

Parish of Malin (Clonca) Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2022  
13<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time (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](mailto:malinparish@hotmail.com)                              *St. Mary's Church* - Sunday 9am  
**Web Site:** [www.malinparish.ie](http://www.malinparish.ie)                              **Facebook:** Malin Parish



**Weekday Masses:**

*St. Patrick's Church, Aughaclay:*                      Tuesday and Thursday 7.30pm  
*Star of the Sea Church, Malin Head:*                      No Mass  
*St. Mary's Church, Lagg:*                              No Mass

**Anniversary Mass:** Gerard Monagle, Letterorr, on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> June at 9am in St. Mary's Church.  
**Anniversary Mass:** Joe Mc Carron, Doon, on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> June at 10:30am in St. Patrick's Church.  
**Anniversary Mass:** Declan Mc Carthy, Bree, on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> June at 12noon in Star of the Sea Church.  
**Anniversary Mass:** William Synott on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> July at 6pm in St. Patrick's Church.  
**Anniversary Mass:** Molly, Maurice O'Connor and Packie Toner on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> July 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 the last week: Thank You.**

	<i>Aughaclay</i>	<i>Malin Head</i>	<i>Lagg</i>
<i>Parish</i>	525	305	190
<i>Restoration</i>	525	305	190

<b>Parish Fund</b>	<b>€ 1020</b>
<b>Restoration Fund</b>	<b>€ 1020</b>

**Parish Collection Envelopes:** New boxes of collection envelopes (July to December 2022) are now in all churches. The parish expenses continue to increase. Envelopes are the preferred way to support your parish. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

**Mass for the dead of Malin Parish on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> August, 9am in Lagg,** with blessing of graves afterwards and at 3pm in St Patrick's Aughaclay.

**Buncrana Parish** invites you to join us on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> June for a Camino walk from 3pm to Fr Hegarty's Rock/Stragill Beach, with Benediction in Swan Park at 5pm, followed by a free open-air concert with James Kilbane on the Shore Front from 6-8pm. You are welcome to bring a picnic for the concert. We hope to see you there.

**'Prayer By Telephone':** The Sisters of Mercy, Bethany House of Prayer, Dundalk, welcome any person who may wish to request prayer. All requests are confidential. Tel 00353 42 9331 602, between 9am – 9pm every day.

**Lough Derg Three Day Pilgrimage** runs until 15<sup>th</sup> August (Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> Aug is the final day to begin the Pilgrimage). Cost €80. Booking advised. Concessions available for students, seniors and groups. All booking information, including information on organised parish groups, available at [www.loughderg.org](http://www.loughderg.org), email [info@loughderg.org](mailto:info@loughderg.org) or telephone 0(0353) 71 9861518.

**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 9374103 or e-mail [accordinishowen@gmail.com](mailto:accordinishowen@gmail.com). Accord Inishowen are hosting **Virtual Interactive Marriage Preparation Programme (Pre-Marriage) Courses** via Zoom for 2022. To book: [www.accord.ie/services/marriage-preparation](http://www.accord.ie/services/marriage-preparation) or email for information [accordinishowen@gmail.com](mailto:accordinishowen@gmail.com).

**Job Opportunity:** Faith Formation Coordinator: 35 hours per week. 1-year Fixed Term Contract (possibility of extension), Steelstown Parish, Derry. Closing date: 4pm on 30.06.2022. Post: Personnel, Derry Diocesan Office, St Eugene's Cathedral, Francis Street, Derry, BT48 9AP. Email: [payroll@derrydiocese.org](mailto:payroll@derrydiocese.org). Or Telephone: 028 7126 2302

**Gospel: Luke 9:51-62** *Jesus resolutely takes the road to Jerusalem, calling others to follow him*

When the days drew near for him to be taken up, Jesus set his face to go to Jerusalem. And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; but they did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem. When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, "Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?" But he turned and rebuked them. Then they went on to another village.

As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father." But Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God." Another said, "I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home." Jesus said to him, "No one who puts hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

## The Cost of Discipleship

Commitment and loyalty to Jesus are central today's Gospel. It's a quality that should affect decisions that crop up in our own experience. Few really important decisions are made without some hankering after the alternatives which were not chosen. Some decisions are made in one single go (e.g. to paint the house); others have to be constantly renewed (e.g. to keep a marriage thriving; to care for our friends.) Our decision to be active Christians is never totally definitive, and needs constant reaffirmation. Today's Holy Scripture gives some examples of radical choice of vocation, like Elisha slaughtering his oxen before leaving home to be a prophet. Can we fully follow the Holy Spirit, to be totally free for God's service?

Some points from the readings:

- (1) Personal commitment to Jesus, putting him first in our life. Making his values part of our lifestyle. It's mistaken to imagine all pleasure as connected with sin. The nobility of Jesus' values gives real joy. Following him requires a decision, but is supremely worthwhile.
- (2) "Through love become servants to one another." This is living with the true freedom for which Christ has set us free.
- (3) Persevering with Jesus; keeping our hands firmly on the plough, and not looking back. To do so we need to be "led by the Spirit." Luke is so aware of the gift of the Spirit that he feels enabled, in his gospel, to underline so often the cost of discipleship.

### Our personal calling

The Gospel tells how three individuals wanted to follow Jesus and learn more about God. Far from urging them to join his group, Jesus seemed rather to discourage them. The first was told to count the cost of joining, as he would have no fixed abode. The next answer seems quite harsh. "Let the [spiritually] dead bury their dead." Perhaps the man's father was still alive, and an eldest son could not leave home until after his father's death. But if we are faced with a radical option and do not decide at once, we are less likely to do so later. What Jesus said to the third man was equally challenging: "No one who puts his hand to the plough and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God." The wooden plough could break if it struck a large stone; so the ploughman had to watch the ground ahead at all times. The commitment of a disciple to following Christ should be equally focussed.

All through life, God is also calling us, whether we respond or not, even as he called Peter from his fishing, Matthew from his tax office, Elisha from his farm. But, how many choose to answer God's call? Jesus once observed that "Many are called but few are chosen" (Mt 22:14). On the other hand we have his words of warm encouragement, "Fear not little flock, for it has pleased the Father to give you the kingdom" (Lk 12:32).

As a foundation for any vocation to service in the church is the belief that God "so loved the world that he gave his only Son so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost, but may have eternal life" (Jn 3:16). This reassures us of the unconditional love on God's part for each and every person. With that belief we renew our Yes to our basic Christian vocation: "through love become servants to one another" or in our Lord's words: "Love one another as I have loved you."

### Hands to the plough

Sometimes we wonder if Jesus was trying to discourage people from following him, he was so blunt in spelling out what it would cost. Yet 'Follow me' is an invitation frequently repeated in the Gospel, and it echoes in the hearts of every generation. Jesus calls various people to share in his life and in his interests. Discipleship and loyalty to his mission go hand in hand. And this mission needed to be carried out in right spirit, not as dominating people but as serving them. James and John were eager but they wanted to do things their way; so Jesus sharply rebuked them. A fire and brimstone approach even towards opponents, was unacceptable. Jesus came as a saviour not as the leader of a punishment squad. It seems online that some would-be guardians of orthodoxy today share the angry spirit of the Boanerges: 'sons of thunder'. We need the guidance of Jesus to help us to clarify and to refine our understanding of discipleship.

Disciples need to break free from false forms of security. The apostles left behind their established lifestyle in order to be with Jesus. At an earlier time, Elisha left aside his security as a farmer in order to serve with Elijah the prophet. "Yes I will follow you, sir, but first let me..." Have those words a familiar ring to us? So they resemble our own first response to God's call? *I will follow you but on my own terms. I will follow you, if the cost is not too high.*

In today's Gospel, several people wanted to follow Jesus, but found the conditions too strict. The project of spreading the kingdom of God was noble and urgent. Instead of trying to haggle with Jesus over the conditions, they could have gone with him immediately. Ideally our own 'Yes' to God should be total, like our Blessed Mother's. If we do this, it can bring us that spiritual joy which St Paul calls the "pledge," or first instalment of eternal life.