

Parish of Malin (Clonca) Sunday 9th February 2025
5th Sunday in Ordinary Time



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

Weekday Mass:
St. Patrick's Church Wednesday at 7:30pm
Connolly Foundation: Friday at 10am

Anniversary Mass: David McGilloway (Lougherbraghey & London), John McGilloway (Lougherbraghey) and Sr. Bridget McGilloway (Lougherbraghey & Convent of Mercy, Newry) on Sunday 9th February at 9am in St. Mary's Church.

First Anniversary Mass: Bernard Francis Doherty, Slieveban, Malin Head on Sunday 16th February at 9am in St Mary's Church.

Anniversary Mass: John McLaughlin (R), Ballylannon / Greencastle, Sunday 16th February at 10:30am in St. Patrick's Church

Anniversary Mass: Daniel Lafferty & Neil Mc Colgan, Bunn on Sunday 23rd February at 10:30am in St. Patrick's Church.

Anniversary Mass: Frank and Bridie Hasson on Sunday 2nd March at 9am in St. Mary's Church.

Anniversary Mass: Bridie Mc Geoghegan, Crackna, Malin on Saturday 22nd March at 6pm in St. Patrick's Church.

First Anniversary Mass: Majella Gibbons on Saturday 29th March at 8pm in Star of the Sea Church.

First Anniversary Mass: Joe Curley Magherard on Saturday 5th April at 6pm in St. Patrick's Church.

Anniversary Mass: Owen Mc Cullagh, Malin Town on Sunday 6th April at 9am in St. Mary's Church.

Anniversary Mass: Patrick and Isabella McLaughlin on Sunday 13th April at 9am in St. Mary's Church.

First Anniversary Mass: James Douglas, Beagh, Malin on Saturday 3rd May at 6pm in St. Patrick's Church.

Anniversary Mass: Seamus Mc Closkey on Sunday 4th May at 10:30am in St. Patrick's Church.

Anniversary Mass: Kathleen Mc Laughlin, Dreenagh Road, Malin Head on Sunday 18th May at 9am in St. Mary's Church.

Please e-mail your anniversaries to malinparish@hotmail.com or leave them in the sacristy after mass.

Parish Collections for Last Week: Thank You.

	<i>Aughaclay</i>	<i>Malin Head</i>	<i>Lagg</i>
<i>Parish</i>	510	165	275
<i>Restoration</i>	510	170	275

Parish Fund	€950
Restoration Fund	€955

Parish Draw: January Winners:

	€200	€100	€50
7/1	426 Angela Carr	142 Daniel & Tina Mc Avenue	396 Patricia Devlin
14/1	350 Thomas Mc Geoghegan	173 Eddie Houton	279 Deirdre Mc Daid
21/1	214 Sinead Douglas	205 Michael Mc Daid	162 Eileen Mc Laughlin
28/1	220 John & Jackie Mc Daid	380 Chantal Mc Gilloway	168 Catherine Thomson

The workers he wants

Jesus has begun to draw followers, whom he will eventually transform, to continue his mission when he returns to his Father. Today's gospel is set beside a lake, and the presence of the odd fishing boat makes it even more attractive. By now, Jesus was attracting crowds, who gathered to listen to his message; and this was in the days before public address systems or even megaphones! The nearest thing to a megaphone he could find was a boat, and by pulling out a bit from the shore, his voice would carry much better on the water, and give his space from the pressing crowds.

The next step is both simple and central. Peter was disappointed, without even one fish to show for his work, and so the scene was set for a miracle. As usual with Jesus, the outcome was abundant, "pressed down and flowing over" as with the wine at Cana, or the baskets of loaves and fish left over after everyone had been fed. Then Peter was his impulsive self and asked Jesus to leave him, because he was a sinful man. That must surely have brought a smile to the face of Christ, because it was precisely to draw such sinful people to himself that he had come. So Jesus ignored Peter's remark, and instead invited Peter and his friends to join him full-time in the mission he was undertaking. There was something magnetic about Jesus, and, immediately, they abandoned ship, and set off down the road with him.

Christianity is more about attracting others to share a vision of life than about forcing it upon them. Throughout history, we read about founders of religious communities and orders. These were people with a vision, dynamic, filled with zeal, and had a powerful sense of mission. Their enthusiasm was highly contagious! Such people always attract attention, and this leads to attracting followers. In our own time we have seen aberrations in the form of cults, based on mind control, that led hundreds to their deaths through suicide pacts. It is the duty of leaders to lead, but they should also know where they're going. Like Moses headed for the Promised Land, Jesus was totally open and definite in the direction of his life. He came to do the Father's will, and he was led by the Spirit. Thank God for the many wonderful leaders and founders with which the Lord has provided us down the centuries. Thank God, for the many such people who are alive and active among us today.

Jesus is more often shown as teaching rather than preaching. The art of teaching is to bring the learners from they already know to is yet unknown to them. Jesus speaks of fish, of sheep, of vines, of trees, of water, etc., of things well within the lived experience of his listeners. The Acts opens by telling us that Jesus came to do and to teach. A cynic once described classrooms as places where information is transferred from the teacher's notebook to the student's notebook, without passing through the heads of either! Jesus spoke and taught from the heart, and what comes from the speaker's heart always reaches the listener's heart. The person and message of Jesus were so united that his words were inspiring and lifegiving.

Was Peter wrong to judge himself unworthy to stay with Jesus? He had not yet grasped that Jesus came to call sinners. What he should have said was, "Lord, stay with me, because I am a sinful man." Sometimes our church has not been good in welcoming sinners. Sometimes we so emphasised hell-fire and condemnation, that sinners felt they could not share the Eucharistic table. The message often came across as "Depart from here, for you are a sinful person." Thankfully, under Pope Francis' leadership, we are reminded of the mind and the message of the Jesus who came to seek out sinners and bring them safely home. If he had a hundred sheep, and one went astray, he would leave the ninety-nine to go after the one that is lost. This message is central to the Year of Mercy proclaimed by the Holy Father.

Instead of asking the Lord to "DEPART FROM ME", Peter's prayer to Jesus could have been, "Lord, please STAY with me, BECAUSE I am a sinner. Don't ever leave me, because, apart from you, I'm lost." Indeed, the whole message of Jesus is to reassure sinners that he is always there for them. Peter was well aware of his brokenness, and several later episodes confirmed that fact. It is significant that Jesus made Peter head of the apostles. The principle of evangelising is that one sinner tells another the good news, just as with Alcoholics Anonymous, where one recovering alcoholic helps another to sobriety. Many of us could come up with some instance in our lives, when, like Peter, we have tried hard and caught nothing. This could be anything from an addiction, to resentment, an inability to forgive, to a scar of mind or memory, which has never healed. This has the potential for a miracle, if I am willing to hand it over. Let go, and let God. There is nothing impossible with God.

Vocations: This weekend's Gospel tells us that the fishermen who met Jesus "...left everything and followed Him." We invite men aged 18+ who may be considering following the Lord as diocesan priests to a Vocations Weekend in Drumalis Retreat Centre, Larne, from 7th -9th March. Anyone interested should contact the diocesan Vocations Director, Fr. Pat O'Hagan, at pgoh2111@gmail.com

Weddings in Malin in 2025/2026: You must inform the Registrar of Marriages in Bunrana of your intent to get married at least 6 months before the date of your wedding. To make an appointment phone 074 9898644. To attend a pre-marriage course, you can book online at www.accord.ie or phone Carndonagh Pastoral Centre on 074 9374103 or (Accord Derry on 048 71362475). For church papers contact the Parochial House, 074 93 70615 or email malinparish@hotmail.com at least 6 months before the date of your wedding.

Accord Inishowen is running a Face to Face Pre-Marriage Course on Friday 27th & Saturday 28th June, in Carndonagh.

Teach us to Pray Booklet –It can be downloaded at: <https://www.derrydiocese.org/news/teach-us-to-pray>.

Study Theology Online, is this for you? 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 11th. Find out more on our website, prioryinstitute.com to see a 2 minute introductory film.

Derry Diocesan Youth Pilgrimage to Fatima: We are inviting young people aged 16 + to join us on pilgrimage to Fatima for 4 nights from 14th to 18th July. This will be a unique experience for young people and an opportunity to engage with their peers from around the world in a faith context. Cost is £700 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.

Anam Cara, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, will hold its monthly Parent Support Evening on Thursday 13th February at 7:30pm in the Radisson Blu Hotel, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal. This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or how recent their death was. You do not need to register in advance. We also offer an online support group meeting. To find out more call 01 4045378 or email info@anamcara.ie.

SPARK: A weekend of fun, faith and friendship for 12-16 year olds. Do you know a young person who would like to build their faith and make new friends? Spark is a weekend experience which follows core themes from YouCat, as well as stories of role models such as Bl. Carlo Acutis and Sr. Clare Crockett, to help young people learn about their faith, while making friends and hopefully having a bit of fun in the process! February 21st - 23rd in Termonbacca Carmelite Retreat Centre, Derry. Text or WhatsApp Brendan on +353 86 8067973 or Vivienne on +44 7935 007351. €80/£70 per person (to cover food and board) Spark is fully endorsed by Bishop McKeown and supported by local diocesan priests. Our adult volunteers are fully vetted and we take safeguarding very seriously. Please note that places are limited and will be allocated on a first come basis.

Invitation To Mass – Concluding The 33 Days Of Family Prayer: As you may be aware, Bishop McKeown has been leading the diocese in 33 days of Family Prayer towards Consecration to Jesus Christ through Mary, as part of the diocesan programme for the Jubilee year of 2025, 'Pilgrims of Hope'. The 33 days concludes on Tuesday, 11 February 2025, the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. Each evening of the 33 days, Bishop McKeown and priests of the diocese have been broadcasting online a short reflection and prayers of the Rosary. Bishop McKeown now extends an invitation to those who have participated in this journey of prayer to join him in St. Eugene's Cathedral, Derry on Tuesday, 11th February at 7pm. The bishop will pray the final prayers of this journey and lead people in making the Prayer of Consecration. This will be followed by the celebration of Mass at 7:30pm. Certificates to mark the Consecration will be available after Mass. If you are unable to attend, Certificates will be available to download at derrydiocese.org/consecration. Details of the Family Prayer programme can be found on the website.