

Parish of Stranorlar
Church of Mary Immaculate

PRIESTS: Rev. Kieran McAteer, P.P. Tel. 9131135
Rev. Anthony Briody, C.C. Tel. 9131157
St. Mary's Parish Centre Tel. 9175853
St. Vincent de Paul Tel. 087 9955351
Parish Website - www.stranorlarparish.ie
Email - stranorlarparish@gmail.com
Facebook - St Mary's RC Parish Stranorlar
Live Streaming - churchservices.tv/stranorlar

5th Sunday of Easter - 2nd May 2021

MASSES: Weekdays: Monday - Saturday 10am.
Saturday - 6pm (Vigil) Sunday - 11am.

All masses can be viewed on our live streaming -
churchservices.tv/stranorlar

CONFESSIONS: No Confessions until further notice.

ADORATION: No Adoration until further notice.

BAPTISMS: Every Sunday & 1st Saturday of Month with limited numbers. To book contact the Parish Office on 9131135 on Mondays, Tuesdays or Fridays between 10am –12.30pm.

1st Anniversary: The 6pm Mass on Saturday 8th May will be offered for the repose of the soul of Aidan Gallagher, Navenny St.

Parish Envelopes: A sincere word of thanks to all of you who continue to contribute financially to our parish.

Trocaire: If you have not already given in your donation we would ask you to give it in over the coming week.

WISE - Women's Integration Skills & Employment is co-funded by the Department of Justice & Equality and the European Social Fund as part of the Programme for Employability, Inclusion and Learning. FREE personal development for unemployed Donegal women. Due to previous success WISE are providing another 6-week course starting soon online. Three hours per week over two days covering: personality discovery, mind-set, health and nutrition and much more. Spaces are filling up quickly so book now to avoid disappointment. Call Grainne on 086 145 2250. For participant's feedback, check their Facebook page - WISE 500.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER 2nd May - I am the True Vine:

Jesus describes his relation to us like the closeness of a branch to a tree. We are brought to life in him, grow in him as people who can love each other, and become in him a people of eternal hope.

Sometimes we have a good conversation; after it, and during it, we feel uplifted, alive, sometimes we have a good laugh, or a good cry. Different groups we meet with can give us this lift of the spirit. Jesus today in the gospel speaks about branches that do not remain part of the vine. They wither and they are thrown away. He is referring to himself and our relationship with him. Our relationship with Jesus can bring us to life because he is that sort of person. He appeals to the best in us and the real Jesus brings out the best in us.

When we come into relationship with Jesus, we are coming into new life. If the Jesus we experience is one who disapproves of us, keeps us down in ourselves, contributes to poor self-esteem, then this is not the real Jesus.

If we want to grow into good relationship with him, we notice how we feel with him and share that with him. Also, our relationship with him should reach out to others. 'Whoever remains in me bears fruit in plenty'. Someone once asked, how do I know I am praying right? The answer is not to get new methods of prayer, though these can help, but ask; what is your life like? Are you growing in compassion, justice, faith, good humour, and all the things that go to make up holiness?

The invitation today is to stay close to Jesus, as branches are close to the vine.

We can do this by living the words of the Prophet: act justly, love tenderly, and walk humbly with your God. This is the following of Jesus.