

BROKEN

Episode 2

Father Michael's Story

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GREEN SCRIPT

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1

INT SACRISTY OF SAINT NICK'S DAY 6 09.15

1

Father Michael Kerrigan and Father Peter Flaherty face three eager seminarians (trainee priests).

SEMINARIAN

When did you first know you were called to be a priest?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

(laughing)

Did he

(meaning Father Flaherty)

Tell you to ask that?

SEMINARIAN

No.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

It was one weekend, thirty nine years ago. I was eighteen. I'd turned my back on school and church and faith - "with good reason" I'd have said back then. But I watched a falconer at work.

2

FLASHBACK EXT PARK/WOODLAND DAY

2

A hawk takes off from a falconer's glove.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN (V.O.)

His hawk disappeared, didn't return.

3

INT SACRISTY OF SAINT NICK'S DAY 6 CONT.

3

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

The crowd drifted away till there was just me and him. Every half hour or so he'd call out, "Come on, boy" and then say to me, "He'll come." Total faith. And then after, I don't know, four maybe five hours, he came.

4

FLASHBACK EXT PARK/WOODLAND DAY

4

A hawk swoops from the sky and lands on the falconer's glove.

5

INT SACRISTY OF SAINT NICK'S DAY 6 CONT.

5

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

God doesn't always come when you call him.

(MORE)

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN (CONT'D)
But keep ON calling him, and he
will. I was a catholic again.

6 EXT ROAD DAY 6 09.30

6

Christina walking. She goes into the post office.

7 INT POST OFFICE DAY 6 09.40

7

She's next. Her heart is hammering. Now it's her turn.

POST OFFICE CLERK
Hi, Christina.

Christina will slot in a card, punch in her mother's pin.

CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS
Hi. Pension withdrawal.

POST OFFICE CLERK
Your Mum's?

CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS
(nods)
She's not too good.

POST OFFICE CLERK
Her chest?

CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS
(taken aback a bit)
Yeah.

POST OFFICE CLERK
She said last time. Tell her I was
asking.

CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS
I will. Thanks.

She picks up money and a receipt.

CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS (CONT'D)
Thanks.

POST OFFICE CLERK
Bye.

CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS
Bye.

Christina, full of guilt, walks out the post office.

8 INT CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS'S HOUSE DAY 6 10.00 8

She has thrown the money onto the table.

She gets her Mum's bag, takes out the purse, opens it, puts the pension card away, puts the purse back in the bag.

She picks up the phone and punches in a number. It rings at the other end.

CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS

It's Christina Fitzsimmons, Father.
Rosie's daughter. She's died
suddenly, Father.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN (V.O.)

I'm really sorry to hear that...

And we fade out...

9 EXT CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS'S STREET DAY 6 10.20 9

Father Michael walking.

10 EXT CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS'S STREET DAY 6 10.30 10

Father Michael rings Christina's doorbell. She opens the door.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

I'm really sorry, Christina.

CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS

Thanks, Father.

He embraces her and it really affects her. It's the first time in ages she has had a man's arms around her.

They go in.

11 INT CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS'S HOUSE DAY 6 10.31 11

Bedroom. They enter.

CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS

Do you need anything, Father?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

No.

Father Michael puts his little bag/box of tricks onto a white cloth with which Christina has covered the bedside table.

CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS

Tea or..?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

I'm fine.

He takes Nan's hand in his.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN (CONT'D)

I'll miss you, Rosie.

He realises something. He studies Nan's face, Nan's skin.

He looks at Christina. It unnerves her.

CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS

What?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

When did she die?

CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS

(practised)

Some time between ten o'clock last night and ten o'clock this morning when I found her. Father.

(pause)

What is it?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Would you mind if I lit a candle?

CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS

No.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

It's easy to forget that Christ is here, giving us strength, easing our pain. The candle reminds us of that fact.

He lights it.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN (CONT'D)

She's been dead a few days,
Christina.

CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS

That's impossible, Father.

He studies her, knows she's lying.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

I need to ask this, Christina, I'm sorry. Was it her pension?

CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS

I don't know what you're talking about, Father.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Christina, we'll need a doctor to certify death. He'll know she's been dead for days. He'll phone the police. The first thing they'll do is check when her pension was last drawn. When was that?

A pause. She has never felt so trapped.

CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS
(suddenly)
Did you know she was getting pains in her chest?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Yes.

CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS
I didn't. Everybody else did but I didn't!

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
When was her pension last drawn, Christina?

CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS
(eventually)
An hour ago.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Oh, Christina.

He looks at the flickering candle, seeking an answer there.

CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS
Will I go to prison?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
I don't know.
(pause)
Will you join me in a prayer?

It's so desperate she finds herself nodding: yes.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN (CONT'D)
Our Father, who art in Heaven,
hallowed be thy name....

BOTH
Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Now, at a loss, he looks at the crucified Christ on the wall.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

(to Christ)

What now?

12

EXT CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS'S STREET DAY 6 12.30

12

A police car drives down the street, pulls up outside Christina's house. P.C. Andrew Powell gets out and knocks.

Father Michael opens the door. This surprises the policeman.

P.C. ANDREW POWELL

Hello, Michael.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Hi, Andrew.

P.C. ANDREW POWELL

She's dead?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Yes.

P.C. ANDREW POWELL

Natural causes?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Yes.

P.C. ANDREW POWELL

Then why call me?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

The doctor told us to. He's with her now. Upstairs, on the right.

Intrigued, P.C. Andrew Powell passes Father Michael...

13

INT CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS'S HOUSE DAY 6 CONT.

13

P.C. Andrew Powell goes along the hall and starts climbing the stairs.

We go with Father Michael into the living room.

Living Room. Christina is here. She's frightened.

CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS

Police?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Yes.

Christina picks up the phone, dials.

CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS
(explaining)
My sister.
(pause: an answer machine)
I'm being arrested. I need you to
look after the kids.

She finishes the call. PC Andrew Powell enters.

P.C. ANDREW POWELL
The doctor thinks she's been dead
for three or four days.

CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS
Four.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Christina couldn't bring herself to
report it until now.

P.C. ANDREW POWELL
(to Christina)
Even though you've got kids running
round?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
She wasn't thinking straight,
I'm...

P.C. ANDREW POWELL
I'm sorry, Michael, please.
(i.e. shut up. And now, to
Christina)
When was her pension last drawn?

CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS
This morning.

P.C. ANDREW POWELL
By you?

CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS
Yes.

14 EXT CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS'S STREET DAY 6 14.00 14

Nan's body is slid into a van.

Behind the van is a police car. Christina is put into it. She looks towards her front step.

Her three kids are here with Mariella, her sister. Christina bravely smiles and nods to the kids but the kids are too upset to respond.

Now Christina looks at her sister, Mariella.

But Mariella cannot bring herself to look back at her.
Father Michael Kerrigan is nearby, watching this.
Christina is driven away.

15 INT FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN'S HOUSE NIGHT 6 23.30 15

Father Michael Kerrigan lies in bed, listening to the shipping forecast. Sleep will not come.

16 FLASHBACK INT CORRIDOR/SHOWERS DAY 16

Steam billows out of a shower room at the end of a corridor.

FATHER MATTHEW

It is absolutely essential that you dry in between your toes. Any moisture left there causes infection...

Father Matthew's eyes focus off camera as he speaks.

FATHER MATTHEW (CONT'D)

Athlete's Foot especially. If you've ever had...

A young unidentified boy fastens the last buttons of his shirt...

FATHER MATTHEW (CONT'D)

Athlete's Foot you'll know it's a lot easier to catch it than it is to get rid of it.

Young Michael Kerrigan walks down the corridor away from shower room with his kit bag under his arm.

17 INT FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN'S HOUSE NIGHT 6 CONT. 17

Back to Father Michael. Sleep still won't come.

18 INT MAGISTRATE'S COURT DAY 7 11.15 18

MAGISTRATE

Is there anything you'd like to say, Mrs Fitzsimmons, before we get to sentence?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Christina's asked me to say a few words, Ma'am, if that's okay with you.

MAGISTRATE

Yes.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

I'm Father Michael Kerrigan and I'm Christina's parish priest. You may not know this, Ma'am; you may not BELIEVE this, Ma'am, but social services are talking about taking Christina's kids away from her. Apparently they had this mental image of kids running round a dead body for days on end and nothing could be further from the truth. It's a cruel irony, Ma'am, because Christina did what she did on account of those kids. Every penny she has ever earned she has spent on those kids. Everything she has ever done she has done because she loves those kids. Ma'am, I ask you to treat this wonderful woman with as much leniency as possible and to do all in your power to ensure that those children stay with the mother who loves them.

That almost reduces Christina to tears - but she fights it.

MAGISTRATE

Thank you.

The magistrate confers briefly with the clerk. Meanwhile Christina nods to Father Michael: thank you.

MAGISTRATE (CONT'D)

I'll do all I can to help with the children, Mrs Fitzsimmons. As regards this case, I'm going to grant you an absolute discharge on the count of preventing a lawful burial but I cannot ignore the benefit fraud. On that count I sentence you to six months in prison but I will suspend it for a year. On both counts there are charges to pay and there's nothing I can do about them, I'm afraid. They amount to fifty five pounds. How will you pay it?

She manages a little joke.

CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS

Good question.

18A EXT CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS'S STREET DAY 8 08.15 18A

Christina and Father Michael walking down the street. They're carrying bags; they've been to the food bank.

At the other end of the street, Christina's children appear. They see their mother and start running to her.

Christina dumps the bags and heads towards her kids.

They all hug each other.

Christina looks up and sees her sister following. They look at each other...

19 INT CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS'S HOUSE DAY 8 10.10 19

Mariella, Christina and Father Michael. A candle flickering...

MARIELLA, CHRISTINA'S SISTER

I just don't know how she could do it: leave my mother lying dead like that. Oh I know what you'll say, Father: "She did it for her kids. Doing such an awful thing just proves how much she loves her kids. The more awful the thing, the more she loves them." Well, that's bollocks 'cause I've got kids and I love mine just as much as she loves hers and there's no way I would do that to my mother. And no shite please, no it's-what-she-would've-wanted shite 'cause she wouldn't have wanted to be left like that. Yes, of course she'd want her to get her pension, she'd give those kids anything, she'd give them her LIFE but, for God's sake, she'd want a bit of respect after giving it!

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Christina?

But Christina, incapable of answering, just shakes her head.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN (CONT'D)

There's no way you'd do that to your mother?

MARIELLA, CHRISTINA'S SISTER

No way.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
If you had no money? Hungry mouths
to feed?

MARIELLA, CHRISTINA'S SISTER
No way.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
You think she loved her less than
you did?

That throws Mariella. She doesn't want to answer it.
Christina answers it for her.

CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS
Yes.

So Mariella goes for it.

MARIELLA, CHRISTINA'S SISTER
Yes! I couldn't do what she did so,
yes: I think she loved her less
than I did.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Even though she lived with her?

MARIELLA, CHRISTINA'S SISTER
("laughs")
I wondered when that would come up.
She let our Mam move in because it
suited her. Free child care and a
few bob towards the rent. Yes, Mam
got something out of it and the
kids kept her young but she (i.e.
Christina) got plenty out of it
too.

(beat)
I'm going.
(stopping at the door)
I paid Jimmy's dinner money upto
the end of the week. Lisa's got
athletics tomorrow and she's lost
her kit.

CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS
Right.

MARIELLA, CHRISTINA'S SISTER
Bye.

CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS
Bye.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Bye.

Mariella leaves.

Michael and Christina look at each other. Michael picks up the candle and blows it out.

20 INT CHRIST OUR LORD PRIMARY SCHOOL DAY 8 12.40 20

Michael hurrying along a corridor. It's lunchtime. The noise of kids playing in the schoolyard.

He gets to the headmistress's door. He knocks, hears "come in", pops his head in.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
I'm sorry!

For being late again he means. She's picking files up.

HEADMISTRESS
It's okay.

They leave, start walking along the corridor.

21 INT CHRIST OUR LORD PRIMARY SCHOOL DAY 8 12.55 21

A classroom. Six or seven people around a table. A lunchtime meeting. People eating sandwiches and whatnot...

HEADMISTRESS
Next is First Holy Communion.
Nothing but praise for last year's,
Pauline, thanks very much, so if
you're prepared to take it on
again?

PAULINE PICKERING
Yes, yes.

HEADMISTRESS
In that case, same again this time.
Yes?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
There's just one thing.

Miss Pickering's reaction.

HEADMISTRESS
Yes, Father.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
It's the cost.

PAULINE PICKERING
The cost?

Pauline Pickering, single, highly strung, has organised the school's First Holy Communion Ceremony for the last twenty years and this is the first complaint she has ever had.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Yes. I know last year a few families got into debt for everything: the dress, the party, other bits and pieces. And I think this year there'll be more doing it.

PAULINE PICKERING

The ceremony itself costs nothing, Father.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

I know. And, like Annette says, it's wonderful. What you do is truly amazing, Miss Pickering. I'm just concerned that people spend what they can't afford and it's loan sharks who profit from it.

PAULINE PICKERING

There'll always be people who go overboard.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Well, it's not that, is it? I don't think they're trying to outdo anyone. They just want their kids to look as nice as other kids. And that's expensive.

PAULINE PICKERING

I don't think there's anything we can do about that, Father. We tell them every year to keep it simple and they just get more and more...

(hesitating to say it)

Well, vulgar.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

There's one thing we can do.

PAULINE PICKERING

Yes?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

We can ask them to do it in their school uniform. No suits, no fancy frocks.

Miss Pickering is stunned. Moments pass.

HEADMISTRESS

Pauline?

PAULINE PICKERING
Would people want that?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Perhaps.

PAULINE PICKERING
It would look like an ordinary
mass. There is nothing you could do
to make it any different from a...
You say "fancy frocks", Father, but
they're not just fancy; they are
white. Symbols of purity.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
They're eight years old. Dress them
in rags, they'd still be pure.

She is lost for words. He realises she is hurt.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN (CONT'D)
I'm not criticising you in any way
whatsoever, Miss Pickering. I just
don't want people to take on years
of debt for a ceremony lasting less
than an hour.

That hurts her even more.

PAULINE PICKERING
I have to go, I'm afraid.
(gathering things up)
I thought I'd been helping people
celebrate a blessed sacrament. It
seems I was wrong. It seems I've
been driving them deeper and deeper
into poverty and despair.

HEADMISTRESS
Pauline...

PAULINE PICKERING
I've got to go. I've got a lot of
marking to do.

She blunders out. A pause.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Didn't I handle that well?

23 INT MENTAL HEALTH CENTRE DAY 8 CONT.

23

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

(entering)

Sorry. Really sorry.

A black woman and her teenage son (Helen and Vernon Oyenusi). Two female case workers are here also. Father Michael senses the atmosphere.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN (CONT'D)

You've started?

HELEN OYENUSI

Vernon's coming home.

That surprises Father Michael.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Is he well enough?

CASE WORKER

We think so, yes.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Vernon?

Vernon shakes his head. He can't answer.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN (CONT'D)

Last time we met, you said how well he was doing.

CASE WORKER

Yes.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Then why send him home?

CASE WORKER

Precisely because he's done so well here. He's ready for it.

HELEN OYENUSI

Is it money?

CASE WORKER

No...

The case worker is about to embark on an elaborate lie but sees how futile that would be. She simply gives up. Her senior steps in.

SENIOR CASE WORKER

He's the least unwell. We have someone profoundly ill and no bed for him. So our least unwell has to go to free one up.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
"Least unwell" does not mean
"well".

SENIOR CASE WORKER
No.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Vernon is still ill?

SENIOR CASE WORKER
Yes.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Then why send him home?

SENIOR CASE WORKER
We have to.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Helen can't cope with him.
Physically.

SENIOR CASE WORKER
We've taken account of that in
drawing up the care package...
(distributing papers)
Shall we take a look at it?

24 EXT APPROACH TO SAINT NICK'S CHURCH DAY 8 15.15 24

Father Michael again walking fast.

25 INT SAINT NICK'S CHURCH DAY 8 CONT. 25

There are three or four people sitting, waiting for him.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Sorry to keep you waiting. Really
sorry.

He opens the door to the confessional.

26 INT CONFESSIONAL DAY 8 15.30 26

The Cash Switchers Man from ep 1 is here, troubled...

CASH SWITCHERS MAN

My grandad's in his seventies, used to be a docker, used to talk to me about blacking ships: Chilean ships because of Allende, South African ships because of Mandela, Californian ships because they'd sacked a longshoreman, Aussie ships because they'd imprisoned a wharfie. Dad's like him, a bit of a socialist, works in Wilton-Smith, something in the union. With him it was always "branch" and "delegate" and "resolution", "amendment" - all that trade union stuff. But I work in a pawn shop now and they utterly despise me for it. No, that's wrong. They don't despise me; it would be easier if they did. They despise the job I do. So they never talk like they used to talk. They might forget, kick off on one, but then they realise I'm there and they stop and switch to the footy. I work in a pawn shop, see; I feed off other people's hunger.

Oh how this man needs help!

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Grandad comfortable?

CASH SWITCHERS MAN
Yes.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Your Dad?

CASH SWITCHERS MAN
Yes.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Maybe they haven't got any more integrity than you. Maybe they've just got more money.

He fades out and Pauline Pickering fades in.

PAULINE PICKERING
I'm ashamed of the way I reacted,
Father...

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Not at all...

PAULINE PICKERING

I AM. The Head suggested school uniform fifteen years ago, the previous Head, and they still all came in their frocks - as I knew they would. They WANT to dress up, Father, and the poorer they are the more they want it: their child a princess for the day. But I'll write to them all. I'll insist this time, I'll insist they keep it simple. Plain and simple. "It's a child's First Holy Communion, not My Big Fat Gypsy Wedding."

We fade out and cut to the door opening suddenly...

29 INT CONFESSIONAL DAY 8 16.25

29

Roz Demichelis enters.

ROZ DEMICHELIS
You still doing it?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Hearing confession?

ROZ DEMICHELIS
Yes.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Yes.

She looks around.

ROZ DEMICHELIS
Not what I was expecting.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
No?

ROZ DEMICHELIS
No. Expected it dark. A little
shaft of light. Specks of dust
spinning in it.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
You've not been for a while then?

ROZ DEMICHELIS
No.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Where shall I sit?

ROZ DEMICHELIS
(pointing)
Please.

So he sits facing her. She sits, shows her legs off a bit.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Michael.

ROZ DEMICHELIS
Roz.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
How d'you do, Roz?

ROZ DEMICHELIS
How d'you do, Michael?

A pause.

ROZ DEMICHELIS (CONT'D)
(eventually)
Cat got your tongue?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
No. I'd sooner listen for a while.

That gets to her, unnerves her a bit. He picks up a candle.
He'll light it as he speaks.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN (CONT'D)
Christ is here. Sharing our pain.
This'll remind us of his presence.

ROZ DEMICHELIS
(eventually)
I'm going to kill myself, Michael.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Why?

ROZ DEMICHELIS
Do I look good?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Yes.

ROZ DEMICHELIS

(her coat/top)

Ted Baker.

(her shoes)

Kurt Gieger. Agent provocateur
knickers. Chanel perfume. I intend
to make a good impression on that
slab.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Why do you want to kill yourself?

ROZ DEMICHELIS

I'm an office manager. And over the
last eight years I've stolen...

(takes out a piece of
paper)

Two hundred and thirty two
thousand, six hundred and forty
eight pounds. And in a week or so,
for reasons I won't bore you with,
the boss is going to find out.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

What did you spend it on?

ROZ DEMICHELIS

Some of it on me. But I'm a gambler
and most of it went on machines.

A silence.

ROZ DEMICHELIS (CONT'D)

I know this trick. The silent
trick. "I'm the fucked up one,
therefore this silence is my fault,
therefore I must fill it."

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

It's not a trick. I'm genuinely
lost for words.

ROZ DEMICHELIS

You could ask me how I'm going to
do it.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

How are you going to do it?

ROZ DEMICHELIS

Well I thought of standing in front
of a train or throwing myself off a
high rise block.

(MORE)

ROZ DEMICHELIS (CONT'D)
But I'd look a mess on the slab
then, wouldn't I? So it's booze and
pills.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
When?

ROZ DEMICHELIS
Tonight.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Do you have a family?

That really hurts.

ROZ DEMICHELIS
A bit below if you don't mind me
saying so, Michael.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
I'm sorry.

ROZ DEMICHELIS
Two boys. Fifteen and sixteen. A
girl, nineteen.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
A husband?

ROZ DEMICHELIS
You might call him a husband. I
prefer "sick, twisted gobshite."

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
D'you believe in God?

ROZ DEMICHELIS
No. I think it's a thousand to one
that there's an afterlife but it's
the only chance I've got so I'll
take it, thank you. You get a lot
like that, yeah?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Yeah

ROZ DEMICHELIS
You believe?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Yeah.

ROZ DEMICHELIS
God, heaven, hell, everything?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Yeah. Well, not hell. But
everything else, yeah.

ROZ DEMICHELIS
So how do we start? Bless-me-father
and all that?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
If you like.

ROZ DEMICHELIS
Bless me, father, for I have
sinned. It's God knows how many
years since my last confession and
I HAVE... I've had other men but
only when I found out he was having
other women. And I've stolen two
hundred and thirty two thousand and
whatever from my employer.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Is that it?

ROZ DEMICHELIS
Yeah. Well there's other stuff but
nothing special. If I was on Match
Of The Day, they'd be the bits you
see: the men and the money.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
And are you sorry?

ROZ DEMICHELIS
Not about the men, no. And as for
the money, I'm just sorry I've been
caught. That's not enough, is it?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
No.

ROZ DEMICHELIS
You can't absolve me unless I'm
truly sorry?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Well I don't absolve you. It's God
who... Please don't kill yourself.

It's such a simple, honest, direct appeal that it almost
makes her cry.

ROZ DEMICHELIS
Thank you.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
If it's shame, you can live with
shame.

She realises something.

ROZ DEMICHELIS
You've been there.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Yes.

ROZ DEMICHELIS
Suicidal.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Yes.

ROZ DEMICHELIS
Over?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Things I did as a young man.

ROZ DEMICHELIS
Worse than stealing two hundred and
thirty two thousand and whatever
from people who trusted you?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Much worse.

ROZ DEMICHELIS
Then how do you cope?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
I atone. I spend my life atoning
for it and I just hope that when I
die, I'll have atoned enough.
Promise me you won't kill yourself
and I will show you how to atone.

ROZ DEMICHELIS
I can't.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Then promise me you won't kill
yourself TODAY, promise me you'll
come back in two or three days and
I will make you want to live.

She nods.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN (CONT'D)
You promise?

ROZ DEMICHELIS
I promise.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Will you join me in the Lord's
Prayer?

She is amazed to hear herself say what she now says.

ROZ DEMICHELIS
Yes. Yes, I will.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Our Father, who art in Heaven...

BOTH
Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom
come; thy will be done...

30 EXT SAINT NICK'S CHURCH NIGHT 8 20.15 30

Father Michael pulling at the huge door/gate to the church.
It slams shut.

His mobile phone starts ringing. He checks it. It's from
"Mam". He answers it.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Hi, Mam

MICHAEL'S SISTER BETH (V.O.)
It's Beth. It's Mum's birthday.

Father Michael's reaction: he'd forgotten.

MICHAEL'S SISTER BETH (V.O.)
Phone her on her landline, you
prick.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Right.

Michael's Sister Beth cuts the call. He scrolls, hits a
number.

MICHAEL'S MOTHER (V.O.)
(eventually)
Hello.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
"Happy Birthday to you..."

MICHAEL'S MOTHER (V.O.)
(delighted)
I was beginning to think you'd
forgotten.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Nah. Just never had the chance till
now. How are you..?

They fade out and we hear someone murdering *Stand By Your Man*
or similar.

31 INT SAINT NICK'S SOCIAL CLUB NIGHT 8 21.10 31

Karaoke at the social club. A woman just finishing *Stand By Your Man* (or whatever). It's the annual football awards.

Father Michael Kerrigan wishing he was elsewhere.

She finishes. Our compère from ep 1 takes to the stage applauding her.

COMPÈRE

Thank you. Thank you, Sharon. Used to work the Tower Ballroom, that girl, till they put in paper towels. Still to come: the raffle and Father Michael's going to draw that for us immediately after the bingo. But next is "Player of the Year" and Arthur's gonna announce that one for us. They all laughed when he said he wanted to be a comedian, you know. Well no one's laughing now. Arthur Clacy, Ladies and Gentlemen.

A spattering of applause.

32 INT SAINT NICK'S SOCIAL CLUB NIGHT 8 21.40 32

It's moved on to the bingo.

COMPÈRE

Three and one, thirty one. All the twos, twenty two. Eight and six, eighty six...

Father Michael Kerrigan glances at his watch.

COMPÈRE (CONT'D)

Two fat ladies, eighty eight...

33 INT FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN'S HOUSE NIGHT 8 22.15 33

Father Michael enters. He's tired. He checks the answer machine.

AUTOMATED VOICE

You have no new messages.

He goes to the fridge. There's a half-full bottle of wine there. He pours himself a glass, sits down, drinks...

The phone goes. The last thing an exhausted Michael wants to hear. He listens to his own recorded message. And now...

HELEN OYENUSI (V.O.)
It's Helen Oyenusi here, Father.
You're probably fast asleep so
never mind...

34 INT HELEN OYENUSI'S HOUSE NIGHT 8 CONT.

34

HELEN OYENUSI
It's just that Vernon wanted a
word, didn't you, Vernon..?

We go to Vernon. He's falling apart, holding a knife.

HELEN OYENUSI (CONT'D)
If you play this in the morning,
maybe you could phone him, Father.

35 INT FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN'S HOUSE NIGHT 8 CONT.

35

Father Michael listens. Should he pick it up, should he pick
it up...?

HELEN OYENUSI (V.O.)
You know what he's like. Doesn't
believe a word his mother tells him
but everything you say is gospel.
No pun intended, Father.

It goes dead. Father Michael, feeling as guilty as sin, takes
another sip of wine.

36 INT HELEN OYENUSI'S HOUSE NIGHT 8 22.50

36

Time has passed. Vernon is even more agitated.

VERNON OYENUSI
Phone him again.

HELEN OYENUSI
He's in bed, Vernon.

VERNON OYENUSI
He's not. They won't let him pick
up the phone.

HELEN OYENUSI
Who won't let him?

VERNON OYENUSI
You know who.

That makes up her mind for her. She picks up the phone again.

HELEN OYENUSI
Can I call the crisis team, Vernon?

VERNON OYENUSI
No.

HELEN OYENUSI
You're holding a knife, Vernon, and
I'm scared of what...

VERNON OYENUSI
They're not coming in here.

HELEN OYENUSI
...you might do with it. Not scared
for myself. I know...

VERNON OYENUSI
They're not coming in here.

HELEN OYENUSI
...you wouldn't do anything to hurt
your mother but I'm scared of
what...

VERNON OYENUSI
They're not coming in here.

HELEN OYENUSI
...you might do to yourself so I'm
gonna phone the crisis team,
Vernon, and they'll come and give
you something and...

VERNON OYENUSI
Do not phone them!

HELEN OYENUSI
...everything will be fine.

She is dialling.

VERNON OYENUSI
Do not phone them!

HELEN OYENUSI
I have to. I will not let you hurt
yourself.
(down phone)
Oh, hello, it's Helen Oyenusi
here...

Two nurses (the crisis team) pull up in a car. They approach
the Oyenusi's front door. They ring the bell.

It is pulled violently open but slams against its chain.
Vernon's face seems wedged in the narrow gap.

VERNON OYENUSI
Go away. I will not let you in. I
will do this
(knife to his own throat)
Before I let you in. Now go!

He slams the door shut again.

The nurses look at each other. One of them takes out her phone and punches in a number.

38 EXT ROAD NIGHT 8 23.50

38

A police car hurtling along, siren blaring.

39 INT HELEN OYENUSI'S HOUSE NIGHT 8 CONT.

39

Vernon, pacing, hears the siren. His mother too.

HELEN OYENUSI
The police are coming, son, and we
have to let them in.

VERNON OYENUSI
No.

HELEN OYENUSI
We'll let them in and we'll let the
crisis team in and they'll...

VERNON OYENUSI
No.

HELEN OYENUSI
...give you something and
everything will be fine. You're
only feeling like...

VERNON OYENUSI
No one's coming in.

HELEN OYENUSI
...this because it's your first
night away from the centre and as
soon as they give you something for
it you'll be fine.

VERNON OYENUSI
No one's coming in.

The bell goes. Vernon opens the door, pulling it back on its chain again.

Our police officer again.

VERNON OYENUSI (CONT'D)
No one's coming in.

P.C. ANDREW POWELL
It's me, Vernon.

VERNON OYENUSI
Go away.

P.C. ANDREW POWELL
It's Andrew. Andrew Powell. What
are you doing with the knife,
Vernon?

VERNON OYENUSI
I am protecting myself. There are
people who want to do me harm so I
am protecting myself with this
knife.

P.C. ANDREW POWELL
Who wants to do you harm, Vernon?

40 EXT REAR OF HELEN OYENUSI'S HOUSE NIGHT 8 CONT. 40

P.C. Dawn Morris is scaling the backyard wall, dropping down,
opening the backyard door to let her colleague P.C. Ian
Wakefield in from the alley.

They both approach the back door to the house.

41 INT/EXT HELEN OYENUSI'S HOUSE NIGHT 8 CONT. 41

Vernon and P.C. Andrew Powell still talking through the gap
in the door.

P.C. ANDREW POWELL
I'll see to it that no one hurts
you, Vernon. Just put down the
knife and

VERNON OYENUSI
No

P.C. ANDREW POWELL
...open the door for me and...

VERNON OYENUSI
No.

P.C. ANDREW POWELL
We'll all sit down nice and calm
and talk it through.

VERNON OYENUSI
No.

42 EXT HELEN OYENUSI'S HOUSE NIGHT 8 CONT. 42

More police cars are arriving, sirens blaring.

Armed police get out and take up positions.

43 INT/EXT HELEN OYENUSI'S HOUSE NIGHT 8 CONT. 43

P.C. ANDREW POWELL
Is your Mum there, Vernon?

VERNON OYENUSI
Yeah.

P.C. ANDREW POWELL
Can I talk to her?

But two officers (Dawn and Ian) are suddenly standing behind Vernon.

P.C. DAWN MORRIS
Put the knife down please.

VERNON OYENUSI
(turning)
Get out.

She is loosening the gas canister

P.C. DAWN MORRIS
Put it down.

VERNON OYENUSI
Get out now!

P.C. DAWN MORRIS
If you don't put the knife down,
we'll have...

HELEN OYENUSI
(of the canister)
What is that?

P.C. DAWN MORRIS
...to spray you and we don't want
to do that because...

P.C. IAN WAKEFIELD
(to Dawn)
You sure about this?

P.C. ANDREW POWELL
He's sick. Don't spray him.

P.C. DAWN MORRIS
...it'll hurt you. It'll hurt you a
great deal.

VERNON OYENUSI
Get out of this house!

HELEN OYENUSI
What is it?

Vernon puts the knife to his own throat. P.C. Andrew Powell starts kicking/shoulder-charging the door.

P.C. DAWN MORRIS
Drop the knife.

VERNON OYENUSI
Get out. Get out now. Get out now
before I do something very, very...

The door is forced open as, simultaneously, she sprays Vernon.

Helen screams. Vernon, blinded, roars in agony. He starts waving the knife to ward off any further attack and this keeps PC Andrew Powell at bay.

Vernon blunders through the damaged front door.

His mother goes to follow him but P.C. Andrew Powell grabs her in a bear hug.

44 EXT HELEN OYENUSI'S HOUSE NIGHT 8 CONT.

44

Vernon, in agony, hardly able to breathe, is heading blindly towards the police.

VERNON OYENUSI
I'm blind.

SERGEANT DENIS KILCAID
Armed police. Put down the knife.

VERNON OYENUSI
I'm blind.

SERGEANT DENIS KILCAID
Armed police. Put down the knife or
I will fire.

VERNON OYENUSI
They've burnt my eyes.

He shoots Vernon through the chest.

45 INT HELEN OYENUSI'S HOUSE NIGHT 8 CONT.

45

Helen and P.C. Andrew Powell have heard the shot. She breaks free of the officer and heads for the street. He follows.

P.C. IAN WAKEFIELD
(to Dawn)
You stupid bitch!

46 EXT HELEN OYENUSI'S HOUSE NIGHT 8 CONT.

46

Helen, P.C. Andrew Powell and Sergeant Kilcaid approaching Vernon's body.

P.C. ANDREW POWELL
(to Kilcaid)
What were you thinking of?

Helen squats next to her son's body, holds him.

P.C. ANDREW POWELL (CONT'D)
For God's sake, man, what were you
thinking of?

47 INT FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN'S HOUSE DAY 9 08.00

47

Bedroom. An alarm clock buzzing. Father Michael wakes. He's slept in.

48 INT SAINT NICK'S CHURCH DAY 9 09.00

48

Sacristy. Father Michael pulling on his vestments. He briefly checks himself in the mirror, steels himself, leaves...

49 INT SAINT NICK'S CHURCH DAY 9 CONT.

49

Michael Kerrigan enters. As at the start of this series, there are a dozen or so regulars here and a few parents with children.

Father Michael bows to the altar and turns and faces the people.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
In the name of the Father and of
the Son and of the Holy Spirit...

ALL
Amen.

He extends his arms.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
The grace of Our Lord Jesus Christ
and the love of God and the
communion of the Holy Spirit be
with you all.

ALL
And with your spirit..

50 INT SAINT NICK'S CHURCH DAY 9 09.35

50

We leap forward to the consecration...

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

For on the night he was betrayed he himself took bread, and giving you thanks, he said the blessing, broke the bread and gave it to his disciples saying, "Take this, all of you, and eat of it: for this is my body which will be given up for you."

A bell rings as he holds the host aloft.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN (CONT'D)

In a similar way, when supper was ended, he took the chalice and, giving you thanks, he said the blessing, and gave the chalice to his disciples saying...

(holding the chalice
aloft)

"Take this, all of you, and drink from it: for this is the chalice of my blood..." *

51 FLASHBACK INT CORRIDOR/SHOWERS DAY

51

The same corridor as before.

Inside the showers, the sound of whipping and the flash of a towel.

Father Matthew looms.

An unidentified boy once more fastens the last buttons on his shirt.

52 INT SAINT NICK'S CHURCH DAY 9 CONT.

52

Father Michael is struggling.

Christina Fitzsimmons is amongst the congregation. She realises there's something wrong with him. He looks, catches her eye. It makes it even worse.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

(struggling)

The blood of the new and eternal
covenant which will be poured out
for you and for many for the
forgiveness of sins. Do this in
memory of me."

Again a bell rings.

53 INT SAINT NICK'S CHURCH DAY 9 10.15 53

The mass has moved on.

The Headmistress of the primary school is reading out the bidding prayers (requests for prayers for the sick, the bereaved and the dead).

HEADMISTRESS

... Her daughter Christina is with us today along with her beloved grandchild Lisa and we remember all of them in our prayers. And, finally, we remember Vernon Oyenusi who was so tragically taken from us last night and, of course, his...

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

What?

HEADMISTRESS

Yes?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Vernon Oyenusi.

HEADMISTRESS

You haven't heard, Father?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

No.

HEADMISTRESS

He was shot dead by police last night.

(continuing)

And we ask Almighty God to ease the grief of his mother Helen Oyenusi whom many of us have known since she first came here four or five years ago...

Father Michael is almost reeling...

HEADMISTRESS (CONT'D)

We remember all of them in our prayers.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

(struggling even more now)

I know the First Holy Communion children are here but I'm gonna have to leave immediately the mass finishes, I'm so sorry...

Hard cut to Father Michael walking fast...

54 EXT HELEN OYENUSI'S STREET DAY 9 10.45 54

Father Michael Kerrigan turning into Helen Oyenusi's street. Ahead of him are police vehicles and whatnot. Helen's house and the "scene of crime" have been sealed off.

He approaches a copper.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
How did it happen?

And now the first lie...

POLICE OFFICER
I don't know.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Where is she?

POLICE OFFICER
His mother?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Yes.

POLICE OFFICER
Hospital. The General.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Is she hurt?

POLICE OFFICER
No. He's there. The morgue.

Father Michael walks off, back the way he came.

55 INT HOSPITAL DAY 9 11.10 55

A maze of corridors. We hear footsteps. Father Michael appears from the right, disappears left. His footsteps stop, start again. He reappears from the left. He's lost for a moment. He turns towards us, walks past us.

56 INT HOSPITAL DAY 9 11.15 56

Helen stands alone in her own tortured world.

Father Michael approaches. They embrace.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
What happened?

HELEN OYENUSI
He got sicker and sicker. I phoned
the crisis team.
(MORE)

HELEN OYENUSI (CONT'D)
He wouldn't let them in so they
phoned the police and the police
gassed him and shot him.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Why didn't you phone me?

HELEN OYENUSI
I knew you were in bed. I'd phoned
earlier and you didn't answer so I
knew you were in bed.

That devastates Father Michael.

HELEN OYENUSI (CONT'D)
They won't let me see him. They
said you can, I can't.

57 INT MORGUE DAY 9 11.35

57

A mortuary assistant leading Father Michael. They come to a
bodybag on a slab.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
May I?

Undo the bag he means.

MORTUARY ASSISTANT
I'm afraid not. Evidence.

Father Michael hesitates: it's all faintly ludicrous but...

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Have mercy on Vernon Oyenusi, Lord.
Forgive him his sins and grant him
eternal rest. Amen.

58 INT HOSPITAL DAY 9 12.00

58

Father Michael enters. Helen Oyenusi is here. Also, a young
woman: a liaison officer.

HELEN OYENUSI
This lady's a police liaison
officer. I've told her I do not
want one. I will get all the help I
need from my priest and my church.
Police officers have done enough
for now, thank you very much.

LIAISON OFFICER
Helen will need somewhere to sleep
tonight. We've still not finished
with the house.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
She can stay with me.

LIAISON OFFICER
And the chief inspector has asked
to see her. Four o'clock if
possible.

Father Michael looks to Helen. She nods.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
I'll come with her.

LIAISON OFFICER
Thanks. Bye, Helen.

No response.

LIAISON OFFICER (CONT'D)
Bye, Father.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Bye.

She goes - so Helen can now ask...

HELEN OYENUSI
They let you see him?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
(nods)
He looks so peaceful, Helen.

A lie but it's a crumb of comfort she devours.

59 INT POLICE STATION DAY 9 16.10

59

Father Michael, Helen Oyenusi, the Chief Inspector and other uniformed officers. Mid-meeting...

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Helen WILL have questions, yes. Why Vernon was discharged from the centre will be one of them, I'm sure. As will why police shot dead a boy who wouldn't harm a fly. But that will all have to wait because Helen can't even think straight right now.

CHIEF INSPECTOR MCDONALD
Of course. The officer who used the spray says she did so because she feared for Mrs Oyenusi's safety. As does...

HELEN OYENUSI
That's not true.

CHIEF INSPECTOR MCDONALD
That is what she says but, of
course, every statement, every
piece of evidence will be
thoroughly tested...

We fade out. Michael knows there's going to be a cover-up.

60 EXT FATHER PETER FLAHERTY'S HOUSE NIGHT 9 21.00 60

Father Michael approaches the house, rings the doorbell.

Father Peter Flaherty opens the door.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
(entering)
Thanks for this.

61 INT FATHER PETER FLAHERTY'S HOUSE NIGHT 9 21.10 61

They're drinking tea.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
I got back late. Knackered. The
phone rang. Helen Oyenusni about
Vernon. I'd have picked up but
seeing them earlier gave me an
excuse not to: "They've already had
a piece of me." Not quite as brutal
as that but almost. So I didn't
pick up. And a few hours later he
was dead.

FATHER PETER FLAHERTY
And if you'd picked up?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
I don't know. I might have spoken
to him, realised how bad he was,
gone galloping round there on my
white charger, saved the day.

FATHER PETER FLAHERTY
And you might not.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Yes.
(pause)
I feel I should tell her.

FATHER PETER FLAHERTY
What good will that do?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Well, undeniably it will...

He jabs his finger into his skull (or whatever) to indicate the easing of conscience. A pause.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN (CONT'D)

You still off the sugar?

FATHER PETER FLAHERTY

(nods)

Four days now. Puts the crucifixion into perspective, doesn't it?

(beat)

She needs you, Michael. She has to have total faith in you. You can't destroy that just to clear your own conscience.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

It's not that.

FATHER PETER FLAHERTY

No?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

No. You lose a loved one suddenly, unnaturally, you want to know everything, Peter. Every detail. People try to hide it from you, thinking it too painful but how dare they? You've lost a son; nothing can be worse than that. And I'm going to be helping her in that quest, Peter. The police will tell her lies and we'll expose those lies. "Total truth please, officer." I can't do that while hiding an inconvenient truth of my own: that, had I acted, her son might well be alive.

FATHER PETER FLAHERTY

What she doesn't know won't hurt her.

Father Michael couldn't disagree more.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Good night.

FATHER PETER FLAHERTY

Have I offended you?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

No, I'm just a bit tired.

62 EXT FATHER PETER FLAHERTY'S HOUSE NIGHT 9 21.15 62

Father Michael leaving.

FATHER PETER FLAHERTY
Good night, Michael.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Good night, Peter.

Father Michael walks away.

63 OMITTED 63

64 EXT STREETS DAY 10 10.00 64

Sudden energy, joy...

Little Lisa Fitzsimmons, delighted, is hurtling along a street. She turns into her own street and hurtles down it towards her house.

She bangs on the front door. One of the boys opens it. She hurries inside.

65 INT CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS'S HOUSE DAY 10 CONT. 65

Lisa runs up the lobby and bursts into the living room. Her Mum, Christina, is here and her aunty, Mariella.

Mariella offers her a little bag/parcel. She takes it, opens it. It's a beautiful communion dress.

Tears of joy. We start to hear a hymn.

66 INT CHRISTINA FITZSIMMONS'S HOUSE DAY 10 10.30 66

The hymn continues. Lisa in her communion dress, the two women beaming, the two boys immersed in Minecraft...

67 EXT STREETS DAY 10 13.00 67

Lisa in her communion dress making her way up the street with her Mum and her Aunt.

Another girl in another street.

A boy in yet another street.

And another girl in the most flamboyant dress you have ever seen. Her parents walk proudly alongside her.

The hymn continues.

68 INT SAINT NICK'S CHURCH DAY 10 13.30 68

The church is packed.

The hymn continues. Girls in communion dresses make their way up the aisle. Boys in shirts and ties.

Lisa...

The Girl In The Flamboyant Dress...

A beaming Father Michael Kerrigan begins to distribute communion.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
The body of Christ.

BOY
Amen.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
The body of Christ.

GIRL

Amen.

On and on. Body of Christ. Amen. Body of Christ. Amen...

We go to the parents of the Girl In The Flamboyant Dress. Her father's finger hovers over a remote control. Back to Father Michael. He's nearing Lisa Fitzsimmons.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

The body of Christ.

GIRL

Amen.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

The body of Christ.

LISA FITZSIMMONS

Amen.

He's only two away from the Girl In The Flamboyant Dress and her parents can hardly contain their excitement.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

The body of Christ.

BOY

Amen.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

The body of Christ.

GIRL IN FLAMBOYANT DRESS

Amen.

The girl's father hits the button on the remote and the girl's flamboyant dress begins to flash like a super charged Christmas Tree. It starts playing music too.

Father Michael's reaction. This is a new one even for him...

Miss Pauline Pickering can hardly believe her eyes.

Christina Fitzsimmons's reaction. Mariella's. Other parents'.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

(resuming)

The body of Christ.

BOY

Amen.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

The body of Christ...

69 INT SAINT NICK'S CHURCH DAY 10 14.00

69

The Mass is over.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

The children were a credit to you all. Their appearance obviously but, more importantly, their behaviour throughout the entire Mass. And finally I have to mention one person without whom today wouldn't have happened. Miss Pickering.

Pauline Pickering is astounded.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN (CONT'D)

Apparently this is the twentieth First Holy Communion celebration she has organised so...

(to Lisa)

Would you, Lisa?

Little Lisa picking up a bouquet and walking towards Miss Pickering.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN (CONT'D)

Miss Pickering, on behalf of us all, thank you.

It's the first time in twenty years that anything like this has happened to her and, overcome, Miss Pickering begins to sob and sob...

She points to her tears and, still sobbing:

PAULINE PICKERING

I'm so happy!

70 EXT HELEN OYENUSI'S HOUSE DAY 10 15.50

70

Helen, Father Michael, Chief Inspector McDonald and the Liaison Officer are walking back to Helen's house. They pass a little shrine of flowers and messages about Vernon. Helen starts reading one and stops almost immediately, puts it back, walks on.

They reach the house. She stops, stares straight ahead.

HELEN OYENUSI

When can I see him?

LIAISON OFFICER

The post mortem's tomorrow. As soon as that's over.

HELEN OYENUSI

Thanks.

In other words, I'm not inviting you in.

Helen and Father Michael enter the house, close the door on the officers.

71 INT HELEN OYENUSI'S HOUSE DAY 10 CONT. 71

Father Michael sees the damaged security chain.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

What happened?

HELEN OYENUSI

Policeman did it. That night.

Father Michael suddenly snaps, yanks open the front door.

72 EXT HELEN OYENUSI'S HOUSE DAY 10 CONT. 72

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

(loud, angry)

Couldn't you have fixed the chain?!

The officers stop, look back.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN (CONT'D)

For God's sake, she's grieving,
vulnerable, alone, so couldn't you
have fixed the bloody...

He stops, gets a grip of himself, shuts the door.

73 INT HELEN OYENUSI'S HOUSE DAY 10 CONT. 73

Father Michael, full of pain, full of guilt. She misreads it, touches his arm (or whatever) in sympathy, walks away towards the kitchen.

And that makes Father Michael feel even worse.

74 INT CONFESSIONAL NIGHT 10 21.15 74

Father Michael, lost in thought, troubled. Someone enters.

ROZ DEMICHELIS

Hello again, Michael.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Hello again, Roz.

ROZ DEMICHELIS

Shall I?

Sit, she means. She's wearing her office clothes.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Yes. Am I alright here?

ROZ DEMICHELIS

Yes.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

How are you?

ROZ DEMICHELIS

Well, this is not my going away outfit so no immediate panic but I'm still going to do it I'm afraid.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

When?

ROZ DEMICHELIS

Soon.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

May I?

Light a candle, he means. It happens to be a brand new one.

ROZ DEMICHELIS

Yes. Am I your first?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

No.

ROZ DEMICHELIS

But I'm the first you've needed a candle for?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Yes.

So she pulls an aren't-I-special face. He smiles.

ROZ DEMICHELIS

Go on then.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Sorry?

ROZ DEMICHELIS

You said you'd give me a reason to go on living.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

If I said that, it was...

ROZ DEMICHELIS
You DID.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
It was arrogant of me, I'm sorry.
But I could suggest something.

ROZ DEMICHELIS
Go on.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
It'll take guts.

ROZ DEMICHELIS
I've got guts.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
You lost most of the money on
machines?

ROZ DEMICHELIS
Yes.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Those machines in the betting shop?

ROZ DEMICHELIS
Yes.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
The more you lost the more you
chased those losses?

ROZ DEMICHELIS
Yes.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Tell the world.

ROZ DEMICHELIS
What?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
I want you to tell the world what
those machines have done to you.

ROZ DEMICHELIS
I'm killing myself because it's
gonna make the local paper. You
want me to tell the world?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Yes. There are four betting shops
in Hallcross Road. No bank, no post
office, no chemist but four betting
shops. Why? Why four when everyone
round there's skint? Those
machines, Roz, that's why.

(MORE)

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN (CONT'D)
Four in each shop, sixteen in all,
and each one sucking up thousands
because they're addictive. It's not
just you, it's everyone. You're not
a criminal; you're not a villain;
you're a victim.

She wants to believe him BUT...

ROZ DEMICHELIS
I don't think my boss would see it
that way.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
What made you steal that money? The
machines. Who got that money? The
machines. Tell the world. If you
don't tell the world, it's a guilty
secret that's gonna be revealed
anyway. If you DO tell the world,
it's a campaign, it's your reason
for living.

ROZ DEMICHELIS
I'll go to prison.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Not immediately. And not forever.

She's tempted but frightened...

ROZ DEMICHELIS
What did you do?

He won't go there.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Others will come forward, Roz. With
stories very similar to yours. We
could get together, keep together
until there's not one machine left
in Hallcross Road.

ROZ DEMICHELIS
(so tempted, so
frightened)
What did you do?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Promise me you'll think about it.
(She nods)
Promise me you'll come back and see
me, you won't do anything until
you've seen me again.

ROZ DEMICHELIS
I promise. What did you do?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
I'm here to listen to you, Roz, not
to...

ROZ DEMICHELIS
You said you did something worse
than stealing two hundred and odd
thousand pounds. What was it?

He hesitates...

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
I've done two things worse than
that. One of them's too recent, too
raw.

ROZ DEMICHELIS
The other?

Again he hesitates.

ROZ DEMICHELIS (CONT'D)
Who d'you think Jesus confided in?
Peter with a poker up his arse?
Judas? Nah: Mary Magdalen. She'd
been there, done it, bought the tee-
shirt. She understood.

He comes to a huge decision. He WILL tell her.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
I treated young women very badly.

ROZ DEMICHELIS
When?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
When I was eighteen, nineteen. Not
all young women, just the ones I
had sex with.

ROZ DEMICHELIS
Why?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Because they let me have sex with
them. It was forty years ago and I
could live with it then. Forty
years ago the only good woman
there'd ever been was the Virgin
Mary 'cause she'd never done it
with anyone whereas a girl who did
it with a boy, any boy, was filth
and if she did it with me, a boy
from whom every last bit of self
esteem was well and truly banished,
well she was less than filth;
(MORE)

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN (CONT'D)
she was scum, and you can treat
scum any way you want.

ROZ DEMICHELIS
Do you remember who they were?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Yes.

ROZ DEMICHELIS
All of them?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Yes.

ROZ DEMICHELIS
Have you seen any of them since?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
In here (head) every day. I tell
myself that one day I'll track them
down and apologise. But I don't
think I could. Or should?
(Looks at her)

She finds that amusing - or professes to.

ROZ DEMICHELIS
You know what the answer to that
is, Michael.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Do I?

ROZ DEMICHELIS
Yes. "You should do what your
conscience tells you to do."

Father Michael's reaction.

75 OMITTED

75

76 OMITTED

76

77 EXT MOVING BUS DAY 11 11.00

77

Father Michael sitting next to Helen Oyenusi on the moving
bus. He wants to tell her...

But he can't...

78 EXT MENTAL HEALTH CENTRE DAY 11 11.10 78

Helen and Father Michael enter the health centre from where Vernon Oyenusi was sent home.

79 INT MENTAL HEALTH CENTRE DAY 11 CONT. 79

The youngish case worker sees them approaching. She is at a loss.

CASE WORKER
Hello, Helen.

HELEN OYENUSI
Hello.

CASE WORKER
Father.

Father Michael nods. He can't disguise his anger.

CASE WORKER (CONT'D)
Trish is on her way.

HELEN OYENUSI
Good.

It's so, so difficult...

CASE WORKER
Would you like to see what we've got?

HELEN OYENUSI
Please.

CASE WORKER
This way.

80 INT MENTAL HEALTH CENTRE DAY 11 CONT. 80

They enter a room, artwork and photographs all over the walls

CASE WORKER
(at a table)
This is a log of every call, text
and e-mail we got about Vernon.
Would you like it?

HELEN OYENUSI
Please.

CASE WORKER
There'll be more but we'll pass
them on as well.
(another file)
(MORE)

CASE WORKER (CONT'D)
And these are photographs taken
throughout his time with us.

Helen looking at them...

The case worker, hopelessly out of her depth, looks to Father Michael for reassurance, finds none.

CASE WORKER (CONT'D)
On the wall there's some of his...

The senior case worker arrives - much to her junior's relief.

SENIOR CASE WORKER
I am so, so sorry!
(approaching Helen)
I am so, so sorry, Helen. Please
say you forgive me.

HELEN OYENUSI
There's nothing TO forgive: you
didn't want to send him away from
here. I'm here to say thank you,
Trish. Thank you for making him so
happy. He loved it here and that
was down to you.

That reduces the senior case worker to tears. She and Helen Oyenusi embrace. In the embrace, Helen extends an arm and the junior case worker joins them.

Father Michael, profoundly moved, watches them.