

To Keep in our Prayers: Today, Saturday, 16th May, was to be Our First Holy Communion Day. We keep all the children and their parents in our prayers and hope, in the near future, to be able to celebrate this special day in their Faith Journey. We Pray for :

***From Scoim Mhuire
Gleneely***

Nathan Ruddy

Laylah Porter

Emma Noone

Sophie McLaughlin

Ryan McLaughlin

Michael McLaughlin

Niamh McDermott

Adam McDaid

Leona Harkin

Matthew Doherty

Charlie Doherty

(A blessing Lara Weir)

***From St. Boden's
N.S.***

Ronnie Bonner

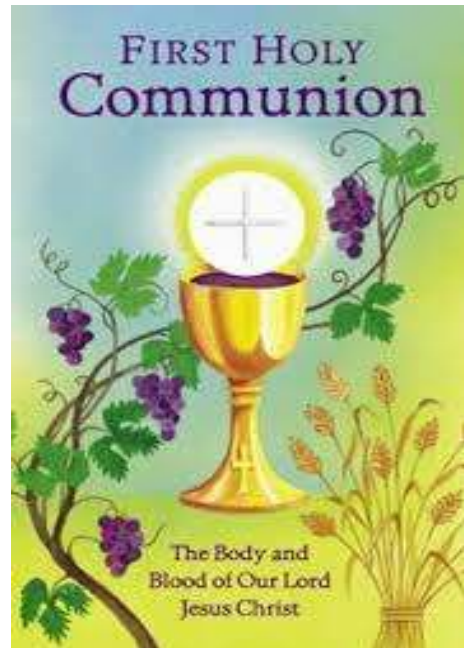
Fionn Wimsey

Cara Lafferty

Arianna Mc Guinness

Aimee McLaughlin

Kayleigh Mills



Address for Mass Streaming:
[https://
www.facebook.com/100004490054799/](https://www.facebook.com/100004490054799/)

Times of Masses which will be streamed from St. Mary's Church, Bocan

Monday 7.30pm

Tuesday. 7.30pm

Wednesday 10.00am

**No Mass on Thursday;
Friday, 7.30 pm;**

Saturday, 11 am.

Saturday Vigil 8 pm;

Sunday, 10am.

Saturday Vigil 8 pm:

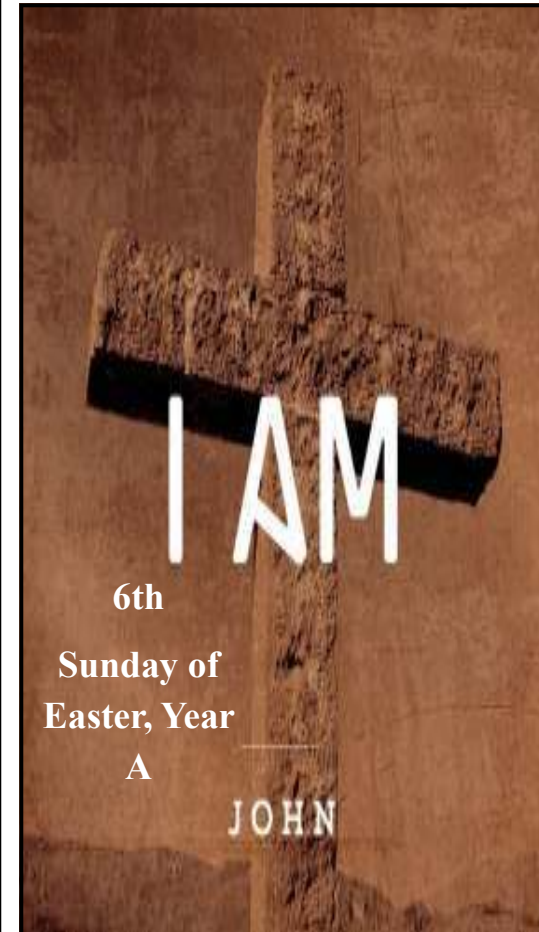
**Patsy Harkin, Buncrana,
MM [Brother of Seamus, Michael & Myra Harkin Gleneely]**

**Sunday 10 am Michael
McCallion, Calhame**

St Mary's Church

Bocan

17th May 2020 No. 25



Responsorial Psalm

Cry out with joy to God all the earth.

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

Fr. Karl Haan C.C. 9379107

www.culdaffparish.com

email: culdaffnotes@gmail.com

First Reading

Acts of the Apostles 8:5-8,14-17

The people of Samaria accept the Gospel of Jesus proclaimed to them by Philip.

Second Reading

1 Peter 3:15-18

Be ready to give explanation for your hope in Christ.

Gospel Reading

John 14:15-21

Jesus promises his disciples that he will send them another advocate, the Spirit of truth.

MARY, OUR MODEL

How do we also give birth, as Mary did?

We tend to manage life more than just live it. We are all over stimulated and drowning in options.

We are trained to be managers, to organise life, to make things happen. That is what built our culture.

It is not all bad, but if you transfer that to the spiritual life, it is pure heresy. It is wrong. It doesn't work.

It is not gospel. We might be economically rich but not spiritually fertile, as Isaiah teaches. If Mary was trustfully carrying Jesus during this time, it is because she knew how to receive spiritual gifts, in fact *the* spiritual gift. She is probably the perfect image of how fertility and fruitfulness break into this world.

We can't manage, manoeuvre or manipulate spiritual energy. It is a matter of letting go and receiving what is being given freely. It is the gradual emptying of our attachment to our small self so that there is room for a new conception and a new birth. There must be some displacement before there can be any new "replacement"! If Jesus is the symbol of the gift itself and how God gives the gift, then Mary is the symbol of how the gift is received and treasured. Whatever God gives is always experienced as totally unearned grace and never as a salary, a reward or a merit badge of any sort. In fact, if you do experience it in that way, it is not from God and will not expand your heart, mind or soul.

There is no mention of any moral worthiness, achievement or preparedness in Mary, only humble trust and surrender. She gives us all, therefore, a bottomless hope in our own little state. If we ourselves try to "manage" God, or manufacture our own worthiness by any performance principle whatsoever, we will never bring forth the Christ but only ourselves. Mary does not manage, fix, control or "perform" in any way. She just says "yes!" and brings forth the abundance that Isaiah promises ("river," "waves," sands of the seashore).

Receive not manage

How can you receive instead of manage life?

How does managing give you a sense of importance? How does receiving give you a sense of importance?



The Lord's Day
Sunday contemplation

John 14:15-21
Sixth Sunday of Easter, May 17, 2020

Weekly Offering Donations : €1,580.

Thank you so much for your generosity at this difficult time, and we ask for your continued support. Envelopes can be left in McGuinness' Shop.

Bocan Cemetery

We are due to have the Cemetery Map updated. If you have recently purchased a plot in the cemetery or already have a grave without a headstone on it, will you please place a marker on it to facilitate this update. [Those with headstones do not need to do this].

The Deep End – Do not let your hearts be troubled

Worrying is carrying tomorrow's load with today's strength – carrying two days at once. It is moving into tomorrow ahead of time. Worrying doesn't empty tomorrow of its sorrow, it empties today of its strength.'

Corrie ten Boom had plenty of cause for worry over the course of her lifetime. During World War II, she, along with her father and sister, provided a refuge in their home for a number of Jewish friends, playing a pivotal role in the Dutch 'underground' who sheltered Jews. Their home was eventually raided and the entire family arrested, her father dying in prison and her sister in a concentration camp. Corrie was sent to a series of camps but was released, and afterwards told her story in a book called *The Hiding Place*.

Corrie's heart must have been troubled, often, but her strong faith sustained her and became the lens through which she viewed her life story: 'Every experience God gives us, every person he puts in our lives is the perfect preparation for the future that only he can see.'

The majority of us will never have to deal with as desperate a situation as Corrie's. But we have our own anxieties, whether big or small. None of us knows how the future is going to turn out, and that is precisely why we tend to worry. In today's Gospel Thomas frets: 'Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?' But Jesus has reassuring words. 'I am the way.' Hand in hand with Jesus, we can walk the road ahead.

COVID-19 Support Line for Older People

ALONE has launched a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to the outbreak of COVID-19 (Coronavirus). Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. The support line is open seven days a week, 8am - 8pm, by calling 0818 222 024.