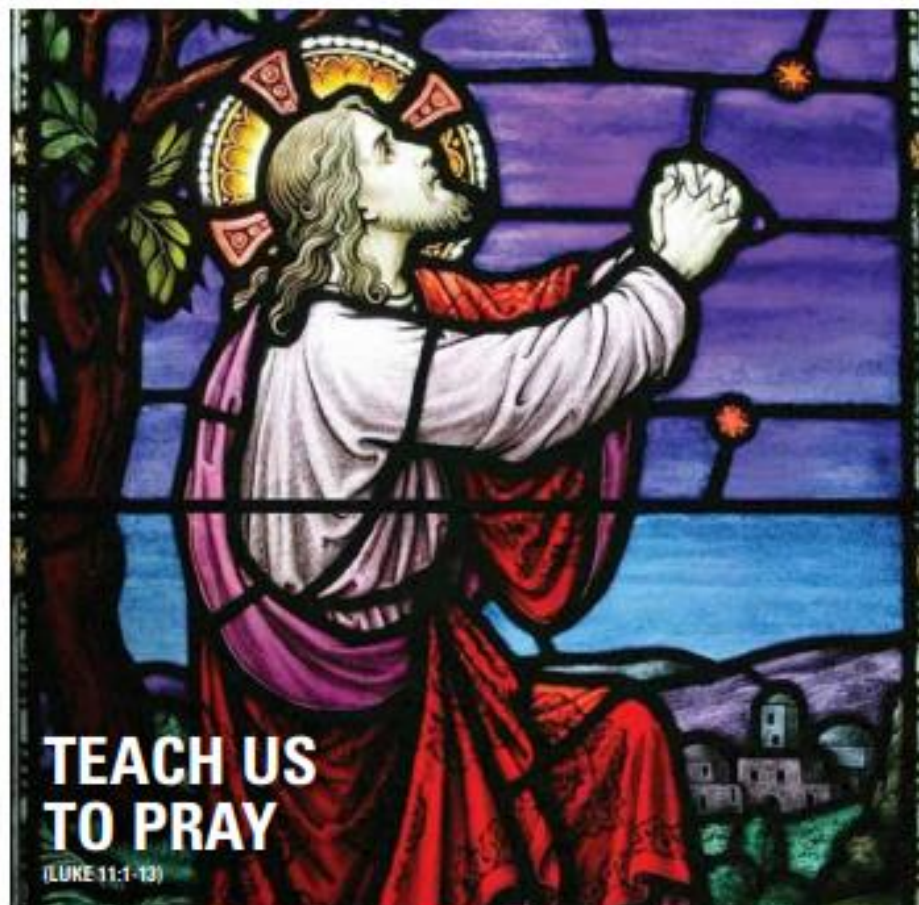


## THE WORD

Year C • Season Colour: Green • Psalter Week 1



## TEACH US TO PRAY

(LUKE 11:1-13)

One feature of the writings of Luke is his emphasis on prayer. From his first appearance as an adult, at his baptism, Jesus is shown as praying at significant points in his ministry, as well as regularly, as in our Gospel reading today.

The disciples have noticed him spending time communicating with God and ask him to instruct them how to do this themselves. They are not asking Jesus simply as an individual teacher, but one with the authority of a prophet, someone in the line of John the Baptist. Jesus the prophet is another theme running through Luke's version of the Good News.

Luke's presentation of the Lord's Prayer is shorter, less detailed than Matthew's (the one we normally use). It consists of five requests: the first two refer to God and the coming of God's kingdom: God's name being held holy and the establishing of God's kingdom are, in some ways, the same thing.

The other three petitions concern the reader and reflect important themes of Luke's Gospel. These are, firstly, asking for our daily needs to be met: the second request is that God forgives us our sins, but we might note that God's forgiveness depends on our willingness to forgive those who have offended us in some way or other; the third and final appeal asks that we may not be put to the severest test, which means standing up for what we believe in in the face of persecution, because we might well not pass the test.

The second part of our Gospel extract today emphasises the importance of keeping on praying and not giving up, even if we seem to be receiving no answer. ■

## SAY

**Father, may your name be held holy: your kingdom come.**

(Luke 1:2)

## REFLECT

Luke's version of the Lord's Prayer is shorter than the words we usually use, for example, in the Communion Rite at Mass. We might consider some of the lines which we hear today and to think about the prayer in modern speech may give us a different understanding of what we say automatically when we start off "Our Father, who art in heaven". Sometimes, archaic language, sometimes described as 'traditional' or 'sacred/sacral' can obscure the real meaning of the text.

In Luke's version, we ask God to 'forgive us our sins, for we forgive each one who is in debt to us.' Does this make more sense than talking about "trespasses"? It emphasises that the forgiveness we hope for from God depends on our willingness to forgive other people who have offended us. There is no cheap grace in the Christian life.

'Do not put us to the test' is perhaps a better translation than "Lead us not into temptation": we will see that testing is to find out what Jesus is all about, as at his baptism and then the testing scene at the beginning of the Gospel narrative: this theme returns at Gethsemane.

The Lord's Prayer has greater significance – and consequences – than perhaps we realise, and which may fade as a result of constant repetition. ■

## LEARN

Jesus spent special time in prayer, in communication with God, throughout his life and ministry.

There are two versions of the Lord's Prayer in the Gospel tradition: that of Matthew and that of Luke.

God's forgiving us of our sins is in direct proportion to our forgiving other people.

"Temptation" in the Lord's Prayer is better understood as 'test': the test is to be faithful to our beliefs, just as Jesus was, and which led him to the cross.

## DO

Learn Luke's version of the Lord's Prayer from today's gospel: use it for a few days and see how it influences your understanding of the teaching of Jesus.

# Parishes of Dromara and Drumgooland

Fr Peter McNeill Tel: 406 50207 Emergency Tel: 079 69403762  
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**24<sup>th</sup> July 2022**  
**17<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

## Weekend masses

**Sat** 6:00pm Dechomet  
7:30pm Leitrim  
**Sun** 9:00am Gargory  
11:00am Dromara

No weekday masses this week  
(next weekday mass Fri 5<sup>th</sup> Aug 7:30pm Dromara)

I will be away on holiday from Sun 17<sup>th</sup> July until late afternoon Fri 5<sup>th</sup> August.

For emergency sick calls or deaths please try Fr Brian Brown on 07496731619.  
My mobile phone will be turned off during my holiday.

If anyone wishes to book an anniversary mass when I am not here, please leave a note in the letterbox, or a message on the answering machine, or send an email. The bulletin is prepared on a Thursday morning, so please leave your messages before then.

## Streaming of masses

It may not be possible to have all masses streamed during my absence. Hopefully there will be some each weekend.

## Recently deceased

Mickey Murray, Keady  
Michael Murray, Market Road, Kilcoo

## Anniversary Masses

### Dromara

Sun 24<sup>th</sup> Hugh Pat McEvoy  
Eamon Lundy  
Bernard Rice (Dree)

**Leitrim Cleaners** Fri 29<sup>th</sup> July – Bridie's Team

Collections Parish	Dromara £90	Drumgooland £540
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**We welcome** into Drumgooland Parish  
Phoebe McGill

**Congratulations** to James McAteer and Helen Thompson who were married recently

## Feast of St Anne Tues 26<sup>th</sup> July

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> July - Tridium of Prayer in honour of the Feast of St Anne - Rosary and Benediction at St Anne's Shrine at 7pm, weather permitting, if not it will be in St Patrick's Church, Mayobridge.  
On Mon 25<sup>th</sup> and Tues 26<sup>th</sup> July 7.30pm Mass in the St Patrick's Church, Mayobridge

## Congratulations to all the St Malachy's High School Graduates 2022

Any past student from St. Malachy's High School who has recently graduated and would like to be included in our submission in the local newspaper in August, please contact Mrs Mags O'Hare at the school on 028 437 78255 or [mohare964@c2kni.net](mailto:mohare964@c2kni.net). All information must be submitted before Fri 5<sup>th</sup> Aug

## Cairn Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> August 2022

Walk from Peter Morgan's Cottage / Dree Hill Rd/ Slieve Croob. Return by Pass Loanan.  
7 miles/11k approx. 2-2 1/2 hrs.  
Road, track, some wet ground. Boots recommended. No dogs.  
Meet at the cottage from 9am.  
Walk starts promptly at 9 30am.  
Everyone welcome.  
Refreshments at the cottage on return.  
Donations welcome.  
Queries: contact 97 532 479

**Whist** restarting in St Michael's Hall, Finnis on Tues 6<sup>th</sup> Sept at 8:00pm. Adm £5. Please support.