

**Parish of Malin (Clonca)      Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2021**  
**The Ascension of the Lord ( Year B Week 3 )**

**Fr Peter Devlin P.P. Fr Charley Logue C.C.**

Malin  
074 93 70615

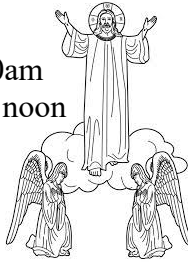
Malin Head  
074 93 70134

**E-Mail:** [malinparish@hotmail.com](mailto:malinparish@hotmail.com)

**Web Site:** [www.malinparish.ie](http://www.malinparish.ie)    **Facebook:** Malin Parish

**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



**Week Masses:**

**St. Patrick's Church, Aughaclay:**

Monday to Friday at 7:30pm

**Star of the Sea Church, Malin Head**

Monday 10am, Tuesday at 7.30pm & Friday 7.30pm

**St. Mary's Church, Lagg:**

Wednesday at 9:30am

**First Anniversary Mass:** for Bridget Crowley, Ballymena on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> May at 7.30pm in St Patrick's Church

**Anniversary Mass:** for Sean Farren, Glentoskert, on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30 in St Patrick's Church

**Anniversary Mass:** for Eileen McCarron, Templemoyle, on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June at 7.30pm in St Patrick's.

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

**Relaxation of restrictions on Public Religious Services:** Aughaclay and Malin Head churches will use pods of 50 upstairs and downstairs, with separate doors being used. St Mary's Lagg will use 3 pods with the 2 wings either side of the altar using the sacristy door. All adults are required to wear masks and to sanitise hands on entry and exit. Please avoid gathering at the doors or outside the churches.

**Confirmations in Malin Parish** will be celebrated at 7.30pm in St Mary's Church, Lagg

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> June, Malin Head School .

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June, Urblereagh School.

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June, Malin Town School.

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> June, Glengad School

**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".

**Synodal Assembly:** "As you may have heard via the media, the Irish Bishops have decided to initiate a process in the Irish Church, leading to a Synodal Assembly in perhaps five years. The Bishops' Conference plans the next two years as a period of prayer, listening and discernment, involving a nationwide consultative conversation on this theme. Following this, there will be a 3-year preparation for a National Synodal Assembly. Before embarking on the Synodal Pathway consultation, bishops are inviting submissions to reflect on what methods/models to adopt in these coming two years of conversations. Individual and groups are invited to submit ideas as to how the national conversation might best be conducted, what hard-to-reach groups need to be involved. For further information on making a submission go to [www.catholicbishops.ie/synod](http://www.catholicbishops.ie/synod) . Please note that submissions are sought by 23<sup>rd</sup> May and can be made directly online through that website."

**Continuous Prayer Movement for Marriage and Family:** This Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> May is Our Parish Day of Prayer. Our theme for the month of May is; Children and Young People. We ask God to be with us all and help us to build all our families and parish communities as places of hope and confidence in the knowledge of Christ being with us and calling us to be his disciples.

**Priory Institute Online Open Day** to register <https://prioryinstitute.com/events/priory-institute-open-day>.

**The Net** – the May edition of 'The Net' will only be available on the Diocesan website –

<https://www.derrydiocese.org/news/the-net-may-2021>.

**Accord Catholic Marriage Care Service** is currently recruiting volunteers to train as marriage preparation programme facilitators. Accord is seeking registration of interest from those who have a positive attitude towards marriage in the Catholic Church and the enthusiasm to be part of a team supporting couples who are preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage. Accord Catholic Marriage Care Service has 54 centres in dioceses throughout the country. Successful applicants will receive professional training and will be part of a team delivering marriage preparation programmes locally in accordance with best practice. Contact Aisling on 01 505 3112 or by email to [info@accord.ie](mailto:info@accord.ie) The closing date for receipt of registration of interest forms to be included in Selections for this year is Friday May 28<sup>th</sup> Registration of Interest form and additional information about becoming a facilitator is available on [www.accord.ie](http://www.accord.ie).

**Gospel: Mark 16:15-20 The final instructions of Jesus**

Jesus said to his disciples, "Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation. The one who believes and is baptized will be saved; but the one who does not believe will be condemned. And these signs will accompany those who believe: by using my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; they will pick up snakes in their hands, and if they drink any deadly thing, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover." So then the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was

taken up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God. And they went out and proclaimed the good news everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the message by the signs that accompanied it.

### **Jesus is Reigning**

The feast of the Ascension is the celebration of the present reign of Jesus Christ over all things. Christ had triumphed; the King was returning to His city, to His throne, to sit and reign. Now He reigns over all things. The victory over Sin and Death is won. Death has lost its sting, and Sin has lost its power. The Law is fulfilled. Christ has conquered by His obedience and death and now lives and reigns for all eternity.

To confess that Jesus has ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God, is to claim that God has exalted him. The same Jesus who welcomed the sinners, who suffered and died in shame and rejection by this world is now exalted into the very presence of God himself, and there he receives kingly power. That means that Caesar is not Lord, nor are any of the powers, pursuits, or promises that struggle for control of our lives. It means you owe Jesus your complete and undivided loyalty.

Jesus Christ rules over all creation, and he governs and rules as exalted Lord in the interest of his church, for your benefit. Christ will never stop ruling and governing this universe on your behalf. All things will work for the good of God's children (Ro 8:28). It means that all things are under his control and for our good. Christ Jesus right now is ruling all things for the sake of his church!

The Ascension tells us that Christ is still in charge. He reigns. That's so important for us today. As we suffer in fear for our future. In a present time that is filled with pandemic, with chaos, with confusion and one crisis after another. Christ now reigns over this mess. He reigns over every king, every authority, every premiere, every mayor, over the angels, the devils, the viruses, you name it, he reigns over it. They are all under his feet, the same feet that were nailed to a cross to save us. He is ruling and governing all things for the good of his church, both individually and collectively. When you hurt, he knows it. Your King Jesus knows your weaknesses, and he will give you the strength to endure, to endure to the end. Though many ears seem deaf to the church's message, there are still those who rejoice to hear the good news. There are still precious souls being gathered into Christ's church and nurtured here. So take heart. You do not need to fear death, the devil, or the world with all its hostility. Christ lives! He reigns!

### **Jesus Didn't Leave Us**

At the end of Luke's gospel and the beginning of Acts, Luke describes Jesus 'going up' from earth into heaven. He disappeared in a cloud, and yet he hasn't gone anywhere. The right hand of God is not a place, as we think of place. Luke is not giving you hints about heavenly geography. God's right hand is bigger than that! But Jesus hasn't gone anywhere in ascending to the right hand of the Father. Heaven is simply where God is, and God is everywhere. God does not have a right hand as we do. His right hand is everywhere. Paul says, Jesus "ascended up far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things," (Eph. 4:10).

Jesus didn't go to a better place. He didn't leave this world behind. He didn't orphan his disciples or go back on his promise, "Never will I leave you. Never will I forsake you. Look I am with you always to the end of the age." Jesus didn't leave. He became present in a different way. In some ways more present. Jesus withdrew his visible and physical presence. So, how do we live as Jesus' followers without his visible, physical presence?

To be present visibly and physically means to be in one place and not in another. There are boundaries and edges. But, if you are present everywhere, if you fill all in all, then you can't be seen. This is why Jesus told his disciples that it would be good for them that he leaves. He fills all in all, which means there is no place where he is not. Jesus Christ, always true God and true man, is still with us, and present everywhere. The resurrection appearances of Jesus show that quite nicely. He's here, He's there, He's wherever He wants to be. In the upper room, on the road to Emmaus, on a mountain in Galilee. He seems to appear and disappear at will. And that's precisely the point. He who fills all things in every way can appear wherever He wants whenever He wills.

Oh, His visible presence is removed. But He is not removed. His promise stands forever: "Look, I am with you always, to the end of the age." "The visible presence of Christ has passed into His sacraments" said one pastor long ago. Jesus withdraws His visible presence, but we still have His sacramental presence. Ever since Jesus ascended, we continue to encounter Jesus through the preaching of the Word and the Sacraments, through the fellowship of the church, and through ministry with the poor and the oppressed. He dwells in our hearts by faith. He is present where two or three are gathered in his name. He is present in his office to absolve and baptise and give out his body and blood in the sacrament. He is present in your neighbours for you to love and serve. Jesus is still present with us. There is no where in heaven and on earth where he is not because he fills all in all. For now, and for as many days as we are given, we have a purpose as Baptised forgiven Christians. That is, to proclaim his reign far and wide. Jesus promised his disciples that on Pentecost, which we will celebrate ten days from now, that they would be equipped with power from God to perform their new tasks. The Ascension tell us that the Lord Jesus Christ is King of kings and Lord of lords and that he shall reign forever and ever. The Ascension also tells us that he hasn't left us. He is still present to strengthen us in faith toward God and love towards our neighbours. "Halleluiah. For the Lord God Omnipotent Reigneth. Hallelujah."