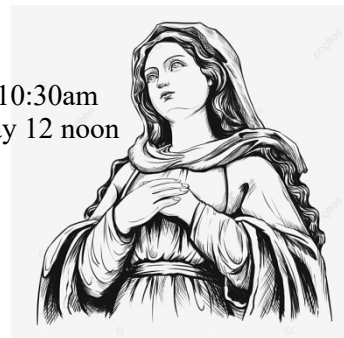


Parish of Malin (Clonca) Sunday 16th January 2022
2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C Week 2)

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:

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

First Anniversary Mass: Jack Donovan, Slieve Bawn on Saturday 15th January at 8pm in Star of the Sea Church.
Months Mind Mass: Josephine Mc Gonagle, Leiter on Sunday 16th January at 10:30am in St. Patrick's Church.
Anniversary Mass: Danny Glackin, Ballygorman / Belfast on Sunday 16th January at 12 Noon in Star of the Sea church.
Anniversary Mass: Willie Mc Kenney, Drumdoo on Sunday 16th January at 12noon in Star of the Sea Church.
First Anniversary Mass: John Doherty, Ballygorman on Saturday 22nd January at 8pm in Star of the Sea Church.
Months Mind Mass: Neil Mc Laughlin (Big Mickie), USA/Lower Brahey on Sunday 23rd January at 9am in St. Mary's
Anniversary Mass: David McGilloway, Lougherbraghly /London on Sunday 30th January at 9am in St. Mary's Church.
Anniversary Mass: William Doherty, Leiter on Tuesday 8th February at 7:30pm in St. Patrick's Church.
First Anniversary Mass: John Mc Gilloway, Lower Braghey on Sunday 13th February at 9am in St. Mary's Church.
Anniversary Mass: John Mc Laughlin, Ballylannon and Greencastle, on Sunday 20th February at 6pm in St. Patrick's
First Anniversary Mass: Billy Farren, Glentoskert on Saturday 5th March at 6pm 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 the last week: Thank You.

	<i>Aughaclay</i>	<i>Malin Head</i>	<i>Lagg</i>
<i>Parish</i>	375	230	165
<i>Restoration</i>	375	225	165

Parish Fund –	€770
Restoration Fund –	€765

Envelopes for the Parish Collection are available in all churches for January to June 2022. They are the preferred way to support the parish financially. One box for each adult parishioner.

Parish Prayer Day for Marriage and Family Life: On Thursday next the 20th January, our parish of Malin prays for the 24 hours for Marriage & Family Life. *Our Proposed Theme:* Couples getting married in the parish this year. Thank you for the efforts you have made to keep the Continuous Prayer for Marriage & Family Life going. It can be difficult to keep something like this alive as time goes on. But I encourage you to make a fresh start again with January and a new year. It is so important that we encourage and support the sacrament of marriage for the sake of the couples and for the life of the Church.

"Unlocking The Mysteries of The Bible" with Jeff Cavins is an eight-week programme being offered by the Living Church Office (Down & Connor Diocese). It is offered as a good opportunity for those interested in deepening their knowledge of their faith, understanding the bible and its timeline, and learning how to approach reading it: Monday Evening, 7pm, starting Monday 17th January. To register for any one of these, please complete an online form <https://forms.office.com/r/g3FWFK5x8w> or if you have any queries please e-mail a.steen@downandconnor.org. Course participants will receive a resource pack and connect online for a time of teaching, discussion and prayerful reflection.

Catholic Schools Week 2022 begins on Sunday 23rd January and continues until Sunday 30th January. The theme for this year is '*Catholic Schools: Living Life to the Full*'. During Catholic Schools Week families, parishes and schools are invited to participate in a week of celebration of Catholic schools, reflecting on their contribution to the common good of society. To launch Catholic Schools Week in our diocese, Mass will be celebrated by Bishop McKeown in Saint Eugene's Cathedral, Derry on Thur 20th Jan at 10am on www.steugenescathedral.com/webcam.html. There is a national resource pack with ideas to help schools and parishes celebrate this week and this is available online at <https://www.catholicschools.ie/catholicschoolsweek2022/>

Gospel: John 2:1-11 Mary's intervention at the marriage at Cana evokes Christ's first miracle

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars

with water.” And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, “Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.” So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, “Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now. Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

The First Miracle, fruit of loving concern

In John’s gospel the mother of Jesus is mentioned just twice: at the marriage feast at Cana, the beginning of the public ministry of Jesus and at the crucifixion, the end of it. That could be a way of telling us that the role played by Mary was not just the fact of her being the mother of Jesus, but that she was actively involved with Jesus in the work of our redemption. We have read that at the marriage feast at Cana, Mary was invited as well as Jesus himself and his disciples. As the feasting went on and the wine ran short, Mary took the initiative to intercede with Jesus and he performed what turned out to be his first miracle, the first of his signs.

How did Mary know what her son could do? Other interesting questions could arise from the story. Did Mary know back in Nazareth that she was living with a person who could work miracles and yet never once ask him to multiply her bread, or double her money to make ends meet? After all, one might think, charity begins at home. But for Mary and for Jesus the will of God came first.

Jesus somehow knew he had this power to enhance the lives of others. After his forty days fast in the desert he was hungry and the devil suggested it to him to turn some stones into bread for his own use, but he did not do it. Yet he later multiplied bread for crowds of his hungry followers to eat. What does the Cana miracle tell us? Is it that God’s special gifts are not meant primarily for our personal benefit but for the service of others. That is what St Paul says when he lists examples of different gifts of the Holy Spirit and adds that “to each person is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.”

What gifts has God given me? Am I using these gifts for some service in the community?” We may wonder why there are no more manifestations of the Holy Spirit like what we read in the Bible. Maybe if we began better using the gifts we have for the common good – like the gift of praying, singing, teaching, caring, sharing, encouraging, supporting, motivating, writing, etc. – then we might begin to see miracles. Concern for others is the basic miracle.

THE LANGUAGE OF GESTURES

John the Evangelist doesn’t say that Jesus did «miracles» or «marvels». He calls them «signs» because they are gestures that point toward something deeper than what our eyes can see. Concretely the signs that Jesus performs point to Jesus’ person and describe his saving power to us. What happened in Cana of Galilee is the beginning of all these signs. It is the prototype of those that Jesus will go about performing throughout his life. In that «changing of water into wine» we find the key to understand the type of saving transformation that Jesus works and that his followers must work in his name.

It all happens in the context of a wedding feast, the human party par excellence, the most expressive symbol of love, the best image of the biblical tradition to express the definitive communion of God with human beings. Jesus’ salvation must be lived and offered by his followers as a party that gives fullness to all human parties when these end up empty, «without wine» and without being able to fill our desire for complete happiness. The story suggests something more. The water can only be tasted as wine when it’s «drawn out» –following Jesus’ command– of six large stone water jars used by the Jews for their purifications. The religion of the law that is written on stone tablets is worn out; there’s no water capable of purifying human beings. That religion needs to be freed by the love and the life that Jesus communicates. We can’t evangelize just any old way. In order to communicate the transforming power of Jesus, words aren’t enough: gestures are needed. Evangelizing isn’t just talking, preaching or teaching; even less is it judging, threatening or condemning. We need to bring about the signs that Jesus did with creative fidelity in order to interject the joy of a God who brings happiness to the hard life of those peasants.

Many of our contemporaries find themselves indifferent in the presence of the Church’s word. Our celebrations bore them. They need to see signs that are closer and more friendly on the part of the Church in order to discover in us Christians Jesus’ capacity to alleviate the suffering and the hardness of life. Who today wants to listen to something that no longer seems to be joyful news, especially if the Gospel gets invoked with an authoritative and threatening tone? Jesus Christ is awaited by many as a power and a reason to exist, and a path to live more sensitively and joyfully. If people only know a “watered-down religion” and can’t taste something of the festive joy that Jesus spreads, many will continue walking away.