### First reading

#### TODAY'S MASS READINGS

A reading from the book of Leviticus



The Lord said to Moses and Aaron, 'If a swelling or scab or shiny spot appears on a

man's skin, a case of leprosy of the skin is to be suspected. The man must be taken to Aaron, the priest, or to one of the priests who are his sons.

'The man is leprous: he is unclean. The priest must declare him unclean; he is suffering from leprosy of the head. A man infected with leprosy must wear his clothing torn and his hair disordered; he must shield his upper lip and cry, "Unclean, unclean." As long as the disease lasts he must be unclean; and therefore he must live apart: he must live outside the camp.'

The Word of the Lord

#### Responsorial Psalm

Response: You are my refuge, O Lord; you fill me with the joy of salvation..

#### **Second reading**

A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

Whatever you eat, whatever you drink, whatever you do at all, do it for the glory of God. Never do anything offensive to anyone – to Jews or Greeks or to the Church of God; just as I try to be helpful to everyone at all times, not anxious for my own ad-

vantage but for the advantage of everybody else, so that they may be saved. Take me for your model, as I take Christ.

The Word of the Lord

### **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia! May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our mind, so that we can see what hope his call holds for us. Alleluia!

#### Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

A leper came to Jesus and pleaded on his knees: 'If you want to' he said 'you can cure me.' Feeling sorry for him, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him. 'Of course I want to!' he said. 'Be cured!' And the leprosy left him at once and he was cured. Jesus immediately sent him away and sternly ordered him, 'Mind you say nothing to anyone, but go and show yourself to the priest, and make the offering for your healing prescribed by Moses as evidence of your recovery.' The man went away, but then started talking about it freely and telling the story everywhere, so that Jesus could no longer go openly into any town, but had to stay outside in places where nobody lived. Even so, people from all around would come to

The Gospel of the Lord



Reflection

Any story involving leprosy is a story of inclusiveness with Jesus. The people whom nobody wanted were deep in his heart. Jesus wanted to make his life better and in this case, the man was cured. It



was spoken about all over the area he worked in. The news spread of this new religious man, a prophet maybe, but one who went where nobody else would go.

#### Home in our hearts

Jesus sees into the heart and there he finds a home, because God his Father lives in each of us. His motivation is his deep relationship with all of us. He will cleanse any of the unacceptable sides of ourselves so that we see ourselves as image of God, forgiven and clean. Can we see others like that?

Who would be those he would reach today like this? Maybe the people who want to change their lives from condemnation by self and others. we can name them often, and our society can be cruel on prisoners and their families, abusers of any sort, prostitutes, victims of AIDS and many others. God only wants that we want to do good, to change our lives and then he looks for us like the lost sheep. He offers a way out of condemnation and that is often through the goodness and care of another.

This is also the tenderness of Jesus; the one whom the man with leprosy would trust would not do him wrong. Like the tenderness of the mother welcoming the child home.

Jesus, healer of souls, heal what keeps me from loving like you.

Donal Neary SJ



## In Memoriam

This Mass is broadcast on radio Medium 109

We pray for: Ann Kelly, Tierernane who died during the past week.

#### **Anniversaries for 14 Feb**

(11.30am):

Margaret Bambrick, Aughanure

Christy Miller

#### Anniversaries for 21 Feb

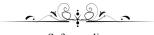
(11.30am):

Annie McDonnell, Rahin



"Love...It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails." 1 Corinthians 13, 4-7.

To find out more visit www.trocaire.org



DLP: Mick Daly, mobile number 085-8021633 and email: dlp@kandle.ie

Parish Safeguarding Rep: Christine Oglesby (087) 654 6149

We continue to wear a mask to protect ourselves and others.



An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.



Thank you for your continued support of our Covid 19 practices.





#### Parish Contact Details

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Fr. Tommy O'Shea PE (059) 862 5261

Parish Office: (059) 862 5456

□ arlesparish@gmail.com





# Wednesdau

This coming Wednesday is Ash Wednesday (17th Feb), the beginning of Lent.

The celebration of the Eucharist will take place at 10am from Ballylinan Church via our radio link



where we will bless ashes as part of that ceremony.

Blessed Ashes will be available in our three churches after mass. You are welcome to call to any of the churches throughout the day and take home some ashes which will be individually packaged in compliance with Covid regulations.

Loving Jesus, as I place on my forehead the sign of your saving cross. You say to me, repent and believe in the Gospel.

Walking into Lent my heart is set on you. May my fasting fill me with hunger for you, May my prayer draw me deeper into your presence. May my acts of charity bring your love to my home and parish.

Lord of life, grant that by turning back to you in these forty days I will re-awaken the joy of my Easter faith; for you raise me up from fear and despair and call me to hope and trust in God who is with me always. With you, I will rise again.

Amen.

# Parish Office & Shop

The Parish Office will remain closed for the duration of this phase of lockdown.

Emails will be monitored during this time. Please contact us at:

arlesparish@gmail.com

"Lay all your cares about the future trustingly in God's hands, and let yourself be guided by the Lord just like a little child."

~ St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross ~ (St. Edith Stein)

#### **Parish Donations**

For secure Online Donations to our Parish Collections Please use the Donate Button on our parish website arlesparish.ie



Envelope Boxes and Trócaire boxes will be distributed throughout the parish over the next fortnight or so.



The envelope collection is the primary way of supporting our parish.

Many thanks to those who continue to offer their support in these difficult times.

A sincere word of thanks also to all our distributors for giving up their time to help distribute the boxes.