



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



Saint Brigid of Kildare: Blessing of the crosses in St. Mary's Church on 1st February at 9:30am
Saint Blasé: Blessing of the throat and candles in Star of the Sea Church on 3rd February at 7:30pm

Anniversary Mass: Willie McLaughlin (Davey), Cuill on Sunday 29th January at 10:30am in St. Patrick's Church.
Anniversary Mass: John McGilloway, Lougherbraghy, David McGilloway (London/Lougherbraghy), and Sr. Bridget McGilloway, Convent of Mercy, Newry/Lougherbraghy on Sunday 5th February at 9am in St. Mary's Church.
Anniversary Mass: Paddy and Ellen Kelly, Glengad on Sunday 5th February at 10:30am in St. Patrick's Church.
Anniversary Mass: William Doherty, Leiter, on Sunday 12th February at 10.30am in St Patrick's Church.
First Anniversary Mass: Frances Coffey, Carnmalin on Sunday 5th February at 12noon in Star of the Sea Church.
Anniversary Mass: John Mc Laughlin (R), Ballylannon/Greencastle on Sunday 19th February at 10:30am in St. Patrick's Church.
Anniversary Mass: Frank Hasson on Sunday 19th February at 9am in St. Mary's Church.
Anniversary Mass: Mary Margaret Fallon, Malin and Luton on Sunday 26th February at 9am in St. Mary's Church.
Anniversary Mass: Billy Farren, Glentoskert on Saturday 4th March at 6pm in St. Patrick's Church.
Anniversary Mass: John Mc Grory, Bree on Saturday 4th March at 8pm in Star of the Sea Church.
Anniversary Mass: Tommy & Sadie Gallagher, Magherard on Sunday 12th March at 9am in St. Mary's Church.

Parish Collections for the last week: Thank You.

	<i>Aughaclay</i>	<i>Malin Head</i>	<i>Lagg</i>
<i>Parish</i>	460	290	205
<i>Restoration</i>	460	290	205

Parish Fund	€955
Restoration Fund	€955

Confirmation and First Communion: Sacramental Preparation Meeting on Tuesday 31st January in the Parish Hall at 7:30pm for the Parents of those children receiving Confirmation and First Communion this year.

New Parish Collection Envelopes for January to July 2023 are in the Churches. Every adult is expected to support the parish financially. Envelopes are the preferred way to support the parish.

Parishioners who are sick or housebound who wish to be attended at home are asked to contact Fr Devlin to be added to our lists for monthly visitation.

Those interested in serving the Church as a priest in the diocese of Derry should contact the Diocesan Vocations Director, Fr. Pat O'Hagan, PP Bellaghy and Greenlough, at (028) 7938 6452 or at pgoh2111@gmail.com.

Accord Inishowen are hosting a Marriage Preparation Programme (Pre-Marriage) In Person Course on Friday 3rd and Saturday 4th February 2023 in Carndonagh. To book: www.accord.ie/services/marriage-preparation or email for information accordinishowen@gmail.com.

Enrolment in Scoil Naomh Mhuire, Urrblereagh National School, Scoil Cholmcille, Glengad agus Scoil Treasa Naofa 2023/2024: – Application forms are now available from the schools and on the school's websites. Completed forms must be submitted by Wednesday 1st March 2023.

GROW Mental Health: Are you finding things tough at the moment Do you suffer from anxiety Depression Stress? Our Grow Group can help you. Our Grow groups are supportive, encouraging and confidential and much more. Never feel alone. Our Grow support meetings are held each Wednesday at 11.00 am in the Pastoral Centre beside the Sacred Heart Church Carndonagh. For more information call Paul at 086 7702 860

Looking for a mature female to help care for elderly lady in her own home. Flexible part-time hours, some evening shifts available. Must be of a kind, caring nature and have a good personality. For more information telephone 089 2488 667.

29 Jan 2023 – 4th Sunday, (A)

Theme: The beatitudes are the basic Christian ideals, not a moral code or a set of rules to avoid God's punishment. They aim to raise our perspective above the constraints of self-interest and gain.

Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12 The spirit of the Kingdom: the Beatitudes

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Soul-searching

If hearing the Beatitudes from St Matthew’s Gospel cause us to feel a little uneasy, they are probably meant to do so. They are like a spiritual tonic, to help us probe and clear our conscience. If taken quite literally they seem to be too idealistic, too unworldly for us. But Jesus meant them as words of life, to bring out the best in us. They make no strictly enforceable demands, they are not a set of laws, they are not meant to lay a burden of guilt on our shoulders. What they do is describe in eight striking sentences of the marvellous freedom we can enjoy, if we are not too tied to ownership. Jesus speaks from experience, because he himself lived the Beatitudes fully.

Although laid down as commandments, they are revolutionary ideals, going well beyond the beatitudes found in the Old Testament Wisdom books. The Wisdom writers describe as happy the man who has a good wife, docile and obedient children, faithful friends, and prosperity in all his undertakings. But according to Jesus, the happy and blessed are not those who are currently enjoying wealth and success, but rather the poor, the hungry, the mourners, the despised and persecuted. Naturally we wonder just what he meant by the “poor in spirit.” Was it people in material poverty, or rich people who were not overly attached to their money, or spiritual-minded people who for whom God meant everything? In practice the majority of the population of the Graeco-Roman world in those times were in material poverty.

Certainly the “poor in spirit” must include people in humble circumstances who made do without complaint. Their lives were in sharp contrast to the arrogant spirit of the upper-class minority who owned most of the wealth and controlled the lives of others. Long before Christ the Psalmist wrote, “This poor man called, and the Lord heard him, and saved him from all his distress” (Ps 34:6) . The poor could not rely on wealth for their security, so they relied on God, who alone was their hope and strength. Jesus did not praise material poverty but taught that a humble disposition draws us near to God.

Paradoxically, He did not agitate for social reform, or call for a coup d’état. Later he says, “Lay up treasures for yourselves in heaven” (Mt 6:19+) . He utterly refused to be a part of any violent rebellion but was called the friend of publicans or tax collectors. Despite his miraculous feeding of the multitudes, His concern seems never to have focussed on agitation for economic reform.

It was on people themselves, the human person in relation to God, that he focused his mission. “Seek first the kingdom of God and his justice, and all these other things will be given you as well” (Mt 6:33) . Certainly his sympathy went out to the humble, the toilers and heavily laden. He blessed those who have only God to turn to, the powerless, those who mourn, those who are persecuted. All these will be comforted. They will have mercy shown them. Theirs will be the kingdom of heaven. To them the love of God will reveal the meaning of life. They will be called children of God and shall see God face to face.

A condensed Gospel

The beatitudes offer a summary of Jesus’ teaching. They are the condensed gospel and need some teasing out to apply them to life. We are aware of political manifestos, statements of what a party stands for, what they intend to achieve if you elect them. This gospel is Jesus’ manifesto. It is a manifesto that he promises will bring us near to God.

People who are detached and show gentleness to others, are blessed. Even if they are rich, their money does not make them boastful or proud. Grief is the price we must eventually pay for having loved. If you are determined never to cry at a funeral, don’t ever love anyone. The meek and the gentle are the most resilient of people. Good people deeply respect justice and fair play, and try to win them for others. As you treat others, so you will be treated. If we want to receive mercy and compassion, we must show mercy to others. A pure heart is not devious, deceitful, selfish or cunning. Jesus did not say we should be passive. Rather he urges us to build bridges of peace with others.

Jesus warns those who follow him will be treated as he was. There is a cost in Pentecost, and following him means sharing his cross. Right from the beginning when Simeon saw him in the temple, he said that Jesus would be a sign of contradiction. Everything he said and did was a challenge to this world’s values. Those with power, prestige, and control felt undermined by his message. The religious leaders who were the arbiters of right and wrong, were so threatened by him that they planned his death.

There is a cleansing power in the beatitudes. They are about letting go of things that are not life-giving, and about becoming truly free. They offer guidelines for living, for inner peace and happiness. Formal religion can be too tied to rules and regulations and be authoritarian. Spirituality is the work of the Holy Spirit. It is about letting go, so as to be free in God’s sight.