



28th Sunday of the Year 10th October 2021

CLONARD MONASTERY
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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.
Saturday 7.00am, 9.30am & 12.00 Noon.



We thank you for last week's Collection which came to £1,167 for Clonard, £499 for the Bishop's collection. Also for your kind donations, online and by post.

In preparation for the feast of St Gerard Majella, Saturday, 16th October, there will be a special triduum.

Mass on:

Thursday 14th, 9.30am, & 6.15pm. & 8pm.
Friday 15th, 9.30am, & 6.15pm.
Saturday 16th, 9.30am, & 12.00 Noon.

Preachers: Fr Johnny Doherty & Fr Brendan Keane.



FACE COVERINGS

Mandatory wearing of face-coverings as you enter and leave the church; And when moving 'round the church – e.g. at Holy Communion time. There is a strong recommendation that you continue to wear the face-covering when seated.

GOD'S WORD IN October 2021

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time 10 October 2021

Today's Readings

WS 7:7-11; Ps89; Heb 4:12-13; Mk 10:17-30

Putting God first

A man approaches Jesus, and asks him what he needs to do "to inherit eternal life." It's the wrong question. The man believes he has to do something to enter God's Kingdom and that Jesus will tell him what this is. Jesus doesn't answer his question, but addresses it at a much deeper level. He tries to get the man to move away from thinking he has to do something to gain the Kingdom and to focus instead on God's generosity.

Jesus lists some of the commandments. Notice that they are all social commandments which deal with a person's relationship with the neighbour. They are commandments the rich might be tempted to ignore. While the man has kept them all since his youth, he now wants to do something more. Mark tells us that, "Jesus, looking at him, loved him." Jesus doesn't love him because he has kept the commandments. Rather Jesus loves him with a Godly love because he is about to call him into a more intimate relationship with God.

Jesus invites the man to go further. He calls on him to sell all he owns, give the money to the poor and follow him. Jesus invites him to let go of false security (his wealth) and trust himself to God's total generosity. It's an invitation to move beyond the Jewish law, with its emphasis on fulfilling commandments, to a life centred on relationship with Jesus. But the man is trapped by his wealth and he knows it. He cannot let it go, so he goes away "grieving." Ensnared by his wealth, he lacks the freedom to choose Jesus and the Kingdom.

Jesus lets him go because he doesn't coerce people into discipleship. Instead, he uses the event to point out that wealth creates huge difficulties to entering God's Kingdom. The disciples are "perplexed" when they hear these words. They were brought up to believe that wealth was a sign of God's favour. Now Jesus tells them it is an obstacle to God.

Then he astounds them with his highly amusing image. A camel will get through the eye of a needle more easily than a wealthy person can enter heaven! The disciples can only conclude that salvation is impossible. This allows Jesus to make his fundamental point. When the Kingdom of God is looked at from a human perspective, the whole thing seems impossible. But nothing is impossible for God, since God will give to those who wish to enter the Kingdom everything that they need.

Peter reminds Jesus that the disciples have left everything to follow him. Jesus lists what they have left behind and then what they will receive back a hundredfold. Look carefully at the two lists. The word "father" occurs in the first list. It doesn't occur in the second. As Jesus' disciples, they now have a single Father: God. Notice too that Jesus adds "persecutions" to the second list. This would have struck a chord with Mark's original readers who were suffering terrible persecution as followers of Jesus.

Courtesy of REALITY magazine



As part of Prisons Week 2021, a service will be held in Clonard Monastery on Tuesday, 12th October at 7.15pm. The service is organised by N.I. Prison Fellowship and will be facilitated by Rev Graham Stockdale, Presbyterian Minister. Fr Brendan Keane will also speak, and Ed Petersen will be a panel member. All are welcome.


**PRISONS
WEEK**