

12TH AUGUST 2018

Sunday Message

19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE WORD

Year B • Season Colour: Green • Psalter Week 3

THE BREAD THAT I SHALL GIVE

(JOHN 6: 41-51)



The tone of today's Gospel is quite different to the great 'Bread of Life' sermon given by Jesus last week. The crowd today are questioning what Jesus has just said. How can he be the Son of God?

The people who have been following Jesus and listening attentively to his Word seem to have a detailed description of his family of origin. He is not the Son of David but the son of Joseph, the carpenter. They say, "We know his father and mother. How can he now say, 'I have come down from heaven?'" Indeed Jesus is firm with them and tells them to stop complaining. The short sermon that follows tells people about how God draws people to Jesus and about the resurrection on the last day. It's interesting to note that Jesus seems to be under a little bit of pressure to prove his identity and his mission. He begins by quoting the prophets to provide the evidence required to convince the Jews that he indeed is the bread that has come down from heaven. He even reaches far back to the time of the Exodus when people fed from the manna in the desert. Those who ate of that bread died but those who eat the bread that comes from heaven will live forever.

The end of this sermon is probably going to shock the Jews a little. The word 'flesh' is used to describe the bread being offered by Jesus. "The bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world." Whatever difficulty the Jews may have in understanding the identity of Jesus, they now have this tricky image to deal with. But this image of flesh has an even greater significance. For God so loved the world that the flesh of his own Son will be sacrificed on a cross. Greater clarity will emerge for this Jewish crowd over the passage of time. ■

REFLECT

There is no doubt that during the reading of John's Gospel over the coming weeks, we will be struck by some complex language and theological terms. It is perfectly natural in our prayer and reading of the Gospel to ask the question: what is Jesus trying to say here? What is the theological point? Sometimes it can take a couple of readings, and perhaps our time at Mass may not be sufficient to fully comprehend the magnitude of Jesus' testimony to his followers.

I'm going to suggest that the difficulty faced by the Jews and the followers of Jesus was not necessarily the newness of language and ideas, but this spoken reality that God's love is given to us freely and without condition. This is the gift that we receive as Christians. Our response to God's love is to believe in the One he has sent – Jesus Christ. He offers his flesh and blood during the Mass and we are invited to receive, to have faith and to believe. ■

SAY

God, my Father,
You have promised to remain
forever with those
who do what is just and right.
Help me to live in Your
presence.
Keep before me the wisdom
and love
You have made known in
Your Son.
Help me to be like Him in
word and deed. Amen.

LEARN

"Jesus was aware of the purpose of his mission: to announce the Kingdom of God and make it present in his own Person, in his actions, and in his words, so that the world would become reconciled with God and renewed."

(International Theological Commission, *The Consciousness of Christ Concerning Himself and His Mission*, 1985)

DO

Read this Gospel again and become more conscious of Christ handing himself over to us so that we might share in his life. This gift of Christ's presence has its foundation in God's unconditional love for his people.

SWINFORD MEELICK MIDFIELD
Fr Dermot Meehan Phone: 094-9251790/Urgent Calls: 087-1338200

PARISH OFFICE- OPENING HOURS: Mon, Thurs, Fri: 9.30am-2.30pm; Tues: 9.30am-1p.m;
Phone: 094 - 9253607
Email: swinews@hotmail.com **12th - 19th Aug 2018**

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday 11th	6.30pm	Swinford: John & Winnifred Doyle, Lislackagh & daughter Úna & son-in-law Denis Deacy, Ashgrove Mary & Tony Basquil & dec'd Family, Lisheenabrone
Sunday 12th	12 noon	Swinford: Mary Ellen & Michael Stenson, Lisbrogan Kevin Groarke & dec'd Groarke & White Families
Monday 13th	10.00am	Swinford: Rose Kelly, Oak Drive (MM) & husband Jack
Tuesday 14th	10.00am	Swinford: W.J O'Connor, Main Street
Wednesday 15th	10.00am	Swinford: No Intention
Thursday 16th	10.00am	Swinford: Des Barber
Friday 17th	10.00am	Swinford: Catherine O'Connor, The Orchard
Friday 17th	7.00pm	Swinford: Mass in Famine Cemetery
Saturday 18th	10.00am	Swinford: Pdraig Moran, Carrabeg (1 st anniv)
Saturday 18th	11.00am	Swinford: Annie Walsh, Cashelsheenaughane (MM)

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday 18th	6.30pm	Swinford: Mary Brady, Rabawn & her husband Pat (1 st anniv) Kevin Forkan, Fraunhill & Teresa Forkan, Kinaffe (1 st anniversaries) & dec'd Forkan, Murtagh & Fadden Families Eileen & Tom Price, Cullane
Sunday 19th	12 noon	Swinford: Patrick Devaney & dec'd Family Drumshinnagh, Culmore

Sunday 12th	9.00am	Meelick: Pat, Anne, Margaret & dec'd Philbin Family, Steeple Village
Sunday 19th	9.00am	Meelick: J.P McNicholas & parents Michael & Annie & his sister Nancy & her husband Liam William & Brigid Gallagher, Tullyroe & daughter Vera & sons Billy & John & Billy's wife, Eileen Page

Sunday 12th	10.30am	Midfield: Mary & Martin Mannion, Cashelroyan James & Delia Fraine & daughter Nano Peyton & son-in-law James Brennan
Sunday 19th	10.30am	Midfield: Tom Hanley, Glenamaddy & Teresa Lavin Pontoon/ Manchester & dec'd Families

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

Swinford Church: Sundays: 2pm-6pm & Thursdays 10.30am-8pm

Midfield Church: Mondays 11am-12noon

Meelick Church: Mondays 7pm-9pm

We welcome into the Christian community
Rose Maria Lynskey, Dublin who was baptised recently in Meelick Church.

Masses on the weekend of August 25th and 26th : Please note that on the weekend of August 25th and 26th there will be a change to the usual Mass schedule because of the visit of Pope Francis to Knock and Dublin. On Saturday, August 25th there will be a Vigil Mass in Swinford Church at 6.30p.m. and there will also be a Vigil Mass in Midfield Church at 8.00p.m. There will be no Mass in Meelick, Midfield or Swinford church on Sunday, August 26th.

Celebration to mark the opening of WMOF 2018: On Tuesday, August 21st every cathedral in Ireland will host a celebration to mark the opening of the World Meeting of Families. The celebration for our diocese will take place in the Cathedral of the Annunciation and St Nathy in Ballaghaderreen on Tuesday, August 21st at 8p.m. It will have as its theme the message of Venerable Patrick Peyton CSC, 'The Family that prays together stays together' and 'A world at prayer is a world at peace'. Fr Patrick Peyton was born in Attymass in our diocese and spent his life promoting the recitation of the Rosary by families at rallies that attracted hundreds of thousands of people all over the world. Fr Peyton has recently been declared 'Venerable', an important step on the path to canonisation. The celebration in the Cathedral on August 21st will include the recitation of the Rosary, led by families from our diocese. All are welcome to this special celebration which will hopefully be a memorable moment in marking the World Meeting of Families in our diocese.

Festival of Families: As part of the World Meeting of Families, there will be a Festival of Families in Croke Park, Dublin on Saturday, August 25th. This will be a celebration of family life in word and music and will be attended by Pope Francis who will address those present. Families from every parish in Ireland are being invited to attend this unique event. For families from our diocese who wish to attend, buses will bring them from Charlestown to Croke Park and back again on August 25th. The buses will depart at 11.30a.m. The Festival of Families begins at 6.30p.m. and concludes at 8.30p.m. If your family would like to be considered for

tickets for this event with Pope Francis in Croke Park, please give your name to Fr Dermot or the Parish Office before Tuesday, August 14th. One family will be drawn to receive the tickets for Swinford parish.

National Novena to Our Lady of Knock, 14th – 22nd August. Ceremonies: 3p.m. and 8.30p.m. daily. Workshops: 12 noon and 6p.m. daily. This year marks the 41st year of the Novena. The theme this year is 'Faith and Family' and will draw topics and themes from Pope Francis's teachings on love and the family from this letter 'The Joy of Love.' See full programme of Novena speakers at www.knockshrine.ie/events.

Pilgrimage to Medjugorje leaving Knock on Thursday 27th Sept, few seats remaining. Contact Isabel on 086-2151338 for full details.

Heartfulness, Relaxation and Meditation
Monday Aug 13th at 7pm in the Parochial House Swinford. Free and open to all over 16 years. Contact 086-0700681 for more details.

Bofield Céilí band: The ever popular Seisiun with Bofield Céilí band returns to Fr. Peyton centre Attymass on Thursday @ 9pm and runs every Thursday to end of August.

Swinford Community Lotto Results for 7th August Numbers: 01 03 07 17 €70 Local Shopping Voucher Winners; Suzanne Nolan, C/O The Sheepwalk; Frank Price, Cullane, Swinford; 3 Number Winners; M. McNeela, Main St Swinford; Anne O'Brien, Midfield; Marie McNulty, Swinford; Noreen Waldron, Urlar; Ann Convey, Cloonaghboy; Trish and Eileen, C/O Hospice Shop; Jackpot €4,400 Next Draw Monday 13th August .

GAA 50/50: This week's draw was held in Whitehouse and Eileen Garrett of Kilkelly Road, Swinford won €692. Next draw is in Horkans on the 14th August

Chiropodist: Martin McNally will attend at The Gateway Hotel, Swinford , on Fri 17th Aug from 10.00am.

Mayo Stoma Support Group are hosting a BBQ on Thursday August 16th at 7pm in Rock Rose House, Castlebar. All welcome to attend. Please RSVP by phoning 094-9038407

Children's Art Camp from 20th - 23rd August 10 am - 12.30 pm. Deposit of 10 euro required to secure a place limited numbers - early booking advised - Contact Teresa 0870559537.