

Parishes of Dromara and Drumgooland

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15th Sunday in ordinary time

14th July 2024

Weekend Masses

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

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

**There will not be any weekday masses
until I return from holidays**

*(the next weekday mass will be on Mon 22nd Jul
in Dechomet at 7:30pm)*

Holidays

I will be on holiday 29th Jun to 20th July this year

If you need a priest urgently for
a sick call or a death, please try

Fr Brian Brown 074 9673 1619

Booking of Anniversaries

Over the next few weeks Anniversaries can be
booked by email; leaving a message and contact
number on the answering machine or by leaving
a note through the parochial house letter box.

ANNIVERSARIES

Dromara

Sun 14th Maureen McKey

Dechomet

Sat 20th Margaret & Gerard Quail

Leitrim

Sat 20th Brian Donnelly

Action Cancer Coffee Morning

The Dixon family would like to thank
everyone who attended or contributed
to the recent coffee morning.

The final total raised is **£3,401**.

We really appreciate our local
community support.

The **Action Cancer Big Bus** will be in Leitrim
on **13th August**, more details to follow.

Diocesan Safeguarding:

Stephen Sherry 073 0124 6329

Email: safeguardingdirector@dromorediocese.org

SVP contact numbers:

Dromara 077 3883 8191

Drumgooland 078 2541 9067

Collections Dromara Drumgooland
Parish £399 £490

Thank you for continuing to support your parish.

Feast of St Anne Fri 26th July

Mass in Mayobridge Convent grounds

Fri 26th July at 7.30pm (weather permitting)

otherwise in St Patrick's Church.

St Anne's Oil will be available on the day.

Nine Day Novena to St Anne
starts **Wed 17th July**

St Anne's Shrine Open 8am to 10pm daily.

Table Quiz

Fri 26th July

Doyle's Bar, Dechomet at 8.30pm

Proceeds in aid of the
Lourdes Fund.

Peter Morgan's Cottage

Our annual *Cairn Sunday* walk takes
place on **Sunday 5th August**.

Walk from Peter Morgan's Cottage /
Dree Hill Rd / Slieve Croob.

Return by Pass Loanan.

7 miles/11k approx. 2-2 ½ hrs.

Meet at the Cottage from 9am.

Walk starts promptly at 9 30 am.

Everyone welcome.

Refreshments at the cottage on return.

Donations welcome.

Queries 077 0801 7219

We hope to host a *Craft Morning*
at the Cottage in October.

It's an opportunity to showcase
local craftspeople and produce.

If you would like to book a table
to showcase your products and

promote your business

please contact Michelle on
079 2295 2011.

Sunday Message

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE WORD

Year B • 14 July 2024 • Colour: Green • Psalter Week 3

"GO, MOVE, SHIFT"

MARK 6:7-13



Last Sunday we read about Jesus' unsuccessful visit to Nazareth. Now Jesus sets out on a teaching tour of other Galilean villages.

The implication is that these villages accept him in a way his own village did not. Jesus also begins to share his mission with the Twelve. Jesus has already chosen them as his closest confidants. Now he puts them to work, sending them out in pairs armed with his authority to confront the power of evil.

They are to travel light. This means no bread, because food will be provided by the hospitality of others. It means no (sleeping) bag, as lodging will be provided. It means no money, for they will be looked after. They may bring a staff, sandals and a single tunic since they will be continually journeying.

This text reminds us that the earliest Christian missionaries travelled light and set themselves apart from the wandering preachers of other religions, who brought lots of baggage with them.

Mark is saying something important as he records Jesus' instructions. Jesus is on an urgent missionary journey. The staff and the sandals are the symbols of that journey and so are appropriate for those who share in his mission. Any other baggage, especially any that might slow them up, is not permitted.

Jesus also instructs them about where to stay. If they encounter lack of hospitality they are to move on from that village. This is exactly what he has done in response to the hostility of Nazareth. Jesus even tells them to shake the dust of such places from their feet. Jews returning to the Holy Land would perform this ritual as they left pagan territory so as not to import "uncleanliness" with them. It symbolised the godlessness of the pagan land and the holiness of Israel. The Twelve, in performing the same gesture, relegate to the godless world those inhospitable places that have rejected the Gospel. In this way, the Twelve proclaim the Gospel as Jesus does, with integrity of word and deed.

The Twelve set out and their mission is successful. Mark adds some important details. The preaching of the Twelve is so "all should repent," which is the key missionary goal of Jesus. They also heal the sick, something Jesus has also done many times. Mark adds that they anoint the sick with oil. This was a widespread practice in the Greek world by the time Mark's Gospel was written and now becomes part of the practice of the Christian church.

Ironically, the mission of the Twelve is more successful than Jesus' own mission in Nazareth. Yet they are missionary only to the extent that they are with Jesus, recognise that his authority has been given to them, and travel light. At all times they remain his followers. ■

PRAY

Thank God for missionaries, those who left home and travelled light, in order to preach the Good News. Pray for them.

DO

Think about your attitude to material things. How light do you travel?

LEARN

As followers of Jesus, we all have a mission to preach the Gospel

We can preach the Gospel wherever we live and work

Jesus asks that his disciples be detached from all things

REFLECT

My mother's four sisters were nuns. One, Aunt Peggy, spent all of her 96 years in Ireland as a nurse and carer. Two of my aunts spent most of their lives abroad. Aunt Celia worked as a teacher in the Philippines from the 1950s to the early 70s; then transferred to Kenya where she spent another two decades. Aunt Jo spent most of her life teaching in the United States, first in Salt Lake City, among the local Mormon population, and then in an African America neighbourhood in Los Angeles. Aunt Mary, after retiring as a teacher in Ireland, wanted to do more. So she went to Kenya where she spent several more years in the classroom.

My aunts were wonderful women, generous and zealous, but there was nothing unique about what they did. It's what countless Christian women and men have done down the centuries. They obeyed Jesus' command to go and preach the Gospel. Some, like my aunts, were "professional" missionaries – but most were not. They preached the Gospel simply by the witness of their lives.

Pope Francis says that church people must be "shepherds living with the smell of the sheep." In other words, Christians must leave their comfort zones to make Christ present in all places and at all times. They mustn't confine themselves to the security of their churches, sacristies and homes but must go out into the streets and alleyways to proclaim the Good News. There is an urgency to our task as Christians because there is a whole world out there that is hurting, and that needs to hear the message of Jesus. Our great commission is to "go."

A popular ballad of some years ago is called "Go, Move, Shift." It describes the discrimination that members of the Travelling community so often experience. But it also describes the instruction of Jesus to the Twelve – and to all of us. We are to "go, move, shift." We must not hang around. There is a whole world out there waiting to hear the Good News. ■

SAY

"Lord, help me to always be an effective witness to you. Amen."