

Parish of Malin (Clonca) Sunday 21st March 2021
Fifth Sunday in Lent (Year B Week 1)



Fr. Peter Devlin P.P.
Malin
074 93 70615

Fr. Charley Logue C.C.
Malin Head
074 93 70134

Mass Times
St. Patrick's Church – No Mass
Star of the Sea Church – No Mass
St. Mary's Church – No Mass

E-Mail: malinparish@hotmail.com

Web Site: www.malinparish.ie

Facebook: Malin Parish

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

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". New envelopes are available now January to June 2021 are now available in all churches and from Fr. Devlin. Please use these envelopes for your weekly contribution to the parish.

Baptisms in Malin Parish: Baptisms can now be celebrated in the parish with a maximum of six people.

Reminder! Reminder ! Parish Draw 2021-2022: Parish Draw Cards are now available from Fr. Devlin. **Returns to the Parochial House Malin on Monday 29th March at 8pm.** The first draw will be in April and the parish draw will run from April to April in future years. Sincers thanks to our promoters and members of the draw. It is an important part of parish fundraising.

Bishop Donal McKeown's Lent Conversations every Tuesday during Lent at 7pm. Topics include health, homelessness, young people, pastoral ministry and music. Live on the St Eugene's Cathedral Facebook page.

Knock Shrine: Exploring the Word of God through Prayer. A series of online Scripture Reflections at 9pm each Tuesday night. Knock Shrine will show a series of online night prayer with reflections on Scripture. Students from St. Louis Community School Kiltimagh, Co. Mayo will deliver this series of talks inspired by Scripture. You can join us online for this new series at www.knockshrine.ie/watch-live every Tuesday at 9pm. Knock Shrine are launching a new online series to engage you each Thursday at 8.30pm during Lent.

Accord Inishowen Counselling: A professional confidential counselling service is available for couples or individuals through Accord at the Pastoral Centre, Carndonagh. F93 XP59. Contact 074 93 74103, e-mail accordinishowen@gmail.com or book: <https://www.accord.ie/services/marriage-and-relationship-counselling>. Accord Inishowen will be hosting a **Virtual Interactive Marriage Preparation Programme** (Pre-Marriage Courses) via Zoom on Saturday 5th June 2021. To book online: <https://www.accord.ie/services/marriage-preparation> or email: accordinishowen@gmail.com for more information.

The Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre, working in Partnership with Saint Mary's University, Twickenham, offers the Masters in Catholic School Leadership. This is a post graduate degree dedicated to the professional development and spiritual formation of Catholic school leaders. It is a great opportunity for those currently in leadership roles and those who aspire to, or have an interest in, leadership roles within the Catholic School system. The next intake will be Autumn 2021. If you require any further information, please contact the Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre on 004428 71264087 or email tferry@derrydiocese.org.

The Net – March 2021: Sharing the fruits of the faith in the Derry Diocese. With Covid-19 restrictions still in place, the March edition of 'The Net' will only be available on the Diocesan website - <https://www.derrydiocese.org/news/the-net-march-2021> However, the publication will be available again in parishes when the restrictions are lifted. Enquiries to – editorthenet15@gmail.com

This Holy Week, the Priory Institute offers an online Open Access retreat reflecting on the Passion of Christ. Full details and how to register at <https://prioryinstitute.com/events/holy-week-retreat-2021>.

DVD of the Carrowmenagh Christmas Concert 2020 available to purchase. €10. Contact 074 93 67251/ 67865

Civil Registration, Health Clinic, Cockhill Road, Buncrana. Tel: 074 93 62196. Opening Hours: Monday to Thursday 9:15am – 12noon & 1:30pm – 4:30pm. Please take note that Buncrana Office will not be opened on a Friday, Letterkenny Office 074 91 23772 will be covering on that day,

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Gospel: John 12:20-30 By losing their life, the followers of Jesus will find it in a new way

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour.

"Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say?" "Father, save me from this hour?" No, it is for this reason that I have come to this our. Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine."

Reflection on the Gospel : For Others' Sake

Martin Luther King once wrote about a time when he knelt in prayer in the kitchen of his home in Alabama. Stones had been thrown through the window because of his call for civil rights for black people. His wife and children were in danger. He was already a respected academic and a promising career lay ahead. In prayer he found himself asking if it was right to put himself and them in danger? It was in that moment he decided to put the will of God and the welfare of his people before his own security and that of his family. He chose to serve God by working for those who were most oppressed. In a sense, he chose to die so that others could more fully live. It was a striking echo of what Jesus says in the gospel reading, that the grain of wheat must fall into the ground to yield a rich harvest.

Jesus himself was the supreme expression of this principle. He is the grain of wheat that falls to the ground and dies, and in dying yields a harvest of life. He describes that harvest in prophetic words: "When I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw all people to myself."

If God worked powerfully through the life of Jesus, He worked even more powerfully through the death of Jesus, a death that reveals the power of God's love, even more fully than his life of healing and ministry, for the amazing love revealed in his death on the cross drew people to God, and continues to do so. Over the centuries, millions of people, by looking upon the crucifix, have experienced God's personal love and compassion and found themselves drawn to God in return. In accepting the loss of so much that was dear to him, in particular, his vibrant life and warm companionship with others, Jesus drew people of all nations to himself and, thereby, to sharing in God's life.

It was when some Greeks (i.e. foreigners) came to hear him speak that Jesus made this declaration; and then he asked: "What shall I say? Save me from this hour. No, it was for this reason I have come to this hour." In these lovely spring days we may find ourselves sowing some seeds in the garden. The seed that dies in order to yield a new form of life is as familiar to us today as it was in the day of Jesus. This phenomenon of nature can speak to our own experience as much as it did to the experience of Jesus. Each of us in different ways has to accept some significant loss if we are to remain true to our deepest and best self, true to what God is asking of us.

Then there are other losses in life that we do not choose, but that are forced upon us. These are losses we have no choice but to accept. We may have to accept the loss of people we love and care about because of choices they make themselves. Parents may not wish to see a son or daughter go far away to live and work, but they accept this necessary loss out of respect for the one they love. In accepting the losses that life imposes, in letting go of those we love, we often find something fuller and richer, just as Jesus' disciples received him again in a new and fuller way through his resurrection from the dead and the sending of the Spirit.

At the end, for each of us, there is the final, unavoidable struggle to let go of our very life, with all the loss that is entailed in that. As we face of all these inevitable losses that are integral to life, we are strengthened by the words of Jesus in today's gospel, "When I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw all people to myself." We trust and believe that, at the end of the day, after we have struggled through all our losses, the Lord will draw us to himself, and, when that happens, we will lack nothing.