



Bandon Parish Bulletin

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Sunday 25th June 2017 No. 2429

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Palestine at the time of Jesus was hostile to his message and his way of life. He focused on establishing the Kingdom of God through love when the Zealots wanted to establish the Kingdom of Israel through force.

He befriended women and tax collectors when he was expected to befriend Pharisees and Sadducees. He operated on the basis of sin and forgiveness rather than crime and punishment. As a result, he was most popular with those who were excluded by the current system rather than with those whom it suited. There is no reason to think it would be any different today.

Catholicism puts forward many rules and guidelines, developed and based on sacred scripture and adapted for the modern world. As individuals, we may find that not every guideline sits well with us. Questioning may leave us marginalised by other Catholics, accepting may leave us marginalised by wider society. But God will not judge us by what we accept or reject. He will judge us by our intentions and efforts. A fully informed conscience is of primary importance. It is, truly, the best we can do.

When confronted with moral dilemmas, we may find that the onslaught of information muddies the waters or provides a valuable new perspective. Either way, we must navigate the moral minefield as best we can. In our efforts to protect the life of the unborn child, we may be accused of dismissing the rights of the woman. In our desire to provide faith-based education, we may be told that we are neglecting those who do not wish their children to be taught in this way. Living the values of Christ is difficult.

When faced with these quandaries, we need to remember two things. Firstly, there is an objective truth. Secondly, we are all on a personal journey towards it. Rather than claim the high ground and attempt to drag others along with us, let us follow the example of Jesus; let us speak kindly, behave gently, refuse to tolerate evil but be ever-loving towards those who have lost their way in it. For we are each loved beyond measure, created out of love. The hairs on every one of our heads are counted.

Rachel Fagan

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah.

He has delivered the soul of the needy from the hands of evil men.

Jeremiah said: I hear so many disparaging me, “‘Terror from every side!’ Denounce him! Let us denounce him!’ All those who used to be my friends watched for my downfall, ‘Perhaps he will be seduced into error. Then we will master him and take our revenge!’ But the Lord is at my side, a mighty hero; my opponents will stumble, mastered, confounded by their failure; everlasting, unforgettable disgrace will be theirs. But you, Lord of Hosts, you who probe with justice, who scrutinise the loins and heart, let me see the vengeance you will take on them, for I have committed my cause to you. Sing to the Lord, praise the Lord, for he has delivered the soul of the needy from the hands of evil men.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 68:8-10.14.17.33-35

R. In your great love, answer me, O God.

1. It is for you that I suffer taunts,
that shame covers my face,
that I have become a stranger to my brothers,
an alien to my own mother's sons.
I burn with zeal for your house
and taunts against you fall on me. R.
2. This is my prayer to you,
my prayer for your favour.
In your great love, answer me, O God,
with your help that never fails:
Lord, answer, for your love is kind;
in your compassion, turn towards me. R.
3. The poor when they see it will be glad
and God-seeking hearts will revive;
for the Lord listens to the needy;
and does not spurn his servants in their chains.
Let the heavens and the earth give him praise,
the sea and all its living creatures. R.

SECOND READING

Rm 5:12-15

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Romans.

The gift considerably outweighed the fall.

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of 'law-breaking', yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law. Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 1:14.12

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Word was made flesh and lived among us;

to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 10:26-33

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Do not be afraid of those who kill the body.

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Do not be afraid. For everything that is now covered will be uncovered, and everything now hidden will be made clear. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the daylight; what you hear in whispers, proclaim from the house-tops.

Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; fear him rather who can destroy both body and soul in hell. Can you not buy two sparrows for a penny? And yet not one falls to the ground without your Father knowing. Why, every hair on your head has been counted. So there is no need to be afraid; you are worth more than hundreds of sparrows.

'So if anyone declares himself for me in the presence of men, I will declare myself for him in the presence my Father in heaven. But the one who disowns me in the presence of men, I will disown in the presence of my Father in heaven.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Well Done

Sincere thanks to all of you who braved the heat to participate in last Sunday's Eucharistic Procession, and to those who turned up for the Exposition and Holy Hour. Our appreciation is due also to all who worked so hard in the recent weeks preparing for the procession. May God reward you all.

GRAVEYARD MASS

The Annual Mass for all those who are buried in St Patrick's Cemetery will be celebrated in the Parish Church on this Tuesday 27th June at 7.30pm.

This Mass will be followed by prayers and blessing of graves in the graveyard.

A container of Holy Water will be placed near the tap in the graveyard and we invite people to take some of this Holy Water to their loved ones graves for the blessing.

A collection will be taken up for the upkeep of the cemetery.

SECOND COLLECTION

The Annual Peter's Pence Collection will be taken up at all Masses in the Diocese this weekend.

A NOTE FOR YOUR DIARY!!

MASS SCHEDULE FOR WEEKEND MASSES DURING JULY & AUGUST

The priests of the parishes of Bandon, Enniskeane, Murragh and Kilbrittain would like to bring your attention that for the months of July and August, **a new weekend Mass schedule will operate.** It has been noted that over the years there is a considerable fall off in attendances at masses during the months of **July & August**, due to holidays etc.... The priests of the four parishes will rotate from parish to parish to provide weekend cover. During these two months there will be no Sunday funerals.

SUMMER SCHEDULE

BANDON	Vigil Saturday: 6.00pm Sunday: 10.30am & 12.00 noon	NEWCESTOWN	Sunday: 10.30am
GAGGIN	Sunday: 9.00am	FARNIVANE	Sunday: 9.15am
ENNISEANE	Vigil Saturday: 7.30pm Sunday: 11am	KILBRITTAIN	Vigil Saturday: 8.00pm Sunday: 10.30am

RECENT BAPTISMS *Daragh Thomas Trunwit*, Thornfields and *Luke P.J. McCarthy*, Kielnamaul.

ICE CREAM FUNDAY Bandon Parish Assembly will distribute ICE CREAM after 6pm Mass on Saturday July 1st and after 10.30am & 12noon Mass on Sunday July 2nd. All proceeds will go to Down Syndrome Ireland.

WANTED 'DRIVERS FOR MEALS' Delivery Service for Bandon Town, St Michael's Centre. Call us on 023 88 41681 for information or drop in to reception.

THE OPINION July issue is out on Thursday next, June 29th.