

Parishes of Dromara and Drumgooland

Fr Peter McNeill Tel: 406 50207 Emergency Tel: 079 69403762

Email: dromaradrumgooland@dromorediocese.org Web: www.dromaradrumgooland.org

20th Sunday in ordinary time

18th August 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

Recently deceased



Paddy Morgan, Kílcoo
Mary Cunningham, Greencastle

ANNIVERSARIES

Dechomet

Sat 17th Maureen Shillington MM

Leitrim

Sat 17th Shane, Barney & Winnie Owens
Wed 21st Deceased Members of Cunningham
& McDonald Families
Thomas Fowler
Sat 24th Jacqueline Murphy MM
Bernard Cunningham

Gargory

Sun 18th Brigid, Michael, Leonard &
Liam King

Dromara

Sun 18th McKenny Family (*Artana*)
Alice Lundy & Deceased Members
of McCann & Mageenan Families
Fri 23rd Pat & Annie Branniff
Petsy, Bridget & Theresa McGrady
Sun 25th Dan Hughes (*Finnis*)
Elizabeth McCoubrey (*Derry*)
Molly, Tom & Padriag McMullan
Maira McMullan-Grogan

Collections Dromara Drumgooland

Parish	£686	£1,772
Priest	£797	£1,262

Thank you for continuing to support your parish
Figures include July standing orders

Leitrim Parochial Hall

A planning application for a house on the site of the Hall will be submitted soon.
If planning permission is approved the site will be put on the market

We welcome into Drumgooland Parish
Jude Hughes and
Hugo Anthony Madine

Lough Derg One-Day Retreats - Sept

a day of guided prayer & reflection

Wed 4th

Sat 7th

Tue 10th

Sat 14th

Sun 15th

Sat 21st

Sun 22nd

(€45 booking essential):

Full details: www.loughderg.org
Contact: emailinfo@loughderg.org
Tel: 00353 071 98 61518

Pope Francis @ Pontifex



The Lord made us for the joy of Heaven.
Our life is not a meaningless journey,
but a project of love. Life is a pilgrimage
that leads us, day by day, to the
encounter with Him and to the endless
joy that He has prepared for us.

Diocesan Safeguarding:

Stephen Sherry 073 0124 6329

Email: safeguardingdirector@dromorediocese.org

SVP contact numbers:

Dromara 077 3883 8191

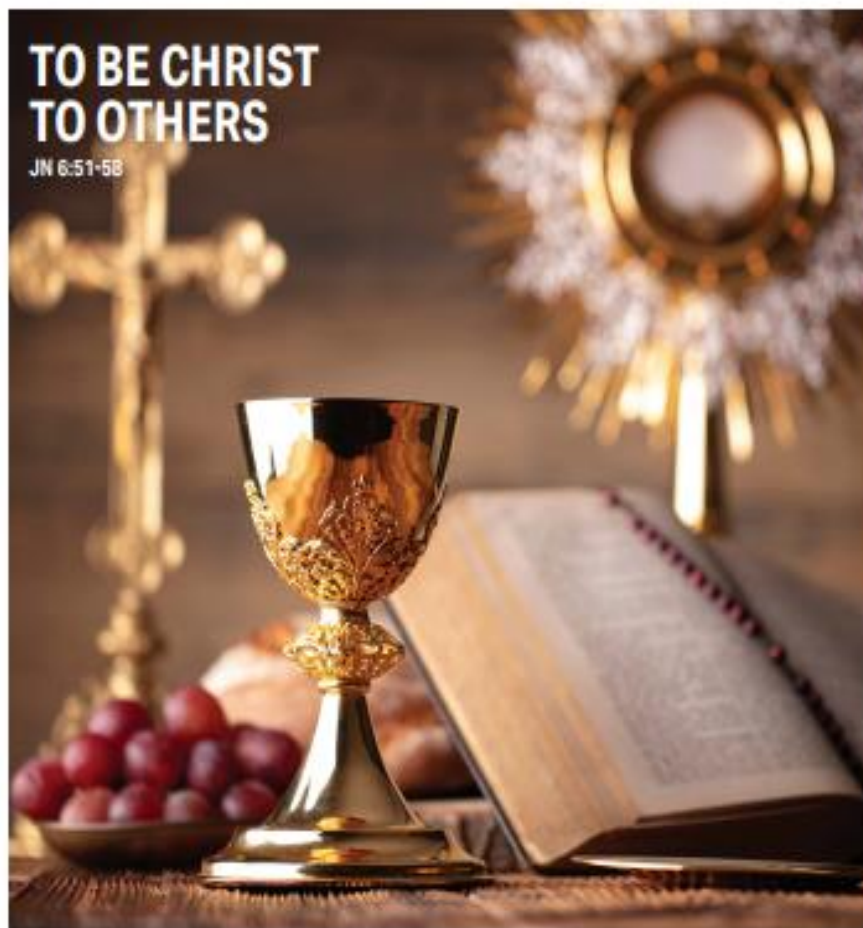
Drumgooland 078 2541 9067

Sunday Message

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE WORD

Year B • 18 August 2024 • Colour Green • Psalter Week 4



TO BE CHRIST TO OTHERS

JN 6:51-58

Today's Gospel begins with the final verse from last Sunday's Gospel. Jesus has identified his own flesh with "the living bread that came down from heaven" and says that only those who eat this bread will live forever.

It is a dramatic and shocking statement. Today we hear the crowd's response to it. As long as Jesus described himself as "bread of life," it was possible for the crowd to hear his teaching. Now that he starts to talk of himself as "flesh" that people must eat, the crowd reacts with shock and horror.

Jesus' response is to offer a solemn teaching beginning with "I tell you solemnly," which always signals an important statement to follow. Jesus' language becomes even more explicit. Not only does he talk of someone eating his flesh but now he adds the idea of someone drinking his blood. Both are required for eternal life. The language is difficult but it is obvious to the Christian reader that Jesus is talking about the Eucharist. It is by taking part in the Eucharist that Jesus' followers will receive his gift of life.

Notice that now Jesus no longer talks about himself in the third person, using the title "Son of Man." Instead, he speaks directly in the first person, using the pronoun "I." Jesus will raise on the last day all those who eat his flesh and drink his blood.

In the final verse, Jesus concludes his teaching on the bread of life. His emphatic message - his promise - is that whoever eats the bread from heaven that he offers will have eternal life. ■

SAY

"Lord, I thank you for the privilege of being able to receive you in Holy Communion."

REFLECT

Jesus ends his sermon on the Bread of Life with a mighty promise: "Whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world."

When we receive Holy Communion, we receive the Body and Blood of Jesus, our Saviour. "Body and Blood" is but an expression that means the person. But the "body" we receive is a body broken for us on the cross; the "blood" we receive is the blood, the life of Christ, poured out for us.

When we receive the Body and Blood of Christ we are saying that we want to be the body of Christ in the world today. Like Jesus, we want to give ourselves for others wherever a brother or a sister of Christ is in need. What's the use of recognising Christ in the bread and wine if we cannot recognise him in those around us?

When the priest raises the host and recalls the words of Jesus, "This is my body which will be given up for you," Jesus is also saying to his Father, "In these people gathered here today is my other body ready to give themselves for others."

That is our challenge and our privilege. ■

PRAY

We can take the gift of the Eucharist for granted. Thank God for your parish community and for the opportunity you have to celebrate the Eucharist together.

Pray to be able to see the face of Christ in all those you meet this week and every week.

LEARN

The Eucharist is our food for eternal life

In the Eucharist, the bread and wine are really changed into the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ

True wisdom is knowing that Jesus is the Bread of Life, the one who shows us the way to salvation

DO

Think about your reasons for going to Mass. Why do you go, really? Ask the Lord to deepen your faith.