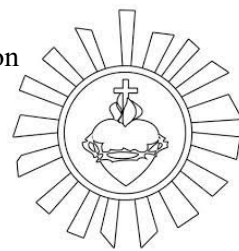


Parish of Malin (Clonca) Sunday 5th February 2023
5th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A Week 1)

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	



Weekday Masses

St. Patrick's Church, Aughaclay:	Monday 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

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.
Anniversary Mass: Bridie Mc Geoghegan, Crackna, on Saturday 25th March at 6pm 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>	575	240	165
<i>Restoration</i>	575	235	160

Parish Fund	€980
Restoration Fund	€970

Parish Draw for January

	€200	€100	€50
1/1	160 Eddie & Jack Doherty	206 Margaret Mc Carter	198 Mary T Mc Gonagle
8/1	287 Geraldine Farren	385 Majella Gibbons	241 Brendan Mc Gonagle
15/1	269 Breege Monagle	427 Helen Kearney	208 Packie Doherty
22/1	282 Marion Mc Laughlin	228 Sean Doherty	222 Kathleen Coffey
29/1	175 Hannah Mc Laughlin	370 Teresa Devlin	232 Sarah Lafferty

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.

Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes – 3rd – 7th July 2023: The Pilgrimage office at 164 Bishop Street, Derry, BT48 6UJ will be open to the public on Saturdays only from 11am until 1pm commencing on Saturday 11th February. Intending pilgrims can also leave a message on 028 7126 0293 with their full postal address and the number of booking forms required, or email this information to derrypilgrim@outlook.com or write to us at the above address. We very much regret that once more we are not in a position to provide medical, nursing and personal care as was customary in the past. It is our earnest hope and prayer that we will be able to restore these services in 2024.

Ards Friary is hosting a residential retreat, 'Things that Matter', on the first weekend in Lent, 24th -26th February. It will be led by Philip McParland. Cost €175. To register, tel 074 91 38909 or email: info@ardsfriary.ie. Enquiries / further information can be obtained by emailing: philipmcpaerland@hotmail.com.

5 Feb 2023 Theme: Salt and Light

Tyranny and oppression still flourish in many places abroad; and in less spectacular fashion closer to home. Unfairness and structural abuse often stare us in the face, such as long-term poverty, unemployment and homelessness. Christ invites us to solidarity with people in dire need. How seriously do we take his challenge to be Salt of the earth and shine some Light in our world?

(1) Isaiah 58:6-10 To be right in God's sight we must share our blessings with the poor

Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. Then you

shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday.

Gospel: Matthew 5:13-16 Salt of the earth; the light of the world

Jesus said to his disciples,

“You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot. “You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.”

Let your love show

Around the same time that Isaiah was reviving a living faith among the people in Jerusalem, his contemporary up in northern Israel, the prophet Amos, was expressing his fierce indignation about the plight of the poor and needy, who were being denied justice in the courts (Amos 5:7, 10, 12, 15) and whose goods were confiscated (5:11) . In his turn, Isaiah also makes an impassioned cry for social justice. His sense of fairness and sharing comes from his deep sense that God’s creativity and glory fills the whole earth (Isa 6:3) . The divine presence fills not only the temple but the whole of creation. Yahweh desires human beings to make justice flourish on the earth. To buttress his appeal, Isaiah warns of a coming day of judgment, because of the inhumanity of the great and the powerful towards the weak, poor and helpless.

His people, unfortunately, seemed to prefer formal religion to honesty and justice. Just as Isaiah felt personally cleansed through the burning coal scorching his lips, his people needs cleansing too. They need to change their behaviour, to practice a more honest kind of religion (Isa 1:16-17) . Only if they sincerely try to practice justice can their worship mean anything. Isaiah ends with the promise: “if you feed the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, your light shall rise in the darkness..” (58:10.) Sharing and justice are essential, if we are to please our God.

In calling his people to conversion, John the Baptist echoed the teaching of Isaiah when he said, “Whoever has two coats must share with whoever has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.” Jesus, too, chose words from Isaiah about mercy and compassion, as his own manifesto. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour.” (Luke 4: 17-19; Isaiah 61:1)

In today’s Gospel he says “let your light shine before others..” But how can we reconcile “letting our light shine” with the fact that Jesus spent most of his own life quietly in Nazareth, as the son of the carpenter. What Jesus practised at Nazareth was fidelity to the ordinary, the daily routine, which requires its own kind of courage. What sets him apart was anchoring his whole life in God, to let the Father be the guiding force in his life.

The quiet practice of virtue was the hallmark of the saints, who never published their holiness, but just tried to remain close to God, in a spirit of “loving attentive expectancy,” as St John of the Cross put it. This spirit marked the life of saint Thérèse of Lisieux, who died at the age of 24, after living as an enclosed nun from her teenage years. Some of the other nuns thought that Therese had achieved nothing at all in her short life. Yet within a generation, this young nun who had never left her convent was proclaimed Patroness of the Foreign Missions. Even from her cloister she let her light shone out. Reflecting on the three virtues that last, faith, hope and love, Therese saw prayerful love as her special mission in life. “In the heart of the Church,” she said, “I shall be love.” And from that loving spirit the grace of God was richly channeled out to the missionary world.

Going to the margins

With the images of salt and light, Jesus says what he expects from his followers. They don’t need to be always thinking about their own interests, their own prestige, their own power. Even though they are a small group in the huge Roman Empire, they are the «salt» and the «light» that the world needs. “You are the salt of the world.” The simple people of Galilee spontaneously knew what he meant. They knew what salt is good for: giving food flavor and conserving it from spoiling. Just so, we need to contribute to helping people find the savour in life. “You are the light of the world.” Without sunlight, our world would stay dark and gloomy. Jesus’ disciples can shine a light to probe the meaning of life, to walk with hope.

These metaphors have something vital in common. If the salt stays in the shaker, it doesn’t do its proper work. Only when it dissolves in the food can it give flavor to what we eat. The same thing happens with light. If it stays closed up and hidden away, it can’t enlighten anyone. Only when it shines out in the dark can it illuminate and guide. A church isolated from the world can be neither salt nor light.

Pope Francis called on Catholics today to “go out to the margins.” He preferred a church that is “bruised and dirty because it has been out on the streets” to one that is “clinging to its own security, caught up in a web of procedures.” We can’t hunker down in our structures with passive hope. The Gospel invites us to run the risk of meeting face to face with others. It wants to promote culture of encounter, because what our church needs today is to heal wounds and to warm hearts.