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

Holy & Saints Days: 1st – 7th November: Sunday: *All Saints* Monday: *The Commemoration of all The Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day)* Tuesday: *St. Malachy* Wednesday: *St. Charles Borromeo* Thursday: *St. Martin de Porres* Thursday: *All the Saints of Ireland* Saturday: *St. Willibrord*

We remember in our own prayers the anniversaries of our deceased parishioners, since no public masses can be said at this time.

Anniversary Mass: Eddie Doherty and Robert McLaughlin, Ross Head, on Sunday 1st November at 10:30am in St. Patrick's Church.

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".

The Annual Diocesan Mass for Deceased Children and Young People will be celebrated in St Eugene's Cathedral, Derry, on Sunday 8th November, at 7pm. You can join this Mass live on the St. Eugene's Cathedral webcam. If you would like to have a child or young person remembered at this Mass, please email the name to lizzie.rea@derrydiocese.org or telephone 028 7126 4087.

Counselling: A professional confidential counselling service is available for couples or individuals through Accord at the Pastoral Centre, Carndonagh, Co. Donegal, F93 XP59. Contact 074 93 74103 or e-mail accordinishowen@gmail.com.

Accord Inishowen will be hosting a Virtual Interactive Marriage Preparation Programme (Pre-Marriage Courses) via Zoom will be on Saturday 30th January 2021. To book: <https://www.accord.ie/services/marriage-preparation> or email accordinishowen@gmail.com for more information.

Malin GAA: Lotto: Envelopes are just €2 or 3 for €5 euro and are available in the following retail outlets, Boggs Butchers, McCleans Shop, Malin and Seaview Stores, Malin Head and also from our band of young eager sellers. In response to these new challenges the club has decided to move with the times and take the lotto online also. Link to play https://play.clubforce.com/play_newa.asp?ll_id=2504#Anchor
To get the best value we recommend playing 3 lines in one week for €5; however, you can still play 1 or two lines. Don't forget to select auto renew at checkout. This means the app will automatically enter you for each draw.

Club Shop: Our club shop is open once again. There are still a limited amount of club face masks for sale, as well as many other items of club gear available. Shop will be open from 12 to 1.30 on Saturdays and from 11.30 to 2 on Sundays. For queries outside of opening hours, contact Susan on 086 7832242. With Christmas fast approaching, get your orders in early.

Malin Parish CEP Ltd. Vacancies 2020 – 2021. 2 General/Parish Workers and 1 Water Treatment Operator (Bunn Water). DSP conditina apply. Contact: John Mc Laughlin 93 70605, Danny Mc Gonagle 086 8124 568 or email malincep07@yahoo.co.uk

The Solemnity of All Saints: Gospel: The Beatitudes as guide to the Kingdom of Heaven.

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. "Blessed are the peacemakers, for

they will be called children of God. “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

This gospel, the Beatitudes, may be one of the most familiar in all of scripture. Its litany of what it means to be “blessed” can be seen as the ultimate blueprint for living the Christian life. In the context of today’s feast, it tells us: this is how you become a saint.

But do we really understand what that means? As we mark this All Saints Day, it is tempting to put saints, literally, on a pedestal. Just look around this church. We see saints in stained glass, in wood, in marble. They are plaster figures we put on a shelf and decorate with flowers or adorn with halos. We collect them in holy cards and venerate them in icons.

But to think of the saints that way reduces them to something merely decorative—and risks making this feast seem unnecessary. This day is necessary. We need to hear what this feast says to us. It is a summons, a call, a challenge to every one of us who is here. Looked at another way: All Saints Day is nothing less than a dare. This feast says to us: dare to be more. Dare to be a saint.

Some of us may hear that and laugh. Sainthood is a noble ambition, an ideal, but is this something we can realistically expect to attain? The short answer is: yes. Because the great truth about saints, something we so easily forget, is that they were just like us. Flesh and blood, strength and weakness. They were people of appetites and longings, ambitions and disappointments, vanities and eccentricities. They were simple sinners just like the rest of us. That was how they began. But that wasn’t the whole story. The simple but reassuring fact is that nobody is born a saint. It’s something you have to become.

Consider St. Margaret of Cortona. As a teenager, she was the mistress of a young nobleman. She lived with him for nine years, even had a son with him, hoping at some point her lover would marry her. He never did. When he was finally murdered, the shock caused Margaret to re-evaluate her life. She went on to take vows a Franciscan. Her son also joined the order. She was canonized in 1728. Nobody is born a saint. It’s something you have to become. Sometimes those who become saints aren’t the ones we expect. They may be the filthy, the rejected, the outcast, the homeless. People like Benedict Joseph Labre. He grew up the son of a prosperous shopkeeper, but felt called to give up everything and follow Christ. He spent his life wandering from church to church in Rome. He rarely bathed, never washed his clothes. Some people were repelled by him. But the purity of his devotion and his love of God moved and inspired those who saw him day after day. When he died at the young age of 35, priests of Rome preserved his filthy clothes as relics and they buried him in one of the churches he loved. Today, he is the patron saint of the homeless. Nobody is born a saint. It’s something you have to become.

Don’t dismiss any of the saints. They are closer to us than we may realize. They have struggled with sin and temptation, they’ve walked the journey toward holiness, sometimes stumbling, sometimes falling, but always getting back up and moving on, resolving to do better, to be better, to aim higher.

They worked to be what this gospel is calling us to be. To be poor in spirit. To be meek. To be merciful. To make peace. This is how we begin to become what Jesus called “blessed,” and what the Church calls saints. It’s a tall order. And it is nothing less than a call to greatness. But this feast day reminds us, whether we realize it or not: it can be ours. This kind of greatness is within our grasp. All Saints Day beckons us to something beautiful. It reminds us of our great potential—the promise that lies within each of us. The promise of holiness.

It is the promise that was fulfilled in the countless people we venerate this day—our models, our companions, our inspirations, our guides. All the saints. They give us blessed hope.

Because they assure us again and again: no one is born a saint.

But every one of us, by the grace of God, can become one.

In November We Remember

