

20 JANUARY 2019

Sunday Message

2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE WORD

Year C • Season Colour: Green • Psalter Week 2

WATER INTO WINE

(JOHN 2:1-11)



Our cycle of Gospel readings, in which we consider the ministry of Jesus, begins today with the story from the Gospel according to John (not Luke). It is the narrative of “the first of his signs”, which he performed at Cana in Galilee.

It is the first act in the revelation of who Jesus truly is, which will culminate in “the hour”, the complex of events which will reach its climax in his being lifted up in glory on the cross.

There are many biblical symbols in this passage, and the marriage feast is perhaps the one we might consider. The Messianic Age is often portrayed as a banquet of rich food and fine wine, so underlying the story is the message that in the ministry of Jesus, the Messianic Age, in which God’s promises will be fulfilled, has begun.

The mother of Jesus appears; she is the first person to be mentioned. Her comment to Jesus about the shortage of wine provokes a sharp rebuke. Her more significant remark is what she says to the servants: “Do whatever he tells you.” They do so, twice, in filling the jars to the brim and then taking them to the person in charge of the arrangements. It is the unquestioning faith of his mother and the obedience of the servants to his command which make possible the sign which points towards Jesus’ glory. Throughout the fourth Gospel, this accepting of the word of Jesus is a major theme.

However, we are at the beginning of Jesus’ ministry and our readings in the coming weeks will be taken from the third version of the Gospel, that of Luke. The evangelist sets out his narrative as Jesus’ journey to Jerusalem, the place where God’s plan will be worked out, just as John hints in his mention of “the hour”. ■

REFLECT

The mother of Jesus speaks twice in the Gospel episode today, and the second comment is the one to which we perhaps should pay more attention. The fourth evangelist begins his Gospel with the line “In the beginning was the Word”. John emphasises the importance of believing in Jesus and his word, and the story at Cana sets the scene for the rest of the Gospel. In Christian tradition and piety, the mother of Jesus has a prominent place. We are accustomed to the idea of her having influence with her Son and asking her to

intercede on our behalf; very often the incident at Cana is advanced in support of this notion. But perhaps we might think about this in a different – and more demanding – way. The water is changed into wine following Jesus’ mother’s command to the servants, when she tells them, “Do whatever he tells you.” How often do we imagine the mother of Jesus saying the same thing to us? Perhaps she is not only speaking to Jesus on our behalf, but telling us to put his teachings into practice in our daily lives and to take being his disciples more seriously. ■

LEARN

The fourth Gospel presents a small number of Jesus’ miracles as “signs”.

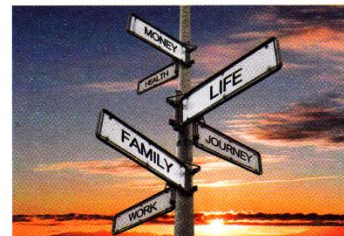
A sign points beyond itself, and these signs indicate something about Jesus, which is explained by a discourse or a comment.

“The hour of Jesus” in the fourth Gospel is the complex of events, his passion and death on the cross, which result in his exaltation (his being lifted up) in glory.

The fourth evangelist never refers to the mother of Jesus and “the disciple Jesus loved” by name.

DO

Look at any sign. Its purpose is to give information about something beyond itself. This is the point of the miracle stories in the Gospel. Ask yourself if you look beyond the signs to the deeper (and intended) meaning.



SAY

Do whatever he tells you.

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

PARISH OFFICE- OPENING HOURS: Mon, Thurs, Fri: 9.00am-2.00pm; Phone: 094 - 9253607
Email: swinews@hotmail.com **20th - 27th Jan 2019**

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday 19th	6.30pm	Swinford: Anne Duffy, Curryane & dec'd Duffy & Cummins Families Mary Doyle, Cloonfinaune & dec'd Doyle & Lavin Families
Sunday 20th	12 noon	Swinford: Mary & Michael Callaghan, Logcurragh Nancy Henry, Cloonfinaune & her parents Martin & Anne Molloy
Monday 21st	10.00am	Swinford: No Intention
Tuesday 22nd	10.00am	Swinford: No Intention
Wednesday 23rd	10.00am	Swinford: No Intention
Thursday 24th	10.00am	Swinford: Joe Fitzgerald, Brabazon Heights
Friday 25th	10.00am	Swinford: Hugh Gallagher, Killaturley/Loughborough
Saturday 26th	10.00am	Swinford: Michael Jordan, Lislackagh (1 st anniv)

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday 26th	6.30pm	Swinford: Bernadette Irving, Meadow Park John & Brigid McNeela & daughter Anne, Cloonlumney
Sunday 27th	12 noon	Swinford: Peggy Lyons, Rabawn, her parents Bea Ann & Jim Mulligan, their sons Tommy, John & James & their daughter Maureen Stack Anne Conwell, Oak Drive

Sunday 20th	9.00am	Meelick: No Intention
Saturday 26th	11.00am	Meelick: Nora Golden, Ardhoome (MM)
Sunday 27th	9.00am	Meelick: Martie Lavin, Culleens, his parents Martin & Elizabeth & dec'd Family Mary & Pat Groarke & dec'd Loftus & Groarke Families, Bothaul

Sunday 20th	10.30am	Midfield: Ann & Michael Fraine & dec'd Family, Kinaffe Ellen & Jim Campbell & their son John, Kinaffe & dec'd Campbell & Egan Families
Sunday 27th	10.30am	Midfield: Tara Ryan, Johnsfort Kevin & Patsy Forkan, Kinaffe

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

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

Midfield Church: Mondays 11am-12noon

Meelick Church: Mondays 7pm-9pm

Please pray for Gerald Forkan, formerly of Midfield who has died in Auckland, New Zealand (brother of the late Tom & Joe Forkan, Tullinahoo & John Forkan, Main Street and Mary Gallagher, Toomore) and Michael Rooney, formerly of Ardlee who died recently in Turlough. May they rest in the peace of Christ.

We welcome into the Christian community

Kayleigh Margaret Kirrane, Culleens, Meelick who was baptised recently in Meelick Church.

Offertory Envelopes: The boxes of envelopes for weekly offertory collection and other church collections during the year are due for renewal at the end of January. If you don't have a box of envelopes and would like one, or if any changes need to be made regarding names or addresses, please give details to Fr Dermot or Anne-Marie in the Parish Office. Your continuing generosity in supporting church collections throughout the year is deeply appreciated.

Prayer service for Christian Unity in Killasser

Church: On Thursday 24th January at 8pm, an ecumenical service will be held in All Saints Church, Killasser as part of the week of prayer for Christian Unity. The Church of Ireland Bishop of Tuam, Killala and Achonry, Rt.Revd. Patrick Rooke, will preach at the service which is organised by the Fr Peyton Cluster of parishes. Everybody is invited to attend and also to invite your friends from the Church of Ireland and from other Christian communities to come along. The theme of this year's service is Justice in the World.

Meelick N.S: Enrolment forms for September 2019 are now available in the school, or to download from the website, www.meelickns.ie or contact 094-9384214 for more information.

O'Dwyer Arts Centre have Pottery Workshops on Wednesday and Thursday. Class times are 2 pm- 5 pm and 6 pm - 9 pm. All levels accepted in both classes. Materials and tools supplied. Contact Ruairi on 086-8335085 for more info. Zumba classes resume on Wednesday January 23rd from 7pm - 8pm 6 classes cost 30 euro. Yoga resumes on Thursday mornings 24th January 11 am - 12 pm cost -6 euro per class

Foxford Traditional Singing and Poetry Group will meet in Guirys Bar on Thursday January 31st at 9.15pm. All welcome.

GAA 50/50: This week's draw was held in Julians and Martin Gallagher of Cloongullane, won €507. The next draw is on 22nd January.

Swinford & District Gardening Club: annual dinner on 26th January at 7.30 pm in the Gateway Hotel. Ticket: €30. Contact 087-7917136 for tickets. Also AGM will take place on 29th January in the Gateway Hotel at 8.30pm. All members are requested to attend.

Swinford Community Lotto: Results for 14th Jan Numbers: 07 08 10 18; €70 Local Shopping Voucher Winners: Andy Madden, Butcher Shop Swinford; Thomas O' Malley, Swinford; 3 Number winners; Andy Foley, Derryronane; Jackpot €9,000; Next draw 21st January.

Mayo North East is organising a free Healthcare Support Training Course in Swinford for unemployed people or people in part-time employment. Please contact Dolores McNicholas on 087-7704251 or email dmcnicholas@mayonortheast.com to register.

Art Group: Swinford's friendly, welcoming art group artists@heart with qualified tuition will be meeting every Wednesday at Swinford Cultural Centre from 1.30pm-4pm. Also Swinford's book club welcomes new members. Meeting on the last Wednesday afternoon of every month, from 3pm to 4.30pm at Swinford library. Contact Livvi Daly 089-2079407 for both of the above groups.

Mayo Gardai: in association with SuperValu, present the inaugural Mayo Garda Youth Awards for young people between the ages of 13 and 21, which will recognise the good work done by young people in every community in Mayo. There are individual, group, special achievement and community safety awards. Nomination Forms are available at local Garda Stations and from the Garda Youth Awards 2018 link from the Garda website www.garda.ie. Closing date for nomination is 25th January.

Arthritis Ireland Mayo Branch invite you to join our physiotherapy exercise classes starting Wednesday 23rd January at 11.30am in the Swinford Cultural Centre. Cost is €36 for 6 sessions. Book your place on www.arthritisireland.ie or call Eleanor Wed - Fri on 01-6470204.