

10 NOVEMBER 2019 **Sunday**  **Message** 32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE WORD

Year C • Season Colour: Green • Psalter Week 4



There was no one official set of beliefs in the time of Jesus. There were certain important differences among the religious groups, for instance, the Pharisees and the Sadducees.

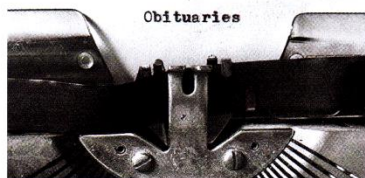
In today's Gospel reading, we have an example of such a teaching, namely, the resurrection of the dead. The opponents of Jesus use a belief which they themselves do not accept, to challenge Jesus and put him on the spot. Whose wife will a woman be at the resurrection if she has been the spouse of seven brothers in turn?

If this bizarre puzzle were restricted to just two or possibly three male siblings, it would be a genuine question. In a society which had little or any idea of a meaningful existence after death, a person's survival depended on descendants carrying on their name. This was seen, not as the family surname being passed down the generations, but as the person's existence being somehow prolonged because their name was remembered by later members of their family. This was the older Jewish belief, so the Sadducees could claim that their article of faith was more traditional than the later development which the Pharisees held.

Jesus' reply includes a reference to another disputed question, that of the existence of angels. He implies that life in the resurrection is of a different order to present existence, but it is God who is the giver of both. The point about angels may well be that since they have no possibility of producing offspring, there will be no need for marriage. His opponents began by appealing to Moses, the great figure in Torah thought: Jesus answers them by quoting from the same source. His reasoning may not seem convincing to us, but according to the rules of argument of the time, it is enough to answer the Sadducees. ■

DO

Look at tombstones or the obituary column in a newspaper. Renew your belief in the resurrection of the dead.



LEARN

If a man died childless, his brother was expected to marry his widow and raise up children for him: this is known as 'levirate marriage'.

Onan's sin was that he refused his obligation to raise up children for his deceased brother.

Belief in the resurrection of the dead comes late in the Hebrew scriptures: the Pharisees believed in it, the Sadducees did not.

SAY

Jesus is the Resurrection and the Life

(see John 11:25)

REFLECT

A Jewish person recently remarked that this life is all that he has. Christians are familiar with the idea of resurrection: it is the core of our faith. The Easter proclamation is "The Lord is risen!" Baptism, the chief sacrament of initiation, means entering into the life of the risen Christ.

However, this belief in a future life can undermine our appreciation of this present one. Some people accept intolerable living conditions, hoping that they will be rewarded with some blessed state in the next. They may even be encouraged to adopt such a fatalistic attitude by powerful individuals who want to preserve their own position and power.

Another unfortunate consequence of looking to a future life beyond this one is that we may not accept that we have responsibilities for the state of our world: we may become literally otherworldly and focus on heaven rather than on earth.

Jesus tells his opponents that all people are in fact alive to God, the giver of all life. We might look at the way we live now, and try to reflect the kind of God we claim to believe in. ■

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 **10th – 17th Nov 2019**

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday 9th	6.30pm	Swinford: Michelle Scully, her grandparents Willie & Annie Scully & Anthony & Anne Sweeney Michael & Mary Nolan, their sons Michael & John & daughter Teresa Byrne & Sr Patricia Nolan, Lislackagh
Sunday 10th	12 noon	Swinford: Mark & Nora McDonnell, Rathscanlon, their son Joe & Fr Joe McDonnell & dec'd Family Eddie & Kathleen Duffy, Sancta Maria
Monday 11th	10.00am	Swinford: Kate & Michael Halligan, Cullane & John & Annie McGloin, their daughters Kathleen & Rita Special Intention
Tuesday 12th	10.00am	Swinford: Tom Murray, The Orchard & Meelick (MM)
Wednesday 13th	10.00am	Swinford: The Faithful Departed
Thursday 14th	10.00am	Swinford: Michael Sweeney, Tullinacurra Hannah & Don Deacy, BeechPark
Friday 15th	10.00am	Swinford: Thomas & Maggie Moore & dec'd Moore & O'Driscoll Families Maureen Mulligan, Chesterfield
Saturday 16th	10.00am	Swinford: John Kilgallon, Curryane (MM)

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday 16th	6.30pm	Swinford: Michael & Della Groarke, their grandson Padraic & dec'd Family, Esker Teresa Gormley, Kinaffe
Sunday 17th	12 noon	Swinford: Thomas Griffin & dec'd Family, Curryane Ann O'Brian & dec'd Family, Cullane James & Mary McDonnell, Kilbride & dec'd Family

Sunday 10th	9.00am	Meelick: Margaret & Pat Ward, Bothaul Dec'd of McGreal & Forde Families
Sunday 17th	9.00am	Meelick: Julia & Tom Faughnan, their daughters Sally, Pauline & Charlotte, Laughtadurkin Margaret & Michael Gilmore & dec'd Family

Sunday 10th	10.30am	Midfield: Mike & Bridget Lavin, their sons Mickie, Tom & Martin, Carnacull & dec'd Lavin & Hanley Families Pakie Reynolds, Brackloon
Sunday 17th	10.30am	Midfield: Tony Gavin, Carn Evelyn & Bernard McDonnell, Curryane

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 Úna Gormley, Brabazon Heights and Patsy Giblin (nee Thornton), Dublin and formerly of Dublin Road, Swinford. May they rest in the peace of Christ.

We welcome into the Christian community

Ethan Patrick Kinsella, Oldcastle who was baptised recently in Meelick Church.

Cemetery Rosaries: The Rosary will be recited in Kilconduff Cemetery on Sunday, November 10th after 12 noon Mass, in Meelick Cemetery on Sunday, November 10th at 3.30p.m., in the Workhouse Cemetery, Dublin Road on Sunday, November 17th after 12 noon Mass, in Midfield Cemetery on Sunday, November 17th at 3.30p.m. and in Kinaffe Cemetery on Sunday, November 24th at 3.30p.m.

Parish Pastoral Council: The November meeting of the Parish Pastoral council took place in the Meeting Room in the Parochial House on Monday, November 4th at 8p.m. Among the items discussed were preparations for the November Prayer Service for the Dead and for Advent and Christmas, welcoming people to our parish community, problems with live streaming from Swinford Church.

Christmas Cards: Christmas Cards featuring the Richard King stained Glass windows in Swinford Church will be on sale in Swinford Church after Masses next weekend. Pack of 5 for €5. Proceeds to Parish Building Fund.

Reminder to the person who borrowed the boiler from Meelick Community centre to please return it.

Michael Davitt CCE (Swinford Comhaltas) music, singing, dancing and comhrá gaeilge classes continue every Saturday in Swinford N.S from 12 to 4.30pm. New pupils always welcome. For more information: email cceswinford@gmail.com or text 087-7454032 or check Swinford Comhaltas Facebook page.

The Railway Players: Rehearsals have begun for our themed Variety Show. If you are interested in taking part please contact 087-6569782 or message the Railway Players Facebook page, or email railwayplayers2018@gmail.com for more info.

Meelick ICA Guild: Our monthly guild meeting takes place on Wednesday 13th November at 8pm in Meelick Community Centre. New members very welcome. For more information

contact Angela 087-9934820; Bernie 087-9357395 or Peggy 086-8347023.

Heartfulness, Relaxation and Meditation: Monday 18th November at 7pm in the Meeting Room at the Parochial House Swinford. Free and open to all over 16 years. Contact 086-0700681 if you require further information.

Swinford Go Getters are holding their monthly games on Thursday 14th November from 10.30am-12.30pm at the Cultural Centre. Admission €3 which includes all games and refreshments and games can be played from a sitting or standing position so suitable for people with physical disabilities.

St Vincent De Paul Christmas collection will take place on 16th & 17th Nov. Please support.

Tree Lighting Ceremony in Knock: A bus is being organised for a trip to knock on Sunday, December 1st, leaving the Gateway Hotel at 3pm. If you would like to book your place, phone Mary 087-8147463 (Places limited). Light refreshments and entertainment will be included. This outing is being sponsored by Swinford Social Services.

Midfield Champions Challenge night is on in Julians of Midfield on Friday night, November 15th at 9pm. Four teams will partake in various challenges to be crowned the Midfield Champions, receiving the Davey Quinlan Memorial Trophy. Admission is €10 with all proceeds going towards Midfield Village Enhancement. Contact Mags on 087-4134998 for more information.

Chiropody: Martin McNally will attend at the Gateway Hotel on Friday 15th Nov from 10am.

25 Card Game in aid of Culmore N.S will be held in the Gateway Hotel on Sunday 17th & 24th Nov at 8.30pm. Admission €7, Spot prizes on the night. Contact 087-205 3438 for more info.

DayCentre for Alzheimer's Clients in Foxford. Would you like a few hours away from the house to interact with other clients in a warm, fun environment. We do various activities throughout the day and a full lunch is served. Contact 087 -9981061 for more information.

Swinford Golf/Soccer 250 Draw: Draw no 16 €1000 was won by Stephen Judge, Killasser €300 was won by Declan O'Connor, Derryronane €200 was won by Marie Fallon, Carracanada All results are available on our websites.