



## Solemnity of the Most Holy Redeemer 18th July 2021

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### MASS TIMES AT CLONARD

#### Public Mass & Masses via Webcam

**Sunday (Vigil Sat- 7.30pm)**, 7.00am, 9.30am, 11.00am, and 12.30pm.  
**Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri.**  
7.00am, 9.30am and 6.15pm.  
**Thursday (Novena)** 7.00am, 9.30am, 6.15pm and **8.00pm.(New time).**  
**Saturday** 7.00am, 9.30am & 12.00 Noon.



We thank you for last week's Collection which came to £1,825.  
Also for your kind donations, online and by post.

### Solemnity of the Most Holy Redeemer

In 1732 St Alphonsus founded the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer (The Redemptorists) - to preach the Plentiful Redemption won by Jesus' death and resurrection, especially to those who are "most abandoned".



This is a day of special celebration for all Redemptorists, especially here in Clonard where the Church bears the name "Most Holy Redeemer".

### GOD'S WORD IN JULY 2021

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time 18 July 2021

#### Today's Readings

Jr 23:1-6; Ps 22; Eph 2:13-18; Mk 6:30-34

#### Gut instinct

Today's Gospel describes the return of the Twelve whom Jesus sent out on mission. Mark calls them "apostles." The word comes from the Greek verb *apostellō*, which means "to send." They have been sent by Jesus and now are reporting back. But they seem not to have fully understood what has happened. Notice that they tell Jesus about "all that they had done and taught." They have conveniently forgotten that they had gone on mission equipped with Jesus' authority, not their own. They simply haven't understood what it means to be sent by Jesus on a mission. Acting on the basis of their own authority, they have not operated as followers.



This may seem harsh, but it is part of Mark's hypercritical assessment of their discipleship. Yet he reports them as enthusiastic about the huge response they have received from the people. Jesus' response to this popular enthusiasm is to invite them away to a deserted place. Jesus is always cautious about popular demonstrations of enthusiasm for his message, because they have the capacity to take his mission in the wrong direction. Time apart in a deserted place will help the disciples to understand more fully the mission they now share with him.

So Jesus and his disciples set out across the Sea of Galilee by boat. But the plan fails spectacularly. Seeing the boat, people recognise the passengers and race around the lake to meet Jesus and the disciples when they reach land. Mark says that the people came "from all the towns" around the lake. This is his way of letting us know just how popular Jesus was. Mark says that Jesus "had compassion on them." In Greek the text reads that "he was moved with compassion for them in his inward parts." In the Hebrew way of associating feelings to parts of the body, compassion was always associated with the womb. In the case of men, it was the intestine. It means that when Jesus sees the people, he has such compassion for them that he feels it in the pit of his stomach. It's a really strong statement of the degree of feeling Jesus has for the people.

His reason for such a strong feeling is that the people "were like sheep without a shepherd." This phrase is used in the Old Testament to describe the people of Israel whenever they suffered from failed or negligent leadership. But Jesus will not fail and he will not neglect God's people. He will be the true shepherd.

Courtesy of REALITY magazine

### Feast Days this week:

Thursday 22nd July: St Mary Magdalene, Apostle to the Apostles.

Friday 23rd July: St Bridget of Sweden, Patron of Europe.