, “for he had great possessions.” Or that the pearl in today’s parable could only be bought by “selling everything he owns.”

The trouble with most people is that they want it both ways. All this and the good life too. But they can’t have it both ways.

There is a pearl for everyone. And there is a price for everyone to pay. A price tailored to each individual circumstances. Detachment is that price. To be able to walk away from what we cherish most without so much as looking back with regret. Our tragedy is not that we cannot find the pearl but that we are unwilling to pay the price.