

# Parishes of Dromara and Drumgooland

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## *Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion*

24<sup>th</sup> March 2024

### 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  
**Tues** 9:00am Dromara  
**Wed** 7:30pm  
**Fri** 7:30pm Dromara

### *Cemetery Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> May*

*Recently deceased Benny Brown, Canada,  
formerly Ballymaginthy*

### ANNIVERSARIES

#### Dechomet

**Sat 23<sup>rd</sup>** Sadie McGreevey  
John Sweeney  
Patrick Hugh Morgan  
**Sun 31<sup>st</sup>** Stephen McElroy

#### Leitrim

**Sat 23<sup>rd</sup>** James Gerard Kelly  
Maura Murphy  
**Wed 27<sup>th</sup>** Kathleen Cunningham  
Martin McDonald  
Patrick Savage (*Backaderry*)  
Patsy McKay

#### Dromara

**Sun 24<sup>th</sup>** Joe Connolly  
**Sun 31<sup>st</sup>** Art Gilmore

Please join the 'Friends of St Michael's  
Finnis Parents Group' on **Sun 24<sup>th</sup> Mar** for  
a great afternoon of **Bingo** in the Parish Hall.  
Doors open at 2:30pm. **£100 JACKPOT** must go!  
Good fun, refreshments and a great raffle,  
so please come along and show your  
support for the school.

### Dromantine Retreat & Conference Centre

#### **Weekend Workshop: *Undeclared - Living with cancer***

Workshop Facilitator Fr Hugh Lagan, SMA  
Fri 26<sup>th</sup> (5pm) – Sun 28<sup>th</sup> April (2pm) Cost £230  
Please contact Jacinta or Louisa to reserve your place:  
Tel: 028 3082 1964

Email: [admin@dromantineconference.com](mailto:admin@dromantineconference.com)

### SVP contact numbers

Dromara 077 3883 8191  
Drumgooland 078 2541 9067

**Diocesan Safeguarding:** Stephen Sherry 073 0124 6329

Email: [safeguardingdirector@dromorediocese.org](mailto:safeguardingdirector@dromorediocese.org)

### Collections Dromara Drumgooland

Parish	£766	£1,239
Priest	£713	£1,364
Sick & Retired Priests	£278	£538

*Figures include Feb standing orders.*

*Thank you for continuing to support your parish.*

Please return **Trócaire** boxes and envelopes from  
6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> April onwards. If you wish to make your  
contribution by cheque, please make it payable to  
*Parish of Dromara or Parish of Drumgooland*

### Confessions

Mon 25 <sup>th</sup>	6:45-7:15pm	Dechomet
Tues 26 <sup>th</sup>	6:45-7:15pm	Dromara
Wed 27 <sup>th</sup>	6:45-7:15pm	Leitrim
Sat 30 <sup>th</sup>	10-10:30am	Gargory

**Assumption Grammar School Holy Week Vigil  
Wed 27<sup>th</sup> Mar from 6pm-6am**, you are invited to  
join the school community **for one hour** as they  
participate in a **12 Hour Vigil** in the School  
Oratory. **Benediction** and **Mass** will be celebrated  
at **10pm**. Prayers will be offered each hour for a  
different theme. *Further details can be found on  
Facebook Assumptionlive and Twitter @assumptionlive  
or by contacting the School 02897562250*

### Holy Week Ceremonies

**Holy Thursday Chrism Mass** in Newry  
Cathedral at 10:30am. All are welcome to attend

#### *Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper*

6pm Dromara 8pm Leitrim

#### *Good Friday Stations of the Cross at 3pm*

Dechomet Leitrim Dromara

#### *Evening Service of the Passion*

#### *and Unveiling of the Cross*

*(there will be no kissing of the Cross this year)*

6pm Dromara 8pm Leitrim

#### *Holy Saturday Easter Vigil*

9pm Leitrim

#### *Easter Sunday*

9am Gargory 10am Leitrim  
11am Dromara 12noon Dechomet

**Holy Water** will be blessed on Holy Saturday  
and Easter Sunday. Please bring along empty  
bottles as no bottles have been supplied this year.

**Altar Servers** there will be a practice 15 mins  
before the services during Holy Week,  
please try to be there on time.

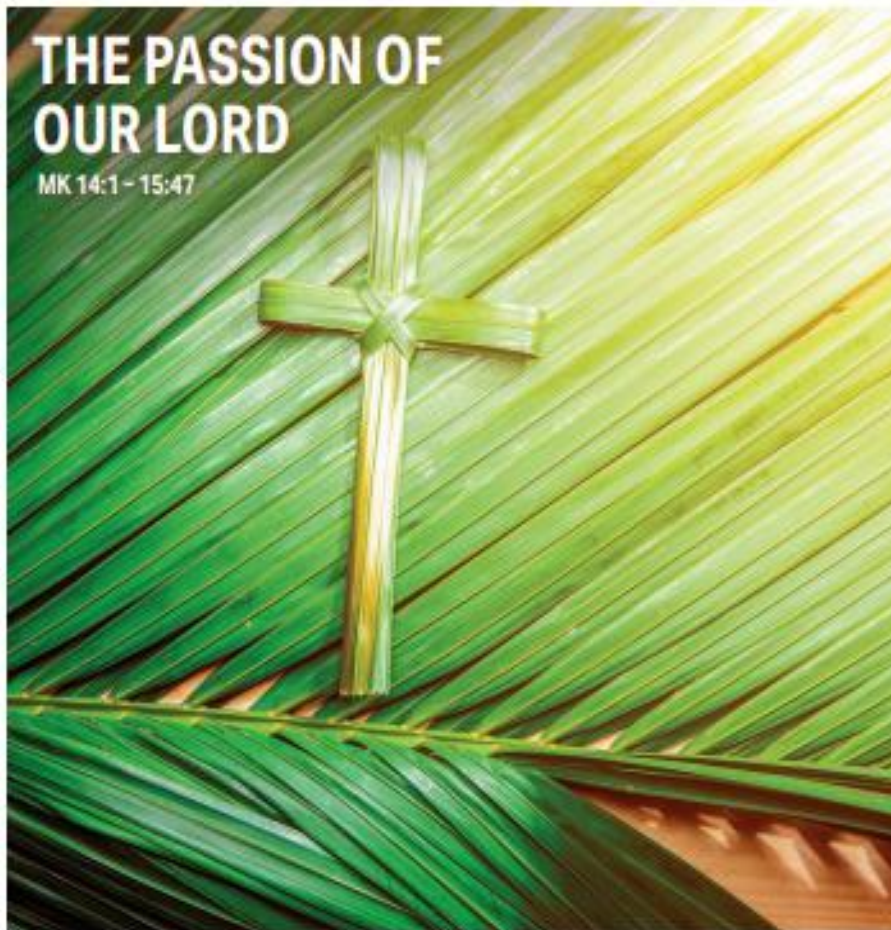
*There will be no mass Easter Mon, Tues nor Wed*

# Sunday Message

PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

THE WORD

Year B • 24 March 2024 • Colour: Red • Psalter Week 2



Italian Vesuvius volcano

## REFLECT

The famous city of Herculaneum, near Naples, was buried by the eruption of the volcano Vesuvius in 79 AD. Only in recent times, excavators found a body on the shore. It was the body of a young woman who died trying to protect a child from the eruption. From her bones, they knew that she'd been undernourished from childhood and marked by heavy work. The experts concluded that she'd been a slave or a servant, there not being much difference in the ancient world between slaves and servants. This is an image very familiar to us when we read the Gospels. Slaves are commonplace. They serve table, they do the hard work, their labour is tiring, and their bodies are worn. It's interesting that on reading the Passion of Jesus Christ, our first impression is of a slave being handed over to be crucified. Except this slave would show the world kindness, compassion, love and mercy. Like the servant in Herculaneum, her last act was to wrap a child in her arms for protection and safety. Jesus, the slave, the servant and the healer, his last act would be to show the world the extent of God's love. This would ultimately get him killed. No one, not even his disciples, could fully comprehend Christ's message – That God so loved the world, he sent his only Son. So that the world might know his love. ■

We recall today the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem, and we hear again the story of the passion. Two very contrasting scenes. One of welcome, celebration and hospitality. The other a scene of darkness, fear, hostility, and death.

Some might say that Jesus could have taken a detour and avoided Jerusalem. If he knew what lay before him, would it not have been better to travel to a safer destination? The great statement from Denis McBride might help: "Love does not demand the cross; but in the life of Jesus, love ends up on the cross. Love chooses not to avoid the suffering that emerges from its commitment." And so, Jesus rides into Jerusalem on a donkey. He doesn't disguise himself but instead he heads a parade. In doing so, he's confronting the powerful, the religious leaders that seek to persecute him.

Our second reading today should be read in conjunction with the Passion. The reading is often called The Christ Hymn, and St. Paul uses the opportunity to detail the life of Jesus from his existence before all time, right the way through to his passion, death, resurrection and ascension. The account is detailed and poetic and looks to the cross not as a single moment, but as a summary of the entire mystery that is Christ. ■

## SAY

"Every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."  
(St. Paul)

## DO

This week, we take an opportunity to read the second reading once again. Keep in mind the large audience St. Paul was writing to. The *Christ Hymn* seeks to teach us about the life and ministry of Jesus.

## LEARN

In his plan of salvation, God ordained that his Son should not only die for our sins, but should also "taste death", experience the condition of death, the separation of his soul from his body, between the time he expired on the cross and the time he was raised from the dead.  
(Catechism 624)