

18 OCTOBER 2020

Sunday Message

MISSION SUNDAY

THE WORD

Year A • Season Colour: Green • Psalter Week 1



MISSION SUNDAY

JN 17:11.17-23

Today we are called to pray for the Church's worldwide mission. As today's gospel shows us, Jesus was the first to pray for the success of this mission.

He does so in the final moments of the Last Supper before he heads out into the dark, to make the short journey to the Garden of Gethsemane where he will be arrested, and his Passion will begin.

The distinguishing mark of Jesus' disciples, and the communities called churches they will establish in his name, is their unity with one another in his love, both as disciples and as communities in fellowship. A community of individuals will never hear the call to reach out to others in mission. A church that is internally divided, where the members are at war with one another, will not be fit for mission. Whatever witness it attempts to give will be so impoverished and weakened that it will fail to represent the generous self-forgetting love of Christ, who washed his disciples' feet and fed them with his Body and Blood. Jesus puts it very simply when he prays for his disciples to his Father: "Consecrate them in the truth". If the Church does not face the truth about itself, about the world and the people it is called to serve, its witness will be false and worthless. ■

LEARN

Every Christian is a missionary disciple of Jesus through baptism.

DO

As you leave the church each week, imagine a sign over the door on the way out, which says, 'Welcome to your Mission Field!'

SAY

I am a missionary disciple of Jesus.

REFLECT

This weekend, we are invited to reflect on the idea of mission.

We are familiar with the idea of foreign missions, where priests and religious sisters and brothers leave their native land and travel to far-off, perhaps exotic, places to spread the Gospel and to attend to the needs of the local population by providing schools and hospitals. Ireland has a long and noble history in this regard. In the past, parish missions were common: priests of one religious community or another would come to the parish, visit the homes, then often terrify the parishioners with their powerful sermons during the preaching week.

Today, there is a different understanding of mission. We are aware that we do not have to go abroad to find large numbers of people who are in need of Jesus and his teachings. Churches which once were full now have plenty of spare places during the celebration of the Eucharist. Much of this state of affairs may be due to the fact that so many individuals in the past were catechised before they were evangelised: they had never actually made a conscious decision to believe, and so gave up what was, to them, an empty religious observance.

Who are going to evangelise these people in our neighbourhood? There are no longer the large numbers of religious priests, such as the Redemptorists, who were once so well known for their parish mission apostolate. The Church now emphasises that all of us have a missionary aspect to our being a disciple of Jesus. For most of us, this will not demand a direct challenging of other people, but rather using the means of attraction, rather than promotion. If we live out what we believe in our daily life in an unobtrusive manner, especially if we radiate an inner joy, knowing that God loves us, then other people will wonder what our secret is and want to share in it. ■



SWINFORD (F12 YH57) MEELICK (F12 AY23) MIDFIELD (F12 AX29)

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: swinfordparish@gmail.com

18th – 25th Oct 2020

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday 18th	12 noon	Swinford: Winifred & Thomas Maloney, Curryane, their daughter Delma & dec'd Maloney & Snee Families Michael & Mary Snee, Cullane & dec'd Gallagher & Snee Families Bill Burke, Lucan Co Dublin (MM) Mai Murray, Market Street/Cloonlara (MM) John Henry, Ashgrove William & Agnes Gallagher, Tullyroe, their daughters Vera & Eileen, their sons Billy & John & Billy's wife Eileen Page Annie & Thomas McNulty Bartley & Nellie Walsh, Midfield & dec'd Heaney & Walsh Families Kate, Bridget & Tom Lavin
Monday 19th	10.00am	Swinford: Brendan McNulty & dec'd McNulty & Creane Families
Tuesday 20th	10.00am	Swinford: No Intention
Wednesday 21st	10.00am	Swinford: No Intention
Thursday 22nd	10.00am	Swinford: No Intention
Friday 23rd	10.00am	Swinford: Delia & Thomas Vizzard, their son Seamus & their grandson Tommy
Saturday 24th	10.00am	Swinford: Gerry Moran, Bollingbrook Drive (MM)

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday 25th	12 noon	Swinford: Kathleen McIntyre, Market Street Sadie & Billy Durkin, Jane & Michael Tuite & dec'd Families Paddy Gordon, Park Road Michael Joe Shiel, his son Joseph & dec'd Broderick & Shiel Families Brendan Carney, Ardhoome (MM) Kathleen & Paddy Cahill, Bríd & Sam Harris, Mary Durkin & dec'd Families, Ardhoome James & Delia Durkan, Cashelbarnagh & dec'd Durkan & Lavin Families Willie & Bridie Smyth & dec'd Family, Brackloon
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While there will be no public Masses this week, the intentions above will be remembered at Mass on the designated day except for Sundays. On Sunday, the intentions for the Vigil Mass, 9a.m. Mass in Meelick, 10.30a.m. Mass in Midfield and the 12 noon Mass in Swinford will be remembered together at 12 noon Mass in Swinford. Though families will not be present, please be assured that your loved ones will be remembered at Mass.

All of the Masses above will be broadcast via live streaming on our webcam at www.Churchservices.tv. Just click on the icon for Swinford Church.

Useful updates and resources available on our diocesan website: www.achonrydiocese.org

We welcome into the Christian community

Tom Michael Rowley, Cloonaghboy who was baptised recently in Swinford Church.

Prayer to St Joseph: This prayer to Saint Joseph—spouse of the Virgin Mary, foster father of Jesus, and patron saint of the universal Church—was composed by Pope Leo XIII in 1889. He asked that it be added to the end of the Rosary, especially during the month of October, which is dedicated to the Rosary.

Prayer:

To you, O blessed Joseph,
do we come in our tribulation,
and having implored the help of your most holy Spouse,

we confidently invoke your patronage also.

Through that charity which bound you
to the Immaculate Virgin Mother of God
and through the paternal love

with which you embraced the Child Jesus,
we humbly beg you graciously to regard the inheritance

which Jesus Christ has purchased by his Blood,
and with your power and strength to aid us in
our necessities.

O most watchful guardian of the Holy Family,
defend the chosen children of Jesus Christ;
O most loving father, ward off from us
every contagion of error and corrupting
influence;

O our most mighty protector, be kind to us
and from heaven assist us in our struggle
with the power of darkness.

As once you rescued the Child Jesus from
deadly peril,

so now protect God's Holy Church
from the snares of the enemy and from all
adversity;

shield, too, each one of us by your constant
protection,

so that, supported by your example and your
aid,

we may be able to live piously, to die in
holiness,

and to obtain eternal happiness in heaven.
Amen.

Covid-19 update: From midnight on October, 6th the Government placed the entire country on Level 3 of the Covid Response Plan. This has consequences for parish communities. In keeping with Government and NPHET advice,

the following is the guidance that has been issued for parishes in our diocese:

1 Public attendance at Mass is not permitted and all Masses must be online only.

2 Funeral Masses may proceed but with a maximum of 25 mourners in the church.

3 Wedding ceremonies may proceed but with a limit of 25 guests for the ceremony. Due to restriction on travel outside the county (apart from essential purposes), Government guidelines are that it will not be possible for a guest to attend a wedding in another county.

4 The Sacrament of Baptism may proceed with, in addition to the child and the priest, four people present preferably from the child's household only. All necessary travel restrictions and health and safety precautions should be strictly adhered to. It may be necessary for godparents to be represented by proxy.

These restrictions are currently due to be in place until midnight on October 27th.

Private prayer: Churches will remain open every day for private prayer. Swinford Church will be open after the 10 a.m. Mass on weekday mornings and after the 12 noon Mass on Sundays.

Arranging Anniversary Masses: To arrange anniversary Masses for deceased family members, please contact Anne-Marie in the Parish Office at 094-9253607 or at swinfordparish@gmail.com.

Please note: The parish office is open Mondays, Thursday and Fridays 9a.m. to 2p.m.

GAA 50/50: The club 50/50 draw was held in Eurospar and Eileen Geraghty of Meelick won €271. Envelopes are available in business premises in town and online through www.swinfordgaa.ie. The next draw will be in Moores on the 20th October.

Swinford Community Lotto: Results for 12th October Numbers 2, 8, 12, 27; €70 Voucher Winners; M. Maloney, Curryane; Joan Kenny, Brabazon Heights; 3 Numbers Winners; Geraldine Carter, c/o Eurospar; Moore's Staff, c/o Moore's shop; Michelle Grufferty, Oak Drive; Jackpot €13,000.

HomeInstead Senior Care Mayo are currently recruiting Full and Part-time Caregivers for the Mayo region. Please contact Caroline at our offices on (094)-9044785 for more information.