

14 OCTOBER 2018

Sunday Message

28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE WORD

Year B • Season Colour: Green • Psalter Week 4



HOW MUCH IS JESUS WORTH?

(MARK 10:17-30)

SAY

I am truly rich in Jesus.

LEARN

It would be more accurate to understand the Fifth Commandment as "you shall not commit murder".

"You must not defraud": avoiding paying proper taxes which contribute to the common good would come under this commandment today.

"Jesus looked steadily at him and loved him": Jesus admired the man's genuineness and his personal uprightness in observing the Commandments.

Following Jesus today means applying his teachings to our personal circumstances in an appropriate manner.

DO

When you have to carry heavy bags, think of the camel and the eye of the needle. What are you prepared to give up, in order to inherit eternal life, the Kingdom of God?

In the Gospel, to be a disciple of Jesus means to travel with him. It means to follow Jesus, to go where he leads. In Mark's version, the evangelist presents this in symbolic terms as literally taking the road with Jesus, the path which will lead to Jerusalem and the cross.

In today's episode a man comes up and asks how he can inherit eternal life. After an initial and rather sharp rebuke, Jesus tells him that it is not simply a matter of keeping the commandments, but that it will cost him – and cost him dearly. He invites the person concerned to give up his wealth, and therefore his social position, and adopt the itinerant, wandering life of a disciple. This is clearly a step too far for this obviously sincere individual. He is taken aback at Jesus' words and goes away downcast. Jesus has told him that the cost of eternal life, of entering the Kingdom of God, is to become his disciple, which, in the words of one spiritual writer, will be "costing not less than everything". Possessions would be an encumbrance to the missionary activity and outlook of the disciples. Mark reveals at the end of the scene that the person concerned is in fact extremely wealthy; as someone who has always observed the Law, he would have used his wealth for the benefit of those less fortunate. Jesus invites him to join the circle of his disciples and we are once more given a picture of a person's reaction to this invitation. In this case, it is a regretful refusal: the cost is too great. ■

REFLECT

The subject of possessions and wealth is one which arises often in the Gospel narrative and causes all sorts of problems for Christians who want to be true disciples of Jesus. For most people the teaching about selling everything, then leaving home and family to follow Jesus is simply not appropriate. Perhaps we might look at the question from the point of view of our priorities. What is the

most important focus of our lives? It is not a question of Jesus first to the exclusion of all else; if we have a family or other responsibilities, then that is how we live our being a disciple of Jesus. But from time to time, for instance in the penitential seasons of Advent and Lent, the liturgy asks us to look at our lives and see if our focus is still on the essentials or whether other, even important matters have crept in and are distracting us from the true

values of our faith and how we live those in our daily lives. The biblical prophets and the early teachers of the faith regard accumulating wealth for its own sake, while other people lack the basic necessities of life, as an offence against God. For them it is a question of justice: a question which many rich individuals and nations should ask themselves today – if they have the courage. ■

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

PARISH OFFICE- OPENING HOURS: Mon, Thurs, Fri: 9.00am-2.00pm; Tues: 9.00am-1p.m;
Phone: 094 - 9253607
Email: swinews@hotmail.com **14th-21st Oct 2018**

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday 13th	6.30pm	Swinford: Michael Byrne & parents Mary & Patrick & brothers Frank & Tom
Sunday 14th	12 noon	Swinford: Joyce Sweeney, Barnacogue Gerry Maye & dec'd Family
Monday 15th	10.00am	Swinford: No Intention
Tuesday 16th	10.00am	Swinford: No Intention
Wednesday 17th	10.00am	Swinford: No Intention
Thursday 18th	10.00am	Swinford: Thomas & Margaret Kavanagh & daughter Marie & John & Mary Rowley
Friday 19th	10.00am	Swinford: Joe Prendergast, Circular Road & dec'd Doherty & Prendergast Families
Saturday 20th	10.00am	Swinford: Mary Finnerty (nee Tunney), Breaffy/Culmore (MM)
Saturday 20th	11.00am	Swinford: Rosaleen Groarke, Culmore (MM)

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday 20th	6.30pm	Swinford: Michael & Mary Snee, Cullane & dec'd Snee & Gallagher Families Thomas & Winifred Maloney, Curryane & daughter Delma Houlahan & dec'd Maloney & Snee Families
Sunday 21st	12 noon	Swinford: Jimmy Johnston, Ballydrum (MM) John Henry, Ashgrove

Sunday 14th	9.00am	Meelick: No Mass (Mass at 11.00am)
Sunday 14th	11.00am	Meelick: Cathy Walsh, Laughtadurkin
Sunday 21st	9.00am	Meelick: Paddy & Bridie McGeever, Culleens & dec'd McGeever Family, Bothaul & dec'd loftus Family, Meelick

Sunday 14th	10.30am	Midfield: Paddy & Mary O'Brien & son-in-law Joe McNamara & dec'd Family, Brackloon & Michael & Mary Murtagh & sons Thomas, Jim & Martin & dec'd Family, Cashelroyan & Luke Finnerty & dec'd Family, Brackloon May & Michael Brennan & daughter Annie Brennan (nee Conway), Kinaffe
Sunday 21st	10.30am	Midfield: Mary Kelly (nee Henry) & her parents Martin & Ann, her brothers Martin, John, Anthony & Paddy & her sister Ann & dec'd Family, Cashelsheenaughane Tom, Bridget & Kate Lavin

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

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

Midfield Church: Mondays 11am-12noon

Meelick Church: Mondays 7pm-9pm

Parish Pastoral Council: The October meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council took place in the Meeting Room in the Parochial House on Tuesday, October 9th at 6.30p.m. Among the items discussed were the election of new members to the Pastoral Council and arrangements for the November Prayer Service for the Dead.

November Prayer Service for the Dead: On Friday, November 9th at 7.30p.m. there will be a Prayer Service in Swinford Church to remember members of our parish community who have died since November 2017. A candle will be prepared for each person whose funeral took place in the parish in the past year and a family member will be invited to carry this candle to the altar during the Prayer Service. Parishioners who would like to remember a family member whose funeral took place elsewhere since November 2017 should give the name of the person they would like remembered and the month they died to Fr Dermot or Anne-Marie in the Parish Office before November 1st.

Confirmation: The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated in Swinford Church on Sunday, 12th May 2019 at 1.30p.m.

Midfield development Association are having their social evening on Friday night, October 19th in Julians of Midfield. It commences at 9pm with music by Swinford Comhaltas and friends. There is music by John Molloy, also the much anticipated Midfield Champions Challenge. Refreshments will be served, monster raffle and a free door prize, all for just €10. Tickets from Mellett's Newsagents, Julians and are available on the door on the night. Proceeds to Midfield N.S. and village enhancement, please support.

Nollaig na mBan Included in the calendar of Swinford 250 and more is the celebration of Nollaig na mBan (Women's Christmas) on Saturday, 5th January 2019 in the Gateway Hotel, Swinford. A lady's night of fun which will include a sit-down meal, music, dancing and spot prizes. Tickets are priced at €30 per person. To order tickets contact 087-6412785.

Swinford 250 and More: The organising committee extends an invitation to all members of the community individuals, clubs, societies, groups and businesses to attend an

Information Evening in the Gateway Hotel on Tuesday 23rd October at 8pm.

Manual people moving & handling techniques training on Saturday 20th October in Ballina at 10am. To book a place on this mandatory training please call John at 086-8532741.

Golf card game resumes on Thursday 18th at 9pm. All welcome.

Free WEEE Electrical Collection at Tesco car park Swinford on Saturday 20th October from 10am to 4pm, everything with a plug or battery will be accepted.

Swinford & District Gardening Club: Calling on all those interested in Wildlife matters to our next meeting in the Gateway Hotel at 8.30pm on Tuesday 23rd October. Siobhan Ward will give a talk on Invasive plant species such as Japanese Knotweed, which has caused concern in our area, and also protected species of animals in Ireland. All are welcome to attend.

Stoma Support Group meeting will take place at Rock Rose House, Castlebar on Thursday 18th October at 7pm. Contact 094-9038407.

Swinford Killasser Ladies: are currently doing a "Cash for Clobber" fundraiser. Pairs of shoes, Clothes, towels, sheets, curtains all will be taken. Pillows and quilts are not accepted. Please leave at the Amenity Park between 9.00am and 4.00pm up to the 20th October.

Swinford Community Lotto results 8th October Numbers 10 15 29 30; €70 Local Shopping Voucher Winners; Philip & Geraldine Irwin, C/O The Sheepwalk; J. Sweeney, Church Lane, Swinford; 3 Number winners; None; Jackpot €6,200; Next draw on Monday the 15th October

Chiropodist: Martin McNally will attend at the Gateway Hotel on Fri 19th Oct from 10.00am.

Feile na Samhna: Saturday 27th October 11am to 1pm: Singing workshops - for children and adults.

2.30pm: Fáilteú and the official opening in the Gateway Hotel will be followed by a very entertaining afternoon, Celebrating 60 years of Comhaltas in Swinford.

9pm : Oíche Amhránaíochta. Mary McPartland will remember and sing songs of Margaret Barry followed by a night of singing, storytelling, recitation and caint in the Meeting Room at Melletts of Market Street. Music sessions in pubs.