

# *The Last Days in the Life of a Hermit*



*To Look Back,  
To Look Forward,  
And Where We are Now.  
The Beginning and End of the World too.  
Is Part of Everybody's story.*

*Myles Joseph Gallagher  
Hermit Bride of Crucified Love*

THE LAST <sup>1</sup> YEARS IN THE LIFE  
OF A HERMIT BORN 1932-2021.  
NEXT YEAR 2022 I'LL BE 90  
YEARS A CATHOLIC.

60 YEARS A LAYFRANSCAN  
30 YEARS A CONSECRATED  
HERMIT

I LIVE IN OUR FAMILY FARM  
HOUSE IN BALTONA. I  
RETURNED FROM NEW ZEALAND  
AND AUSTRALIA IN 1976.  
NOW SINCE I RETURNED IN  
76 I SAW A BUILDER JOHN  
GALLAGHER OF ROCKTOWN  
FALCARRACH TO SEE WHAT  
COULD BE DONE WITH OUR OLD  
HOME BUILDING. JOHN GAVE ME  
A FULL ACCOUNT OF WHAT COULD  
BE DONE AND THE TOTAL PRICE.  
I WENT TO SEE THE MANAGER  
OF OUR LOCAL BANK IN FALCARRACH  
BUT HE WOULDN'T GIVE ME A LOAN  
SO I AM LIVING NOW IN THE  
KITCHEN. ALL OTHER ROOMS HAVE  
FALLEN INTO RUINS. BUT AS THE  
SURVIVOR OF SIX OF OUR FAMILY  
AND MY FATHER AND MOTHER. I FEEL  
HAPPY AND UNITED AS A FAMILY OF

GOD. I DO ALL MY WALKING  
TO GORTAHORIC AND FALCARRACH  
TO CHURCH AND WEEKLY SHOPPING.  
I HAVE NO CAR. I PREPARE  
WALKING ITS GOOD FOR ME.  
FOR MY FOOD AS A HERMIT I  
EAT WELL AND SIMPLE  
BREAKFAST. I BEAT UP A RAW  
EGG WITH HONEY, ADD RAISINS  
AND RAW OATS. POUR WATER  
OVER IT AND MIX AND WHAT  
A LOVELY BREAKFAST  
THEN FOR LUNCH.

A TIN OF BEANS POURED INTO  
SOUP PAN. ADD RAISINS, CUT UP  
A BANANA AND CUT PIECES OF  
CHEDDAR CHEESE, BRING TO BOIL  
ON THE STOVE AND THAT'S MY  
LOVELY LUNCH. I ONLY DRINK  
TAP WATER, NO TEA OR COFFEE  
OR MILK.  
THEN MY EVENING MEAL  
ANOTHER FULL TIN OF BEANS  
WITH A GOOD HELPING OF RAISINS  
I BOIL A FEW POTATOES. A FEW  
SLICES OF COOKED HAM AND  
THAT'S MY LOVELY SUPPER.

ON NOV 7<sup>th</sup> 2021 I CAME INTO  
OUR GORTAHORIC CHURCH FOR  
SUNDAY MASS.

IT WAS VIGIL ON SATURDAY  
AND I WAS EARLY.  
A COLLECTION BOX WAS AT  
THE DOOR FOR AFRICAN PEOPLE  
IN A BAD WAY SO WOULD  
FACING A HORRIBLE TIME.  
I PUT IN MY LITTLE GIFT  
TO THIS WORTHY CAUSE JUST  
LIKE THE POOR WIDOW ONCE  
DID IN THE TEMPLE IN  
JERUSALEM.

WHEN THE GOSPEL OF MARK  
WAS READ AT MASS. I WAS  
STRUCK ONCE AGAIN BY THIS  
POOR WIDOW AND 2<sup>nd</sup> PET 5<sup>th</sup>  
OF HER. SHE PUT IN A PENNY  
BUT IT ALL SHE HAD TO LIVE ON.  
MONDAY MORNING 8<sup>th</sup> NOV.  
I FELT DEAD AS I GOT OUT  
OF BED. I WAS BROUGHT TO

SEE HOW PETER AND JOHN  
SAW A BEGGING MAN A  
CRIPPLE AT THE TEMPLE  
BEAUTIFUL GATE.

PETER AND JOHN AS THEY  
CAME CLOSE TO HIM SAID.  
SILVER OR GOLD WE HAVE  
NONE, BUT WE HAVE <sup>WHAT</sup> WE  
GIVE YOU.

IN THE NAME OF JESUS  
OF NAZARETH, RISE UP  
AND WALK.  
TO THE AMAZEMENT OF ALL.  
HE GOT UP, JUMPING AND  
PRAISING GOD.

I TOO GOT INTO THAT SPIRIT  
OF BEING ALIVE AGAIN.  
I SAID PSALM 50.

" 90.

" 141.

I WAS WELL AGAIN, AND  
TELLING YOU THE FULL  
STORY FROM THE ACTS  
OF THE APOSTLES.

## ***The Holy Spirit Comes at Pentecost***

**2** When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup>Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup>They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. <sup>4</sup>All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues<sup>a</sup> as the Spirit enabled them.

<sup>5</sup>Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. <sup>6</sup>When they heard this sound, a crowd<sup>b</sup>

## **ACTS 2**

came together in bewilderment, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. <sup>7</sup>Utterly amazed, they asked: "Are not all these men who are speaking Galileans? <sup>8</sup>Then how is it that each of us hears them in his own native language? <sup>9</sup>Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup>Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome <sup>11</sup>(both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!"

<sup>12</sup>Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, "What does this mean?"

<sup>13</sup>Some, however, made fun of them and said, "They have had too much wine."<sup>a</sup>

## ***Peter Addresses the Crowd***

<sup>14</sup>Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: "Fellow-Jews and all of you who are in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. <sup>15</sup>These men are not drunk, as you suppose. It's only nine in the morning! <sup>16</sup>No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:

<sup>17</sup>"In the last days, God says,  
I will pour out my Spirit on  
all people.

Your sons and daughters will  
prophesy,  
your young men will see  
visions,  
your old men will dream  
dreams.

<sup>18</sup>Even on my servants, both  
men and women,

I will pour out my Spirit in  
those days,  
and they will prophesy.



<sup>19</sup>"I will show wonders in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and billows of smoke.

<sup>20</sup>The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord.

<sup>21</sup>And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

<sup>22</sup>"Men of Israel, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. <sup>23</sup>This man was handed over to you by God's set purpose and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. <sup>24</sup>But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him. <sup>25</sup>David said about him:

"I saw the Lord always before me.

Because he is at my right hand,

I will not be shaken.

<sup>26</sup>Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will live in hope,

<sup>27</sup>because you will not abandon me to the grave, nor will you let your Holy One see decay.

<sup>28</sup>You have made known to me the paths of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence."

<sup>27</sup> Joel 2:28-32    <sup>28</sup> Psalm 16:8-11

<sup>31</sup> Or Messiah. The Christ (Greek) and the Messiah (Hebrew) both mean "the Anointed One"; also in verse 26.

<sup>35</sup> Psalm 110:1

<sup>36</sup> Or he

<sup>29</sup>"Brothers, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day. <sup>30</sup>But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne. <sup>31</sup>Seeing what was ahead, he spoke of the resurrection of the Christ,\* that he was not abandoned to the grave, nor did his body see decay. <sup>32</sup>God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of the fact. <sup>33</sup>Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear. <sup>34</sup>For David did not ascend to heaven, and yet he said,

"The Lord said to my Lord:

"Sit at my right hand

until I make your enemies

a footstool for your feet."

<sup>35</sup>Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ."

<sup>36</sup>When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?"

<sup>37</sup>Peter replied, "Repent and be baptised, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

<sup>38</sup>The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call."

<sup>39</sup>With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." <sup>40</sup>Those who accepted his message were baptised, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

### The Fellowship of the Believers

<sup>42</sup>They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. <sup>43</sup>Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. <sup>44</sup>All the believers were together and had everything in common. <sup>45</sup>Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. <sup>46</sup>Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, <sup>47</sup>praising God and enjoying the favour of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

### Peter Heals the Crippled Beggar

**3** One day Peter and John were going up to the temple at the time of prayer—at three in the afternoon. <sup>2</sup>Now a man crippled from birth was being carried to the temple gate called Beautiful, where he was put every day to beg from those going into the temple courts. <sup>3</sup>When he saw Peter and John about to enter, he asked them for money. <sup>4</sup>Peter looked straight at him, as did John. Then Peter said, "Look at us!" <sup>5</sup>So the man gave them his attention, expecting to get something from them.

<sup>6</sup>Then Peter said, "Silver or gold I do not have, but what I have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk." <sup>7</sup>Taking him by the right hand, he helped him up, and instantly the man's feet and ankles became strong. <sup>8</sup>He jumped to his feet and began to walk. Then he went with them into the temple courts, walking and jumping, and praising God. <sup>9</sup>When all the people saw him walking and praising God,

<sup>10</sup>they recognised him as the same man who used to sit begging at the temple gate called Beautiful, and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.

### Peter Speaks to the Onlookers

<sup>11</sup>While the beggar held on to Peter and John, all the people were astonished and came running to them in the place called Solomon's Colonnade. <sup>12</sup>When Peter saw this, he said to them: "Men of Israel, why does this surprise you? Why do you stare at us as if by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk? <sup>13</sup>The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus. You handed him over to be killed, and you disowned him before Pilate, though he had decided to let him go. <sup>14</sup>You disowned the Holy and Righteous One and asked that a murderer be released to you. <sup>15</sup>You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. We are witnesses of this. <sup>16</sup>By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus' name and the faith that comes through him that has given this complete healing to him, as you can all see.

<sup>17</sup>Now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did your leaders. <sup>18</sup>But this is how God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, saying that his Christ would suffer. <sup>19</sup>Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord, <sup>20</sup>and that he may send the Christ, who has been appointed for you—even Jesus. <sup>21</sup>He must remain in heaven until the time comes for God to restore everything, as he promised long ago through his holy prophets.

<sup>18</sup>Or Messiah; also in verse 20

<sup>12</sup>For Moses said, The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you must listen to everything he tells you. <sup>13</sup>Anyone who does not listen to him will be completely cut off from among his people.<sup>a</sup> *darkness*

<sup>14</sup>Indeed, all the prophets from Samuel on, as many as have spoken, have foretold these days. <sup>15</sup>And you are heirs of the prophets and of the covenant God made with your fathers. He said to Abraham, "Through your offspring all peoples on earth will be blessed." <sup>16</sup>When God raised up his servant, he sent him first to you to bless you by turning each of you from your wicked ways."

#### *Peter and John Before the Sanhedrin*

**4** The priests and the captain of the temple guard and the Sadducees came up to Peter and John while they were speaking to the people. <sup>2</sup>They were greatly disturbed because the apostles were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection of the dead. <sup>3</sup>They seized Peter and John, and because it was evening, they put them in jail until the next day. <sup>4</sup>But many who heard the message believed, and the number of men grew to about five thousand.

<sup>5</sup>The next day the rulers, elders and teachers of the law met in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup>Annas the high priest was there, and so were Caiaphas, John, Alexander and the other men of the high priest's family. <sup>7</sup>They had Peter and John brought before them and began to question them: "By what power or what name did you do this?"

<sup>8</sup>Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: "Rulers and elders of the people! If we are being

called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a cripple and are asked how he was healed, <sup>9</sup>then know this, you and everyone else in Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you completely healed. <sup>10</sup>He is

<sup>11</sup>the stone you builders rejected, which has become the capstone."<sup>b</sup>

<sup>12</sup>Salvation is found in no-one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved."

<sup>13</sup>When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realised that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus. <sup>14</sup>But since they could see the man who had been healed standing there with them, there was nothing they could say. <sup>15</sup>So they ordered them to withdraw from the Sanhedrin and then conferred together. <sup>16</sup>"What are we going to do with these men?" they asked. "Everybody living in Jerusalem knows they have done an outstanding miracle, and we cannot deny it. <sup>17</sup>But to stop this thing from spreading any further among the people, we must warn these men to speak no longer to anyone in this name."

<sup>18</sup>Then they called them in again and commanded them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. <sup>19</sup>But Peter and John replied, "Judge for yourselves whether it is right in God's sight to obey you rather than God. <sup>20</sup>For we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard."

<sup>21</sup>After further threats they let them go. They could not decide how

<sup>a</sup>23 Deut. 18:15-16, 19

<sup>b</sup>25 Gen. 22:18 and 26:4

<sup>c</sup>27 Or cornerstone <sup>d</sup>28 Psalm 118:22



to punish them, because all the people were praising God for what had happened. <sup>28</sup>For the man who was miraculously healed was over forty years old.

### *The Believers' Prayer*

<sup>29</sup>On their release, Peter and John went back to their own people and reported all that the chief priests and elders had said to them. <sup>30</sup>When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God. "Sovereign Lord," they said, "you made the heaven and the earth and the sea, and everything in them. <sup>31</sup>You spoke by the Holy Spirit through the mouth of your servant, our father David:

"Why do the nations rage  
and the peoples plot in  
vain?

<sup>32</sup>The kings of the earth take  
their stand  
and the rulers gather  
together  
against the Lord and  
against his Anointed  
One."

<sup>33</sup>Indeed Herod and Pontius Pilate met together with the Gentiles and the people of Israel in this city to conspire against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed. <sup>34</sup>They did what your power and will had decided beforehand should happen. <sup>35</sup>Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. <sup>36</sup>Stretch out your hand to heal and perform miraculous signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus.

<sup>37</sup>After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.

### *The Believers Share Their Possessions*

<sup>32</sup>All the believers were one in heart and mind. No-one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they shared everything they had. <sup>33</sup>With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and much grace was with them all. <sup>34</sup>There were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned lands or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales <sup>35</sup>and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone as he had need.

<sup>36</sup>Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the apostles called Barnabas (which means Son of Encouragement), <sup>37</sup>sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles' feet.

