

BROKEN

Episode 5

Daniel & Carl's Story

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1 OMITTED

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1A EXT CEMETERY - DAY 21 11.00

1A

Roz Demichelis's funeral.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
We take comfort in the hope that
one day we shall see Roz again and
enjoy her love and friendship.
Although we will disperse in
sorrow, the mercy of God will
gather us together again in the joy
of his kingdom. Therefore let us
console one another in the faith of
Jesus Christ.

THE MOURNERS

Amen.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Jesus said to her: I am the
resurrection and the life. Whoever
believes in me shall live even in
death. And whoever lives and
believes in me shall never die.

THE MOURNERS

Amen.

They are lowering the coffin. Jamie, Roz's boss, full of
guilt.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Eternal rest grant unto her, O
Lord. And let perpetual light shine
upon her. May she rest in peace.

THE MOURNERS

Amen.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
May her soul and the souls of all
the faithful departed, through the
mercy of God, rest in peace.

THE MOURNERS

Amen.

But Father Michael can't leave it at that because Roz's
children are in bits.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
"Rest in peace." Let's remember
that. Roz, who was once in turmoil,
now rests in peace. We don't.
(MORE)

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN (CONT'D)
You, Chloe, and Jake and Leo,
you're devastated. Full of pain.
But your suffering is the price you
pay for your mother's peace. It is
Christ-like. So suffer it with
pride. Because Roz, who was once in
turmoil, is now at peace.

That helps. A little...

1B EXT CEMETERY - DAY 21 11.40

1B

They are heading back towards the car. Father Michael joins
Chloe.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
May I scrounge a lift with you?

CHLOE DEMICHELIS
Yes.

They walk together.

CHLOE DEMICHELIS (CONT'D)
She was never religious.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
No?

CHLOE DEMICHELIS
No. So how did you meet?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
She came to see me.

CHLOE DEMICHELIS
To tell you what she'd decided to
do?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
I can't answer that, Chloe.

CHLOE DEMICHELS
Did she talk about us?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Yes. She told me she loved you very
much. And the boys.

CHLOE DEMICHELIS
Didn't stop her though, did it?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Didn't her letter explain it all?

JAMIE

That helps. I thought she robbed me just because she could. But she did it 'cause she had to.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Yes.

JAMIE

They're all in a pension scheme in work. Lump sum on death. And death in service pays double. Oh the irony, Father: in life she lost it all; in death she hit the jackpot.

He's in such pain...

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

You've nothing to reproach yourself for.

JAMIE

You want a bet? No pun intended. I told her I was phoning the police. That's what did it.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

(shakes head)

She'd resolved to kill herself weeks before. It was the shame of what she'd done. Your reaction to it made no difference.

Jamie studies Michael.

JAMIE

I want to believe that so much.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

It's the truth.

A huge weight lifts from Jamie's shoulders.

JAMIE

Thank you.

2	OMITTED	2
3	OMITTED	3
3A	OMITTED	3A
4	OMITTED	4

5	OMI TTED	5
5A	OMI TTED	5A
6	OMI TTED	6
7	OMI TTED	7
8	OMI TTED	8
9	OMI TTED	9

10

EXT HELEN OYENUSI'S STREET - DAY 21 13.30

10

DANIEL MARTIN (a black man) and his two young sons, DANIEL JUNIOR (14) and LUKE (12) are in a taxi that pulls up outside HELEN OYENUSI'S house.

As he pays the driver...

DANIEL MARTIN
Keep the change, please.

...DANIEL sees all the floral tributes to Vernon.

The taxi drives off. DANIEL MARTIN and his sons stand beside their luggage.

DANIEL looks up at HELEN'S house; the curtains are drawn.

In the background we see CARL MCKENNA approaching with a bunch of flowers and a card. He's late 40's, looks older than his years.

CARL MCKENNA
(To DANIEL)
Hey, love, sorry to bother you...

DANIEL turns, taken by surprise. CARL is naturally flamboyant

CARL MCKENNA
(Pleased to meet him/warm)
Ohhhhhh, lovely to meet you. I'm
Carl, I live just across the road.

CARL holds out his hand. An uneasy DANIEL pretends not to notice, begins to gather his luggage.

CARL awkwardly withdraws his hand.

CARL MCKENNA (CONT'D)
(Heartfelt)
I'm so sorry for your loss.

DANIEL nods.

CARL MCKENNA (CONT'D)
(About luggage)
You come far?

DANIEL MARTIN
Trinidad.

CARL MCKENNA
Wow. Well, I won't keep you. Would you mind passing these onto Helen for me?
(The flowers and card)
Tell her I've been meaning to come over for ages but I didn't like to intrude.

How DANIEL hates CARL'S pronunciation of *intrude*.

CARL MCKENNA (CONT'D)
(About flowers)
You can't get anything like this around here. I had to go all the way into town for them.
(Proudly)
Gladioli, flamboyant rather than garish, I feel. Hope she likes them.

As CARL speaks DANIEL looks at his hands holding the flowers. He doesn't want to touch anything where they have been.

The boys share a smile, find CARL'S delivery naturally amusing.

DANIEL MARTIN
(Uneasy/to boys)
Boys, take your luggage...

DANIEL gestures for the boys to head towards the house.

DANIEL MARTIN (CONT'D)
(Polite/to CARL)
You can put them down there with
the others.

CARL MCKENNA
Well, I'd rather...

DANIEL MARTIN
There is fine.

CARL's reaction to DANIEL's hostility.

CARL MCKENNA
Maybe I should just leave it for
now.

DANIEL just looks at him, impassive.

CARL smiles awkwardly, turns and heads back towards his
house.

DANIEL watches him go. Now that CARL'S back is turned he can
barely hide his disgust.

CARL continues towards his house.

Daniel rings Helen's doorbell. And rings it again...

11 EXT HELEN OYENUSI'S STREET DAY 21 CONT.

11

Helen Oyenusi and Father Michael turn into the street.

HELEN OYENUSI
Are you well, Michael?

In the embrace, she looks at the boys. She gestures to them to join them.

HELEN OYENUSI (CONT'D)
The size of you!

The boys join the embrace.

Father Michael watches.

12 INT HELEN OYENUSI'S HOUSE DAY 21 14.10 12

Just Helen, Father Michael and Daniel. The boys aren't here.

HELEN OYENUSI
They were sending him home. He was "the least unwell" they said. Michael said, "Least unwell isn't well" and they agreed but they needed his bed for someone a lot worse than him. So he came home. And he got worse and worse. He asked me to phone Michael and I did but Michael was asleep in bed...

Father Michael's reaction...

HELEN OYENUSI (CONT'D)
So I phoned the crisis team. If I hadn't done that, he'd be alive today...

Father Michael's reaction to THAT!

HELEN OYENUSI (CONT'D)
The crisis team came but Vernon had the chain on the door and he put the knife to his throat and said he'd kill himself before he let them in. So they phoned the police. Why they did that I don't understand but the police came and...

She can't go on.

DANIEL MARTIN
(silently fuming)
Where was he shot?

She indicates outside.

DANIEL MARTIN (CONT'D)
No, where in his body?

She can't bring herself to say it.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
His heart.

And Daniel Martin fumes even more. The doorbell goes. He goes to answer it.

13 EXT HELEN OYENUSI'S STREET DAY 21 CONT.

13

Daniel opens the door and the boys rush in and pass him. He hears a camp "excuse me." He looks.

CARL MCKENNA
(Incensed)
No wonder they carry on like that
if that's your attitude.

DANIEL MARTIN
They're just children, what do you
expect?

CARL MCKENNA
I expect an apology.

DANIEL MARTIN
No. To apologise to you they would
have to speak to you and my boys
will have nothing to do with the
likes of you.

CARL MCKENNA
The likes of me?

DANIEL MARTIN
Yes.

CARL MCKENNA
What do you mean by that?

DANIEL MARTIN
You know exactly what I mean.

14 INT HELEN OYENUSI'S HOUSE DAY 21 CONT. 14

Helen and Father Michael hear the raised voices.

CARL MCKENNA (V.O.)
I'm gay, is that what you're
saying?

DANIEL MARTIN (V.O.)
Gay? I do not recognise the word
"gay"

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
(to Helen)
I'll go see.

CARL MCKENNA (V.O.)
I'm gay; therefore your boys can
call me queer.

15 EXT HELEN OYENUSI'S STREET DAY 21 CONT. 15

CARL MCKENNA
Fine, so next time I see you in the
street I can call you a nigger,
yeah? Bye.

DANIEL MARTIN
What did you just say?

CARL MCKENNA
(stopping)
They call me queer, I can call you names too.

Daniel hesitates for a split second. And it is exactly at this split second that Father Michael comes out of the house.

Daniel takes a few steps towards Carl and punches him.

CARL falls to the ground; his nose begins to bleed.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Daniel! What the hell's going on?

DANIEL MARTIN
(Seething)
Ask him.

A furious DANIEL storms back inside. CARL gets up, clutching his bleeding nose.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
(To CARL)
Are you okay?

CARL just turns and hurries back across the street. FATHER MICHAEL goes after him.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN (CONT'D)
What was that all about? What did you say to him?

CARL is too angry to speak.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN (CONT'D)
You need to put something on it.
Frozen peas, something like...

CARL MCKENNA
I don't need advice from you, thank you very much.

CARL MCKENNA heads inside and slams the door.

FATHER MICHAEL turns, hurries back across the road towards HELEN Oyenusi's house.

16 INT. HELEN OYENUSI'S HOUSE - DAY 21 CONT.

16

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN heads back inside. DANIEL MARTIN is scolding his sons in the hall.

DANIEL MARTIN
(Furious/through gritted
teeth)
What do you think you're playing at
bringing trouble to your aunt's
door.

He raises his hand in frustration, both boys flinch. DANIEL stops himself, he just means to scare them but it's clear he rules them with a rod of iron. DANIEL looks up, sees FATHER MICHAEL.

DANIEL MARTIN (CONT'D)
(To boys)
Just get out my sight.

The boys don't need telling twice, they hurry upstairs, tails between their legs. HELEN appears.

HELEN OYENUSI
What's going on?

FATHER MICHAEL just stares at DANIEL.

DANIEL MARTIN
(Calm)
Nothing Helen, let's go back
inside...

He ushers HELEN into the living room.

17 INT. CARL MCKENNA'S HOUSE - DAY 21 14.20 17

CARL MCKENNA has managed to stem the blood flowing from his nose. He peers through the net curtains at HELEN'S house before coming to a big decision.

18 EXT. HELEN OYENUSI'S STREET - DAY 21 14.25 18

A defiant CARL MCKENNA leaves his house and heads along the street.

19 EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY 21 15.10 19

CARL MCKENNA walks into a police station.

20 EXT. STREETS - DAY 21 15.45 20

A police car cruises along.

21 EXT. HELEN OYENUSI'S STREET - DAY 21 15.48 21

The police car turns into Helen's street.

It passes Carl McKenna's house. Carl, at the window, watches it go.

It pulls up outside Helen's house.

P.C. KEVIN KNOX (late 30's), and P.C. HALEY MAGEE (mixed heritage, late 20's) get out the car and ring the doorbell.

Father Michael opens the door.

P.C. KEVIN KNOX
Hello. Can we come in?

A concerned look from FATHER MICHAEL.

DANIEL MARTIN
(Thrown)
M. A. R. T. I. N. Why?

P. C. KEVIN KNOX jots it down.

P. C. KEVIN KNOX
Mr Martin, we've received a complaint that you assaulted a man just outside at roughly 2.15 this afternoon.

HELEN OYENUSI
What are you talking about?

DANIEL MARTIN
Is this a joke?

P. C. KEVIN KNOX
We wouldn't joke about something as serious as this.

DANIEL MARTIN
Serious?

P. C. KEVIN KNOX
Sir, the man alleges it was a homophobic attack. A hate crime. If found guilty of a hate crime you will go to prison. So yes, Sir: very serious.

DANIEL MARTIN
More serious than the killing of a black teenager by white police officers? We can see what's going on here, officer. You have killed a young boy therefore discredit him and all his family.

P. C. KEVIN KNOX
Did you assault Carl McKenna, Sir?

DANIEL MARTIN
No.

HELEN OYENUSI
Carl!

DANIEL MARTIN
(to Helen)
He came here hurling racist abuse
(to the officers)
But I did NOT assault him.

HELEN OYENUSI
Carl wouldn't do that.

P. C. HALEY MAGEE
He says you witnessed it, Father.
It is Father, is it?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Michael will do.

P. C. HALEY MAGEE
What did you see, Michael?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
I'll need some time to think about
that.

P. C. HALEY MAGEE
Time?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Yes.

P. C. HALEY MAGEE
It's a very simple thing, Michael:
just tell us what you saw.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Simple?

P. C. HALEY MAGEE
Yes.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Lots of officers witnessed Vernon's
death and not one of them has said
what they saw. Why is that if it is
so simple?

That really gets to the two coppers.

P. C. KEVIN KNOX
How long will you need to think
about it?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
A day or two.

23 EXT. HELEN OYENUSI'S STREET - DAY 21 16.01

23

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN walking.

He gets to CARL MCKENNA'S house and knocks on the door. He
waits. No reply.

He glances across towards HELEN OYENUSI'S house.

FATHER MICHAEL knocks again. CARL MCKENNA finally appears,
FATHER MICHAEL can see his silhouette through the mottled
glass of the front door before he opens it.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Hello again.

CARL MCKENNA
What d'you want?

Michael is offering him something.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Frozen peas. Put them on the pain.
Wrap them in cloth first otherwise
they'll stick to it.

CARL MCKENNA
You've had direct experience, have
you?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Yes. Before I was a priest I was a
professional gobshite and quite a
few people took a swing at me.

CARL MCKENNA
(taking them)
Ta.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
I'm Michael.

CARL MCKENNA
Carl. What can I do you for,
Michael?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Can I come in?

CARL hesitates.

CARL MCKENNA
It's not the Ritz.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
I don't mind.

CARL MCKENNA looks unsure; he finally nods for FATHER MICHAEL
to follow him inside.

24 INT. CARL MCKENNA'S HOUSE - DAY 21 CONT.

24

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN follows CARL MCKENNA through the
narrow cluttered hall...

FATHER MICHAEL surveys the room. It's a mess, curtains drawn. CARL switches the small portable telly off.

CARL MCKENNA
(Making light of the
chaos)
Quentin Crisp said after the third
year the dust doesn't get any
worse. I live in hope.
(Clearing a space on the
sofa)
Have a seat, Father.

FATHER MICHAEL tries to reach the sofa without stepping on any clutter.

CARL MCKENNA (CONT'D)
Would you like a drink?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
No, no, I'm fine. Thank you.

FATHER MICHAEL notices an urn on the mantelpiece. CARL has made a small shrine. Several candles and some incense are burning.

CARL MCKENNA
(Nodding to urn)
Brenda. My mum.

An uneasy FATHER MICHAEL watches as CARL picks up a small lump of hash and begins to build a one skinner spliff, his shaky hands spilling tobacco all over the floor.

CARL MCKENNA (CONT'D)
Forgive me, Father, it's the only
thing that stops my poor little

CARL MCKENNA

When they first came back, I
sprinkled a tiny bit into a spliff.

FATHER MICHAEL tries not to show his horror.

CARL MCKENNA (CONT'D)

I was beside myself, hoped it would
make her a part of me forever. But

FATHER MICHAEL smiles. CARL stops at the catacombs.

CARL MCKENNA (CONT'D)
Just look at that stonework, isn't
it sublime?

FATHER MICHAEL and CARL gaze inside.

CARL MCKENNA (CONT'D)
(Enjoying saying the word
aloud)
Catacomb. Have you ever heard such
a terrifying word in your entire
life?

FATHER MICHAEL smiles, they continue walking.

CARL MCKENNA (CONT'D)
(Suddenly opening up)
I first saw him getting out of a
cab just outside Helen's. I
approached him and asked him to
pass on some flowers to her but he
refused. He didn't give an
explanation but he didn't have to.
Homophobia can be very subtle like
that: you just know. Then a few
hours later his boys were messing
about outside my door and one of
them fell against it. I went out
and politely asked them to move
further down the street. They
called me a queer and ran off,
laughing. So I knocked at Helen's,
told him what had happened. Instead
of reprimanding them he warned me
never to approach his children
again like I'm some kind of...
(He stops/can't even bring
himself to say it)
When I realised no apology would be
forthcoming I couldn't help myself,
told him the next time I saw him
walking down the street I might
feel compelled to call him by a
certain word and see how he likes
it. It was at that point you
entered stage left for the dramatic
finale.

It's not funny but CARL'S delivery is. FATHER MICHAEL
struggles to suppress a smile.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
There's never any justification for
violence but that family are
already suffering so much.

CARL MCKENNA
You don't have to tell me, Father.
What those bastards, excuse my
French, what they did to Vernon is
unforgiveable. He was a good lad,
always gave me the time of day.

They'll leave the cemetery at some point in this.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
I'm not trying to make excuses for
him but he'd just arrived on a very
long flight from a totally
different culture, he was jet-
lagged, grieving...

CARL MCKENNA
(opening the door to a
phonebox)
I'm grieving, I don't go around
punching innocent people. Entrez.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
(following)
What are you doing?

Carl guides Father Michael in.

27 INT. PHONE BOX - DAY 21 CONT.

27

Inside the cramped phone box CARL gets out his cigarettes,
papers and hash.

CARL MCKENNA
Sorry Father, but I'm gaggin'.

Carl begins to skin up on the shelf beside the phone,
spilling tobacco everywhere.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
(Uneasy)
I really don't think you should
be... (doing that here)

FATHER MICHAEL looks uneasy. He watches as CARL continues to skin up.

CARL MCKENNA (CONT'D)
(Out of blue/intrigued)
What made you become a priest?

FATHER MICHAEL is taken aback, it's a big question.

CARL MCKENNA (CONT'D)
Please tell me it was sunbeams
through a stained glass window,
iridescent light, the sound of
heavenly choirs...

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
(Smiles)
If only it had been that obvious.

CARL MCKENNA
I watch too many films. Are you
celibate?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Yes.

CARL MCKENNA
I am too these days but not from
choice. Are you allowed a wank?

FATHER MICHAEL is so stunned he laughs.

CARL MCKENNA (CONT'D)
Sorry, I've often wondered but
never had the chance to ask until
now.
(Grins)
Let's face it, it's not every day
you find yourself skinning up with
a Catholic priest in a public phone
box, is it?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
The church teaches that all sexual
activity outside marriage is wrong.

CARL MCKENNA
I'll take that as a yes.
(Waving his completed
spliff)
Shall we?

CARL pushes the door open and heads off wrong.

28 INT. CARL MCKENNA'S HOUSE - DAY 21 17.00

28

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN and CARL MCKENNA head into the living room. Carl has a single plastic bag.

The curtains remain closed, the room gloomy.

CARL MCKENNA

Thank you, I enjoyed that.

FATHER MICHAEL notices CARL'S duvet and pillows etc on the sofa.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

You sleep down here?

CARL MCKENNA

I don't really like going upstairs since Brenda passed. Besides, it's freezing up there and I've got no gas.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

How do you mean?

CARL MCKENNA

They've put me on one of these pre-paid meters but it's not worth putting anything on it.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Why not?

CARL MCKENNA

Cos I owe them a fortune so if I put a tenner on the key they take most of it straight back and it's run out again before you know it...

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

How long has this been going on?

CARL MCKENNA

Since Brenda died.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

But it's been perishing.

CARL MCKENNA

(Nods to a tiny electric fan heater/playing it down)

You wouldn't believe the heat she gives off.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

How do you cook?

CARL MCKENNA
(Blase)
I don't.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
And what about washing?

CARL MCKENNA
(Playing it down)
To be perfectly honest, I don't
mind cold baths.

FATHER MICHAEL smiles sadly.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
I'm afraid I can't help with your
gas but I could arrange vouchers
for the food bank if... (you ever
needed)

Carl is smiling now.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN (CONT'D)
What?

CARL MCKENNA
You think I don't know what this is
really about?

A look from FATHER MICHAEL.

CARL MCKENNA (CONT'D)
You want me to forget everything.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Yes. Helen's going through hell.
This is...

CARL MCKENNA
I know.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
...the last thing she needs right
now. He came...

CARL MCKENNA
I know.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
...to ease her grief, not to add to
it.

CARL MCKENNA
I know. I'm more than happy to
forget everything, Michael.

FATHER MICHAEL looks relieved.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Thank you.

CARL MCKENNA
The moment he comes over here and
shakes my hand it's all over.

FATHER MICHAEL'S smile fades.

29 EXT. HELEN OYENUSI'S STREET - DAY 21 17.03 29

Father Michael walking towards HELEN'S house.

30 INT. HELEN OYENUSI'S HOUSE - DAY 21 17.05 30

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN is sitting with HELEN OYENUSI and
DANIEL MARTIN.

DANIEL MARTIN
Shake his hand?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
I just think for the sake of...

DANIEL MARTIN
Father, I'm disappointed you would
even suggest such a thing.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
But...

DANIEL MARTIN
Are you forgetting what he called
me?

HELEN OYENUSI
(Wary)
Daniel, would it really be so hard
to swallow your pride just this
once?

DANIEL MARTIN
This isn't about pride, Helen, it's
about what's right.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
I'm sure if you actually spoke to
Carl you'd be able to find some
common ground.

A dismissive look from DANIEL.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN (CONT'D)
He's grieving too. He only lost his
mother a few months back.

CHRISTOPHER KERRIGAN

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
(going forward, about to
release the ball)
"They think it's all over."

JOE KERRIGAN
We're watching your feet.

He releases it.

The ball rolling.

CHRISTOPHER KERRIGAN
Oh no.

The ball rolling.

EDDIE KERRIGAN
It's bang on.

The ball rolling.

JOE KERRIGAN
Oh shit.

The ball crashes into the pins. A strike.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
"It is now!"

30B INT MICHAEL'S MOTHER'S HOUSE NIGHT 21 22.00

30B

Michael kneels or squats close to his bedridden mother. He shows her the host.

*

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Behold the Lamb of God, behold him
who takes away the sins of the
world. Blessed are those called to
the supper of the Lamb.

*

*

*

*

FATHER MICHAEL'S MOTHER
Lord, I am not worthy that you...

But she is too ill. He helps her.

BOTH
...should enter under my roof, but
only say the word and my soul shall
be healed.

He breaks the host into halves, into quarters, into eighths (taking infinite care with every single bit because the host is sacred). At last he has a piece that his mother might be able to swallow.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
The body of Christ.

FATHER MICHAEL'S MOTHER
Amen.

She places it into her mouth but swallowing is difficult.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
(the chalice)
The blood of Christ.

FATHER MICHAEL'S MOTHER
Amen.

He holds her, helps her to sip some wine with which to wash down the host. She succeeds.

Her enormous gratitude, his profound humility. The two of them almost in tears.

30C EXT MOVING TRAIN DAY 22 15.00 30C

Father Michael travelling back from Sheffield.

Through the window, birds circling in the sky. We start to hear - incongruously - someone banging on a door.

30D FLASHBACK INT YOUNG FATHER MICHAEL'S HOUSE DAY 30D

Young Michael, Young Joe, Young Eddie, Young Christopher, Young Beth, their younger sister Ness, their father and mother, all sitting in silence as someone bangs and bangs on the door.

30E EXT MOVING TRAIN DAY 22 CONT. 30E

Back to Father Michael on the train.

30F FLASHBACK ROOFTOP DAY 30F

Roz Demicheli is staring accusingly into camera.

30G EXT MOVING TRAIN DAY 22 CONT. 30G

Back to Father Michael on the train.

31 OMITTED 31

31A OMITTED 31A

31B OMITTED

31B

32

OMITTED

32

33

OMITTED

33

Father Michael is lost in thought, staring at Christ on the cross.

DANIEL MARTIN enters, looks around, finds it all very strange, very "modern".

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
You're not used to this?

DANIEL Martin shakes his head.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN (CONT'D)
It's how it is these days.

DANIEL is very uncertain.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN (CONT'D)
I could turn the chair around, face
that way.

DANIEL is still uncertain.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN (CONT'D)

DANIEL MARTIN

Please.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

(Gesturing)

This way.

35 INT. CHURCH - NIGHT 22 CONT. 35

They leave the confessional, walk up the aisle a bit, along a pew and up to a traditional confessional box with two doors.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

You go in there. I go in here.

FATHER MICHAEL goes in one, DANIEL the other.

36 INT. TRADITIONAL CONFESSIONAL - NIGHT 22 CONT. 36

FATHER MICHAEL takes a seat close to the traditional grille or screen. DANIEL kneels at the other side.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

That better?

DANIEL MARTIN

Yes, thank you. I confess to Almighty God, to Blessed Mary Ever Virgin, to Blessed Michael the Archangel, to the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul...

FATHER MICHAEL'S reaction. He hasn't heard this in YEARS.

DANIEL MARTIN (CONT'D)

To all the Saints and to you, my Father, that I have sinned exceedingly in thought, word and deed. Through my fault.

(Beats his chest)

Through my fault. Through my most grievous fault.

A silence. DANIEL can't understand it.

DANIEL MARTIN (CONT'D)

Father?

FATHER MICHAEL realises he has to say something.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

May the Lord help you to confess your sins with true sorrow.

DANIEL MARTIN

I have examined my conscience,
Father, and punching that man is
not on it. I did it in righteous
anger, the same anger that made
Christ drive the money-men from the
temple. A white man calls a black
man nigger, he must be punished.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

He used that word only because your
boys had called him queer and you
refused to do anything about it.

DANIEL MARTIN

Those words are nowhere near
equivalent, Father. You can hide
your sexuality; I can't hide this.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

You really believe Carl could hide
the kind of man he is?

DANIEL MARTIN

Yes but he chooses not to. In fact
he goes further: he advertises it.
And, in doing that, he is a danger
to my sons, to all our sons.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Why?

DANIEL MARTIN

Because homosexual boys get bullied
to death, Father.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

As do heterosexual.

DANIEL MARTIN

A lot more homosexual than
heterosexual, Father. Their life is
made a misery.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

In which case we should all try to
be more tolerant...

DANIEL MARTIN

(Dismissive)

But show them you're homosexual and they turn quickest of all. You call them gay in this country. They are not gay. They are sad. So, so sad. And I'll make sure my boys know that. Better to live a lie than reveal a truth like that.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
You called your anger "righteous"?

DANIEL MARTIN
Yes.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
In the eyes of God, I assume.

DANIEL MARTIN
Yes.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

DANIEL MARTIN
Have they not lied to us?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
You're asking me to lie, to expose
myself to Carl McKenna as a liar,
and then say Mass, give out the
holy sacrament?

DANIEL MARTIN
No worse than what you're asking of
me. To say I'm sorry when I am not.
To go against my faith, my
Catholicism. And for what? Fear of
imprisonment. That is cowardice.
That is hypocrisy. I will not do it
and I am disgusted that a catholic
priest should ask me to.

We fade in the sound of a smoke alarm.

37 INT ROZ DEMICHELI'S HOUSE - DAY 23 09.05 37

Chloe is in her mother's bed. She wakes to the sound of a
smoke alarm - a common occurrence. She gets up.

38 INT ROZ DEMICHELI'S HOUSE - DAY 23 CONT. 38

The smoke alarm still buzzes away. Chloe comes downstairs and
into the kitchen.

Her brother Jake is scraping burnt toast into the sink. The
kitchen is a mess. Crockery, cutlery, glasses, food, cans...

She heads for the living room.

39 INT ROZ DEMICHELI'S HOUSE - DAY 23 CONT. 39

Chloe into the living room. It's even worse in here.

40 INT ROZ DEMICHELI'S HOUSE - DAY 23 CONT. 40

Chloe back into the kitchen and heading for the stairs.

CHLOE DEMICHELI S
I'm not doing it.

Jake looks around at the mess..

CHLOE DEMICHELI S (CONT'D)
"I'm not your ski vvy," Mum said.

And she goes back up the stairs.

41 INT ROZ DEMICHELI'S HOUSE - DAY 23 CONT. 41

Chloe comes back into her mother's bedroom and clambers into her mother's bed and pulls the duvet around her.

41A INT PRIEST'S HOUSE - DAY 23 CONT. 41A

Father Michael Kerrigan looking through the window at someone knocking on his door.

Two police officers.

The knocking continues. Father Michael punches a number into his phone.

41B EXT BEACH - DAY 23 CONT. 41B

Andrew Powell, watching his wife playing with their toddler, answers his mobile phone.

PC ANDREW POWELL

Hello.

We intercut as we wish.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN237 Tm /TT1 1 Tf (The kr

PC ANDREW POWELL

No.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

If I make it and Daniel's found
guilty, what will he get?

PC ANDREW POWELL
I'd say four to six years. It's a
hate crime, you see.

Andrew Powell Looking at his wife and child and losing it a
bit

PC ANDREW POWELL (CONT'D)
But when he's done it he'll be
thrown out the country and not
allowed back. Which means he'll

CARL MCKENNA (CONT'D)

It's a cycle of hate perpetuated by your church and as far as I'm concerned the world will be a better place when Catholicism and every other religion has been consigned to history.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

My church teaches compassion for all human beings regardless of their religion, race or sexuality.

CARL MCKENNA

And it also teaches that I'm a sinner. Which is something you go along with, Michael, 'cause if you didn't, you'd be on the dole.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Look, I'm not asking you to do this for me, or for him, I'm asking you to do it for Helen, she's suffered enough.

CARL MCKENNA

And if you had any idea how much I've suffered then you wouldn't dream of putting me in this position.

A guilty look from FATHER MICHAEL.

CARL MCKENNA (CONT'D)

Now the police told me that if anyone tried to intimidate me or put pressure on me to drop the charges then I should report them immediately.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

I'm not here to put pressure on you.

CARL MCKENNA

(Challenging)

Have you made your statement yet?

FATHER MICHAEL is thrown, CARL doesn't need an answer.

CARL MCKENNA (CONT'D)

And you try to make out you're impartial? Just go, Father. We both know whose side you're really on.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Believe me, Carl, I'm not on anyone's side.

(MORE)

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN (CONT'D)

I'm like the man with a chip on BOTH shoulders: I'm just as screwed up over straight sex as I am about gay. I WILL make a statement and I'll tell the absolute truth, but first there's nothing I'd like more than to get the four of us in a room together because I'm sick of this Ban Ki-moon act.

CARL MCKENNA

You are joking?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

If not for me, then for Helen.

44 INT. FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN'S HOUSE - DAY 23 13.00 44

CARL MCKENNA, DANIEL MARTIN and HELEN OYENUSI sitting around a table. FATHER MICHAEL lighting a candle. Optimism...

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

This is to remind us of the presence of Christ and to enable us to speak truth with compassion.

We fade in and out as each person speaks

DANIEL MARTIN

All I've ever wanted is to set a good example to my sons, protect them from the evils of this world and in here...

(His heart)

I know that homosexuality is one of them. And not because I'm homophobic, not because I'm repulsed by what two men choose to do together, but because the bible clearly states that homosexuals will not inherit the kingdom of God.

FADE OUT.

CARL MCKENNA

"Choose"! I was raised a Catholic too, I loved it, believed it with all my heart. But I also knew I was different. I even wondered if God was calling ME to be a priest. But I soon realised, no, I was just gay. I prayed and prayed for God to make it stop, to make me 'normal' but He didn't listen.

(MORE)

CARL MCKENNA (CONT'D)

I'd been brought up to believe that being gay was a sin, that God hated gay people, so why would I choose such a thing when I knew it meant the church that I loved would no longer welcome me? Choose? Don't make me laugh.

FADE OUT.

HELEN OYENUSI

This will hurt you both but in these circumstances I cannot lie. Daniel, you have always been holier-than-thou. Carl, you have always been one to light the blue touchpaper and run away. And now you have met. And it is a match made in hell. Two stupid, stubborn men refusing to back down, locking horns, totally forgetting the only thing that should matter: bringing Vernon home.

FADE OUT.

CARL MCKENNA

Yes, the world is full of gay men who can hide their sexuality, live a lie, but you seriously believe that was ever an option for me? The way I am, the way I speak, it's not some affectation, it's not something I do to shock or intimidate people, it's just the way I was born and I make no apologies for that. At least not anymore. And if you believe in God then you also have to believe that it was your God who created me this way.

FADE OUT.

HELEN OYENUSI

You were in pain, Carl, angry, just waiting for someone to come along and give you an excuse to lash out and do you want to know how I know that? Because I feel exactly the same, I feel just as angry as you. I know how it feels when the person you love most of all in this world is taken from you. When your only reason to wake up in the morning is no longer there.

FADE OUT.

CARL MCKENNA

I wasn't even gonna report it at first, I didn't think they'd take it seriously but credit where credit's due, I've been amazed by how supportive they've been. When I was growing up in the eighties, you see, gay bashing was a national sport and Britain was full of gold medalists but things are finally starting to change and hallelujah for that, because the only way to stamp out this kind of hatred is to come down heavily on those who perpetrate it.

FADE OUT.

DANIEL MARTIN

A sinner needs a priest, yes, but let him first be contrite, ashamed, penitent. This man is none of those things. His mincing, his voice, his innuendos all announce that he is ready to sin again, that he is proud of it, boastful of it. This is a sin that my church has utterly condemned so how can a priest find it so amusing?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

I didn't intend to speak but I suppose I have to answer that, yes?

DANIEL MARTIN

Yes.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

I am not amused by IT; I am amused by HIM.

DANIEL MARTIN

Really?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Yes.

DANIEL MARTIN

We were all teenagers once, yes?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

Yes.

DANIEL MARTIN

Unsure at times about our sexuality, yes?

Yes.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN

44A

INT SAINT NICK'S SOCIAL CLUB NIGHT 23 20.15

44A

Sudden energy, sudden tremendous energy. A woman with hardly any hair struts down a makeshift catwalk as everyone in the club screams out and bangs out and claps out "Sisters Are Doing It For Themselves".

It's the local breast cancer group's fashion show.

No one belts it out louder than Father Michael Kerrigan.

Another woman struts her stuff. And another. Thin ones, fat ones, old ones, young ones.

EVERYONE

Sisters are doing it for
themselves.
Standing on their own two feet
And ringing on their own bells.
Sisters are doing it for
themselves...

On and on they go. Energy, humanity...

44B

INT SAINT NICK'S SOCIAL CLUB - NIGHT 23 21.30

44B

They're now all up on the dance floor belting out "We Are The Champions."

He approaches a house, rings the bell. Father Peter Flaherty opens the door.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
(entering)
Thanks. Again.

46 INT FATHER PETER FLAHERTY'S HOUSE - NIGHT 23 22.05 46

Father Peter Flaherty pouring tea again.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
He's punched a man. I saw it. I'll
have to say I saw it. He'll go down
for it and he'll see himself as
some sort of Catholic martyr when
he does.

FATHER PETER FLAHERTY
No other way?

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
No. Thanks.
(for the tea)
Carl won't back down and why should
he? Daniel won't either. I know
what I should say: "Daniel, thanks
to catholic teaching you're a
totally fucked up human being but

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
...cope usually, honest.

FATHER PETER FLAHERTY
It's okay. It's a bit like buses.
You wait months for a good juicy
dilemma and then two or three come

Father Michael, Daniel and Helen in a moving taxi. Helen is dressed in a Barcelona shirt and she is holding another one

Holy Mary, mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen. Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee...

On and on. We continue to hear the choir.

55 EXT MERSEY FERRY - DAY 24 CONT. 55

Seagulls scream and hover and swoop.

Carl McKenna watches them. He is holding the urn containing his mother's ashes.

He shakes the ashes into the wind, into the waves.

We still hear the choir.

Back to the seagulls, back to the sky.

56 EXT ROAD - DAY 24 13.00 56

Father Michael, Helen and Daniel sit alongside Vernon's coffin in a moving hearse.

Another funeral car follows. We continue to hear the choir.

57 EXT HELEN OYENUSI'S STREET - DAY 24 13.13 57

People line the street to welcome Vernon home.

Silence. Excruciating silence...

DANIEL MARTIN
Barcelona?

HELEN OYENUSI
Yes.

DANIEL MARTIN
Why Barcelona?

HELEN OYENUSI
We watched them together. He liked
Messi. Something Messi.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
Lionel Messi.

HELEN OYENUSI
Yes. "I know you like Messi,
Vernon; I've seen your room"

Which leads to another excruciating silence.

HELEN OYENUSI (CONT'D)
If there's one shred of comfort I
can take from this it's that deep
down I'm glad God took him before
me.

DANIEL's reaction to that..

HELEN OYENUSI (CONT'D)
The number of sleepless nights I've
had worrying about what would
become of him if anything happened
to me. He was such a kind and
loving boy but when he was having
one of his episodes he was so...
(searching for the word)
Difficult.
(pause)

I knew no matter how hard I prayed
the chances of him ever leading a
normal life were slim. I worried
about him growing old, the thought
of him ending up in some
institution, with nobody in the
world to love him.

She looks at Daniel. She steels herself for this...

HELEN OYENUSI (CONT'D)
Brenda understood how I felt.

DANIEL doesn't know any Brenda.

HELEN OYENUSI (CONT'D)
His mother. Carl's mother.

DANIEL's reaction to that.

HELEN OYENUSI (CONT'D)
We both had sons who were troubled
in their own ways. That's why we
felt such affinity.

That really gets to Daniel.

HELEN OYENUSI (CONT'D)
Yes?

DANIEL MARTIN
This is unfair.

HELEN OYENUSI
What is unfair?

DANIEL MARTIN
I cannot argue with you. I cannot
contradict you in these
circumstances.

HELEN OYENUSI
Why not? You have done nothing BUT
contradict me since the moment you
arrived so why stop now? Because
he's home? Is he more dead now than
he was before, more dead now that
you can see him?

(beat)

Her son and mine both had their
difficulties growing up, were both
picked on for being different and
we bonded because of it: because
our boys were so alike!

(pause)

When Brenda was diagnosed she came
to me, worried about what would
become of Carl. I promised her I
would always keep an eye out for
him and I intend to keep that
promise. She was a good mother who
never once tried to change him but
accepted him for who he was and I
so admired her for that. Her love
was unconditional and that's
exactly how it should be.

DANIEL remains silent. HELEN looks down at VERNON.

HELEN OYENUSI (CONT' D)

Father Michael is staring at Daniel Martin, wanting him to acknowledge Carl's generosity.

But Daniel doesn't see "generosity" or "humanity" or whatever; he sees only the work of God.

DANIEL MARTIN
Praise the Lord.

The others are unimpressed by that.

Carl is at the door by now. He leaves.

63

EXT CARL MCKENNA'S HOUSE - DAY 24 14.02

63

Father Michael arrives at Carl's front door and knocks.

Carl opens it eventually. It's as if he knows EXACTLY what Father Michael is about to say.

FATHER MICHAEL KERRIGAN
There's more Christianity in your
little finger than in that man's
entire body.

Carl is unimpressed.

CARL MCKENNA
Tell your bishop that. Your pope.
Shout it from the rooftops. Don't
come here and WHISPER it, you
bloody hypocrite.

A bull's eye - and they both know it.

Carl shuts the door on Father Michael.

END OF EP 5.