

Parishes of Dromara and Drumgooland

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27th August 2023
21st 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

Maeve McCartan Newcastle

ANNIVERSARIES

DECHOMET

Sat 26th Timothy Doyle
Fr Willie Doyle & Rose Rath

Sat 2nd Mary Rooney (*Dechomet*)

LEITRIM

Sat 26th Shane, Winnie & Barney Owens
Fr Jim Kerr

Wed 30th Seamus & Fergus McCartan
& Josephine Murphy

Sat 2nd Eddie McAleenan
Eugene O'Hare, Richard Duggan
& Deceased Family Members

DROMARA

Sun 27th Elizabeth McCoubry (*Derry*)
Dan Hughes (*Finnis*) & Deceased
Family Members

Fri 1st Patrick McKey
Eileen & Peter O'Hare
& Deceased Family Members

Sun 3rd Daniel Hughes (*Derry*)

Gargory Altar Rota - Sept Fiona

SVP Dromara 077 3883 8191
Drumgooland 078 2541 9067

Safeguarding Contact

P Carville 077 8991 7741

<u>Collections</u>	<u>Dromara</u>	<u>Drumgooland</u>
Parish	£378	£883

Parish Council Meetings

Drumgooland **Mon 4th Sept**

Dromara **Mon 11th Sept**

Sign of Peace

Covid19 has been on the increase in the local area so the sign of peace will not be used over the coming weeks. Hand sanitiser is still available at the back of the churches.

SVP Drumgooland Conference would like to sincerely **thank the Malone Family** for their generous donation of **£12,500** from the recent Tractor Run in memory of 'Wee James'.

With many pressures felt from time to time, and the rising costs which are being experienced in many homes, these funds will be invaluable in helping ease these pressures in the Drumgooland locality.

The members of SVP Drumgooland, would like to sincerely thank Emmet, Geraldine and the entire, extended, Malone Family.

Drumgooland SVP

Do you need help providing **School Uniforms** for your children? Subject to funding, Drumgooland SVP may be able to help towards this expense. Please contact us at: 078 2541 9067

'Friends of Hospice' week 21st-27th Aug

Could you be a 'Friend of Hospice' and help make a difference to local patients and their families? SAH want to express its thanks to everyone who continues to support their work in anyway. This vital work wouldn't be possible without the support of the community, so they feel it is important to acknowledge and thank everyone involved. The *'Friend of Hospice'* community are a special group of people who make a regular donation to support the work of the Hospice. The Hospice is inviting you to become part of this very special group. To become a *'Friend of Hospice'* and join this group of amazing people visit our website www.southernareahospiceservices.org or call us on 028 302 67711.

Sunday Message

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE WORD

Year A • 27 August 2023 • Colour: Green • Psalter Week 1

Jesus struggled with many things during his ministry, but one of the common threads that runs through the parables and gospel scenes is the difficulty people had in identifying him as the Son of God, the Messiah.

He would perform miracles and preach of a Kingdom where people would be greeted with the love and mercy of God, and yet, people still questioned his authority.

Today's gospel is a teaching exercise for the disciples. It is time for Jesus to claim his true identity and he needs his followers to understand. 'Who do people say the Son of God is?' he asks. The answers that come back to him are varied. Some still identify Elijah, Jeremiah or John the Baptist as the Son of God. But Peter is confident today. He steps forward and is unequivocal in his announcement, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' This statement from Peter is interesting as he has witnessed many of Jesus' acts of healing and miracles. He is convinced that the man he has been following and watching closely, is the Son of God. The future direction of the Church will rest on Peter's shoulders and Jesus says, 'You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church.' Peter will go on to tell the world of the Messiah who brought healing, love and compassion to everyone he met on the way. ■

SAY

Lord, God, you call us,
You come to us with your
commandment.
And you ask our commitment.
We offer you our hands to serve
the needs of the poor.
We offer you our voices to speak
out against injustices.
We ask this through Christ our
Lord. Amen.
(Peace Church, Munich)

DO

Read today's gospel story again and reflect on the challenge placed upon Peter's shoulders. How can we help in this task of building a Church that has mercy and love as its foundation?

'WHO DO YOU SAY I AM?'

(MATTHEW 16: 13-20)



St. Peter's Square from Rome in Vatican State

REFLECT

Standing in St. Peter's Square in Vatican City can be an awe inspiring activity. From the centre of the square, you can catch a glimpse of the papal apartments, the doors of St. Peter's Basilica, the large queues of tourists awaiting entry to see the Michelangelo's 'Pietà' and other sights of beauty that can capture the imagination. After absorbing the hustle and bustle of life around this sacred place, one can also get a true sense of the wonder of church tradition. A Church that began 2,000 years ago with the apostle Peter at its helm. A Church that has maintained the connection between our current Pope and our first Pope. A church that continues to grow and continues to pray to the Messiah, who is love.

When Peter received today's task from Jesus, one can only imagine the feelings that went through his mind. We know that Peter's journey with Jesus wasn't always straight forward. He refused to believe Jesus' prediction that death and new life will be part of Christ's path. When death does come for Jesus, Peter and his followers are nowhere to be found. And in the days following Easter Sunday, Peter and those close to him will still be in hiding. Jesus will have to revisit Peter at a later date to reiterate the importance of his role as leader of the Church and preacher of the Word.

We are reminded today that we too have a responsibility to carry on the traditions of the Church, handed on to us by the disciples. Like Peter, we need the encouragement of Jesus through prayer, to help us in our task. ■

LEARN

'Often the Church has been called the building of God. The Lord himself compared himself to the stone which the builders rejected, but which was made into the cornerstone. On this foundation, the Church is built by the apostles....As living stones, we here on earth are built into it.' (Lumen Gentium, 6)