

PARISH OF INISHMAGRATH

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

19th 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 18th Jul 8.00pm Gerry Gilbride (1st Anniversary) & Deceased Family

Sat 25th Jul 8.00pm

St. Patrick's Church, Tarmon

Sun 19th Jul 10.00am Christopher Gilhooly (MM)

Sun 26th Jul 10.00am

St Brigid's Church, Drumkeeran

Sun 19th Jul 11.15 am Frank McPartland & Deceased Family, Grouselodge
Mick & Kate Carty & Sons, Sean & Frank, Lisacoghill

Sun 26th Jul 11.15 am Betty McPartland (2nd Anniversary)
Vincent and Celia O'Donnell
Packie McPartlan (5th Anniversary), Derrycullinan

Masses During the Week

Mon 13th July	7.00 pm	Drumkeeran	Special Intentions
Tues 14th July	10.00am	Drumkeeran	Special Intentions
Wed 15th July	10.00am	Creevelea	Special Intentions
Thurs 16th July	10.00am	Drumkeeran	Special Intentions
Fri 17th July	7.00 pm	Tarmon	Special Intentions

Special Collections: Thanks to all who have contributed so far.

Diocesan Vocations and Support Services €295.00

Trócaire €990.00

Pope's Collection €260.00

St Patrick's Day for Missions and Emigrants €285.00

Please remember to bring in your contribution. Thanks.

Envelopes: Please bring in your envelopes for the various collections that would have occurred in the weeks we were on lockdown. If you want to pay by cheque;

1. The Offertory Collections can be paid to either; Drumkeeran Church Account, Creevelea Church Account or to Tarmon Church Account.
2. The Dues can be paid to Priests Revenue Account.
3. The Trócaire and other collections that support charities outside the Parish can also be left in now.

Thanks.

Youth 2000: Their Summer E-Festival will be held from Fri 14 Aug to Sun 16th Aug. The Youth 2000 Summer E-Festival is a three day Catholic event for young people from around the world. Listen to some of the biggest speakers giving workshops on your favourite topics, see other young Catholics on fire with the faith or simply be refreshed and inspired. Register now for FREE at www.youth2000.ie to get your welcome pack.

Drumshanbo/Ballinaglera CE Scheme: Have two vacancies available, one Environmental role and one Administration role for Leitrim calling service in the Drumshanbo/Ballinaglera area. Contact your local Intreo office for eligibility requirements or contact 085 8834598 for further details.

Gain a QQI Level 5 Administration and IT at Drumshanbo

Enterprise Centre: Would you like to become more confident working online and remotely? Become a qualified IT administrator after 9 months. Course will start in September 2020. The course content will include Microsoft Teams and Office 365 (the main applications used in industry and third level courses). In addition to face to face classes, course content will be available on Moodle which will allow for more flexible learning. Learners will also have an opportunity to learn Payroll and Computerised Accounts whilst on the course. Apply online through fetchcourses.ie (course code 282532), for more information email phyllisheduan@msletb.ie or telephone (071) 9641085.

Seeing your Life through the Lens of the Gospel

Matthew 13:24-43

- ❖ The owner of the field who allowed the wheat and the darnel to grow together is a reminder to us to be patient with ourselves and with others when we see that not everything is right. Sometimes a preoccupation with the negative (the darnel) can blind us to the positive in our own lives and in the lives of others. When have you found that a willingness to live with the messiness of the present created the conditions for future growth?
- ❖ Have you ever found that it was through accepting the darnel that you learned important lessons for life, e.g. learning through mistakes, stupid questions, or foolish risks?
- ❖ The parables of the mustard seed and the leaven are reminders that seemingly insignificant things can have a very positive result. Have you ever been surprised by the benefit to yourself or others of a kind gesture, a small initiative, or a word of encouragement?

John Byrne OSA

Reflection 1:

Jesus compares good people to wheat and bad people to weeds. The kingdom is like a field of weeds and wheat. The kingdom of God, no less! Yet we're hardly able to cope with the sinfulness of the Church. Where is this kingdom? It's already here, it's in the Church, the Church that contains and always will contain both saint and sinner.

I have a choice; do I give power to the sinner or to the saint, the weeds or the wheat? "Look not on our sins but on the faith of Your Church..." we pray in every Mass. You'd think that Jesus hadn't taught the parable of the weeds and wheat, not at all, never said a word like it!

You'd think he wasn't betrayed by somebody who shared His table. You'd think He didn't die between two thieves. You'd think He didn't describe the kingdom for us. Should the Church be different? You'd think that the incarnation never happened at all!

That's my point - many people attempt to persist with a belief that doesn't seem to take Jesus Christ and His teachings seriously. Is it any wonder that so many fall away? Of course, weeds are dangerous if they get out of control. But the best way to deal with weeds is a reminder that in the end there's judgement. Dare I say it: Hell! The weeds are thrown onto the fire and burnt.

How can there be Mercy without Justice? Justice is the very precondition of Mercy. Mercy is undoubtedly God's greatest attribute but that presupposes Justice.

Do we really think that God bestows Mercy forcibly? Did Jesus? God will never - never - superimpose Himself or His Mercy on our freedom. We must use our freedom to receive Mercy, that's its purpose.

Divine justice just is, it's the default position, but Mercy is our choice, always. There's nothing as sensible as the Catholic faith properly understood. The failure to take Jesus and His teachings seriously is causing havoc among us.

Fr Paddy Banville, St Senan's, Enniscorthy

The Deep End.

In today's Gospel, we hear many parables about the 'Kingdom of Heaven' and what it is like. This might move us to think about the afterlife, but Jesus was describing God's kingdom in the here and now, 'on earth as in Heaven'. Jesus, through parables, is trying to describe what is difficult to comprehend. Parables allow our minds and heart to ponder, to imagine, to move beyond the constraints of language. Jesus is describing what God's vision for this world is like, in the here and now!

Taking one of these parables, the mustard seed, we can explore a little more. There is an ancient text which forbade planting mustard seeds in Palestinian gardens because the shrub would take over. It can go wild, out of control, and attract unwanted birds. Author Shane Claiborn compares it to *kudzu*, a wild vine that could blanket entire mountain areas and even crack cement buildings. I like the idea of something so small causing so much mischief, Holy mischief! The Kingdom of Heaven is like this? Yes, growing even where it is not wanted. People in authority during Jesus' time might have had images of the 'lofty cedars of Lebanon' representing the 'reign of God'. Theirs was a grand vision. As with most of Jesus' parables, He turns things on their head. It is through the smallest seeds that God's grace affects the world, silently making its way through the cracks.

"Might I," quavered Mary, "might I have a bit of earth?" "Earth!" he repeated. "What do you mean?" "To plant seeds in - to make things grow - to see them come alive."

Frances H Burnett, The Secret Garden.

Jane Mellett