

## TODAY'S MASS READINGS

### First reading

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah



The Lord says this:  
Shout with joy for Jacob!  
Hail the chief of nations!  
Proclaim!  
Praise! Shout: 'The

Lord has saved his people, the remnant of Israel!' See, I will bring them back from the land of the North and gather them from the far ends of earth; all of them: the blind and the lame, women with child, women in labour: a great company returning here. They had left in tears, I will comfort them as I lead them back; I will guide them to streams of water, by a smooth path where they will not stumble. For I am a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my first-born son.

*The Word of the Lord*

**Response:** What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.

### Second Reading:

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

Every high priest has been taken out of mankind and is appointed to act for men in their relations with God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins; and so he can sympathise with those who are ignorant or uncertain because he too lives in the limitations of weakness. That is why he has to make sin offerings for himself as well as for the people. No one takes this honour on himself, but each one is called by God, as Aaron was. Nor did Christ give him-

self the glory of becoming high priest, but he had it from the one who said to him: You are my son, today I have become your father, and in another text: You are a priest of the order of Melchizedek, and for ever.

*The Word of the Lord.*

### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the light of the world, says the Lord; anyone who follows me will have the light of life. Alleluia!

### Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

As Jesus left Jericho with his disciples and a large crowd, Bartimaeus (that is, the son of Timaeus), a blind beggar, was sitting at the side of the road. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout and to say, 'Son of David, Jesus, have pity on me.' And many of them scolded him and told him to keep quiet, but he only shouted all the louder, 'Son of David, have pity on me.' Jesus stopped and said, 'Call him here.' So they called the blind man. 'Courage,' they said 'get up; he is calling you.' So throwing off his cloak, he jumped up and went to Jesus. Then Jesus spoke, 'What do you want me to do for you?' 'Rabbuni,' the blind man said to him 'Master, let me see again.' Jesus said to him, 'Go; your faith has saved you.' And immediately his sight returned and he followed him along the road.

*The Gospel of the Lord*



# CONTACT

ARLES, BALLYLINAN & KILLEEN NEWSLETTER



Parish Website: arlesparish.ie

24th October 2021

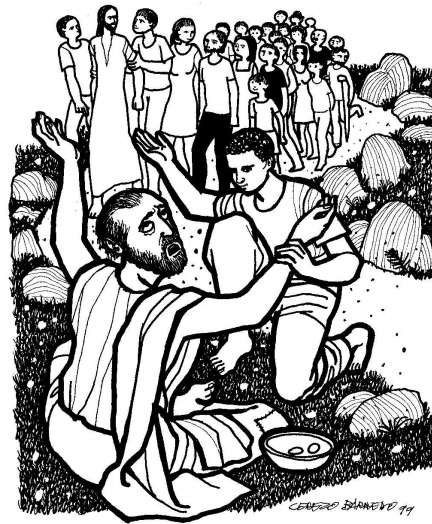
Mission Sunday

## Gospel Reflection

Who is blind in today's gospel? The obvious answer, of course, is the blind man! Bartimaeus is blind and desperate. He has not been blind all his life, so he knows about the wonderful gift of sight he is now missing. His faith is strong, and his courage is stronger still; no matter how much he is scolded and silenced, he calls to Jesus all the louder. Though he is physically blind, he sees plenty.

Who sees Bartimaeus? Certainly not the followers of Jesus. They do not think of Bartimaeus as someone worthy of meeting Jesus. To the extent that they think about him at all, he is an irritation, a poor beggar to look down on, hardly a person. They are utterly blind to his needs.

I'm struck by the irony of the crowds summoning Bartimaeus with the word 'Courage'. He has already shown tremendous courage. Minutes previously Jesus' followers had been content to pass him by and silence his cries for help, but their master has given an order and they must obey. How they must have squirmed, calling him over.



The blind man sees Jesus, and Jesus sees the blind man. Everyone else is blind to both of them. Everyone else fades into the background of the story, just as Bartimaeus was pushed to the back of the crowds. Perhaps it is time for an eyesight test. Do we see Jesus for who he really is? Do we pay attention to those around us, or are we blind to their needs? Do we hear the cry of the poor, or are we complicit in silencing them?

Triona Doherty Athlone, Co. Roscommon



## In Memoriam



### Anniversaries for 23 Oct / 24 Oct

Killeen (9am): Anna Evans (nee Moran)

John Wall

Kathleen Durkin

Leah Walsh & Sheila Mulhall

Sarah & Brian Condron

Arles (10am):

Ballylinan (8pm): Geraldine Brennan

Margaret Kinsella

(11.30am):

### Anniversaries for 30 Oct / 31 Oct

Killeen (9am): Michael & Patricia Daly

Liam & Gloria Cassidy

Arles (10am): Thomas & Bridget McLoughlin

Ballylinan (8pm):

(11.30am): Frank McCarthy

## Parish Office & Shop

Tuesday & Friday 10am – 1pm

arlesparish@gmail.com

*If you wish to book a baptism, wedding, anniversary mass, please contact the Parish Office. Mass cards and religious items available in our parish shop.*



Fr. Pdraig Shelley PP (059) 914 7637

✉ arlesparish@gmail.com

### Parish Contact Details

Parish Office: (059) 862 5456

Parish Website: arlesparish.ie

### Weekly Collections

Sunday 17th October

Arles: Offertory €117.20

Envelope €226.00

Ballylinan: Offertory €214.11

Envelope €122.00

Killeen: Offertory €114.07

Envelope €146.00

*A sincere word of thanks to all those who contribute to the upkeep of our parish.*



### Safeguarding

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

Parish Safeguarding Rep: Christine Oglesby (087) 654 6149



### The Autumn Dues Collection

The collectors books for the Autumn Dues are available in the sacristy of each church after mass this weekend for the October station collection.

A sincere word of thanks to all our collectors who facilitate this collection, and to all who support it so generously.



## Covid 19 Update

Following advice from the Department of the Taoiseach, new guidelines shall come into effect concerning religious gatherings in churches.

The big change is that “religious services and weddings can proceed without capacity limits”. The communique goes on to say that: “congregations should be encouraged to spread out as much as possible when attending Places of Worship and those experiencing any Covid-19 symptoms should be discouraged from attending”.

And so, going forward we will no longer need the services of our stewards who have been at every religious service (Sunday mass, Holy Communion, Confirmations and Funerals) since the outbreak began. We all owe a great debt of gratitude to those who volunteered during these difficult times.

We will continue to provide hand sanitizer in the porches of our churches and **the wearing of a facemask will still be required.**

*These changes will come into effect from next Tuesday (for our weekday masses in Arles) and for all our weekend masses from next weekend (30th/31st Oct 2021).*

Fr. Pdraig

Facemasks are required to be worn for all our religious ceremonies in our three churches.

Thank you for your co-operation in this regard.



### An Spioraid Naoimh Praise & Worship

John Paul II Room, Portlaoise Parish Centre

Saturday 30th Oct. at 10:45am

Format

Holy Rosary

Praise and worship (Live Music)

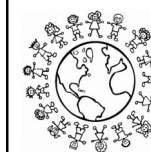
Talk: "Be Perfect as Your Heavenly Father is Perfect"

Conclusion: Final Hymns and Prayers

Spiritual Director Fr. Ruairi O'Domhnaill

Further Info contact: M Nerney 0868157305

### World Mission Sunday 24th October



It is World Mission Sunday, a day when our entire Church family comes together for a truly incredible celebration of solidarity.

Today, every single Church around the world shares what they can, so that the vital work of the Church and our missionaries can continue. Through your extra generosity, you are offering much needed financial help to missionaries who dedicate their lives to those who are suffering and neglected.

From all the missionaries your kindness supports, thank you for digging deeper to-day.

### Graigucullen Bingo

Graigucullen Bingo will hope recommence on Tuesday 26th October 2021 at 8.30pm in St. Fiacc's Hall, (pending Government guidelines at the time).

