

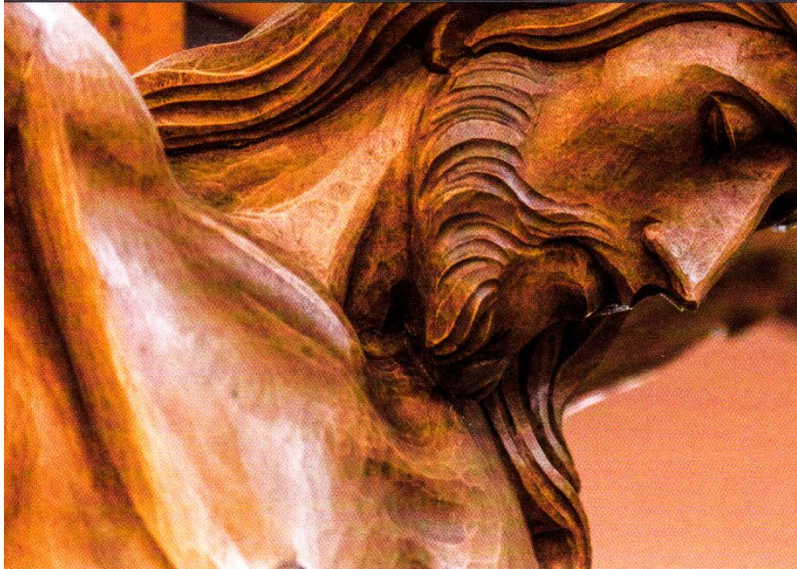
21 OCTOBER 2018

Sunday Message

MISSION SUNDAY

THE WORD

Year B • Season Colour: Green • Psalter Week 1



THRONE OR STOOL?

(MARK 10:35-45)

SAY

The Son of Man came to give his life as a ransom for me.

DO

Are you in a position of authority over anyone (including your children)? How do you relate to those under you? Do you think of yourself as being in the position of a servant (this does not mean being a doormat) and that your responsibility is the well-being of those in your charge? Then look at the crucifix.

LEARN

Jesus' death on the cross has been understood from the very beginning as a sacrificial death on behalf of others.

The term 'for many' can reflect a Hebrew expression meaning that 'many' people make up 'all' people.

In English, 'many' means 'not all' (it is an exclusive term); in Hebrew, 'many' can have the meaning 'all' (it can be an inclusive term).

Christ's sacrifice can therefore be understood as redemption for all people. This does not necessarily mean that all are saved.

Once again, Mark presents the disciples as rather obtuse individuals who still do not understand what Jesus is all about, despite his speaking to them about the passion and cross.

They imagine, even now, that they can bask in reflected glory by being associated with him. For the third time, Jesus predicts his suffering and then he asks them whether they can share in the passion which is his destiny. When they reply that they can, he tells them that even that will not guarantee for them the places of honour which they desire. That is not in his gift; the Father has already decided who will occupy those places. Who they will be, we are not told.

This discussion leads into Jesus instructing the Twelve about the nature of true leadership. In the political and social circumstances of the time, in which the local population was under the thumb of foreign occupiers with the might of the Roman Empire behind them, the experience of officials abusing their power would be probably all too familiar. In Jesus' mind, true authority is revealed in service. State power is not to be the model for authority amongst the disciples. True greatness lies in being at the disposal of others, and for this the best example is Jesus himself. The idea of Jesus being the Son of Man who gives his life "as a ransom for many" is the key to understanding not only this passage but the entire Gospel of Mark. ■

REFLECT

Today we are asked to reflect on and pray for the missionary work of the church. We have heard a lot about Jesus' disciples in the Gospel readings of the past few Sundays, and have seen that to be a disciple of Jesus means first of all to have a personal relationship with him. Then Jesus sends his disciples out to share in his ministry of preaching and healing. It is this context of mission being part of what it means to be a disciple that we might think about on Mission Sunday.

Ireland has a proud tradition of missionary outreach back to the time of Columba.

The impulse to take the Good News to those who have yet to hear it has been part of Celtic spirituality from the earliest times. The religious orders of women and men and those who have gone abroad to minister as diocesan priests have contributed to the building up of the church throughout the world.

Today we have a different situation. The number of women and men offering themselves for that kind of life and apostolate has declined sharply and people now speak of the countries of Northern Europe, including Ireland, as

the mission territory of today. However, a reverse flow of clergy and religious from abroad is not necessarily the answer. Perhaps we should see the decline in the traditional idea of vocation as a sign from the Spirit: the Holy Spirit may be asking us, the disciples of Jesus today, to find new forms of community life and worship rather than just to prop up the old familiar structures. This will need wisdom and courage; but the alternative is the death of the church. We might pray today for a new understanding of mission and the part we all have to play in making it a reality. ■

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 **21st - 28th Oct 2018**

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
Monday 22nd	10.00am	Swinford: No Mass
Tuesday 23rd	10.00am	Swinford: No Mass
Wednesday 24th	10.00am	Swinford: No Mass
Thursday 25th	10.00am	Swinford: Pat & Kathleen Grifferty & son Tom
Friday 26th	10.00am	Swinford: Winnie McGloin & dec'd Kneafsey & McGloin Families
Saturday 27th	10.00am	Swinford: Brendan (Barney) Groarke, Bridge Street (MM) Margaret O'Brien, Lismullaney (1 st anniv)

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday 27th	6.30pm	Swinford: Michael Joe Shiel, his son Joseph & dec'd Broderick & Shiel Families Kathleen McIntyre, Market Street
Sunday 28th	12 noon	Swinford: Jim Loftus, Carrowreagh & dec'd Loftus, Brennan, Casey & Olson Families Gordon & Coxie Loane & dec'd Family

Sunday 21st	9.00am	Meelick: Paddy & Bridie McGeever, Culleens & dec'd McGeever Family, Bothaul & Loftus Family, Meelick
Sunday 28th	9.00am	Meelick: Kathleen & Paddy Cahill & dec'd Durkin Family, Ardhoome Eileen & Jim Convey, Bridge Street & daughter Breda & her husband Martin & their grandson Brian

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
Sunday 28th	10.30am	Midfield: Brian & Kate Lavin & daughters Bea & Mary Rabawn Dec'd of the McGreal & Forde 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

Please pray for Michael Conway, Kinaffe. May he rest in the peace of Christ.

We welcome into the Christian community

Keira Faye Muldowney, Rabawn who was baptised recently in Midfield Church.

Eucharistic Adoration: A reminder that if you signed a card for an hour of Eucharistic Adoration each week, please sign the register when you are in the church. If you have a difficulty being present for your hour on a particular day or need to change your hour, please phone 086-2151338. Thank you. Your willingness to choose an assigned hour of adoration each week is a precious expression of your faith that Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is welcomed, loved and adored by you.

Mission Sunday: This weekend, 20th and 21st October, collections will take place for 'World Mission Sunday' at all Masses throughout the Universal Church. Mission Sunday is one of only three yearly Papal Collections. It has been especially chosen by the Holy Father as a way for all Catholics to give what they can to help support struggling dioceses in the developing world. Mission Sunday supports the promotion of the work of missionaries in poor and remote communities. The funds raised through Mission Sunday help build vital infrastructure, including churches, medical clinics, nurseries and schools.

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.

Swinford & District Gardening club: Calling on all those interested in Wildlife matters to our next meeting in the Gateway Hotel at 8.30 pm on Tuesday 23rd October.

Killasser Church Jubilee: On Saturday 3rd November the people of Killasser will celebrate the 150th Jubilee of the dedication of the

Church of All Saints. A special Mass of thanksgiving will be concelebrated at 3pm. Following the Mass, refreshments will be provided in the Community Centre and there will be a display of photographs covering many aspects and many generations of parish life.

This will be followed by the launch of a commemorative book, All Saints Church, Killasser 1868-2018, A Parish and its People.

Down Memory Lane: On the evening of Saturday 3rd November, a pageant will be staged in Killasser Community Centre at 8pm which will tell of the main events in the life of the parish over the past 150 years.

Féile na Samhna 2018 will take place in Swinford next weekend October 26th -29th.

Friday 26th: 8pm. Mr John Maloney an archaeologist will give a talk in Mellett's meeting room. Sat 27th: 11am-1pm: Singing Workshops for children and adults with Marianne Knight and Sile Bn Ui Mhongáin. 2.30pm: Fáiltiú and the official opening in the Gateway Hotel. 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. Sun 28th: The Midfield Pipe Band after Mass. 5pm: Everyone is cordially invited to "The Rambling House" in The Gateway Hotel. Mon 29th: 11am: historical walk with M Comer.

GAA 50/50: This week's draw was held in Horkans and Tom Fadden of Derryronane, Swinford won €480.

Swinford GAA Racenight: The club will be hosting a racenight in the Gateway Hotel on Friday 26th October. All Support appreciated.

Swinford Community Lotto results for 15th October Numbers 03 22 25 29; €70 Local Shopping Voucher Winners; Andy & Mairaid, C/O Andy's; C. Mulvey, Swinford; 3 Number winners; Phil McDermott, Church View; Jackpot €6,400; Next draw Monday 22nd Oct.

Swinford Golf/Soccer 250 Draw: Draw no 23: €1000 was won by Ray Gilmore, Meelick €300 was won by Patrick Monaghan, Dublin €200 was won by Martin Kielty, Attymas.

Swinford Men's Shed: Thank you to all who contributed to our Church Gate collection. The Shed is open Wed & Thurs evenings from 8pm-9.30pm. New members are always welcome.