

Parish of Malin (Clonca) Sunday 26th March 2023
5th Sunday of Lent (Year A Week 1)

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	



FIFTH SUNDAY
In Lent

Weekday Masses:

St. Patrick's Church, Aughaclay:	Tuesday and Friday at 7:30pm
Star of the Sea Church, Malin Head:	No Mass
St. Mary's Church Lagg:	No Mass
Connolly Foundation Oratory:	Friday at 10am

Stations of the Cross at 6pm: Today Sunday 26th March in Star of the Sea Church.

Anniversary Mass: Bridie Mc Geoghegan, Crackna, on Saturday 25th March at 6pm in St. Patrick's Church.
Anniversary Mass: Barbara Doherty (Babby) on Saturday 25th March at 8pm in Star of the Sea Church.
First Anniversary Mass: Mary Mc Laughlin, Ballyheeney on Saturday 1st April at 8pm in Star of the Sea Church.
Anniversary Mass: John & Teresa Doherty, Sheskin on Saturday 8th April at 8pm in Star of the Sea Church.
Anniversary Mass: Kathleen Kelly, Druncarbit, on Saturday 22nd April at 6pm in St Patrick's Church.
First Anniversary Mass: Joe Gorman, Carnmalin on Saturday 6th May at 8pm in Star of the Sea Church.
Anniversary Mass: Isabella Mc Laughlin, Lower Braghey on Sunday 14th May at 9am in St. Mary's Church.
Anniversary Mass: Rose Gallagher, Francistown on Sunday 30th April 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>
<i>Parish</i>	465	185	215
<i>Restoration</i>	460	190	210

Parish Fund	€865
Restoration Fund	€860
St. Patrick's Day Collection	€1650

Confirmation will be at 12noon on Saturday 22nd April in St. Patrick's Aughaclay. **Pledge to Avoid Alcohol and Illegal Drugs** for those confirmed on Sunday 30th April at 10:30am Mass in St. Patrick's Aughaclay.

Aughaclay Chapel Re-painting Committee: Fundraising Coffee morning on Holy Saturday, 8th April, 11am -4pm in the Parish Hall Malin Town.

Malin Parish Charity Shop will be upstairs in G & S Supermarket, Carndonagh from Monday 15th May for 6 weeks. Items for the shop and staff volunteers are needed. Contact Martin on 086 8606 890.

Parish Draw begins again in April. New cards are available . Promoters are asked to make returns on Monday 27th March at 8pm in the Parochial House, Drumcarbit.

The Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre, working in Partnership with Saint Mary's University, Twickenham, offers the Masters in Catholic School Leadership. This is a post graduate degree dedicated to the professional development and spiritual formation of Catholic school leaders. It is a great opportunity for those currently in leadership roles and those who aspire to, or have an interest in, leadership roles within the Catholic School system. An information session via ZOOM will be held on Monday 8th May at 3.30pm. If you require any further information, or wish to register for the information session, please contact the Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre on 004428 71264087 or email tferry@derrydiocese.org

St. Angela's College, Sligo: Part-Time Certificate in Religious Education (Primary) with Online Delivery, Autumn. The programme is open to: Qualified primary & post-primary school teachers who wish to transfer to primary school teaching. Parents, sacramental preparation teams and parish catechists who have a specific interest in the area of primary religious education may also apply. Closing date for Applications is Monday, 12th June. Contact Mary Kearns, Senior Administrator, School of Education, St. Angela's College, Lough Gill, Sligo E. mkearns@stangelas.ie. Website: www.stangelas.ie.

Pope John Paul II Award Youth Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine takes place on Tuesday, 28th March, starting at 11am and concluding with Mass at 2.30pm. For more information, visit www.jp2award.com.

World Youth Day - Derry Diocesan Youth is taking a group on Pilgrimage to World Youth Day in Lisbon, from 25th July to 7th August 2023. This pilgrimage is for over 18s. Limited places available: if you would be interested in travelling on the pilgrimage, or finding out more, please contact Lizzie Rea on lizzie.rea@derrydiocese.org.

Gospel: John 11:1-45 *Jesus's raising of Lazarus shows his divine power*

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again."

The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see

the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them.” After saying this, he told them, “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.” The disciples said to him, “Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.” Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, “Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.” Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.” When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.” Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” She said to him, “Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.”

When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, “The Teacher is here and is calling for you.” And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.”

When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.” Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?” So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.” When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.” Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

Living life to the full

It seems a bit strange to have this gospel on the Fifth Sunday of Lent. It seems to be clearly about the resurrection and yet we are still plodding through Lent and have to get through Good Friday before we get to Easter. What’s going on; have the Church’s liturgical engineers got it all wrong? Can I suggest that this text is more about death than resurrection? After all, Lazarus isn’t walking around today; he had to undergo another death. This text is more about our life and death here and now rather than about the resurrection. We will have time enough to consider the resurrection when we get to Easter Sunday and the weeks of celebration afterwards.

In his Spiritual Exercises St Ignatius Loyola suggests that when reading a particular Gospel passage we should put ourselves in the place of each character in turn and use our imagination to see how we would feel in those circumstances. This can be a most revealing exercise. How about putting myself in the place of Lazarus? I am dead to everything and then I hear a voice: ‘Come out, Lazarus.’ There I am, lying in a tomb swathed in bandages and surrounded by darkness. If we wonder how we would feel in this situation, the answer would be different for everyone but I think many might say: Thanks Lord, but I’d prefer to stay where I am.

While attempting to put ourselves imaginatively in Lazarus’s place we might become aware of how tomb-like our present way of life is, and rekindle a longing for freedom which has perhaps been buried for years. Putting ourselves into the place of a character from scripture can awake all kinds of thoughts within us and lead us to turn to God in prayer with new words on our lips. Yet it is something so simple that we are surprised that we never thought about it ourselves. This Gospel features here in Lent to help us come to live life to the full; for often it is only in the face of death that we are shocked into this realisation. This can happen to us in all sorts of ways on the occasion of a loss or bereavement. It is amazing how often it takes overcoming a negative experience to make us realise afresh how much there is that is truly positive and makes life worth living.