

# Parishes of Dromara and Drumgooland

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## Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

28<sup>th</sup> January 2024

### Weekend Masses

**Sat** 6:00pm Dechomet & 7:30pm Leitrim  
**Sun** 9:00am Gargory & 11:00am Dromara

### Weekday Masses

**Mon** 9:00am Leitrim & **8:00pm** Dechomet  
**Tues** 9:00am Dromara  
**Wed** **8:00pm** Leitrim  
**Fri** 7:30pm Dromara

**Please note the change of times on  
Mon & Wed evening due to Services of Light**

*St Brigid's crosses and candles will be blessed  
on Wed & Fri at the evening masses*

### Services of Light - Preparation for Confirmation

Mon 29<sup>th</sup> 7pm St Matthew's in Gargory  
Tues 30<sup>th</sup> 7pm St Michael's in Finnis  
Wed 31<sup>st</sup> 7pm St Mary's in Dechomet

### Recently Deceased

*Pauline McNeill, Annaclone  
Rosie McVeigh, Belfast  
Eilis Kennedy, Derriaghly*



### ANNIVERSARIES

#### LEITRIM

**Sat 27<sup>th</sup>** Evelyn Clarke  
Frank & Margaret McElroy  
Carol Cowan  
Margaret Blaney  
John Anthony Cunningham  
**Sat 3<sup>rd</sup>** Fr Jim Mooney  
Patsy McGlue & Paul McEleney

#### DROMARA

**Sun 28<sup>th</sup>** **Annie Taylor MM**  
Frank, Mary & Patrick Galbraith  
Teresa Reavey  
Paddy & Eileen Dillon  
Kathleen, John & Sarah Gordon  
**Sun 4<sup>th</sup>** Kathleen O'Hare (*Dree*)

**Gargory Altar Rota: Feb** Carmel & Geraldine  
**Leitrim Cleaners: Feb** Geraldine, Deirdre & Siobhan

SVP Drom 077 3883 8191 / Drum 078 2541 9067

**Safeguarding Contact:** Stephen Sherry 073 0124 6329  
Email: [safeguardingdirector@dromorediocese.org](mailto:safeguardingdirector@dromorediocese.org)

Collections	Dromara	Drumgooland
Parish	£577	£1,342

*Thank you for your continued contributions*

### Parish Council Meetings

Drumgooland Mon 5<sup>th</sup> Feb 8pm  
Dromara Mon 12<sup>th</sup> Feb 8pm

### Lourdes - Open Meeting

**Tues 30<sup>th</sup> Jan** 8pm St Michael's Hall, Finnis

Any questions you may have about travelling to Lourdes or regarding the Committee please come along. All welcome.

### Peter Morgan's Cottage

**Music Night** returns **Fri 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb** 7:30-11pm.  
Light Supper. All Welcome. Music, Song & Stories. Come & Enjoy!

### The Five Consecutive First Saturday

of the month devotions will continue on **Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb** in Dechomet, with confessions at 5:30pm, the 6pm Mass, followed by the Rosary and 15 minute meditation.

Along with receiving Holy Communion, everything is offered in reparation to Our Lady's Immaculate Heart for peace as requested in Fatima.

Confessions can be obtained within 20 days.

### Dromore Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage 17<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> May

Assisted Pilgrims £750, Pilgrims / Workers £795  
(single room supplement £200). Children under 2  
Years £50 booking fee Children under 12 sharing  
with 2 adults in hotel a reduction of £50

Two flights both leaving from Dublin - but anyone wishing to travel, will travel by bus - usually from Banbridge.

If interested and would like any information please contact Ann 07788195938 or speak to any Committee member.

### Thur 1<sup>st</sup> Feb Feast Day of St Brigid St Brigid's Blessing

*May Brigid bless the house wherein we dwell  
Bless every fireside, every wall and door  
Bless every heart that beats beneath it's roof  
Bless every hand that toils to bring it's joy  
Bless every foot that walk portals through  
May Brigid bless the house that shelters us.*

# Sunday Message

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE WORD

Year B • 28 January 2024 • Colour: Green • Psalter Week 4

## THE AWESOME AUTHORITY OF JESUS

MK 1:21-28



Jesus is preaching in the synagogue in Capernaum. It's his first time preaching in a synagogue. The synagogue was one of the most important religious institutions in Jesus' day.

The word "synagogue" comes from the Greek *synagōgē* and means "assembly." In Galilee in the first century AD, every town and village had its synagogue. It was a place for prayer, worship and instruction in the Jewish faith.

As soon as Jesus begins to teach, those present are amazed. They are impressed because they can see the difference between his preaching and that of other religious leaders. Jesus' teaching is unlike anything they have heard before. It has authority. They can feel it; they can see it. His words not only have the power to move people, they make things happen.

A man with an unclean spirit is sitting in the congregation. As soon as Jesus begins to teach, the man interrupts him, and starts to shriek and shout. He knows who Jesus is, and he is afraid. Jesus rebukes him, and immediately the unclean spirit vanishes.

Jesus' teaching is more than the words he speaks; it is also expressed in his actions. That is why the people marvel at what they have witnessed, why they say to themselves: "Here is a teaching that is new, and that has authority behind it."

The authority that Jesus displays is the authority of God himself. It is the power of the Holy Spirit, which he received at his baptism in the Jordan, that enables him to speak with such conviction and wisdom.

Jesus' teaching is unlike anything his listeners have heard before. It can literally change people's lives. ■

### DO

Think of the example you give to those around us. Are you authoritative? What values do you model?

### LEARN

Jesus speaks to us in the scriptures, in the liturgy and in the voice of his Church

Jesus is alive and active in our community and our world

### REFLECT

It's no surprise that we tend to be cynical about those in authority. We have been disappointed so often on so many levels. Politicians who enter office promising a bright new dawn turn out to be no different to those who preceded them. People we admire and respect in the world of sport or celebrity all too often turn out to have feet of clay. Church leaders disappoint when they fail to address adequately the scandals or other pressing issues in the Church.

On the rare occasion when we come across someone who oozes authority, we notice it and it registers. When people have authority, it shows.

Today's Gospel is an opportunity for Christians to think about authority and what it means to have it. First, it reminds us that our greatest authority is Jesus. He is the one who shows us how to live. If we want to know how to live honourably and with integrity – all we need to do is look to Jesus. Whatever it is we want to know about living life well – all we need to do is look to Jesus. We Christians take our cue from Jesus, because he is our teacher, our leader, our model, our guide.

And we Christians are called to be people of authority ourselves. The same Holy Spirit who was given to Jesus in the Jordan has been given to us too. We teach with authority when we live what we profess, when we practise what we believe. That is what impressed people when they looked at Mother Teresa – that she was living what she believed. It is what people see when they look at Pope Francis – that he practises what he preaches. And it gives him extraordinary credibility in the eyes of Christian and non-Christian alike.

It is the kind of authority each of us is called to demonstrate in our own lives. ■

### SAY

"Help me, Lord, to live in such a way as to give glory to you. Help me to be an effective witness to you in all I say and do. Amen."

### PRAY

Pray that you will always look to Jesus as your teacher, authority and guide.