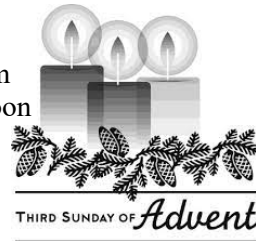


Parish of Malin (Clonca) Sunday 12th December 2021
Third Sunday of Advent (Year C Week 3)

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:	Monday and Tuesday at 7.30pm
Star of the Sea Church, Malin Head:	Monday at 10am, Tuesday and Friday at 7:30pm
St. Mary's Church, Lagg:	Wednesday at 9:30am

First Anniversary Mass: Mickey Duffy, Glengad and Scotland on Saturday 11th December at 6pm in St. Patrick's Church

Anniversary Mass: Jim Rudden, Tully on Sunday 12th December at 9am in St. Mary's Church.

First Anniversary Mass: John McLaughlin (Briney), Leiter on Sunday 12th December at 10:30am in St. Patrick's Church.

Month's Mind Mass: William Glackin, Ballygorman on Sunday 19th December at 9am St. Mary's Church.

First Anniversary: Michael Mc Laughlin (F) on Thursday 23rd December at 7.30pm in St. Patrick's Church.

First Anniversary: Rose Kelly, Glentoskert on Christmas Day at 9am in St. Mary's Church.

Anniversary Mass: Charlie Monagle, Brookefield Terrace, Malin on Sunday 26th December at 9am in St. Mary'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>	510	245	195
<i>Restoration</i>	505	240	190

Parish Fund –	€ 950
Restoration Fund –	€ 935

SVP Malin Conference: SVP Malin Conference will be conducting their collection this weekend this Saturday 12th and Sunday 13th December. Each year our SVP Malin Conference makes essential visits to families and people in need in this community. It is also possible to donate to our Conference by placing your donation in our collection boxes located in parish shop counters: Lafferty's Shop (Glengad), McCleans, Malin Cash Stores, Boggs Butchers (Malin), Stop and Shop and Mullins (Malin Head) or ringing the SVP Malin Conference on 0830989600. The funds raised will be spent in the community helping those who need it most with food, heating and education costs throughout the winter and beyond. We rely almost entirely on the support of you, the generous parishioners. Thank you in advance for your continued support. SVP Malin Conference. If you find yourself in need of support or know someone who is in need please contact SVP Malin Conference on 0830989600. All matters will be dealt with in confidentiality.

Scoil Cholmcille, Glengad, Enrolment application forms for the 2022-2023 school year are now available from the school's website, scoilcholmcilleglengad.weebly.com or by emailing the school at glengadns@gmail.com or writing to: Scoil Cholmcille, Ballymena, Glengad, Malin, Co. Donegal, F93 N663. The school will cease accepting applications on 28th February 2021. Please inform relations or friends who may not have pupils currently attending the school.

Urbhlereagh National School – Application forms for enrolling your child in Urbhlereagh National School for the 2022/2023 school year are now available from the school and on the website, urbhlereaghns.weebly.com. We will commence accepting applications from the 6th January 2022. Completed forms must be submitted by Tuesday 1st March 2022.

Gospel Luke 3:10-18 John the Baptist urges various groups of people to works of justice and charity

And the crowds asked John, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

Communicating Joy

The lead-up to Christmas has a sense of happy anticipation, an excitement matched in today's readings. We are invited to a truly joyful proclamation of the Good News. About The Joy of the Gospel, pope Francis wrote: One cannot but admire the resources that the Lord used to dialogue with his people, to reveal his mystery to all and to attract ordinary people by his lofty teachings and demands. I believe that the secret lies in the way Jesus looked at people, seeing beyond their weaknesses and failings: "Fear not little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom" (Lk 12:32); Jesus preaches with that spirit. Full of joy in the Spirit, he blesses the Father who draws the little ones to him: "I thank you Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to babes" (Lk 10:21). The Lord enjoys talking with his people; preachers should try to communicate that same joy to his listeners.

An Advent examen (from *The Pilgrim's Almanac*, by Edward Hays)

"Advent is the perfect time to clear and prepare the Way. Advent is a winter training camp for those who desire peace. By reflection and prayer, by reading and meditation, we can make our hearts a place where a blessing of peace would desire to abide and where the birth of the Prince of Peace might take place. Daily we can make an Advent examination. Are there any feelings of discrimination toward race, sex, or religion? Is there a lingering resentment, an unforgiven injury living in our hearts? Do we look down upon others of lesser social standing or educational achievement? Are we generous with the gifts that have been given to us, seeing ourselves as their stewards and not their owners? Are we reverent of others, their ideas and needs, and of creation? These and other questions become Advent lights by which we may search the deep, dark corners of our hearts."

Gaudete Sunday

This Third Sunday in Advent is full of comfort and joy. In our Latin past it was called "Gaudete Sunday," (gaudete meaning rejoice.) The liturgy bids us be happy, not to worry, for the Lord is near. And if we want the peace of God in our hearts, that peace will be ours, if we ask God for it. St Paul says, "There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving." He tells us not to wait until after God has granted our requests before saying thanks. Even as we ask, we should be giving thanks. One of the things to thank God for at the end of this year is all the good done by so many good people in our time.

Wherever there is evil, God will see that brave, resolute souls rise up to combat it. Such was the work done by St John the Baptist, as described by St Luke. People were prepared to walk all the way from Jerusalem down to near Jericho in the deep Jordan valley, on the edge of the desert — all of fifteen miles each way — in order to see John, this charismatic figure living as an ascetic in the desert around the Dead Sea. Having heard him, many stayed to be baptised by him. But they were full of the uncertainty that can surface in all of us if we take time to cast a critical eye on the kind of life we are leading.

"What must we do?" they asked him; and John spelled out his answer in no uncertain terms. While their request showed their willingness to change, it also showed that they were lacking in clear insight about what is right human behaviour. "Love and do what you will," was to be the motto of St Augustine, meaning that if people have total inner commitment to God, then they will be incapable of doing wrong, they will know instinctively what is right from the promptings of the Spirit within them.

John the Baptist tried to change his listeners' hearts by telling them not to be grasping, not to take from others more than a just return for services rendered, but rather to help those in need. "If anyone has two cloaks, he must share with the man who has none." "Give your blood," the ancient monks in the desert used to say, "and you will possess the Spirit." The society to which John was addressing himself — as indeed Jesus did later — was to collapse because of its lack of spiritual depth, its over concern with externals, as evidenced by the Pharisees, its pursuit of a narrow-minded nationalism, as seen in the Zealots who resorted to violence and assassination in their hatred of the Romans.

The greatest danger to the continuation of any society becomes a reality when most of its members become motivated by selfish concerns, greed and covetousness. The message that our own society invariably highlights is not, alas, that of sharing cloaks, but of wearing outfits that are better, more comfortable, more in keeping with the size of one's pay differential. The sad thing is that all this unbridled seeking for earthly comforts, this concern with the cares of life, pulls us further and further away from the yearning for himself, that God has placed within all of us. It turns us away from the things of the Spirit, and from the pursuit of religious idealism. Prayerfully then, and in the presence of God, let us give thanks to the Father in this Mass, for the gift of his divine Son, who in its celebration makes us one with himself. Let us ask for the peace of God, as Sacred scripture urges us, for that abiding peace which is so much greater than we can ever understand, so much greater than anything this world can ever offer us. And we can be assured that for all who faithfully do this the reward will be everlasting.