

## THE STORY OF THE HYMN

Patrick Brennan, who wrote the words of the hymn, was born at Carrowree Park in Roscommon in 1877. At the age of 17, he enrolled in the seminary course of St Patrick's College, Carlow. He then went to St Kieran's College, Kilkenny as a volunteer for the Australian Mission. After ordination in 1902, he went to Australia where his one-priest parishes often covered an area the size of the province of Connaught. After labouring like this for many years, he felt called to religious life and entered the Redemptorists. He was professed in 1915. After a few years preaching parish missions in Ireland, he was assigned to the new mission in the Philippines. He was now 42 years old, but he bravely set to learn the difficult Visayan language. Fr Brennan returned to Ireland for a break in 1926, his only visit home. It was during this time that he wrote 'Hail Redeemer, King Divine', in honour of the feast of Christ the King which had been instituted the year before. He spent the rest of his life between the Philippines and Australia. Patrick Brennan died on May 18, 1951 and was buried in Perth. Another of his hymns 'O Help of Christians, Mother dear' was in honour of Our Lady, Help of Christians, patroness of Australia.

## THE MEANING OF THE HYMN

Each verse of the hymn places the accent on a different aspect of the kingship of Christ. The opening verse praises him as king, priest and lamb of sacrifice. Much of the language is biblical, drawn in particular from the Book of Revelation:

"Hail Redeemer, King divine!  
Priest and Lamb, the throne is thine.  
King, whose reign shall never cease.  
Prince of everlasting peace."

The chorus after each verse invites the angels, saints and nations to join in praise of Christ the King of love:

"Angels, saints and nations sing:  
praised be Jesus Christ our King;  
Lord of life, earth, sky and sea,  
King of love on Calvary!"

The second verse invites Christ the King to rule over us as individuals and over all creation as the prince of peace:

"King, whose name creation thrills,  
rule our hearts, our minds, our wills;  
till in peace, each nation rings  
with Thy praises, King of kings."  
The third verse calls on Christ as the guide of youth:  
"King most holy, King of truth,  
guard the lowly, guide the youth.  
Christ the King of glory bright,  
be to us eternal light."

One of the reasons for the new feast of Christ the King was to set it against other ideologies of the time, especially Communism and Fascism, that tried to make an appeal to young people.

The Kingship of Christ was proclaimed by the sign Pilate affixed to the Cross, "Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews". Our hymn makes the same claim:

"Crimson streams, O King of grace,  
drenched thy thorn-crowned head and face;  
floods of love's redeeming tide  
tore thy hands, thy feet, Thy side."

Jesus, the King and Good Shepherd, continues to dwell with us through his presence in the Eucharist, his gift of love to his people:

"Eucharistic King, what love  
draws thee daily from above,  
clad in signs of bread and wine:  
feed us, lead us, keep us thine!"

# Stu( )space

24 January 2021 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

Psalter Week 3

SERIES: SING ONCE: PRAY TWICE

Season colour: GREEN

Hymns are an important part of Catholic worship. We will look at some of our familiar hymns. Musical versions are available on YouTube.

## HAIL REDEEMER KING DIVINE



### Today's readings

Jn 3:1-5,10  
1 Cor 7:29-31  
Mk 1:14-20

They are also two pairs of brothers. Simon and Andrew may perhaps have been poorer people than the Zebedee boys. Peter and Andrew, the sons of Jonah, do not appear to have a boat: they fish by casting their net into the lake and then drawing it in. The Sea of Galilee was one of the major sources of wealth in Palestine. Fish were caught both for home consumption and for preserving and export. The Zebedee family have a fishing boat, as well as hired men who work alongside the family. Following a homeless prophet would entail a major change in lifestyle for these boys, yet they follow Jesus without hesitation.

### GOD'S WORD TODAY

Today's gospel takes another look at the call to discipleship. The arrest of John the Baptist is the prompt for Jesus to begin his own mission. Mark sums up Jesus' preaching in one short verse – "the time has come, repent and believe the Gospel". To carry out his plan, Jesus needs people to work alongside him. The first four he calls are fishermen, called while they are still practising their trade.

One of Ireland's best-known hymns was composed by an Irish priest who spent most of his life working in Australia and the Philippines. It is most frequently sung to a tune by William Grattan Flood. According to a reviewer, "Simplicity, combined with dignity, animates the tuneful melody. It may be fittingly described as Ireland's contribution to the great new feast [of Christ the King], of which it is in every sense, worthy."

# Parishes of Dromara and Drumgooland

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## 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – 24<sup>th</sup> January 2021

### St Michael's PS, Finnis

Application forms are available online from 7<sup>th</sup> until the 31<sup>st</sup> Jan.

Any child who turns four on or before the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021 is eligible for Primary One class in September.

Any child who turns four on or after 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2021 until June 2022 is eligible for Reception Class the Monday after their 4<sup>th</sup> birthday. You can view our virtual open night on Facebook. The school app can be downloaded via play store or the app store.

Parents feel free to contact:

Mr Donal McCaul (Principal), and/or

Mrs Malone (Primary One/ Reception teacher) on 02897532404 or email

[dmccaul694@c2kni.net](mailto:dmccaul694@c2kni.net)

[kmalone397@c2kni.net](mailto:kmalone397@c2kni.net)

### St Matthew's PS, Magheramayo

#### PRIMARY ADMISSION DEADLINE

A warm welcome awaits you at St Matthew's Primary School, Magheramayo. Online admission for Primary 1 for the academic year 2021 closes on the 29<sup>th</sup> Jan at 12 noon.

Please go to

<https://www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions> to complete your application.

We look forward to welcoming you all.

Kind Regards,

The Staff of St Matthew's Primary School

### Drumgooland SVP

Our helpline number is 07586447427. Please contact us, in strict confidence, if you would need help or support at any time, we are here to alleviate the struggle and worry of meeting household bills or worries.

Many thanks for all the support we received throughout 2020. Our usual red box collections outside church has not been available, but our work is ongoing.

Anyone wishing to make a one off or regular donation can do so to our bank account:

First Trust Bank Newcastle

Account Name: Drumgooland SVP

Sort Code: 938351

Account Number: 07440031

Your support is very much appreciated and will go some way to helping others in our locality in these challenging times.

Thanks and God bless.



### St Mary's PS, Dechomet

Is your child due to start reception or primary school in September 2021? If you wish to enrol your child in St. Mary's Primary School, Dechomet, the admissions process closes 12 noon on the 29<sup>th</sup> Jan. Please apply online on the EA website [www.eani.org.uk](http://www.eani.org.uk) If you have any other queries please contact the school principal, Oonagh McNally on 02840650426. We would love to welcome your child into our warm, caring and nurturing school where 'Every Child Matters.' The staff in our school ensures that each child is treated as an individual and that their needs are fully met ensuring they reach their full potential.

**Masses:** Sat 6:00pm    Sun 9:00am  
Mon 9:00am    Tues 9:00am  
Wed 7:30pm    Fri 7:30am

### Recently deceased

Theresa (Tessie) Matheson, Castlewellan, formerly Derryneil

Dean Tony Davies (please see attached note)

Terry Davies, Scarva

### Please remember these anniversaries in your prayers

Sat 23<sup>rd</sup> Henry and Rita O'Hare  
Jackie Quail

Sun 24<sup>th</sup> Kathleen, John and Sarah Gordon

Wed 27<sup>th</sup> Evelyn Clarke

John Anthony Cunningham

Fri 29<sup>th</sup> Christopher O'Hare (MM)

Sat 30<sup>th</sup> Frank and Patrick Galbraith

### Cleaning and re-polishing of the mosaic floors in Leitrim and Gargory

This work will hopefully be done over the coming weeks. It may mean that the churches will not be open for private prayer whilst the work is on-going. When I know what days they will be closed, I will announce it. Sorry for the inconvenience but it is also a good time to get this work done when masses are not being said in the churches.





### **Rt Rev Dean Anthony (Tony) Davies**

**Born 8<sup>th</sup> September 1932, Feast of Our Lady's Birth  
Died 17<sup>th</sup> January 2021, Feast of St Anthony**

He was born outside Tandragee, Co Armagh. He was to be ordained for an Australian Diocese but could not get a visa. He was ordained on 31<sup>st</sup> May 1959 and served in Donaghmore, Lower Drumgooland, Newry, Kilbroney, Dromara and Clonduff. After his retirement following his Golden Jubilee, he helped out in many parishes with his usual energy and joy.

He was a man of service, constant activity and always drawing people in, encouraging their participation. The Youth; St Vincent de Paul; Legion of Mary; Lourdes; Pioneers; Girl Guides and St Joseph's Young Priests were some of his ministries. He had a passion for history and Irish culture; sport; dancing; Community Games and the GAA, as a player, coach and administrator. He will be sorely missed.

**May he be in the presence of God**