

Parish of Malin (Clonca) Sunday 3rd October 2021
Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B Week 3)



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

Weekday Masses:

St. Patrick's Church, Aughaclay: Tuesday and Thursday at 7:30pm
Star of the Sea Church, Malin Head Monday at 10am and Friday at 7:30pm
St. Mary's Church, Lagg: Wednesday at 9:30am

First Anniversary Mass: Carmel Mc Laughlin, Slieveban, on Saturday 2nd October at 8pm in Star of the Sea Church..

Anniversary Mass: Margaret Kelly, Gortnarrin, on Sunday 3rd October at 10:30am in St. Patrick's Church.

Anniversary Mass: Grace McLaughlin, Ballylannon on Saturday 9th October at 6pm in St. Patrick's Church.

Months Mind Mass: Sister Geraldine Doherty, Texas/Ballyhillion on Saturday 9th October at 8pm in Star of the Sea Church.

Months Mind Mass: Eddie McLarkey on Sunday 17th October at 9am in St. Mary's Church.

Anniversary Mass: Eddie Doherty and Robert Mc Laughlin, Ross Head, on Sunday 31st October at 10:30am in St. Patrick's Church.

Parish Collection: Given the serious financial deficit which the parish suffered due to Covid your increased support is essential at this time. Please make cheques payable to "Malin Parochial".

Collections for last week: Thank You.

	<i>Aughaclay</i>	<i>Malin Head</i>	<i>Lagg</i>
<i>Parish</i>	505	235	275
<i>Restoration</i>	500	235	270

Parish Fund –	€ 1015
Restoration Fund –	€ 1005

PARISH DRAW

	€200	€100	€50
5/9	326 EDDIE KELLY	387 JIMMY DOHERTY	239 MAJELLA GIBBONS
12/9	153 DYLEN ,LORCAN, LILY DOHERTY	426 FR LOGUE	394 ELLEN ANNE LAFFERTY
19/9	291 GERARD MC CULLAGH	391 MARY CLARE DOUGLAS	285 EAMON & MARY DOHERTY
26/9	348 MAUREEN HARLEY	219 BRIAN MC LAUGHLIN	215 EUGENE MC LAUGHLIN

Congratulations to all the children in the parish who made their First Holy Communion.

Weddings in Malin Parish in 2022 and 2023: Please contact Fr. Devlin to ensure that all proposed wedding details are in the Parish Diary.

Malin Parish and Malin GAA, "Honk Your Horn Bingo" at 6pm in Connolly Park on Sundays.

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 are hosting Virtual Interactive Marriage Preparation Programme (Pre-Marriage) Courses via Zoom on Saturdays 29th January, 26th February, 12th March and 23rd April 2022. To book: www.accord.ie/services/marriage-preparation or email accordinishowen@gmail.com for more information.

Marriage Enrichment Weekend 5th – 7th November, hosted by Catholic Marriage Encounter: Restore Communication, Renew Commitment and Rekindle Romance. This is an online experience, starting on Friday evening at 8pm and ending on Sunday afternoon at 2:30pm. Full details on: <https://www.marriageencounter.ie>

Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time. Gospel: Mark 10:2-16

"What God has joined together" and receiving the kingdom of God as a little child

Some Pharisees came, and to test Jesus they asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" He answered them, "What did Moses command you?" They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her." But Jesus said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate." Then in the house the disciples

asked him again about this matter. He said to them, “Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery too.”

People were bringing little children to him so that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, “Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.” And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

Life Together

Many would see today’s gospel as impracticable for our times. How can a couple be expected to stay together for possibly 50 years, given today’s longevity? But is important to distinguish between the ideal of marital fidelity, and how that law is applied in our Church. Sometimes in the past the law about marriage was harshly and insensitively preached. The sad truth is that not all marriages work out well. Some marry in haste, and some may not have what it takes to live in a lifelong relationship. But following Jesus we at least support the ideal he laid down: that marriage is meant to last for a lifetime.

On their wedding day, a couple set out on a journey, which hopefully will lead them into a deeper love and partnership with the passing years. Possibly their early love for each other has a quality of infatuation, or feeling in love, and our emotions, while good and useful, are largely outside our control. True, lasting love is more based on decision than emotion. While I cannot control my emotions, I can renew a decision each and every day.

Our Catholic Church sees marriage as a covenant between a woman and a man, who enter a partnership of their whole lives. It is a life-project, a vocation for which they receive the grace of a special sacrament to make it viable. For a marriage to succeed requires a constant effort of goodwill, to cooperate with the grace of God. The couple should foster a relationship that is dynamic, never static; some say that if it is not moving forward, it is going backwards. Living in married love with another means dying to self in many little ways, because love is a kind of laying down a life for one’s friend. Our faith says that it is only by dying to self that we are capable of giving life to others, which carries within it Christ’s promise of eternal life.

Keeping marriage alive

While modern society makes us tolerant of divorce following marital breakdown, in today’s Gospel Christ invites us to reflect on the ideal of permanence of marriage and on the value of lifelong commitment. His words on the indissolubility of marriage set an ideal that is especially difficult for our times, when we are so much influenced by a libertarian ideology that prizes personal fulfilment above all else.

Marriage is built on basic, life-giving human instincts and can survive even in a time of radical social change. Families who have kept fidelity over the years demonstrate that love can weather the storms which even the best of relationships cannot always avoid. But the instability of family life today, and the large number of marital separations, needs to be prayed about. At the same time, as pope Francis has said so warmly, our Church must show due regard for people who are in new unions after their first has broken up, for whatever reason. It is not enough just to propose an ideal of marriage based on fidelity; the problems of tense marriage relationships are not solved by constant preaching, no matter how well-meant. Conscious of this, the Church has agencies to help couples to prepare for marriage, and later help them cope with the conflicts that threaten their perseverance.

There are many reasons why a marriage might fail. Possibly the parties were not emotionally mature at the time they married, nor fully free in giving their marriage consent. People who never thought of the deeper, spiritual meaning of marriage, can come to feel that their marriage was an unfortunate mistake.. In helping to prepare couples for marriage, trying to foster their growth in married love, and even when declaring certain marriages to be null and void, those involved must try to combine their ideal of marriage with an appreciation of love between the sexes and with understanding and compassion for those today who find difficulty in living up to the challenges of Christian marriage .

We pray for the Synod of Bishops now taking place in Rome, that they may be open to new insights on how to care for marriage and the family today, and advise the Pope on what steps the Church can and should take, to be a more welcoming place for those whose marriages have proved unsustainable, but who wish to continue as faithful friends of Christ.