

Parishes of Dromara and Drumgooland

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Fifth Sunday of Easter

28th April 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

ANNIVERSARIES

Dechomet

Sat 27th Paddy & Phil Turley
Nicholas Doyle

Leitrim

Sat 27th Clare McCrickard
Jim Joe O'Hare
Sat 4th Margaret & Teresa Murphy
Theresa & Charles O'Higgins
John Donnelly
Josie & Tommy Bannon

Dromara

Sun 28th Mary Ann & Seamus Lundy (*Drin*)

Cemetery Sunday 26th May

New Director of Safeguarding in the Dromore Diocese

After 15 years of service Pat Carville, the Diocesan Director of Safeguarding retired from her post in January 2024. Stephen Sherry, a social work professional, has taken up the role.

Stephen has wide experience in the area of Safeguarding and will be able to continue the good work that we have been doing, that has been recognised in the recent review of the Diocese by the National Board.

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

The **Morgan Family** would like to **thank everyone** for supporting their Coffee Morning last Saturday in aid of the Air Ambulance. A big thank you to Leitrim Fontenoy's GAC for hosting the event and to everyone who helped out on the morning. We still have donations coming and when we finalise the total future we will make a presentation to the Air Ambulance.

SVP contact numbers

Dromara 077 3883 8191/Drumgooland 078 2541 9067

Collections	Dromara	Drumgooland
Parish	£1,327	£1,027

Thank you for continuing to support your parish.

Congratulations to the 38 children
who were Confirmed last week.

Lourdes pre-Pilgrimage Mass

Fri 3rd May at 7:30pm in Finnis

Anyone wishing to have candles lit please speak to any committee member. A bag will be available at Mass for any petitions you may wish to send - please do not put money in envelope with petitions.

Sick and housebound will be attended
on **6th & 7th May**

First Holy Communion

St Matthew's Sat 11th May 10am Gargory
St Mary's Sat 11th May 12noon Dechomet
St Michael's Sat 18th May 11am Finnis

The option of expressing a **sign of peace**
will be re-instated at mass in May

Reflection Day at SMA Dromantine

Sat 4th May 9:30am – 5:00pm

*Forgiveness: the journey from hurt to healing,
freedom, peace and happiness.*

Led by Fr Des Corrigan SMA.

Cost (*incl. lunch*) £38/€43

Tel 028 30821964

email: admin@dromantineconference.com

Trócaire Thank you to all who have donated so far. **£5,044** has been received since Easter. It would be helpful to receive all donations by Sun 5th May so that we can forward the donations to the diocese, which forwards them to Trócaire. This reduces the cost to Trócaire. Any donations received after that date will be forwarded alongside the St Anthony donations later in the year.

Lough Derg Pilgrimage Season

be a Pilgrim of Hope

One Day Retreats begin 5th May, *booking essential*

Three Day Retreats begin 31st May

Full details: www.loughderg.org

Contact: emailinfo@loughderg.org

Tel: 00353 071 98 61518

Leitrim Cleaners May - Anne, Joanne & Jeanette
Gargory Altar Rota May - Marion

Sunday Message

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

THE WORD

Year B • 28 April 2024 • Colour: White • Psalter Week 1

THE VINE AND THE BRANCHES

JN 15: 1-8



We have been presented with many familiar images over the past number of weeks. The shepherd minding his sheep, Jesus appearing to the disciples praying peace upon them, and now we have another image of the vine and the branches, which shows the inextricable connection that exists between Jesus and his people.

This image of vines and grapes and branches was very familiar to the Jewish people, and therefore an image quite useful for Jesus. The Jewish writings pictured Israel as the vineyard of God, the Jews as branches of God's vine. Coins at the time of Jesus had the symbol of the vine on them. And the Temple had a great golden vine carved into the front of its Holy Place.

Jesus speaks of himself as the true vine, bearing sweet grapes, with us as his branches. We receive our spiritual life from our connection with him. He gives us himself so that we can continue to live on with him. When you think about it, we would be spiritually worthless if we cut ourselves off from the branch of the vine. Jesus maintained his contact with God through adversity, through his ministry, through his life. We maintain our contact with God through Jesus. We are connected to him like a vine and its branches. Through our lives, let us bear much fruit. ■

REFLECT

Jimmy Carter described a fishing outing with his father in a televised interview. He said they went to a local fishing spot and fished all day, catching several. In the afternoon, his father said it was time to go home but Jimmy wanted to stay and fish some more. His father agreed, telling him to bring the catch of fish, all hooked to a single line, when he returned home later. After fishing a while longer, Jimmy then started for home with the line of their catch attached to his belt loop. Like many boys, he did not walk the path, but waded through the flowing creek, poking at things and throwing rocks. On his way home, though, the line broke in the water and he lost the catch of the day.

He arrived to his front porch and sat on the steps afraid to go in and tell his normally austere father he lost the fish. As evening set, his father stepped outside to look for Jimmy and saw him on the steps. He asked him where the fish were. Jimmy told him he lost them. His father sat down next to him, put his arm on his shoulder and said, "It's okay Jimmy. We'll catch some more another time." Carter told the interviewer, "In that moment, I knew for the first time that my father loved me." To believe is more than agreeing to a system of beliefs; it is a vital connection, an abiding in the living Lord who loves us deeply. Our connection with him blossoms and flourishes like grapes in a vineyard. ■

DO

The Church must constantly be in appreciation of the missionary work that has gone before us. Take the opportunity this week to read about the missionary life of a lay person or religious. What inspiration can you gather from their stories?

SAY

**'Sweetest Jesus,
Body and Blood most Holy,
be the delight and pleasure of my
soul,
my strength and salvation in all
temptations,
my joy and peace in every trial,
my light and guide in every word
and deed,
and my final protection in death.
Amen'**

St. Thomas Aquinas
(The Aquinas Prayer Book)

LEARN

'Only the certainty that the Crucified Christ lives on as the Risen Christ, glorified by God, gives us the solution to the riddle of Jesus as a person and makes the Church possible and real.'

(Fr. Hans Kung)