

CLONGUISH PARISH NEWSLETTER

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Faith in a Time of Crisis

There is a story of a sea captain who in his retirement skippered a boat taking day trippers on a boat to the Shetland islands. On one trip the boat was full of young people. They laughed at the old captain when they saw him saying a prayer before setting out, because the day was fine and calm.

However, they weren't long out at sea when a storm suddenly blew up, and the boat began to toss violently. They terrified passengers came to the captain and pleaded with him to join them in prayer. But he replied '**I say my prayers when it's calm. When it's stormy I tend to my ship.**'

There is lesson here for us. If we cannot or will not seek God in the quiet moments of our lives, we are not likely to find him when trouble strikes. We are more likely to panic. But if we have learned to seek him and trust him in the quieter moments, then most certainly we will find him when the going gets tough.

"Lord, my boat is small and the ocean is great"

Fr Flor McCarthy SBD

Faith Tested

*My faith is tested many times every day,
And more times than I'd like to confess,
I'm unable to keep the banner of faith aloft.
If a promise is not kept, or if a secret is betrayed,
Or if I experience long- lasting pain,
I begin to doubt God and God's love.
I fall into the chasm of disbelief and I cry out in despair.
But then the spirit lifts me up again,
And once more I am secured in faith.
I don't know how that happens,
Save when I cry out earnestly, I am answered immediately
And am returned to faithfulness.
I am once again filled with spirit
And firmly planted on solid ground.*

Maya Angelu

(Wouldn't Take nothing for My Journey Now)

The Latest.....

From Monday June 29th a priest can celebrate Mass with a congregation, but must follow the rules laid down.

Every second seat must be left vacant. People must stay 6 feet apart but family groups can sit together. That reduces the capacity of our church to 60, approx.

Worshippers must enter the main door only and exit by the side doors. There will be sanitizing gels at the doors.

All who are elderly, vulnerable or feel unwell should pray at home. There is no obligation to attend Mass at this time.

The first week-end open to the public will be celebrated on the week-end of July 4/5 at the usual times.