

28 AUGUST 2022

Sunday Message

22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE WORD

Year C • Season Colour: Green • Psalter Week 2



YOU ARE INVITED...
(LUKE 14:1, 7-14)

The community to which Luke belonged apparently had a sizable proportion of non-Jewish members: hence, elements of Gentile or Greek culture would be understandable to the readers of his Gospel account.

Thus, the setting of a banquet meal would be quite in line with discussing matters of a serious nature about human life and religious belief. This occurs several times in the Third Gospel and finds its highest expression in Jesus' teaching at the Last Supper.

We might note a couple of interesting details from the first line of our gospel reading today: Jesus has obviously been invited to a meal with a prominent member of the Pharisee party. To accept such an offer to share table fellowship suggests that Jesus had no fundamental issue with his host, otherwise he could not have gone to his house. But there are a couple of warning bells ringing for the reader: first, this occurs "on a sabbath day", usually heralding a controversy of some sort; secondly, the unspecified others "watched him closely" in a hostile manner, waiting to catch him out.

Jesus' remarks to the other guests about not pushing themselves forward at social occasions is not just a matter of good manners or etiquette: there is, as in all parables, something deeper at work. Jesus illustrates his teaching about God reversing human order with the parable about the guest who is embarrassed by having to give up the place at table, to which they had assumed they were entitled, to someone more important. He also warns them against being apparently generous but expecting to be rewarded, or compensated, in return. ■

REFLECT

Hospitality towards the stranger was a sacred duty in the culture of Jesus' time. Jesus' host and table companions are not sincere in their sharing a meal with him, as their intention is to discover something that they can use against him.

The standard we should try to emulate is that of the Kingdom of God. Luke has stressed that the Gospel is to be announced to those on the margins of society, people who are usually neglected or pushed aside. This will bring reward, not from other people, but from God: it is God who humbles and exalts.

Opening one's house to a stranger can be a risky matter in the present day: we cannot presume that someone we do not know will not abuse their host's welcome. We can think of incidents in history where people have given shelter to others and dreadful crimes have been committed against them. But, as communities, we can collectively offer food and shelter to those in need. We should interpret Jesus' teaching in the light of our own time and culture and act together where we can, even if it simply means supporting the work of parish or local charities or helping efforts to alleviate the suffering of less fortunate and lonely members of society. We will not receive any material reward for doing this, but something more important. ■

LEARN

One element to our celebration of the Eucharist is that of sharing a meal together.

In the mind of Jesus, given his cultural background, this involves mutual respect and acceptance:

Hence, the sign of peace which we offer to each other before receiving Holy Communion is deeply symbolic:

It is saying that we are at peace with those with whom we are celebrating. If we cannot offer someone such a sign or gesture, then we ought to sort out the situation.

SAY

**Give us to drink the wine of compassion,
give us to eat the bread that is you.**
(Marty Haugen)

DO

Find some way of contributing to people in need in your parish or local community.



Parishes of Dromara and Drumgooland

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28th August 2022
22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

<p>Weekend masses</p> <p>Sat 6:00pm Dechomet 7:30pm Leitrim</p> <p>Sun 9:00am Gargory 11:00am Dromara</p> <p>Weekday masses</p> <p>Mon 9:00am Leitrim 7:30pm Dechomet</p> <p>Tues 9:00am Dromara</p> <p>Wed 7:30pm Leitrim</p> <p>Fri 7:30pm Dromara</p> <p>Receased deceased</p> <p>Mary (Siby) McMullan, formerly Newcastle</p> <p>Anniversary Masses</p> <p>Dechomet</p> <p>Sat 27th Timothy Doyle</p> <p>Sat 3rd Mary Rooney (Dechomet)</p> <p>Gargory</p> <p>Sun 28th Mick McGreevy</p> <p>Dromara</p> <p>Sun 28th Daniel Hughes (Derry) Dan Hughes (Finnis) and Relatives Molly and Tom McMullan, Maira McMullan-Grogan and Padraig McMullan Eileen and Peter O’Hare and Deceased Family Members</p> <p>Sun 4th Susan Darby, Joe McCann and Deceased Family Members of McCann Family Anne Mullan</p> <p>Leitrim</p> <p>Mon 29th Fr Jim Kerr</p> <p>Sat 3rd Eileen McAleenan (MM) Eugene O’Hare and Deceased Family Members McMullan Family (Legananny)</p>	<table><tr><td>Collections</td><td>Dromara</td><td>Drumgooland</td></tr><tr><td>Parish</td><td>£327</td><td>£793</td></tr></table> <p>Altar Servers</p> <p>Anyone who wishes to serve mass will be welcome to do so from September onwards. There will be a volunteer form to be completed and training will be given so safeguarding practices will be followed. Any server trained previously is welcome to return.</p> <p>Do This in Memory</p> <p>The preparation for First Holy Communion programme will hopefully be able to return in full this year. The material will be sent home in early September. This year the children will be once more able to take an active part at mass.</p> <p>The re-opening of schools can bring about changes in routine, maybe even more structure in life. Please consider coming to mass as part of your family life.</p> <p>Parish Council Meetings</p> <p>Drumgooland Mon 5th Sept at 8pm</p> <p>Dromara Mon 12th Sept at 8pm</p> <p>Opening and Closure of Leitrim Chapel</p> <p>New Rotas available in the sacristy</p> <p>Gargory Altar Rota Sept – Marion</p> <p>Leitrim Cleaners Fri 9th Sept – Kathleen’s Team</p> <p>Newcastle Comhaltas-Open Night</p> <p>Thur 1st Sept 6:30pm-8:30pm The Lodge, Castlewellan. Do you want to learn how to play a new instrument or maybe develop your musical talent? Come along and hear about the many classes we have to offer. Information on registration is available on our Facebook page - Newcastle CCÉ</p> <p>Whist restarting in St Michael’s Hall, Finnis on Tues 6th Sept at 8:00pm. Adm £5. Please support.</p>	Collections	Dromara	Drumgooland	Parish	£327	£793
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