

## NOT A ONE-OFF

There are several occasions in the gospels where people don't recognise Jesus. For example, there's the moving story after Jesus' death when Mary has gone to the tomb to find that Jesus' body is not there. She asks a 'gardener' where he is, and it is only when the 'gardener' voices her name that she recognises him as Jesus. Or what about the 'breakfast on the beach' passage? The disciples are out fishing one night and when they come to shore, they see someone who tells them to cast their nets on the other side. It is only when they catch more fish than they can count that John recognises it is Jesus. Jesus then prepares them breakfast, cooking some of the fish.

## WHAT ABOUT US?

I am sure there are times when we too don't recognise God. In each of the situations above, the disciples didn't see Jesus because they didn't expect to see him. They had it in their heads that he was dead. Full stop.

What about us? There are places you and I expect that Jesus will be present, (for example: at Mass, in the sacraments, in times of quiet prayer, when reading the Bible, etc). The question I have for you today is: Can you recognise God in all the other places?

There is a poem I once came across, and I'd like to share it with you here. It's called 'And A Meadowlark Sang':

*The man whispered "God, speak to me"  
And a meadowlark sang.  
But the man did not hear.  
So the man yelled "God speak to me!"  
And the thunder rolled across the sky.  
But the man did not listen.  
The man looked around and said,*

*"God let me see you" and a star shone brightly.  
But the man did not notice.  
And the man shouted,  
"God show me a miracle"  
And a life was born but the man did not know.  
So the man cried out in despair,  
"Touch me God and let me know that you are here!"  
Whereupon God reached down  
and touched the man.  
But the man brushed the butterfly away  
And walked on unknowingly.*

## VEILED YET PRESENT

In the passages mentioned earlier, the gospels portray the combination of Jesus being veiled and yet being present. This gives us a powerful insight into the need for you and me to become more attentive to recognising Jesus in the here and now of our lives.

How many times throughout our day and our week do we pass by unaware, our eyes glued to see only what we expect to see? Jesus is here, right now, in our presence. We need only to see beyond the veil. Too often we fall into the position of thinking that God is present only in extraordinary ways; if Jesus' life taught us anything, it is that he is constantly present to us in countless ordinary ways throughout our day – in the sacramentality of everyday life.

The truth is that God is always with us, speaking to us through the world around us and through the people he has placed in this world. God has added his signature to creation; we can (as Fr Brian Grogan SJ says) "find God in a leaf". God has made every single one of us in his image and likeness. Let's not miss any opportunity to recognise Jesus and to listen to his message. Allow God to show himself to you in the people and places around you today – you may be surprised at just how near to you he is. ■



## Today's readings

**Acts 10:34. 37-43**  
**Col 3:1-4**  
**John 20:1-9**

## GOD'S WORD TODAY

There are two short episodes in today's gospel. In the first, Mary Magdalene discovers that the tomb of Jesus is empty. She runs to tell the news to the disciples. Has the grave been robbed? In the second episode, two disciples, Peter and one known simply as the Beloved Disciple, rush to the tomb and discover it as Mary has said. They also see something Mary did not seem to have noticed – the linen clothes that were wrapped around the body when it was

placed in the tomb on the Friday evening have been carefully unwrapped, and the special cloth that had covered the dead man's face is neatly folded and laid aside. These were hardly the actions of grave robbers, so where is the body of Jesus? The Beloved Disciple is the first to realise that Jesus has been raised by the power of God and restored to life.

4 April 2021 – Easter Sunday of the Lord's Resurrection **Year B**

*Psalter Week 1*

# Stu( )space

**SERIES: JUST THREE WORDS**

Season colour: **WHITE/GOLD**

In this series, **Clare Gilmore** explores the sheer depth contained in 'just three words'.



THEY  
RECOGNISED  
HIM

Our three words for this week – "they recognised him" – come to us from the Road to Emmaus (Luke 24:31). Two of Jesus' disciples are walking away from Jerusalem after the events of Good Friday. Discouraged, they fail to recognise the 'stranger' who joins them on the road. Even in speaking at length with him, it is only at the breaking of bread that they see who he truly is.



# Parishes of Dromara and Drumgooland

Fr Peter McNeill Tel: 406 50207 Emergencies: 079 69403762 Email: [dromaradrumgooland@dromorediocese.org](mailto:dromaradrumgooland@dromorediocese.org) Web: [www.dromaradgooland.org](http://www.dromaradgooland.org)

## Easter Sunday – 4<sup>th</sup> April 2021

### Anniversary Masses

#### Leitrim

Sun 4<sup>th</sup> 10am Brendan Boyd  
Michael and Christopher Malone  
Fri 9<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm Cahal Ward (MM)  
Sat 10<sup>th</sup> Margaret and Teresa Murphy

#### Dromara

Sun 4<sup>th</sup> Stephen O'Hare (Finnis)  
Sun 11<sup>th</sup> Gerry and Cissie O'Hare (Finnis)

**Leitrim Cleaners** Fri 16<sup>th</sup> Apr – Geraldine's Team  
**Gargory Altar Rota** April - Roseleen & Anne

### Dromore Diocesan Historical Society

The Society is pleased to announce the *Journal Seanchas Dhroim Mor 2020* is on sale, £10 or £15 to include p&p. The Journal includes articles on :  
Dr Patrick Donnelly 1649-1719 Bishop of Dromore and "Bard of Armagh" (*Thomas B. Keane*)

The Story of the Sisters of Mercy, Lurgan (*Sr. Dr Evelyn Kenny*)

Columbans from the Diocese of Dromore (*Fr Neil Collins*)

Edward Mulhern, Lord Bishop of Dromore 1916-1943 (*Martin Goss*)

The Grinan Crosses, Clonlea Graveyard & the Mooney family (*Elizabeth Hughes*)

The Function of Art: The Great Depression, Papal Encyclicals, and Editorial Cartoons (*Barry Sheppard*)  
Newry streets in the 1911 Census (an online study in time of Covid) (*Martin Goss*)

Please contact any of the following to purchase a copy: Fr Andrew McMahon, Banbridge: 40662136 or [afmcmahon@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:afmcmahon@hotmail.co.uk); Banbridge Parish Office; Michael Keenan, Burren: 41772543

We welcome into Dromara Parish Luca Convery

### Envelopes received and banked

	<u>Parish</u>	<u>Priest</u>
Drumgooland	£1539	£694
Dromara	£1542	£496

The Shrine boxes and St Anthony's boxes are emptied and banked on a regular basis. The donations to St Anthony are given to Trócaire. The donations received since the churches closed in early January were:  
Shrines £711 Trócaire £1093

Thank you to the people who are delivering the new boxes of envelopes. Your generous support is very appreciated.

If anyone wishes to pay by standing order, please email the parish and the appropriate forms will be sent to you.

If anyone wishes to pay by cheque, please make it payable to either the Parish of Dromara or the Parish of Drumgooland. This applies to the priest's collection as well as the parish one.

If making a contribution to cover a period of time, either by cash or cheque, please mark how much is to go to the parish and how much to the priest's collection.

Online Diocesan website [www.dromorediocese.org](http://www.dromorediocese.org)

There is a donate button for the parishes and you can donate to the parish and priest's collection.

One-off donation by bank transfer please ring me and it can be discussed.

### Masses for Easter Week

#### Easter Sunday

9:00am Gargory 10:00am Leitrim  
11:00am Dromara 12noon Dechomet

There will be no mass on Monday and Tuesday  
Wed 7:30pm Leitrim

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

**Keeping Everyone Safe** - please do all you can to help protect yourself and the people around you as public worship begins again. The 2m distance has to be observed, please respect it and remind those who have forgotten. Face coverings to be worn by all those who can wear them. Please sanitise your hands, and many thanks to all who clean their seats afterwards. If the church has reached its capacity please do not enter.

### Cleaning/Repolishing Gargory & Leitrim floors

The cost of this project was:

Gargory £1800 Leitrim £7374

The parish will seek to reclaim the VAT as the two church are listed.

The VAT totalled £1529.

### Drumgooland St Vincent de Paul

Are you experiencing difficulties and need a helping hand?

Contact us in confidence on 075 8644 7427