

# Parishes of Dromara and Drumgooland

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*19<sup>th</sup> Sunday in ordinary time*

**11<sup>th</sup> 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

*Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

**Wed 14<sup>th</sup>** 7pm Dromara  
8pm Leitrim

**Thur 15<sup>th</sup>** 10am Gargory

**Fri 7<sup>th</sup>** 7:30pm Dromara

## ANNIVERSARIES

### Leitrim

**Sat 10<sup>th</sup>** Terry Cunningham MM  
Bernard & Ellen Cunningham  
Cowan Family  
Meta & Jackie Mooney  
**Sat 17<sup>th</sup>** Shane, Barney & Winnie Owens

### Dromara

**Sun 11<sup>th</sup>** Harry McNeill  
**Sun 18<sup>th</sup>** McKenny Family (*Artana*)  
Alice Lundy & Deceased Members  
of McCann & Mageenan Families

### Dechomet

**Sat 17<sup>th</sup>** Maureen Shillington MM

### Gargory

**Sun 18<sup>th</sup>** Brigid, Michael, Leonard &  
Liam King

### Diocesan Safeguarding:

Stephen Sherry 073 0124 6329

Email: [safeguardingdirector@dromorediocese.org](mailto:safeguardingdirector@dromorediocese.org)

### SVP contact numbers:

Dromara 077 3883 8191

Drumgooland 078 2541 9067

**Collections Dromara Drumgooland**  
Parish £442 £760  
St Michael's Hall – Whist £500

*Thank you for continuing to support your parish*

## Viatores Christi

We would like to **thank the parishioners** of all four churches for their very generous response to our appeal for support for Viatores Christi through their prayers and their amazing generosity. The total figure of **£1,438** will be a great help to us in our work with our partners in some of the most marginalised parts of our world.

*We welcome into Drumgooland Parish*  
*Anna Josephine O'Rourke*  
*and into Dromara Parish*  
*Charlie Aidan McCullough*

*Congratulations to*  
*Bronagh Duggan & Malachy Magee*  
*who were married recently*

## Knock

**National Novena**  
**to Our Lady of Knock**  
**14<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> Aug**

*'Whispering with God –*  
*How do you pray?'*

**Novena Ceremonies**  
**daily at 3pm and 8pm**  
**in Knock Basilica**

- Anointing of the Sick 2:30pm
- Candlelight Procession
- Daily Workshops at 12:45pm
- Guided Prayer Sessions
  - Family Day Sun 18<sup>th</sup>
  - Witness Walk 21<sup>st</sup> Aug
  - Daily Historical Tours

[www.knockshrine.ie](http://www.knockshrine.ie)

[info@knockshrine.ie](mailto:info@knockshrine.ie)

[00353 94 9388100](tel:00353949388100)

# Sunday Message

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE WORD

Year B • 11 August 2024 • Colour Green • Psalter Week 3

## FULLY HUMAN, FULLY DIVINE

JN 6:41-51



**They are annoyed with Jesus, incredulous at the claims he has been making. Jesus has stated that he is the "bread that has come down from heaven."**

That is simply too much for many of his listeners. After all, they know who he is. They know where he comes from. They know his mother and father. He is an ordinary Galilean, just like themselves. There is nothing special about him. And now here he is making these extraordinary claims about himself. The Jewish leaders and many of his listeners are tired of it, and they want to let Jesus know it, too.

But Jesus doesn't back down. He repeats his claim, and goes even further. He tells them that he is the bread of life. He is, he says, the living bread that comes down from heaven, and anyone who eats this bread will live forever. The bread that he gives is his own flesh, his own body and blood, for the life of the world.

It's not difficult to understand why many people found his words so difficult to accept. To the devout Jew, they sounded like sacrilege. To the casual listener, they must have sounded like the words of a crackpot.

To the unbeliever today, Jesus' words still sound astonishing. But to us who believe, they are the basis of our faith. We believe that Jesus is the bread of life, and we believe that anyone who eats this bread will live forever.

That is why we have come to Mass today, why we receive Holy Communion - we know we are receiving the bread of life himself. Today's Gospel reminds us of the wonderful gift our faith is and to never take it for granted. ■

### LEARN

The Christian knows that Jesus is true God and true man

It is never enough to think of Jesus merely as the Son of God; he is also fully human

In the Eucharist we receive the Bread of Life, which is Christ himself

The Eucharist strengthens us for life's journey

### DO

In his letter to the Ephesians, St Paul warns them to never hold grudges against others, or lose their temper, or raise their voice to anybody, or call each other names, or allow any sort of spitefulness. They must follow Christ by loving each other as Christ has loved them. Think about how you relate to those closest to you, your family, friends, colleagues. How well do you treat them?

### PRAY

Faith is an extraordinary gift. Thank God for the gift of faith you have received.

### REFLECT

Very often in practice, Christians can deny the humanity of Christ. We can say things like, "He didn't really suffer - he was God," or "He knew everything - he was God." "It was easy for him to forgive - after all, he was God." We're so convinced of Christ's divine nature we lose sight of the truth that he was a real human person.

In today's Gospel, the opposite happens. The people, some of whom had known Jesus all his life, were so conscious of his humanity that they denied his divinity. Jesus had just told them he was the bread of life come down from heaven, and immediately they got their backs up. "Sure, he can't be. He's Joseph's son. Mary is his mother. How can he make such claims?"

Because we know that he is the Son of God, we can do the opposite of those in today's Gospel and deny Christ's humanity. It's important that we don't make that mistake, for two reasons.

First, if we deny Christ's humanity, then he has nothing to teach us about being human. If he was only pretending to be a helpless infant, or pretending to be hungry or angry or lonely or broken-hearted or in pain or dying - then that's all it was, a pretence. But the fact is Jesus was human. He became human not just to teach us about God but to show us how to be fully human - how to bear the limitations of the human condition and yet know how to love and forgive and remain faithful to God. What he was, we can be in our best moments.

Second, we need to remember the humanity of Jesus because it challenges us with the possibility of living as he lived. In today's second reading, St Paul urges us to "imitate God, as children of his that he loves, and follow Christ by loving as he loved you, giving himself up in our place." Of course, we will never be perfect. We will fail and fail and make mistakes, but we are called to keep on striving to imitate Jesus, to love God and others as best we can. ■

### SAY

"Lord, you show me how to be human. Help me to imitate you to the best of my ability. Amen."