

ODE TO AUTUMN *BY John Keats*

Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness,
Close bosom-friend of the maturing sun;
Conspiring with him how to load and bless
With fruit the vines that round the thatch-eaves run;
To bend with apples the mossed cottage-trees,
And fill all fruit with ripeness to the core;
To swell the gourd, and plump the hazel shells
With a sweet kernel; to set budding more,
And still more, later flowers for the bees,
Until they think warm days will never cease,
For Summer has o'er-brimmed their clammy cell.

Who hath not seen thee oft amid thy store?
Sometimes whoever seeks abroad may find
Thee sitting careless on a granary floor,
Thy hair soft-lifted by the winnowing wind;
Or on a half-reaped furrow sound asleep,
Drowsed with the fume of poppies, while thy hook
Spares the next swath and all its twined flowers;
And sometimes like a gleaner thou dost keep
Steady thy laden head across a brook;
Or by a cider-press, with patient look,
Thou watchest the last oozings, hours by hours.

Where are the songs of Spring? Ay, where are they?
Think not of them, thou hast thy music too,---
While barred clouds bloom the soft-dying day,
And touch the stubble-plains with rosy hue;
Then in a wailful choir, the small gnats mourn
Among the river shallows, borne aloft
Or sinking as the light wind lives or dies;
And full-grown lambs loud bleat from hilly bourn;
Hedge-cricket sing; and now with treble soft
The redbreast whistles from a garden-croft,
And gathering swallows twitter in the skies.

Mass will be on our Parish Website at www.culdaffparish.com and churchmedia.tv

Monday 7.30pm
Tuesday. 10 am
Wednesday, 10 am;
Thursday & Friday,
10 am; No Mass Saturday morning.

Saturday Vigil 8 pm;
Sunday, 10am.

Anniversary Mass
next Week.

Sunday, 10 am: Marian McCauley.

Responsorial Psalm

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

St Mary's Church

Bocan

16th August 2020 No. 39

Then
JESUS
SAID TO HER
WOMAN
YOU HAVE GREAT
FAITH
YOUR REQUEST
IS GRANTED
AND HER DAUGHTER
WAS HEALED AT THAT MOMENT.

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year

A.

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

Fr. Karl Haan C.C. 9379107

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First Reading

Isaiah 56:1,6-7

The Lord reveals his salvation to all.

Second Reading

Romans 11:13-15,29-32

God's favor to Israel is irrevocable.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 15:21-28

Jesus heals the daughter of the Canaanite woman because of her great faith.

THE DEEP END • It's a Test

If it is a test, the Canaanite woman passes with flying colours! Her faith is impressive. When Jesus ignores her initial appeal, she tries again. And when he knocks her back, she replies with a witty retort: 'Ah yes, sir; but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master's table.'

I always find this exchange amusing. At first reading, it seems that the woman has got one up on Jesus. He attempted to fob her off, and her quick wit has caught him out. We can imagine him chuckling as he concedes 'Woman, you have great faith'.

But the exchange also makes me wonder: what was Jesus really up to? By the end of the conversation, he is clearly impressed with the woman's faith, her wit and her wisdom. But why the test? Why does he try to fob her off, and why the dog reference?

In the Gospels, Jesus often tests his followers. He certainly tests Peter and the other disciples. He challenges them to think, and to come up with the right answers. Perhaps he is testing not only the woman's faith but also his disciples'. In using the analogy of a 'house-dog', he may well be giving voice to the thoughts of his disciples. They would have little time for this Canaanite woman, a Gentile. They certainly would not have expected her to demonstrate such faith.

Perhaps it was an exchange that would come back to them at a later date as they expanded their mission to the Gentiles. Paul would later talk of God's mercy 'to all mankind' (see today's Second Reading). A far cry from 'house-dogs'! Triona Doherty

Thanksgiving Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine, 31st August 2020. £499.00 per person sharing. Price includes return bus transfer to Knock, 3 nights' in 4 star Park Hotel with Full Board. All entertainment and excursions. Wheelchair accessible rooms. Single supplement £90.00. Contact Patricia on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com. Knock is fully protected by ATOL T7613.

Register of Electors 2020-2021 In line with the annual process of updating the Register of Electors, a review of the current register is now underway. Please be advised that should you wish to be placed on Register of Electors or a member of your family will reach the age of 18 years before the 15th February, 2021

Please contact Mrs Samantha Mahon on 0870524991 or email smahon@donegalcoco.ie. Or Facebook - Register of Electors

SACRED HEART MESSENGER: The digital version of the September Messenger will be the last issue to be offered free of charge to non-subscribers. From October onwards, the digital edition will only be available to subscribers. A digital subscription costs just €15 per year and we hope you will decide to subscribe if you are not currently a subscriber. The September issue can be viewed on https://issuu.com/messengerpublications/docs/messenger_september

Community Employment. Vacancies have arisen on the Culdaff Community Employment Project for the following positions. Clerical Assistant based at Carrowmena Community Centre, Maintenance person based at Carrowmena Football club and General Workers based in Culdaff, Carrowmena and Gleneely areas. Anyone interested is asked to contact 9379832 or 0868452901. Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection terms and conditions apply.

Angela's Good as New Shop is now open in aid of Parish Funds. She is in Farren's premises on Pound St Carndonagh. She would greatly appreciate donations of old clothes of Bric a Brac, and if you can help her with this then contact her on 087 9028930 she can collect it if you are unable to leave home at present.

Weekly Offering €850;
Development Collection €330
Good as New Shop €570

We are deeply appreciative of the generosity of our parishioners at this difficult time. Envelopes can be left in McGuinness' Shop or brought to the Church at weekend Masses.

N.B. Would any of counters who are available come along after 10 am Mass. A new rota will be drawn up when we can get a bit more normality again.