

Parish of Malin (Clonca) Sunday 28th January 2024
4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Fr. Peter Devlin P.P.	Fr. Charley Logue C.C.	Mass Times
Malin	Malin Head	<i>St. Patrick's</i> - Saturday 6pm Sunday 10:30am
074 93 70615	074 93 70134	<i>Star of the Sea Church</i> - Saturday 8pm Sunday 12 noon
E-Mail: malinparish@hotmail.com		<i>St. Mary's Church</i> - Sunday 9am
Web Site: www.malinparish.ie	Facebook: Malin Parish	



Candles will be blessed:

St. Patrick's Church: Aughaclay: Friday at 7.30pm
Star of the Sea Church, Malin Head: Friday at 7:30pm

St. Blasé Blessing of the Throats:

St. Patrick's Church: Aughaclay: Friday at 7.30pm
Star of the Sea Church, Malin Head: Saturday at 6pm

Weekday Mass:

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

Months Mind Mass: James Doherty (Sean), Ballysalla, Glengad, on Saturday 27th January at 6pm in St. Patrick's Church.
Anniversary Mass: Willie McLaughlin, (Davey), Cuill, Carndonagh on Sunday 28th January at 10.30am in St Patrick's Church
Month's Mind Mass: Sadie McCullagh, Malin Town, on Sunday 28th January at 9am in St. Mary's Church.
Anniversary Mass: Willie Mc Laughlin Davey, Cuill, Carndonagh on Sunday 28th January at 10:30am in St. Patrick's Church.
Anniversary Mass: Francis Coffey, Carnmalin on Saturday 3rd February at 8pm in Star of the Sea Church.
Anniversary Mass: Ellen and Paddy Kelly, Glentoskert, on Sunday 4th February at 10.30am in St Patrick's Church.
Anniversary Mass: David, John, Sister Mary Teresa McGilloway, Lougherbraghy, on Sunday 4th February at 9am in St. Mary's Church.
Month's Mind Mass: Margaret Doherty, (Paddymor) on Sunday 11th February at 12noon in Star of the Sea Church.
Anniversary Mass: Frank Hasson on Sunday 18th February at 9am in St. Mary's Church.
Anniversary Mass: John Mc Laughlin, Greencastle and Ballylannon on Sunday 18th February at 10: 30am in St. Patrick's Church.
Anniversary Mass: Owen Mc Cullagh, Malin Town, on Easter Sunday, 31st March at 9am in St Mary's Church.
Anniversary Mass: Philomena Mc Callion, Francistown on Sunday 14th April at 9am in St Mary's Church.

Parish Collections for Last Week: Thank You.

	<i>Aughaclay</i>	<i>Malin Head</i>	<i>Lagg</i>
<i>Parish</i>	530	265	140
<i>Restoration</i>	525	265	140

Parish Fund	€935
Restoration Fund	€930

Parish Envelopes: will be available in all Churches for January to June. Parish envelopes are the preferred way to support YOUR parish.

Vocation: In this weekend's first reading the Lord tells Moses that He will raise up prophets for the people from among their own brothers. We pray for the men from our parish communities being called by God to serve as priests in the diocese of Derry. Anyone interested in attending a Vocations (to priesthood) weekend in Drumalis Retreat House, Larne, 8-10 March, should contact Fr Pat O'Hagan at pgoh2111@gmail.com.

Accord Inishowen Face-to-Face Pre - Marriage Course for 2024: February 16th & 17th or March 8th & 9th. Friday 7 - 10pm and Saturday 10am - 4pm. Book online, contact Accord on accordinishowen@gmail.com or leave your name and number on 074 93 74103.

The Four Parish Schools: Admission Policy and the Pupil Enrolment Forms for the 2024/2025 school year are available online and from the school office. The schools will commence accepting applications on 8th January until the 6th February 2024.

Aughaclay Country & Gospel Concert: Copies of the DVD are available by contacting Seamus O'Donnell on 086 227 6800. €15 each.

Good as New Shop opening Monday 22nd January, beside Neil J. Doherty Auctioneers, Pound Street, Carndonagh in aid of Ard Aoibhinn, Alzheimer's Unit Carndonagh & Irish Guide Dogs. Open Monday to Saturday from 10am - 5pm For 4 weeks. Donations welcome.

Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2024: Monday 1st - Friday 5th July, ex City of Derry Airport. Led by Bishop Donal McKeown. Full board £799, single room supplement £150. The pilgrimage office at 164 Bishop Street, Derry, will open to the public 11am to 1pm on Thursdays and Saturdays, starting Saturday 10th February. Telephone number 028 71260293, email derrypilgrim@outlook.com.

Derry Diocesan Youth Pilgrimage to Medjugorje: We are inviting young people aged 16 + to join us on pilgrimage to Medjugorje for 9 nights from 30th July to 8th August. This will be a unique experience for young people and an opportunity to engage with peers from around the world, in a faith context. Up to 50,000 young people attend the Medjugorje Youth Festival

each year. Cost is £800 and there will be a budget plan to help with this. Names and deposit of £100 are required as soon as possible to secure a place. For more information or to book in please contact lizzie.rea@derrydiocese.org 00 44 2871264087. **The Priory Institute** provides online Theology courses to degree level. Attend Saturday lectures in Tallaght or from the comfort of your own home. Register before February 14th. Find out more on our website, prioryinstitute.com.

Gospel: Mark 1:21-28 **When Jesus heals the man in Capernaum, people recognise the power of his message**
Jesus and his disciples went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching-with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

The authority that liberate sets us free

We have all had teachers in the course of our lives, at primary school, at secondary school, at third level or in other less formal educational contexts. Some of those teachers we might prefer to forget, but others we remember with great fondness. Some of them had a significant influence for good on us. They inspired us with a love for the subject that they taught and we may have gone on to study it ourselves. They shared some expertise with us and encouraged us to head off in a direction of our own. In today's gospel the people of Capernaum recognize Jesus who had come to their synagogue as a teacher, and not just another teacher but a teacher who was very different to the teachers they had grown used to, the scribes, the experts in the Jewish Law. His teaching, we are told, 'made a deep impression on people, because, unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority.' The people in the synagogue exclaimed, 'Here is a teaching that is new and with authority behind it.' This journey of Jesus to the synagogue where he taught with authority and healed a man with an unclean spirit is the first public act of Jesus in Mark's gospel. According to Mark, Jesus first appeared on the scene as an authoritative teacher, as someone whose teaching, whose word, could deliver people from their demons, from the forces that were oppressing them and leaving them diminished as human beings.

Jesus was recognized as someone who taught with authority. The word 'authority' has received a rather negative press in recent times. Various 'authority figures' have been criticized, often with good reason. Yet, in Jesus people experienced an authority that they found attractive, an authority that, in the words of the gospel, left them so astonished that they started asking each other what it all meant. Jesus was recognized as a person of authority because of the word that he spoke and the impact for good of that word on others. Ultimately, his authority was rooted in God, in the Spirit of God that descended upon him at his baptism. The first public words he spoke after his baptism were, 'the reign of God, the power of God, is at hand.' God's life-giving, liberating power was working through him, and, so, he was recognized by others as authoritative. The power of God's love working through him gave him that authority which people found so attractive and so new.

Jesus defines authority as the exercise of God's life-giving and liberating power, the power that raises the lowly and fills the hungry with good things, that includes within the community those who have been living on the edge, the power that forgives those who have done nothing to deserve forgiveness. This is the power of the good Samaritan who took care of his fellow traveller even though he was a Jew; it is the power of the Father who welcomed his returning son, the prodigal, who had messed up; it is the power of the widow who in giving two copper coins to the temple treasury gave everything she had. Within the gospel's vision of life, these are the exercises of power that confer authority. Not all power is worthy of being recognized as authoritative. The imposing figure of G.K. Chesterton, the English writer and wit, was, apparently often seen squeezed behind a table in London restaurants. During one of his literary lunches, Chesterton was expounding on the relationship between power and authority. He described the difference in these terms: 'If a rhinoceros were to enter the restaurant now, there is no denying he would have great power here, but I should be the first to rise and assure him that he had no authority whatever.'

For us as Christians, Jesus remains the ultimate authority. Like the people of Capernaum, we recognize his authority, the authority of his teaching and his deeds, the authority of his life, death and resurrection. That is why we confess Jesus not just as our teacher but as our Lord. We are happy to submit to his authority, to his lordship, because we recognize that in doing so we will have life to the full, and, like the man in the gospel, be freed of those spirits that prevent us from becoming the person God intends us to be. There can be great reluctance today to submit to anyone. The value of personal autonomy is highly prized and sought after. Yet, it is not possible to live without submitting to some authority even if it is the authority of the self. What matters is to submit to the right authority and today's gospel suggests that such authority is to be found in the person of Jesus.