

FOLLOWER by Seamus Heaney

My father worked with a horse-plough,
His shoulders globed like a full sail strung
Between the shafts and the furrow.
The horse strained at his clicking tongue.

An expert. He would set the wing
And fit the bright steel-pointed sock.
The sod rolled over without breaking.
At the headrig, with a single pluck

Of reins, the sweating team turned round
And back into the land. His eye
Narrowed and angled at the ground,
Mapping the furrow exactly.

I stumbled in his hob-nailed wake,
Fell sometimes on the polished sod;
Sometimes he rode me on his back
Dipping and rising to his plod.

I wanted to grow up and plough,
To close one eye, stiffen my arm.
All I ever did was follow
In his broad shadow round the farm.

I was a nuisance, tripping, falling,
Yapping always. But today
It is my father who keeps stumbling
Behind me, and will not go away.



Weekday Masses

Monday, 7.30 pm;

Tuesday 10am;

**Ash Wednesday 10 am
& 7.30 pm;**

Thursday 7.30 pm

[Donal McCarron,
Ballyharry];

Friday, 7.30 pm [Bridie
Doherty, Carahunney].

Saturday, 11 am.

Confessions

Saturday 7.15 pm—7.45
pm.

Responsorial Psalm

It is good to give you
thanks, O Lord

Year C

St Mary's Church Bocan

3rd March 2019 - No. 14

8th Sunday in ordinary Time Year C

... a Bad Tree Cannot Bear Good Fruit...
- Jesus



Anniversary Masses this Weekend

Saturday Vigil 8 pm: Danny Reddy, Bredagh Glen [MM]

Sunday 8.30 am William Doherty, Terryrone.

Next Weekend

Saturday Vigil 8 pm Mick McConalogue, Cashel [1st Anniv]

Sunday 11 am Gerard Kearney, Ardfoyle & Moneydarragh

Fr. Brian Brady, P.P., V.F 9376264

Fr. Karl Haan C.C. 9379107

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Collections Weekly Offering : €1,160;
Development Collection €470 Your
generosity to our collection is much
appreciated.

First Reading

[Sirach 27:4-7](#)

In his conversation is the
test of the man.

Responsorial Psalm

Second Reading

[1 Corinthians 15: 54-58](#)

Thanks be to God who has
given us the victory
through our Lord Jesus
Christ.

Gospel Reading

[Luke 6:39-45](#)

Each tree is known by its
yield.



Counters for the Month of March:

Barbara O'Connor, Roger Mooney,
Bernadette Scott, Maria Finnegan

Coffee Morning in the Wee Hall

On Sunday morning from 11 am – 3 pm.
This is to fund Nathan McLaughlin who is
going to Ethiopia to do charity work.
There will also be baking and crafts for
sale. All donations gratefully accepted.



**MASS FOR THOSE WITH SPECIAL
NEEDS** The Annual Diocesan Mass for
those with special needs, and their families
and friends, will take place in Our Lady of
Lourdes Church, Steelstown, Derry on
Saturday 13th April 2019 at 2.00pm. Bishop
Mc Keown will celebrate the Mass. If you
have a child who wishes to receive the
Sacrament of Confirmation or First Holy
Communion at this Mass please contact the
Catechetical Centre on 71264087
or email ddcc@derrydiocese.org

**KNOCK SHRINE SOCIETY SEEKS
VOLUNTEERS** - Knock Shrine Society is
seeking new members to join *Our Lady's
Volunteers*, to assist pilgrims who visit the
Shrine. This opportunity is open to all men
and women over 18 who wish to share their
time and be of service to the Sick and Infirm,
and to assist in the Eucharistic and Liturgical
services.

For further information: Contact John Hynes,
Knock Shrine at 00353 87 689 1422 or
email knockshrinesociety@gmail.com

Scoil Mhuire Gleneely are having a
school concert in Bocan Hall on
Monday 11th March with performances
from the school choir, Crescedo
Community Choir, Tom Byrne &
Kevin Murphy. Tickets available at the
school office Tel 9367236 €8 adult and
€5 children with all proceeds in aid of
school development.



Whist 1st Nell Gallagher & Sheila; **Tickets** Evelyn Ruddy, Pat Porter, Fr McGonagle,
Patrick Rustard, Margaret McGilloway, Rose Thompson; **Other Winners** Eileen Gormley,
Mickey o'Donnell, Sheila Doherty, Dolores O'Donnell, Nuala Flynn, Vera Deeny, John
Doherty, Evelyn Ruddy, Carmel McLaughlin

Whist next Friday in The Wee Hall at 8.30 pm. Snowball €120 on 184 or better.

**LENTEN DAYS AND HOLY WEEK
RETREAT, DROMANTINE RETREAT
CENTRE, NEWRY: 'A Lenten Encounter:
Looking Up and Reaching Out'**, led by Fr Damian
Bresnahan SMA – **16 March**, 10am - 5pm. Cost
£25, lunch included. **'A Lenten Experience:
Called to Renewal'**, led by Fr John Gallagher
SMA, **30 March**, 10am - 5pm. £25, lunch
included.

Holy Week Retreat, Wed 17 April, 5pm – Sun
21, 11am. To book: Tel. 028 30821964 or
email admin@dromantineconference.com

Anam Cara Donegal, the organisation that
supports bereaved parents, is holding a Parent
Evening on Thursday 14th March at 7:20pm in
the Radisson Blu Hotel, Letterkenny, Co.
Donegal. This event is free and open to all
bereaved parents regardless of the age your
child died, the circumstances of their death, or
whether their death was recent or not.

There will be a **HOLY HOUR FOR
VOCATIONS**, led by Fr Patrick Doherty (PP
Maghera), at **8:00pm on Thursday 7th March**,
in **St Eugene's Cathedral**, Derry, to pray for an
increase in *Vocations to the Priesthood and
Religious life*. All are welcome.

The Net. The March edition of The Net is
now available. For coverage of your parish or
school faith activities just send an email
to editorthenet15@gmail.com or ring/text
07809292852

Thanks to all who contributed to recent
Church Gate Collections. The following
charities benefited **Bluestack Foundation
€211; Donegal Special Olympics €168**

Background on the Gospel Reading

The third and final section of Luke's
Sermon on the Plain begins: And he
told them a parable. There are actually
four parables, three of which we read
today. They are all about how to be a
good disciple.

The blind cannot lead the blind. And a
disciple cannot be a good disciple
unless he or she has learned from the
teacher. Everyone who is fully trained
is like the teacher who knows how to
cure the blind. Before you can be a
good disciple and teach others you
must take care of yourself. Do not try
to take a speck out of your brother's
eye until you have taken the board out
of your own. Finally, only when you
have purified yourself can you produce
the good works that the teacher
requires. Discipleship asks us to
produce good deeds. But to produce
them requires the integrity and purity
of heart found in the teacher. When
people see your good deeds they will
know that this is because you have a
good heart.

The final parable, which we do not read
today, is about building on the solid
foundation of rock and not on sand.
This is the only way to face the
difficulties a disciple will encounter
and survive

**Taize Prayer will be recited after Mass
on Thursday nights during Lent.
Everyone welcome.**