

PARISH OF INISHMAGRATH

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

5th July 2020

Fr Tom McManus – 964 8025

Neighbouring Priests: Fr T Mannion 964 3014 - Fr P Casey 916 4143 -

Fr Loughlain Carolan 985 3012

Sunday Masses

St Brigid's Church, Creevelea

Sat 4th Jul 8.00pm For All Parishioners

Sat 11th Jul 8.00pm

St. Patrick's Church, Tarmon

Sun 5th Jul 10.00am Michael & Theresa Woods & Deceased of the Family, Towneycorry

Sun 12th Jul 10.00am

St Brigid's Church, Drumkeeran

Sun 5th Jul 11.15 am Tommy Cassidy (1st Anniversary)

George Wiggins (1st Anniversary)

Mary McGoldrick née McNiff

Sun 12th Jul 11.15 am Margaret O'Rourke, Cloonmone

Masses During the Week

Monday 6th July	7.00 pm	Drumkeeran	Hugh Doherty & Deceased of the Family, Corcormack
Tuesday 7th July	10.00am	Drumkeeran	Special Intentions
Wednesday 8th July	10.00am	Creevelea	For All Parishioners
Thursday 9th July	10.00am	Drumkeeran	Special Intentions
Friday 10th July	7.00 pm	Tarmon	Bridget Morgan (née Flynn) Tarmon, Aunt of Keaveney & McKenna Families who died In the USA.
Monday 13th July	7.00 pm	Drumkeeran	Joseph Molloy, Sheena

Welcome: We welcome John Aidan Williams, son of Brian and Louise of Derrylustia, who was Baptised in St Brigid's Church, Drumkeeran on Sun 28 June 2020. May God's blessings be his all his life.

Welcome Back to Church:

Please be patient as we get to know how to do things safely and give people the confidence to gather together again to pray. People who are still anxious are asked to feel free to not attend Church yet. People who are ill are asked **not** to attend. There is no obligation to be present these weeks. If it suits, you can attend on or more of the weekday Masses where the numbers will be smaller.

Please follow the directions of the stewards and the signs on the seats and the floor. Please God we will soon be back to normal, but we have to be careful as the virus is still out there and we don't want a second wave or a second lockdown because the lockdown will be a local restriction in whatever area there is an outbreak of the virus.

Be Patient! As Churches open up again to the celebration of Masses, they will not be allowed to accommodate all those who would like to return;

Drumkeeran Church can allow 50 people.

Creevelea Church can allow 34 people.

Tarmon Church can allow 30 people.

Bereavement Counselling: Have you been impacted by a bereavement during COVID-19? Are you finding it more difficult to cope with a pre-Covid bereavement at this time? Would it help to talk to someone in confidence about your loss? The Irish Hospice Foundation Bereavement Support Line is a national Freephone service 1800 80 70 77 which is available from 10am to 1pm, Monday to Friday. The line aims to provide comfort and emotional support.

COVID-19 Support Line for Older People: ALONE manage a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to the outbreak of COVID-19 (Coronavirus). Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. The support line is open seven days a week, 8am - 8pm, by calling 0818 222 024.

Naíonraí: The Naíonra Chluainín committee are presently accepting registrations of interest approval, it is envisaged that it would be opening as an Irish language sessional pre-school in September where parents would be able to apply for the 2 year ECCE grant through the service. This can be done by emailing your contact details and childrens' name and date of birth to rosnodaigh@mail.com or by ringing Rossa on 086 826 0860. With the untimely closure of Little Stars many parents will now be seeking a preschool service for their children. We only have 5 more spaces to fill if we are to open in September.

Seeing your Life through the Lens of the Gospel

Matthew 11:25-30

- ❖ For Jesus, the key to a personal knowledge of God and relationship with God is not primarily through academic study but through a mind and heart open to learn. Recall moments when you had a sense that your relationship with God took a significant step forward. What kind of dispositions prepared you for that growth?
- ❖ Jesus lived in a society in which people were very conscious of status, dignity and external appearances. He wanted to break down the barriers this created, so that all would be aware of their worth and dignity. Perhaps you can recall someone who was not highly thought of in human terms, but who was a light to you?
- ❖ In v.27, Jesus lets us into the secret of His relationship with His Father, one of total trust. This trust freed Him from anxiety and worry about Himself. As a result, he was a person of gentle and humble heart and was able to bring rest to those who were overburdened. Recall people whose trust in God enabled them to be supportive to others who were stressed or burdened. Perhaps you have experienced this yourself?
- ❖ Recall and give thanks for people who, like Jesus in the story, were able to combine challenge with sympathetic support and understanding. Perhaps you have been able to do this for others at times also.

John Byrne OSA

Reflection 1:

This text is not a 'put-down' of learning or of the learned and the clever. Far from it. God ought to be pursued with the vigorous application of human intelligence. It is about humility in our intelligence, in our science. It is about an appreciation that the current state of knowledge and of science is but a fraction of all God's knowledge, of all there is to know.

Before humankind can say there is no God, humankind must first be able to say: "Now we know absolutely everything there is to know!" If we ever reach that point, we will be staring God in the face!

Human knowledge is to God's knowledge what a four-year-old's knowledge is to her father's knowledge. The child trusts the father, mind you! But here is the cut; only the receptive child will truly learn; only the child open to the possibility that he or she does not know everything will be able to learn more. Most children possess this capacity quite naturally. Sadly, many adults lose it. They conclude from their limited knowledge something that requires absolute knowledge; there is no God!

Only humble human intelligence can receive the divine intelligence. Thus 'these things' - the mysteries of the Kingdom of God - are hidden from those who confuse their limited knowledge with absolute knowledge and thereby close themselves off from God. But the mere 'child' - really an adult but a child of God - who appreciated that their science is very partial, still possesses the openness

that God can enter.

And the condition of God entering this openness? Quite simply, take Jesus seriously. He became one of us, He left us a teaching. This is the burden; this is the yoke. Take Him and take His teaching seriously. Stop believing as if Christmas never happened. As if Easter never happened. As if He was never here! As if He did not leave a teaching! Just come to Him as He has revealed Himself. He will give you rest. And it is a wonderful rest.

Fr Paddy Banville, St Senan's, Enniscorthy

The Deep End.

In the opening lines of the Gospel today, Jesus praises God for the grace of openness and humility He sees around Him, for revealing 'these things' to infants and hiding them from the 'wise'. I imagine Jesus had had enough of the arrogance and the egos of the elite. The authorities of the time who were so closed to His message of love and compassion. Jesus' disciples were not from the upper echelons of society, but they trusted in Jesus, they wanted to understand; they had an openness to learn. For Jesus, God's grace was found in the humble, in those who were open to new possibilities, in those whose hearts were not hardened or consumed by ego.

Over the past number of months, we have all been humbled a little, whether we were open to it or not. The Covid-19 epidemic stopped us in our tracks and suddenly we realised we were not in control. We were humbled by a microscopic invader with macroscopic consequences.

While many opportunities lay in our cocooning, I am very aware how many are struggling with our new reality. It has been a traumatic and stressful time for most people. And yet, within it all, our faith asks us to watch out for signs of hope, for stories of resurrection all around us, for good news.

Today, we hear some of the most beautiful lines in the Gospel; 'Come to Me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.'

Reading *The Message* interpretation of the text reads; 'Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I will not lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with Me and you'll learn to live freely and lightly.'

During days of uncertainty, may we remember and whisper these lines, with open hearts.

Jane Mellett