

Parishes of Dromara and Drumgooland

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The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

2nd June 2024

Weekend Masses

Sat 6:00pm Dechomet & 7:30pm Leitrim
Sun 9:00am Gargory & 11:00am Dromara

Weekday Masses

Fri 7th Jun 7:30pm Dromara

I will be on retreat until Thur 6th Jun.
If you need a priest urgently for a sick call
or a death, please try

Fr Brian Brown 074 9673 1619

The sick and housebound will be
attended on **10th & 11th June**

Recently deceased

Valerie Pickens

*Eamon Duggan, Derbyshire,
formerly Ballymaginthy*

ANNIVERSARIES

Dromara

Sun 2nd Vincent & Desmond O'Hare
Kevin O'Hare
Dylan O'Hare

Fri 7th **John King MM**
Sarah McGrillen

Dechomet

Sat 8th Aisling O'Donnell & Pat Doyle
Seamus & Phylis Doyle
Kathleen & Matt Ward & Deceased
Members of Kelly & Ward Families

Leitrim

Sat 8th Kathleen Malone

The Morgan family have now closed their
collection for the **Air Ambulance fundraiser.**

The total amount raised has been **£4,380.**

A massive thank you to everyone who donated.
A presentation has been made this weekend to the
Air Ambulance at their headquarters.

Members of the **Viatores Christi Mission
Awareness Team** (*an association of Catholic lay
missionary/development workers founded in 1960*)
will speak at all masses **15th & 16th Jun**

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

SVP contact numbers

Dromara 077 3883 8191/Drumgooland 078 2541 9067

Collections Parish	Dromara	Drumgooland
	£520	£765

St Michael's Hall GAC £50 Other £80

Thank you for continuing to support your parish.

Thank you to all who attended the **Cemetery Services** last Sunday and to all who helped make them flow so well. Deep gratitude is owed to those who provided places to park, to the stewards who helped people park and get away safely. Thank you to all who read, sang, led the rosaries, collected or supplied the PA systems.

The collections on the day were very generous:

Dromara £1,072

Dechomet £537

Leitrim £2,882

Thank you for your generosity to **Trócaire.**

The amount forwarded to was:

Dromara £2,397

Drumgooland £5,067

All money placed in the St Anthony
boxes are given to Trócaire

Do This in Memory

The Final Sunday for the First Communion
programme has been moved to **8th/9th June.**
All First Communion children are encouraged
to come in their First Communion clothes.
P3 children will be welcome as well.



Coffee Morning in aid of Action Cancer

You are warmly invited to a **Coffee Morning**,
organised by Carol Dixon and family, on
Sat 8th Jun, 10am to 2pm in Fontenoy Hall.

Please come along, enjoy a cuppa and
sweet treat in aid of a worthy cause!
All donations going to Action Cancer NI.

Dromantine Family Fun Day

Sun 9th Jun 1:30-5:30pm

Admission £5 donation per car

Everyone Welcome

Society of African Missions
96 Glen Rd, Newry, BT34 1RH

Inter-Church Service Sun 9th Jun 3pm

St Michael's, Finnis. All are welcome

Sunday Message

THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

THE WORD

Year B • 2 June 2024 • Colour: White • Psalter Week 1



Today's feast doesn't commemorate any particular event in Jesus' life, but is a celebration of his gift of the Eucharist. The traditional day for this feast is the Thursday after Trinity Sunday.

The reason Thursday is chosen is because Jesus celebrated the Last Supper on the Thursday before he died when he gifted his disciples with the Eucharist during the Passover meal. Many local churches have moved the celebration to the Sunday after Trinity Sunday. The churches in the UK and Ireland follow this practice.

In today's Gospel, the disciples ask Jesus about his plans to celebrate the Passover meal. Jesus sends two of them into the city and tells them what they are to do. Normally, the Passover meal would be celebrated by a Jewish family. However, Jesus is not going to celebrate this meal with his blood relatives but with his "new family" of disciples. When the disciples go into the city, everything happens as Jesus foretold and they make the preparations.

Later that evening, during the meal, Jesus speaks words about his death over the bread and wine. Following the Jewish custom at Passover, Jesus blesses God for the gift of food and then breaks the bread and gives a piece to all present with the words, "Take, this is my body." The broken bread he shares with the disciples is his body broken in death for others. Those who eat this bread are now connected to him in the most profound way.

He does the same with the cup and adds, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many." The Jews understood that the covenant made between God and Israel at Mount Sinai had been sealed in animals' blood. Blood symbolised life and since the Sinai covenant was sealed in blood, it meant that Israel then shared in God's very own life. Jesus now offers us an eternal, life-giving New Covenant, sealed in his very own blood. ■

REFLECT

It's easy to lose our sense of wonder, to live in a world of the mundane. Every day I follow the same route on my early morning walk. I know the terrain like the back of my hand, and so don't pay much attention to what's going on around me as I listen to a book on Audible. My route takes me past Limerick's famous King John's castle. One morning last year saw a glorious red sky as the sun rose majestically behind the castle. I didn't pay it much attention. It was just another sunrise, until a man standing behind a tripod commanded me to stop. He had been taking photographs of the castle framed against the crimson sky. "Stop, stop, you gotta stop and look at this," he said, pointing towards the castle. "It's gorgeous; you need to take it in." And I did. I took out my AirPods and stood with him for several minutes gazing at the awesome sight before our eyes. And I expressed my gratitude to

him for forcing me to stop and look and marvel. My morning walk had become so routine, so quotidian, that I didn't appreciate what was going on around me. I try not to make that mistake now.

Repetition dulls excitement. Doing more or less the same thing every day, we can fall into a rut and lose our capacity for awe, for wonder.

It's the same when it comes to the Eucharist. If we go to Mass regularly, we know what to expect. The readings will differ each time, and hopefully the homily will be original and engaging, but otherwise there is a sameness to the celebration: the same consecration, the same holy communion, the same words, the same gestures. It becomes so routine, so predictable, that we can lose our sense of awe, of wonder, at what is taking place. We fail to marvel at the

SAY

"Lord, I thank you for the gift of the Eucharist. Help me to treasure it always. Amen."

PRAY

Pray that you will never lose your sense of awe and wonder at what takes place in the Eucharist.

LEARN

The Body of Christ is our soul-nourishing food, the bread that gives us life

Vatican II teaches that the Eucharist is the source and the summit of the life of the Church

The Eucharist leads us from church to world to serve others

DO

Think about how you respond to the gift of the Eucharist. Does it amaze you, enrapture you, fill you with awe?



miracle unfolding among us, the gift of the body and blood of Christ given to us out of love.

In one sense, today's feast may seem superfluous. After all, every Eucharist is a feast of the body and blood of Christ. What we celebrate today, we celebrate every time we come to Mass. But precisely because we are so used to it, occasionally we need a little jolt, a nudge, as I was given on my morning walk, to remind us to look more closely at what is happening, to stop and appreciate more fully what it is we are celebrating, to be amazed at the event unfolding, awestruck at the gift we are receiving. As you receive the Lord in holy communion today, let this feast be a reminder to you to be, in the words of St Thomas Aquinas, "lost, all lost in wonder at the God thou art." ■