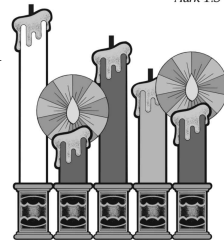


Parish of Malin (Clonca) Sunday 5th December 2021
Second Sunday of Advent (Year C Week 2)

PREPARATION

The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
 "Prepare the way of the Lord,
 make his paths straight."
 Mark 1.3



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

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception Masses Wednesday 8th December:

St. Patrick's Church, Aughaclay: Wednesday at 10:30am and 7.30pm
Star of the Sea Church, Malin Head: Tuesday at 8pm and Wednesday at 12noon
St. Mary's Church, Lagg: Wednesday at 9am

Weekday Masses:

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

Month's Mind Mass: Anthony Mc Laughlin (Hemish), Chicago/Drumnaske on Sunday 5th December at 9am St. Mary's Church.

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>	395	240	145
<i>Restoration</i>	390	235	140

Parish Fund –	€ 780
Restoration Fund –	€ 765

Malin Parish Bingo: The Parish Bingo has been temporarily suspended due to the increased levels of Covid infection in our community. It will resume again as soon as it is considered safe. Thanks to all who have supported it. We look forward to seeing you all again soon.

Malin Parish CEP is recruiting the following workers: 1 Administrator, 2 General Workers, 1 GAA Coach Assistant. Full details from Danny McGonagle, 0868124568,

Service of Light: The 'North West Bereaved by Suicide' Support Group is holding its annual Service of Light, on Sunday 5th December, at 5.30pm, in the Foyle Search & Rescue HQ, Prehen, Derry. All are welcome.

Parish Draw

	200	100	50
7/11	412 Niamh, Aoibhean Lockhart	277 Mary Johnson	158 Deirdre McDaid
14/11	255 Mary B Houten	337 Liam Mc Clean	408 Serena Deegan
21/11	383 Ann Quigley	430 Lizzie Doherty	147 Eddie Mc Daid
28/11	398 Pauline, Martin Mc Laughlin	242 Regina Doherty	338 Brid O' Neill

2nd Reading: Philippians 1:3-6, 8-11 Unity, perseverance and witness to Christ and the Gospel

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ.

For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Gospel: Luke 3:1-6 Prepare a way for God, through sincere repentance

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the desert.

He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

“The voice of one crying out in the desert: “Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”

Good times coming

We are in a dark time of the year. The mornings are dark and the evenings darker still. Light is scarce, and we have yet to reach the shortest day of the year. It is within that darkness that we have lit our second Advent candle today. The days may be getting shorter, but our Advent wreath is getting brighter. The brightness of our Advent readings draws us toward the great feast of light, Christmas, the birthday of the one who is the light of the world. With the birth of Jesus, the light of God’s love shines out. In today’s first reading, the prophet Baruch looks forward to a day when ‘God will guide Israel in joy by the light of his glory.’

Advent is a hopeful season. Hope is an important virtue, deeper than simple optimism of temperament. We can feel optimistic about all kinds of things, but, strictly speaking, the true object of hope is union with God. We are hopeful God can bring life out of death, light out of darkness. It is above all in Winter that we need hope. And we pray for anyone going through dark days at the present time, for people insecure in their jobs or their health or their home life, and displaced people and refugees, who wait at barbed wire borders, hoping to get to a better life.

The second reading (from Philippians) came out of a very dark situation. St Paul. was chained in a Roman prison, probably in Ephesus. And he he wasn’t sure of getting out of prison alive. Yet the letter is the most hopeful and joyful of all Paul’s letters. It shows that one can remain hopeful even when things look dark. From his prison cell, Paul is grateful for his friendship with the Philippians and is hopeful for their future. He cheerfully recalls their progress so far as a local church. They were no more perfect than other people, but Paul chooses to celebrate their generosity. He praises them for helping to spread the good news from the days they first heard it.

We can be tempted in dark times to look at everything with bleary eyes. Paul bids us to look at life, and, especially, at people with hopeful eyes, even in dark times. To see people through hopeful eyes makes us aware of the good in their lives. Let’s recognise what they have done rather than what they have failed to do. Paul hopes that God who began this good work among them would bring it to completion. He had high ideals about what people could become with God’s help.

Let’s see ourselves with hopeful eyes. God’s good work has only begun in us. We are a work in progress God will bring the good work to completion. We just need to co-operate with the working of grace. By the end of our life this work will be complete, and we will have reached ‘the perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us’.

We are all Advent people

Poor old Advent. It gets stampeded. It is overrun. Who cares about Advent – it is only an unruly intruder on the way to Christmas. But it isn’t. Advent drags us back to basics. The very essence of humanity means patience. We can easily get overwhelmed by the ‘fast lane of life.’ We are in such a hurry. We want everything now. We rush from experience to experience. We can’t cope with the bigness of life. Stop. Look. Listen. The simple message of Advent is to glance back at the Jews, waiting for the Saviour to come. If we have (similar) feelings; we can feel with them. We can easily link up our own waiting in life, to their waiting.

Waiting for a child to be born. Waiting for day to come. Waiting for buses. Waiting for an appointment in a hospital. Waiting in A&E is a very good indicator of Advent. Waiting for the end of winter. Waiting for the sun to shine. Waiting to get well. Waiting for pain to go. Waiting to grow up. Waiting for visitors. But above all, it is learning not to live just in the present moment. It is stopping ourselves being addicted to the concerns of only today. Advent reminds us to be much bigger in our thinking. Look around. Stop. Think of the past. Look at nature. Look at the companions of life. Be grateful. Never be consumed by NOW. See the broader picture. . .