

Parish of Malin (Clonca) Sunday 8th January 2023
The Baptism of the Lord (Year A 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

Fr. Devlin and Fr. Logue wish all our Parishioners a Very Happy and Peaceful New Year

Weekday Masses

St. Patrick's Church, Aughaclay: Thursday at 7.30pm
Star of the Sea Church, Malin Head: Tuesday at 7:30pm
St. Mary's Church Lagg: Wednesday at 9:30am
The Oratory, Connolly Foundation: Friday at 10am

Months Mind Mass: Ellen Mc Laughlin, Glengad on Sunday 8th January at 9am in St. Mary's Church.
Months Mind Mass: Paddy Doherty, Middletown on Sunday 22nd January at 12noon in Star of the Sea 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.
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.

Parish Collections for the last week: Thank You.

	<i>Aughaclay</i>	<i>Malin Head</i>	<i>Lagg</i>
Parish	595	270	225
Restoration	590	275	225

Christmas Collection	€5450
Parish Fund	€1090
Restoration Fund	€1090

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.

Pro-life collection this weekend 7th & 8th.

Lourdes 2023: The Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage, led by Bishop Donal McKeown, will go direct from City of Derry Airport. 3rd to 7th July, four nights full board in the Hotel Avena: £745 sharing, £35 single supplement. Travel insurance up to age 79-£39. Age 80 to 94-£78. (Pilgrims may wish to use their own insurance). Further details and payment arrangements will be available in the new year via the Lourdes Pilgrimage Office, 164 Bishop Street, Derry, derrypilgrim@outlook.com, tel 02871 260 293.

Pilgrimage to San Giovanni & Rome: As part of St. Eugene's Cathedral 150th Anniversary Celebrations, Bishop Donal McKeown will lead a pilgrimage to San Giovanni & Rome from 25th – 30th September 2023. Visiting the birthplace of Padre Pio, Shrine of St. Michael Archangel, St. Peter's Basilica and other important sites. Price is £879pps (Single room supplement £150). For more details, email info@marian.ie or call Belfast on (028) 956 80005 or Dublin on (01) 878 8159.

The Matt Talbot Prayer Society – Praying for those suffering from Addiction: This Prayer Society has been created to pray for people who are suffering from any form of addiction, to pray for those recovering from addiction, and to pray for all those affected by addiction, especially family members. As we know addiction takes many forms from alcohol, drugs, gambling, pornography to other less acknowledged addictions. To join the Matt Talbot Prayer Society, you are invited to enrol the name of the person to be prayed for and the addiction we are praying that they will be freed from. Those enrolled will be prayed for specifically every day by members of the Society. Mass will be offered for those enrolled on the first Monday of every month in St. Eugene's Cathedral, Derry, at 7:30pm. You will also receive an enrolment card to enable you to join in the prayer. To enrol someone in the Matt Talbot Prayer Society please email vita@matttalbotprayersociety.com or private message St. Eugene's Cathedral Facebook page or phone St. Eugene's Cathedral at 028 71262894/71365712.

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.

Scoil Naomh Mhuire Enrolment 2023/2024: The following are the dates applicable for admission to Naíonáin Bheaga / Junior Infants: The school will commence accepting applications for admission on 5th January and will cease accepting applications for admission on 3rd February. Pupil Enrolment Form is available online at www.malinheadns.scoilnet.ie.

Urbleragh National School – Application forms for enrolling your child in Urbleragh National School for the 2023/2024 school year are now available from the school and on the school's website, urbleraghns.weebly.com. We will commence accepting applications from the 5th January 2023. Completed forms must be submitted by Friday 3rd February 2023.

Scoil Cholmcille, Glengad – Application forms for enrolling your child in Scoil Cholmcille for the 2023/2024 school year are now available from the school and on the school's website, scoilcholmcilleglengad.weebly.com. We will commence accepting applications from the 5th January 2023. Completed forms must be submitted by Friday 3rd February 2023.

Carn Drama Club presents *THE MAIDEN AUNT*, a three-act comedy by Jimmy Keary in The Colgan Hall on Thursday 12th, Friday 13th & Sunday 15th January at 8pm. (Admission €10 Senior Citizens and Children €5)

Theme: Jesus brings justice and divine life to the nations. As his baptised family, we seek the kingdom of God through justice and peace.

Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him.

John tried to prevent him, saying,

“I need to be baptized by you, and yet you are coming to me?”

Jesus said to him in reply,

“Allow it now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.”

Then he allowed him.

After Jesus was baptized,

he came up from the water and behold,

the heavens were opened for him,

and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove

and coming upon him.

And a voice came from the heavens, saying,

“This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.”

Celebrating Baptism

The sacrament I most like celebrating is the sacrament of baptism. It is always such a happy occasion when a child's birth is publicly celebrated and cheered, and here they are received into a larger family, the family of the church. In being received into our church-family, these children become our brothers and sisters in the Lord, sons and daughters of God, and temples of the Spirit. The joy of faith and hope is palpable, especially when the parents and godparents come up to the baptismal font and the water is poured over the head of the child by the celebrant. Each child is anointed before and after baptism with special *oil of catechumens* and the *oil of chrism*; the baptismal shawl is placed around the child and the baptismal candle is lit. The whole occasion is uplifting in a way that is unique to that sacrament.

Of course, the majority of baptisms are of children, who are oblivious to what is happening around them. A big decision is being made on their behalf without their knowing anything about it. Yet, just as parents make all kinds of other big decisions for their children without consulting them, so they happily make this significant decision on their behalf. There is a story in the gospels of parents bringing little children to Jesus. When the disciples tried to stop parents doing this, Jesus rebuked his disciples and said to them, ‘let the children come to me and do not stop them, for to such as these the kingdom of God belongs.’ Parents continue to bring their children to Jesus today whenever they present them for baptism, because in baptism they are being baptized into the person of Christ; they become members of his body; Jesus begins to live within them through the Spirit. When parents bring their children for baptism they are making a decision for them that is very much in keeping with the Lord's desire. ‘Let the children come to me and do not stop them.’

Today we celebrate the feast of the baptism of Jesus. It is a good day to reflect on our own baptism and its significance for us. The day of Jesus' baptism was a watershed in his life; it was a day of new beginning. On that day he began his public ministry during which he gave himself fully in the service of God and all of God's people. On that day Jesus launched forth as the one who came not to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many. As he set out on that momentous journey for all of us, he was assured of God his Father's favour, ‘You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you’, and he was empowered by the Holy Spirit, who descended upon him like a dove.

Even though Jesus was baptised by John as an adult and we received Christian baptism as children, our baptism was also a day of new beginning for us. On that day we were launched on the great adventure of becoming disciples of Jesus in our own time. On that day, we too were given an assurance of God's love and favour, and we too were empowered by the Holy Spirit for the journey ahead of us. On that day we were caught up into Jesus' own very special relationship with God and we became a member of Jesus' family of disciples, the church. It is a moment of grace that has the potential to shape our lives in a very fundamental way, in a way that is in keeping with God's purpose for our lives.

In a sense we spend the rest of our lives trying to catch up with that day of new beginning. We are baptized as children but it is as adults that we confirm our baptism for ourselves. It is as adults that we say our own adult ‘yes’ to the Lord who said ‘yes’ to us as young children on the day of our baptism. It may be in our late twenties or our thirties or forties or even later that we come to say that ‘yes’ with all our heart and soul and mind. It is often in those mature years that we can hear the call of Isaiah in today's First Reading, ‘O come to the water all you who are thirsty; Seek the Lord while he is still to be found, call to him while he is still near.’ The Lord keeps calling out to us from the moment of our baptism, and as the Lord declares in that First Reading, ‘the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.’ Our response to the Lord's call, the Lord's word, can be slow in coming, but his call, his word, remains powerfully creative and will in some way or other make of us what God wants for us.