

# Parish Update

# Donegal, Killymard, Lough Eske and Laghey 28th Feb 2021 – Second Sunday in Lent

### Bible Reading for Today - Mark 8:31-38

He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.

But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. "Get behind me, Satan!" he said. "You do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns."

Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it. What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels."

#### **Online Services (on Facebook Live)**

Sunday 11am, Wednesday 8pm, Friday 1pm

#### Phone Service (074 97 10199)

Ring from any phone at any time for our recorded service.

#### **Collect for Today**

Almighty God, you show to those who are in error the light of your truth that they may return to the way of righteousness: Grant to all those who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion, that they may reject those things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

## **Rector's Thoughts**

To be honest, for many of us it's relatively easy to give up biscuits for Lent, or to take up walking. It's more tricky to quit really addictive habits like smoking or excessive social media use. Perhaps most difficult of all is to turn our backs on deeply-ingrained practices like gossip, lust or the love of money, or deep-seated attitudes like hatred, prejudice and envy.

Jesus promises a bright future for us if we deny ourselves, take up our cross and follow him. Sitting lightly to the things of this world lets us hold tightly to the things that really matter. What actions or attitudes is Jesus asking you and me to give up so that we can see him more clearly, love him more dearly and follow him more nearly?

#### **Announcements**

Level 5: Restrictions are to continue until at least 5 April, so no church services in person before then. Keep praying!!

**Easter video:** I'd like to get as many people as possible to record a short (<5 second) video clip of you saying, "The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!" and email or WhatsApp it to me (contact details below). It's for use in our Easter Day worship!!

**Lent:** There are some extra copies of the 'Hope in the Pandemic' book in the box outside the Mustard Seed, as well as Lent boxes if you would like to set aside any money towards Open Doors (helping persecuted Christians).

**Online Groups during the week:** <u>Hope Groups</u> Tues and Fri 2-3pm (anyone) and Thurs 8-9pm (men only). <u>Early Birds</u> Saturday 10-11am (anyone); contact Sandra or Brian 083 3515400. <u>Fellowship Group</u> (anyone) Wednesdays at 10.00am; contact Bev 074 9721075. The Wednesday group is beginning a new book this week, so it's a great time to join.

The Mustard Seed: We are continuing our Food and Toiletries Appeal, these can be dropped off on Fridays 10am-1pm.

**Practical and spiritual support:** A reminder that you are always welcome to contact David or Sandra for pastoral care, spiritual guidance or prayer support. Or if you just want to chat! Contact details below...

Contacts: Rector: Archdeacon David Huss 074 9721075 or 087 2882484

Parish Outreach Worker: Sandra Ross 083 3515400

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