

# Parishes of Dromara and Drumgooland

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**8<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

27<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

## Weekend masses

**Sat** 6:00pm Dechomet & 7:30pm Leitrim

**Sun** 9:00am Gargory & 11:00am Dromara

## Weekday Masses

**Mon** 9:00am Leitrim & 7:30pm Dechomet

**Tue** 9:00am Dromara

**Wed** 7:30pm Leitrim

**Fri** 7:30pm Dromara

## Recently deceased



## ANNIVERSARIES

2024 Anniversary Book is now open

### DECHOMET

**Sat 7<sup>th</sup>** Bernard McElroy

**Sat 14<sup>th</sup>** Michelle Doyle

### LEITRIM

**Sat 7<sup>th</sup>** Anthony Pat McEvoy

**Sat 14<sup>th</sup>** Rory Savage

Mary, James, John & Bel Malone

### GARGORY

**Sun 8<sup>th</sup>** Deceased Members of McAtee Family

### DROMARA

**Sun 15<sup>th</sup>** Peter, Catherine, James  
& Peter McKenny (Drinn)

## **SACRED HEART GRAMMAR SCHOOL, NEWRY**

proudly presents

**'Joseph & His Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat'**

in the school Assembly Hall on

Thur 19<sup>th</sup> Oct at 7.30pm

Fri 20<sup>th</sup> Oct at 7.30pm

Sun 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct at 3pm

Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct at 7.30pm &

Tues 24<sup>th</sup> Oct at 7.30pm.

Tickets are available each day in the school

foyer from 12.30pm-1.30pm from 5<sup>th</sup> Oct,

cost £10 (cash or cheques only)

We look forward to welcoming you

to this musical extravaganza.

**SVP:** Dromara 0773883819

Drumgooland 07825419067

**Safeguarding Contact:**

P Carville 07789917741

Collections	Dromara	Drumgooland
Parish	£ 533	£776

*Thank you for your contributions.*

## Southern Area Hospice

Church Door collections will be taken up at all masses this weekend.

If any one does wish to add to this collection, please put your donation in an envelope, marked '*Hospice*' and place it on the basket over the next few weeks.

## Dromara Parish Council Meeting Mon 9<sup>th</sup> Oct

## Cleaning Leitrim Chapel

Anyone who is willing to help clean the chapel please come to a meeting **in the Parochial House on Tues 10<sup>th</sup> Oct at 7:30pm.**

If you are not free to attend but willing to help, please let me know.

## New Eucharistic Ministers

Anyone who is interested in becoming an Eucharistic Minister in any of the churches please come to a meeting **in the Parochial House on Tues 17<sup>th</sup> Oct at 7:30pm.**

This meeting will give people a chance to learn about the role and then choose if you want to be involved.

*Congratulations to  
Roisín Kelly and Jonathon Taylor  
and to  
Stephen Mooney and Giselle Mahon  
who were married recently*

*We Welcome Tom Arthur Burns  
into Dromara Parish*

## BINGO

Please join the 'Friends of St Michael's Parents Group' on **Sun 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct at 3pm** for a great afternoon of Bingo in the Parish Hall. Doors open at 2.30pm. Good fun, refreshments and a raffle, so please come along and show your support for the school.

## UNWORTHY TENANTS

MT 21:33-43



In today's Gospel Jesus tells the story of a landlord who cultivated a vineyard and leased it to tenants. It was common in Jesus' time for land to be owned by absentee landlords, who would send their servants to collect the rent from the tenants at harvest time.

However, when the landlord in this parable sends his servants to collect the rent, they are treated brutally. One of them is killed. The landlord responds by sending a larger number who are treated in exactly the same way. As a last resort, he sends his own son, thinking the tenants would never hurt him. But he is badly mistaken. They throw his son out of the vineyard and murder him.

Matthew uses this parable to summarise the story of God's relationship with God's people. The characters in the story are symbolic. The landlord represents God, the tenants are the people of Israel, and the servants are the prophets, whom God has continually sent to Israel to remind the people of their true destiny. All of them were rejected and despised.

Finally, God sends his son Jesus, who, like the son in the parable, will be murdered by those to whom he came. The landlord will punish the tenants by leasing the vineyard to new tenants. This is Matthew's way of telling his readers that the Kingdom of God will be given to the Gentiles, the outsiders as it were, those who were not part of the original story. Since the Son has been rejected by the people he came for, he must go to others instead. ■

### PRAY

In today's second reading, St Paul tells us that if there is anything we need we should pray for it, trusting in God. Pray today for your needs and the needs of the community.

### SAY

**"Father, thank you for sending your Son to show me how to live. Help me to live a good and fruitful life."**

### DO

Think about your relationships. Is there a person or friendship you have rejected? What steps you need to take to restore it?

### LEARN

God never stops giving us the chance to turn back towards him

God always sees the good in us, our potential; God never rejects anyone

God's message is intended for everyone

### REFLECT

**B**ack in 2000, a young Irish-American quarterback dreamed of becoming a professional NFL footballer. At the end of each season, there is what's known as the draft, when the 32 professional NFL teams pick the best young college players to bolster their squad. The team with that season's worst record gets the top pick, followed by the second-worst team, and so on. This process goes on through seven rounds. It's a way of trying to ensure that each team is competitive.

The young quarterback hadn't impressed the scouts in college. He was slow, awkward, he didn't seem to have the X Factor, still he hoped to be an early pick. He wasn't picked in the first round, or the second, or third, or fourth, or fifth. He feared he was going to be rejected. Finally, in round six, as an afterthought, the New England Patriots chose him as a possible backup quarterback. He was the 199th player selected—near bottom of the pile.

Last January, Tom Brady retired, aged 45. In the 23 years since the Patriots picked him as an afterthought, he had broken every NFL record by a mile - most career wins, most touchdown passes, most completions, most yards gained. And he had won seven Superbowls, more than any individual or team in history, winning four of them after his 37th birthday. The player nobody wanted had become the greatest ever; the reject selected as the 199th pick had become the GOAT (greatest of all time).

Tom Brady was rejected by the top coaches and scouts. But he didn't let rejection get him down. He trusted in his ability, his potential, and he became his team's cornerstone, its anchor, the key to its years of success.

In today's Gospel, Jesus quotes a verse from Psalm 118 - "the stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone." It is a prophecy of his death and resurrection. He will be rejected by the religious leaders and put to death on a cross. But that is not the end of the story. Death will not have the final word. Jesus will be raised from the dead to become the cornerstone of the new community called Church.

This parable is a reminder, too, to never let rejection or failure get us down. We all have wonderful potential. We just need to see it and use it. ■