



Eaglais na hÉireann + The Church of Ireland
MALLOW UNION
of Parishes

SUNDAY 19th MARCH 2023
The Fourth Sunday of Lent (Mothering Sunday)

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

FÁILTE / WELCOME
to everyone who worships in our churches
today

The Church of Ireland is glad to welcome **all baptized Christians** to receive communion at celebrations of the Eucharist.

Holy Communion will be administered in **both kinds** and worshippers will be offered the consecrated bread and wine. The invitation to receive the consecrated wine is only by drinking from the common cup - and *not* by intinction (dipping the consecrated bread into the chalice, which has been identified as the most unhygienic practice).

Please take a moment to check you have **switched off your phone** before worship begins.

SERVICES TODAY

10.00am MORNING PRAYER
in St Mary's, Castletownroche

10.00am THE EUCHARIST
in St Mary's, Doneraile

11.45am THE EUCHARIST
*in St James's, Mallow, with
activities for our young worshippers
from 11.30am*

WEDNESDAY
22nd MARCH

11.00am

THE EUCHARIST
in St James's, Mallow

Isaiah 49: 8-15
John 5: 17-30

TODAY'S READINGS

Exodus 3. 1-6

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, 'I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up.' When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, 'Moses, Moses!' And he said, 'Here I am.' Then he said, 'Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.' He said further, 'I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.' And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

John 9: 1-41

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?' Jesus answered, 'Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.' When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, 'Go, wash in the pool of Siloam' (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbours and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, 'Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?' Some were saying, 'It is he.' Others were saying, 'No, but it is someone like him.' He kept saying, 'I am the man.' But they kept asking him, 'Then how were your eyes opened?' He answered, 'The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, "Go to Siloam and wash." Then I went and washed and received my sight.' They said to him, 'Where is he?' He said, 'I do not know.' They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, 'He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.' Some of the Pharisees said, 'This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.' But others said, 'How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?' And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, 'What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.' He said, 'He is a prophet.' The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, 'Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?' His parents answered, 'We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.' His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus^c to be the Messiah^m would be put out of the

synagogue. Therefore his parents said, 'He is of age; ask him.' So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, 'Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.' He answered, 'I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.' They said to him, 'What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?' He answered them, 'I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?' Then they reviled him, saying, 'You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.' The man answered, 'Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.' They answered him, 'You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?' And they drove him out. Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?*' He answered, 'And who is he, sir?*' Tell me, so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said to him, 'You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.' He said, 'Lord,* I believe.' And he worshipped him. Jesus said, 'I came into this world for judgement so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.' Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, 'Surely we are not blind, are we?' Jesus said to them, 'If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, "We see", your sin remains.

NEWS ITEMS

ECUMENICAL WORSHIP An opportunity for Roman Catholics, Anglicans and Methodists to meet and worship together in the hall at the rear of the Convent of Mercy, Main Street, Charleville, on Sunday next, 26th March at 7.30pm

LENT STUDY There will be a final opportunity to explore St Matthew's Gospel in the Parish Hall in Mallow on Thursday 30th March at 2.30pm. See the Lent leaflet for details.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: Wednesday, March 29th, St Mary's Doneraile, 8pm

HOLY WEEK Details of all services from Palm Sunday to Easter Day are available in the flyer in all our churches today.

BISHOPS' APPEAL TO SUPPORT RELIEF IN TURKEY & SYRIA parishes are encouraged to contribute to this appeal in support of Christian Aid over the coming Sundays. Please visit our website for full details of how to contribute.

CHRISM EUCHARIST the Bishop will consecrate the holy oils to be used in ministry throughout the Diocese on Maundy Thursday, 6th April, at 12.00 noon in St Fachtna's Cathedral, Rosscarberry.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

For Paul, our Bishop; and for the clergy and people of this united Diocese. Joining with the worldwide Anglican Communion, we pray for the Anglican Church of Southern Africa.

We pray for all those who have asked for our prayers, including Olive Kingston, Cliff O'Hanlon, Doris Moffat, Nicholas Cummins, Maris Rats, Arthur Montgomery, Olive Shallow, Brian Hebblethwaite.

We commend to God the recently departed, especially Karl Hyden and Edward O'Grady; and those whose anniversary of death occurs at this time, especially Betty Livingstone, John Coulter. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

We continue to pray for the people of Ukraine and all who are without homes, food, healthcare – or hope – after the devastating earthquake in Southern Turkey & Northern Syria.

KEEPING IN TOUCH

The Reverend
MEURIG WILLIAMS
Rector of Mallow Union

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Diocesan Readers

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SERVICES NEXT SUNDAY

Sunday 26th March : The Fifth Sunday of Lent

Deuteronomy 30. 15-19; John 11. 1-45

10.00am THE EUCHARIST *in Castletownroche*

10.00am MORNING PRAYER *in Doneraile*

11.45am THE EUCHARIST *in Mallow, with activities for our younger worshippers in the Parish Hall from 11.30am*