

Parishes of Dromara and Drumgooland

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St Patrick's Day



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
Fri 7:30pm Dromara

Cemetery Sunday 26th May

Recently deceased

Sr Mary McCusker, Newry

ANNIVERSARIES

Leitrim

Sat 16th Margaret McCrickard
Malachy Savage
Anne Bannon & Denis Bannon
Nolene Hardy

Wed 20th James Malone
Anne McCabe

Sat 23rd James Gerard Kelly
Maura Murphy

Dromara

Sun 17th Mary Hughes

Sun 24th Art Gilmore
Joe Connolly

Dechomet

Sat 23rd Sadie McGreevey
John Sweeney
Patrick Hugh Morgan

The new **boxes of envelopes** will be available from 23rd/24th Mar. Thank you to all who give so generously and regularly to the parishes and myself. Each year there is a decrease in the number of boxes used. If you do not have a box or give by standing order, please consider doing so. If you wish to give by standing order or wish to have a box of envelopes, please send an email to dromaradrumgooland@dromorediocese.org

The **Dromara Cancer Research** committee is running a **Song of Praise evening** on Fri 19th Apr, 7.30pm, in 2nd Dromara Church, Begney Hill Rd, Dromara and are looking for volunteers to join the choir! Anyone interested can contact Katrina on 07798655771. Even if you don't want to join the choir, come along on the night. Light supper will be provided. Donations to Cancer Research will be most welcome. Thanks

Diocesan Safeguarding: Stephen Sherry 073 0124 6329
Email: safeguardingdirector@dromorediocese.org

Collections	Dromara	Drumgooland
Parish	£ 315	£ 950
Hall Hire (GAA)	£50	

Thank you for continuing to support your parish

Congratulations to the 41 children who celebrated their First Confessions

*We welcome into Dromara Parish
Ronan Michael Doyle and
Cassie Patricia Convery*

New **public address system** and speakers were installed in Gargory Church. Total cost £8,460.

Peter Morgan's Cottage

Music Session continues on Fri 22nd Mar.
Great Music, Song & Stories, come and enjoy.
7:30- 11pm. Light supper. Everyone welcome.

Please join the '**Friends of St Michael's Finnis Parents Group**' on **Sun 24th Mar** for a great afternoon of **Bingo** in the Parish Hall. Doors open at 2:30pm. **£100 JACKPOT** must go! Good fun, refreshments and a great raffle, so please come along and show your support for the school.

Assumption Grammar School Holy Week Vigil
Wed 27th Mar from **6pm-6am**, you are invited to join the school community **for one hour** as they participate in a **12 Hour Vigil** in the School Oratory. **Benediction** and **Mass** will be celebrated at **10pm**. Prayers will be offered each hour for a different theme. *Further details can be found on Facebook Assumptionlive and Twitter @assumptionlive or by contacting the School 02897562250*

Holy Week Ceremonies

Holy Thursday 6pm Dromara & 8pm Leitrim

Good Friday Stations of the Cross 3pm
Dechomet, Dromara & Leitrim
Evening Service 6pm Dromara & 8pm Gargory

Holy Saturday Easter Vigil 9pm Leitrim

Easter Sunday 9am Gargory, 10am Leitrim,
11am Dromara & 12noon Dechomet

Confessions

Mon 25 th	6:45-7:15pm	Dechomet
Tues 26 th	6:45-7:15pm	Dromara
Wed 27 th	6:45-7:15pm	Leitrim
Sat 30 th	10-10:30am	Gargory

SVP contact numbers

Dromara 077 3883 8191
Drumgooland 078 2541 9067

Sunday Message

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

THE WORD

Year B - 17 March 2024 - Colour: Rose or Violet - Psalter Week 1

JESUS PREDICTS HIS DEATH

JN 12:20-33



We enter this Gospel story with a feeling that the inevitable is about to happen. Jesus' death is ahead of him and the hour has come. Pilgrims are arriving into the city for the feast of Passover, including some Greek converts who want to see Jesus.

These philosophers seek to broaden their understanding of other faiths, unlike the conservative Jews, who ostracize Jesus and seek his death. The other three Gospels speak of Jesus' agony on the Mount of Olives and how he felt great anguish and fear over his approaching death. We witness scenes of Jesus hoping and praying that it might be the Father's will to avoid such a violent death. But in today's Gospel from John, there is no agony scene. Jesus is troubled but he rejects the temptation to ask the Father to save him from what is to come. Jesus is aware that the pain and loss cannot be avoided. One scripture scholar notes, that 'there is going to be gain from the pain; there is going to be glory from the way of the cross.' The way of the cross, which appeared as a possibility at the beginning of the ministry, now presents itself as inevitable.

St. Paul of the Cross says, "The whole life of Jesus was a cross; the whole life of one who follows Jesus consists in this: to remain on the cross with him." In other words, to be a disciple means to love as Jesus loved. Once we begin to love, we open ourselves to pain as well as joy. Jesus' final courageous answer was a wholehearted acceptance of his heavenly Father's will. "Father, glorify your name!" – that is, "Use me as you will." ■

SAY

I arise today. Through a mighty strength, the invocation of the Trinity, through belief in the Threeness, through confession of the Oneness of the Creator of creation.

LEARN

I bind myself today, the power of the Incarnation of Christ, and of his Baptism, the power of the Crucifixion, and of his Burial, the power of the Resurrection and Ascension.' (St. Patrick)

DO

Next Sunday is Passion Sunday. Read the Gospel of the Passion on your own this week, taking time to reflect on the meaning of Christ's passion in our lives.



REFLECT

Such a powerful Gospel reading is accompanied by an equally powerful Saint, as around the world, we celebrate the life and work of St. Patrick, Patron Saint of Ireland. His life story is familiar to us. He is captured and brought to Ireland as a slave and as we read from his writings, he was a courageous, strong and holy man. Patrick knew first hand the strength, comfort and consolation that comes from Christ, indeed some of these characteristics are evident in John's Gospel. Archbishop Dermot Farrell, Archbishop of

Dublin, gives a contemporary account of how Patrick can be relevant and indeed a guiding force for our Church of today. He states that our faith makes a difference, despite everything we've been through as a Church with COVID, declining attendances and a falloff in vocations. Our faith and its practice continue to make a difference, and for the Christian, Christ makes a difference. "This is why Patrick came to proclaim, 'Chríost Liam, Chríost romham – Christ be with me, Christ before me, Christ on my right, Christ on my left. Faith and the communal

celebration of faith make a difference to people. The spiritual and the human go hand in hand." We take the missionary spirit of St. Patrick as our help and guide. Patrick knew troubled times but his strength of vocation and his zeal for the faith rested on an intimate relationship with Jesus Christ. Patrick also recognised that Christ is alive in the community where his healing touch is felt and where his words of comfort and consolation are heard. ■