

Parishes of Dromara and Drumgooland

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22nd Sunday in ordinary time

1st September 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 Leitrim
Fri 7:30pm Dromara

**Sick and housebound
will be attended this week**

ANNIVERSARIES

Dechomet

Sat 31st Timothy Doyle
Sat 7th Mary Rooney (*Dechomet*)

Leitrim

Sat 31st Fr Jim Kerr
Cissie Kelly
Eugene O'Hare
Richard Duggan
Wed 4th Winnifred Savage (*Backaderry*)

Gargory

Sun 1st Patrick & Elizabeth McCartan
Mark McEvoy

Dromara

Sun 1st Daniel Hughes (*Derry*)
Fri 6th Anne Mullan
Patrick McGrillen
Sun 8th Declan O'Hare

Gargory Altar Rota
Sept - Carmel & Geraldine

Leitrim Cleaners
Sept - Patricia, Tina, Nadine & Anne

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 £561 £859

Thank you for continuing to support your parish

Altar Servers

Forms for new Altar Servers will be available through the schools this week. If any child not at one of the local schools, wishes to serve, please ask for a form. Any Altar Server who wishes to step back, please let me know.

First Communion 2025

The *Do This in Memory* material will be distributed in the schools this week. Any other child who wishes to take part, please let me know, as all children are welcome.

Indoor Bowls

The indoor season of bowls will resume in St Michael's Hall on **Thur 5th Sept at 7:30pm**. All existing members, and anyone wishing to experience the game are invited to come along and join in.

Padre Pio Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine

Sun 22nd Sept 10am-5:30pm

Blessings with Padre Pio Glove
by Capuchin Friar

Chief Celebrant:

Archbishop Frances Duffy,
Archdiocese of Tuam

2:30pm Sacrament of the
Anointing of the Sick

3:00pm National Pilgrimage of Padre Pio
and Annual Mass followed by
Benediction and Rosary Procession

Peter Morgan's Cottage

We are planning to host a Craft Fayre
on **12th Oct, from 10am - 1pm**.

It's an opportunity to support local
Crafters, Artisans and also to
support Peter Morgan's Cottage.

There are a limited amount of
Tables. Book early to secure a Table to
sell your wares and produce.

To book a Table contact:
Michelle on 07922952011
or Lucy on 07788116209

Sunday Message

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE WORD

Year B • 1 September 2024 • Colour: Green • Psalter Week 2



THAT WHICH DEFILES

MK 7: 1-8

Jesus is faced with some serious questioning from religious leaders in today's Gospel. According to the Law, a ceremonial washing of hands before every meal and between each course was required.

It was a sign of reverence before God and was a custom to be observed by all who came to the temple. In the broader context of this Gospel, Jesus is not concerned with these preoccupations of the local pious brigade. Instead, he will leave this encounter in the temple and go out to honour the Syrophenician Woman and heal a deaf and mute man. The Gospel is not worried with the ritual observances of Jesus and his disciples. Everything points to the activity of Christ in the lives of the community and how his presence has the power to heal and transform.

Pointing to the followers of Jesus and accusing them of defiling themselves with their dirty hands reflects poorly on the Jewish leadership, who rank outward gestures and signs higher than gestures of the heart. Jesus knows that no external law will change people's hearts. Instead, he tells us to 'set your hearts first on the kingdom of God.' ■

DO

It is often said that Chapter 17 of John's Gospel contains the seeds of Christian Spirituality. Take some time this week to read this prayer of Jesus.

LEARN

'There is one body and one Spirit – just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call – one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.' (Eph 4: 4-6)

SAY

Where there is shouting,
let us practise listening;
Where there is confusion,
let us inspire harmony;
Where there is exclusion,
let us offer solidarity;
Where there is falsehood,
let us bring truth.

(Pope Francis)



REFLECT

My limited experience of working in Northern Mozambique brought me into contact with many beautiful elements of local culture. Ritual and ceremony formed an important part of day-to-day life, whether it was a meeting of local community leaders, the sharing of workload in the fields, the celebration of the Eucharist on a Sunday, the burial of the dead. Every aspect of life brought with it age-old traditions. On entering the home of a family, a ceremonial washing of hands takes place, where the host, moves around the room, usually with warm water and soap, to wash hands, before the meal commences. There is such beauty and warmth in this ritual. The guest is being formally welcomed into the home and the gesture of washing of hands, is equally an extension of the hand of friendship and hospitality.

But the meaning of hand washing in today's Gospel story takes on a different flavour. As a matter of fact, there is a feeling of hostility and tension growing between the Pharisees and Jesus. A far cry from the experience of table fellowship in Mozambique!!

The subject of discussion between the Pharisees and Jesus, has nothing to do with hygiene or with extending hospitality to the guest. It has to do with an understanding of God's holiness, where everything is ordered and in its place.

Many might be tempted to see in this Gospel a simple criticism by Jesus of external observances of the Law, or of external observances of the faith. But crucially, with the arrival of Jesus, our attention is drawn to the closeness of God to his people. The letter of James speaks of this relationship – the Word is planted in us. When we call upon God, we discover that he is not merely close, but within us, speaking to us with his Word which leads to salvation and life. ■