Kincasslagh Parish Newsletter, 15th September 2019

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Schedule of Masses

St. Mary's Church, Kincasslaah

Next Weekend

Sunday @ 10.00 a.m.

Next Week

No Scheduled Mass

St. Columba's Church, Acres

Next Weekend

Saturday @ 6.30 p.m.

Sunday @ 11.30 a.m.

Next Week

Tuesday @ 10.00 a.m.

Friday @ 1.00 p.m. Wedding

Anniversaries and Masses

Pat Forker and his parents Mary and Doalty, Glenahilt, Sat 14th, StC Kathleen Boyle, Lower Keadue, Sunday 15th. StM

Thomas Conaghan, Crickamore, Sat 21st, StC

Joe Donaghy, Meenbannad and Armagh months mind, Sunday 22nd, StM Paul Boyle, Johnny Boyle & Mary

Connaghan nee Boyle, Sunday 22nd, StC

Fundraising Events

Caislean Oir, Annagry Quiz on Wednesday @ 9.30 pm. in aid of The Fundraising a Minibus for the Angle, Dungloe. €20, team of 4.

St. Mary's Hall, Kincasslagh Bingo on Friday night at 8.30 p.m. in aid of Keadue Rovers FC.

Lost And Found

God loves the just but does not ignore the sinner, for whom there is always a place in his kingdom. The church is not an exclusive club. The Pharisees resent God's mercy. The parable of the lost sheep does not deny the goodness of the virtuous majority but makes the point that there's a special place for the repentant sinner. The lost coin is important to the careful housewife, and her joy at its recovery is shared because it is deeply felt. The sum may be modest but it's sentimental value matters a lot to her. All are V.I.P.s in God's eyes, and especially what was lost and found.

But there is another side to this story: the Prodigal Son "came to his senses." He opened his eyes to see, his ears to hear; he reached out for help, and got in touch with reality. The father's welcome was extraordinary, but it could only happen because the son came back home. Are we willing to let the Father embrace us, and are we prepared to come to our senses too? His mercy is there for any of us who turn to him with all our hearts.

The parable of the prodigal son is a classic of narrative skill that is timelessly relevant. We need to know that a loving Father awaits our return home. We also need the reminder that the same loving God expects us to forgive one another and to keep in touch with one another. The joy of a son's homecoming was spoiled for the

father by the sulking of the elder brother.

How sad that the elder brother resented his brother for having been such a waster in the past? God wants us all to be merciful. Leaving people helpless is no part of his plan. Though living under the same roof, the elder son was isolated from his father. Focussed on his own rights and needs, he could not stomach his brother's safe return. Calling him "this son of yours" must have grieved his father. Faithful and dutiful disciples need to be open to welcome home the wild ones, even the apparent wasters, for that is how things are done "up above", according to Jesus.

