

Parish of Malin (Clonca) Sunday 5th July 2020
Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A Week 2)

Fr. Peter Devlin P.P. Fr Charley Logue C.C. Mass Times
Malin Malin Head *St. Patrick's Church* - Saturday 6pm Sunday 10:30am
074 93 70615 074 93 70134 *Star of the Sea Church* - Saturday 8pm Sunday 12 noon
E-Mail: malinparish@hotmail.com *St. Mary's Church* - Sunday 9am
Web Site: www.malinparish.ie Facebook: Malin Parish

Week Day 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.

Parishioners are strongly encouraged to attend one of the 10 weekday masses available during the week
Details on the times of online Masses and Prayers for the Covid 19 Crisis: <https://www.catholicbisops.ie>

Holy & Saints Days: 5th – 11th July: Monday: Ss. Maria Gretti & Monnine Tuesday: St. Maelruain
Wednesday: St. Kilian Thursday: Ss. Augustine Zhao Rong and Companions Saturday: St. Benedict

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".

Return to normal Masses Timetable: At the moment the maximum allowed inside is 50 people. Our churches all have sanitiser inside the doors. Please use that. The requirement for social distancing does not apply to a household sitting together, so families should use one seat together. Other seats will be closed to ensure social distancing.

Unfortunately we have no option but follow the limit of 50 parishioners for each mass, so parishioners can choose to attend one of the many other masses during the weekdays.

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Glengad Community Association: It has been brought to attention of the Committee that there is funding available through the Donegal County Council, Clar Funding 2020 Project. Measure 2 of this funding is in respect of, Community Recreation Areas. It has been proposed that we apply for this funding so that a picnic and viewing area be developed at the top of Portaleen Brae, one of the most scenic views in the Inishowen Peninsula. If successful in the funding application, the Clar Funding 2020 Project will facilitate 90% of the total cost with 10% to be raised by the community. We would appreciate your feedback on this proposal via The Glengad Community Centre Facebook page or by dropping a note in our post box outside the centre as per Covid 19 restrictions.

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

Peter McVerry SJ says we need to apply the focus on common purpose that COVID-19 taught us to the even greater crisis of climate change; Nikolaas Sintobin SJ considers how fear can affect us both emotionally and spiritually and how we can best deal with it; and Gerry O'Hanlon SJ, asking where God is in all this, suggests that we can find and love God in the people around us. There's an inspiring interview with Ireland's young hockey star, Elena Tice about the role faith has played in her life and career and an article on the history of chocolate, a comfort food beloved of many.

Our gardening section offers solutions to slugs, cookery has a warming Seafood Chowder and we continue our tour around landmark churches plus all our regular items on prayer, young peoples' pages and Masterpieces of Christian Art.

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1st Reading: Zechariah 9:9-10

Their king-Messiah will come humbly, riding on a donkey Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!
Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you;
triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem;
and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations;
his dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.

Gospel: Matthew 11:25-30

Gentle and humble in heart; his yoke is easy and his burden light

At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Becoming like children

"Put your hand in the hand of the man from Galilee" was the refrain of a popular Gospel song some years back. Putting your hand in somebody else's is a gesture of intimacy, which is very characteristic children with their parents. To a loving father or mother a child will give its hand unquestioningly, with complete trust. Holding his or her father's hand there is nowhere the child will not venture. It is not only willing to be led, but positively wants to be brought somewhere. Somewhere in the growing up process we outgrow our dependency on our parents, and having lost the need for their guidance, even God can become remote for us. Only those who are children at heart can fully understand what Jesus tells us about God — that God reveals Himself to "mere children."

Growing up means ceasing to be dependent. We exchange a child's dependence on people for an adult's dependence on things, like money, alcohol, success and influence. But these props are notoriously fickle and the adult world is often plagued by stress and anxiety. Our props may provide temporary relief but can still leave us — as Jesus puts it — "labouring and burdened;" labouring under illusions of grandeur and burdened with unrealistic targets. The heaviest load we have to carry is that of our own unfulfilled ambitions, the burden of our bruised egos. Only a return to humility can restore our lost innocence and our lost paradise., that honest humility that accepts our creature-status, our status as children before God. To enjoy the peace of Christ we must "put our hand in the hand of the man from Galilee", who guides us along life's journey and helps us to find the way home. 'Come to me', he says, 'all you who labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest.' In spite of all our problems, we trust him when he says, my yoke is easy and my burden light.

Three Invitations

1) Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest.

This is the first of three invitations from Jesus, in today's wonderful Gospel. It's directed toward all those who live their religion as a heavy burden. Not a few Christians live beaten down by their conscience. They aren't great sinners. They simply have been taught to have their sin always before them and they don't know the joy of God's continuous forgiveness. If they meet Jesus, they will find themselves relieved. There are also Christians who are weary of living their religion as a worn-out tradition. If they personally meet Jesus, they will learn to be alive, trusting in God as Father. They will discover an inner joy that they don't know yet. They will follow Jesus, not out of obligation, but out of attraction.

2) Shoulder my yoke; it is easy, and my burden is light.

That is the second invitation. Living in the presence of Jesus doesn't weigh anyone down. On the contrary, he frees up what's best in us, since he proposes that we live our lives making them more human, worthy, whole. It's not easy to find a more passionate way of living. Jesus frees us from fear and pressure, he doesn't bring them in; he makes our liberty grow, not our slavery; he awakens in us trust, never sadness; he draws us to love, not toward laws and precepts. He invites us to live by doing good.

3) Learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

That is the third invitation. We need to learn from Jesus how to live like him. Jesus doesn't complicate our life. He makes it clearer and simpler, more humble, more whole. He offers rest. He never puts onto his followers something that he hasn't lived himself. He invites us to follow him on the same path that he has walked. That's why he can understand our difficulties and our struggles, he can forgive our stupidities and our faults, always encouraging us to get up again. We need to focus our efforts to promote a more vital contact with Jesus in our communities that are so in need of courage, rest, and peace. Sadly it is precisely their way of understanding and living religion that leads so many, almost inevitably, to not know the experience of trusting in Jesus. Think about so many people who, both within and outside of the Church, live without knowing at what door to knock. Surely Jesus would be good news for them.