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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

Facebook: Malin Parish

Weekday Masses:

St. Patrick's Church, Aughaclay: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday at 7:30pm
Star of the Sea Church, Malin Head: No Mass
St. Mary's Church, Lagg: No Mass

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

Holy & Saints Days: 23rd – 29th August: Sunday: *St. Eugene* Monday: *St. Bartholomew*
Tuesday: *Ss. Louis of France & Joseph Calasanz* Thursday: *St. Monica* Friday: *St. Augustine*
Saturday: *The Passion of St John the Baptist*

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 the 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".

Collections for last week:

	<i>Aughaclay</i>	<i>Malin Head</i>	<i>Lagg</i>
<i>Parish</i>	360	215	155
<i>Restoration</i>	355	220	150

Parish Fund –	€ 730
Restoration Fund –	€ 725

Growth in Prayer and Reflective Living: Drumalis, Larne – commencing Monday, 14th September. Due to the success of last year's course, applications are now being accepted for the new intake of this one-year programme for those who want a closer relationship with God. Living out faith isn't easy against the backdrop of our fast-paced, noisy and instantaneous culture. The Growth in Prayer and Reflective Living course aims to give you the tools and space to become attuned to God's voice in the midst of the clamour. Taking place over 30 Monday Evenings from 7–9:30 pm by Zoom. When circumstances permit, the option to take part in the Drumalis Centre will also be available. For further information, please contact 028 28276455/28272196 (Mon-Fri, 9am – 5 pm) or email maura@drumalis.co.uk Details are also available on the Drumalis website - <http://www.drumalis.co.uk>. See Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I3JY2lChUU4&t=36s>

Messenger Magazine is available free online: www.messenger.ie The digital version of the September Messenger will be the last issue to be offered free of charge to non-subscribers. From October onwards, the digital edition will only be available to subscribers. A digital subscription costs just €15 per year and we hope you will decide to subscribe if you are not currently a subscriber. The September issue can be viewed on https://issuu.com/messengerpublications/docs/messenger_september

Cleaners for Star of the Sea Church in August: Eileen McLaughlin, Margaret McLaughlin and 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>.

Honk Your Horn Bingo continues in Connolly Park on Sunday evening. The event is proving very successful with bingo lovers of all ages. The 12 page book cost just €10 with some great cash prizes on offer, so if you are a regular bingo player or someone who just would like to try something different for a change, make your way to Connolly Park and help support both your parish and local GAA club. Proceedings get underway at 6pm sharp, which gates opening at 5.15pm.

Malin GAA: Lotto: Congratulations to Suzie and Rory Lafferty who scooped this weeks lotto jackpot of €850. Sequence drawn was 2-7-5-3-6-4-1. Next weeks lotto jackpot is €500 and as always we would like to thank the local community for their continued support of our weekly lotto draw. Envelopes are just €2 or 3 for €5 euro and are available in most pubs and shops in the area and also from our band of young eager sellers.

Club Masks: With the wearing of masks in many places now compulsory, why not protect yourself and show your support for the club by purchasing a Malin GAA crested face mask. Masks are priced at just €8 and are available by contacting Susan Byrne.

Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20

Peter declares faith in Jesus and is promised the keys of the kingdom

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Bible

Shepherd and Rock

Above the sanctuary of Saint Peter’s basilica in Rome, written in huge lettering of gold mosaic, is this promise of Jesus to his chief apostle: “Thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church.. I will give to you the keys of the kingdom of heaven.” These words are held by Catholics as the basis for the papacy, applying to the bishop of Rome as the successor to Peter, to be the chief spokesman for the church’s living faith, and wielder of the spiritual power of the keys.

We must not be too simplistic in how we apply those words to the original Peter and even more so to his successors. Non-catholic Christians, our brethren in the Protestant churches, do not accept that there could be any succession, in the full sense, to the position held by Saint Peter. They find any claims to juridical and absolute authority for the papacy, under titles like “apostolic jurisdiction” or “the power of the keys” to be out of harmony with the Gospel message. They interpret differently what today’s Gospel means for leadership in the Church. We need not insist that the Roman way is the only way of taking Christ’s words. Still, this Gospel deserves close attention for what it says about faith, enlightenment and leadership, and guidance for our own lives.

Each must make a personal answer to Our Lord’s question: “Who do you say that I am?” although Peter’s credo is a solid basis from which to begin. Notice the beautiful phrase: “Son of the Living God,” expressing more richly what “Christ” means. Peter’s worshipful faith comes to him as gift from above, not from any mere logic or ingenuity. Why was the blessing given to him in particular? Perhaps because his humble and contrite spirit made him best prepared to receive it? Or because God chooses whom He wills, irrespective of their merits? It is to this Peter that Jesus entrusts whatever is meant by the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven. Upon his solid, dedicated faith the Church will always rely, for unity and encouragement. Keys are mainly for opening; many doors lock by themselves. We could reflect further on Peter’s task, as seen in other Gospel passages (Mat. 14:28ff; 17:24ff; Lk. 22:32; Jn. 21:15-17), and in the Acts (1:1 5ff, 2: 14ff; 3:1 2ff).

While he is appointed to “feed the lambs and sheep” of Christ, to “confirm his brethren,” and welcome the first pagan convert into the Church, Peter is no plaster saint. Weakness of faith (when he began to sink), rash self-confidence and eventual denial are also portrayed by him. But these serve only to underline the grandeur of his conversion, when with a new clarity of self-knowledge he turns and says to Jesus: “You know that I love you.” The task is not one of stern domination, or merely of the efficient organisation of Christ’s Church. Pastor and penitent at once, convert and the support for other converted sinners, he leads the faithful by witness and example. This pastoral understanding of authority finds a lovely echo in the first epistle of Peter. Elders or leaders are asked to “tend the flock of God, not as domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock” (5:13.) Just so, Peter tended the early church by sharing his deep faith in Christ the Risen Lord. So, he kept them united in a community of mutual love, and in faithful obedience to the Gospel. Such an ideal situation of harmony in the Church is briefly sketched for us in the Acts (2:42ff; 4:32f.)

What of today’s Church, spread in all continents, united under the leadership of pope Francis? How can this work of teaching, encouraging and uniting so many millions of baptised believers be carried on? Jesus remains at the centre, as the Christ, Son of the Living God, and he continues to be the Church’s true Rock. We today, just as much as in the time of St Peter, need the ministry of faithful apostles, entrusted by Christ to build up his people, witness to the faith, and provide leadership in Christian love. Pope, bishops, priests and other ministries exist in order to serve. But in some sense, we get the service that we deserve. It is for us to make known to our pastors both our appreciation and our loyal criticisms; especially to pray for them, for their courage and perseverance. Today we particularly remember the present successor of Peter, our Pope; that God may establish him in faith and wisdom; that being strong in himself, he may confirm the brethren; and that as Chief Shepherd he may help us on our way to the Kingdom.