

Parishes of Dromara and Drumgooland

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14th Sunday in ordinary time

7th July 2024

Weekend Masses

Sat 6:00pm Dechomet & 7:30pm Leitrim

Sun 9:00am Gargoy & 11:00am Dromara

**There will not be any weekday masses
until I return from holidays**

*(the next weekday mass will be on Mon 22nd Jul
in Dechomet at 7:30pm)*

Holidays

I will be on holiday 29th Jun to 20th July this year

If you need a priest urgently for
a sick call or a death, please try

Fr Brian Brown 074 9673 1619

Booking of Anniversaries

Over the next few weeks Anniversaries can be
booked by email; leaving a message and contact
number on the answering machine or by leaving
a note through the parochial house letter box.

ANNIVERSARIES

Leitrim

Sat 6th Margaret, Oliver & Gary Donnelly
Kathleen Bannon

Dromara

Sun 7th Kevin Doyle
Bernard Rice (*Dree*)
Pat Doyle

Sun 14th Maureen McKey

Guided tours of Newry Cathedral

Wed 24th Jul at 6.45pm

Wed 7th Aug at 2.00pm

Wed 21st Aug at 6.45pm

Please meet at the main door of the Cathedral.

Each tour will take approx. 90 minutes.

You will hear the story of the building of
Newry Cathedral, 1825-1829, and of the later
extensions. The history of its stained glass,
marble altars, sculptures and magnificent
mosaics will also be explained.

There is no charge for these tours.

Diocesan Safeguarding:

Stephen Sherry 073 0124 6329

Email: safeguardingdirector@dromorediocese.org

SVP contact numbers:

Dromara 077 3883 8191

Drumgooland 078 2541 9067

Collections	Dromara	Drumgooland
Parish	£372	£669

Thank you for continuing to support your parish.

Wee James' Tractor Run

Sun 7th Jul

The Mill,

50 Leitrim Road,

BT31 9BD

Registration begins 12:30pm

Table Quiz

Fri 26th July

Doyle's Bar, Dechomet at 8.30pm

Proceeds in aid of the

Lourdes Fund.

Reek Sunday 26th-28th July

National Pilgrimage to Croagh Patrick

Garland Friday 26th July (*local pilgrimage*)

10am Mass Croagh Patrick summit, celebrated
by Westport native, Fr Tod Nolan PP, Newport

7:30pm Mass at Murrisk Community Café,
Croagh Patrick Car Park

Reek Saturday 27th July

8:30am Tóchar Phádraig Pilgrimage begins
at Ballintubber Abbey.

6:30pm Vigil Mass in St Mary's Church,
Westport, Archbishop Francis Duffy of Tuam

Reek Sunday 28th July

7:30am-2pm confessions on the summit

8am-2pm hourly Masses on the summit

www.westportparish.ie for more details

Lough Derg Pilgrimages

be a Pilgrim of Hope

One Day Retreats (€45 booking essential):

Sat 17th Aug; Tue 20th Aug;

Sun 25 Aug; Mon 26th Aug;

& Sat 31st Aug

Three Day Pilgrimage (€80 booking advised)

Pilgrims can begin on any day until Tue 13th Aug

Residential Retreats (€325-€400 booking essential)

Sun 21st – Thur 25th Jul

Full details: www.loughderg.org

Contact: emailinfo@loughderg.org

Tel: 00353 071 98 61518

Sunday Message

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE WORD

Year B • 7 July • Colour: Green • Psalter Week 2



In today's Gospel, Jesus returns to his hometown of Nazareth with his new family of disciples.

Much has happened since his last visit. He has shown his authority over demons, illness and death. Many have come to faith in him, especially in Capernaum, where he now lives. But, as we saw some Sundays ago, it was in Nazareth that members of his own blood family had declared he was insane and tried to stop his mission. Has anything changed? Will they and the other Nazarenes now believe in him?

As is his practice, Jesus goes to the synagogue to preach. But the locals aren't impressed. They ask pointed questions. They want to know the source of his words and deeds.

Jesus' townspeople are limited by their own narrow experience and fixed ideas. They know his family and where he came from and simply cannot believe there is anything significant about him. They describe him using the Greek word *téktón*, which is traditionally translated as "carpenter." The word means a craftsman who works with wood or metal. Such craftsmen would have produced doors, window frames and other wooden or metallic objects. Jesus and his family would probably not have been poor, but still would have been regarded as socially inferior to the educated class of religious leaders. Simply put, the locals think Jesus is getting above his station and that there is really nothing to him. He is no different to themselves. They think that in trying to move beyond his social standing he is bringing dishonour to his family, and so they take offence at him.

Jesus' reply about a prophet not having honour in his home place may well be a proverb which Mark, Matthew and Luke have re-worked for their own use. Mark's version is very pointed. Jesus is not only rejected by his home town, but also by his natural family and relatives. In this way, Mark reminds us of the way Jesus' own family had already treated him and of his need to create a new family of disciples.

The result is that Jesus isn't able to work any significant miracle in Nazareth. His miracles require faith and this is lacking in the place where he grew up. The overall effect on Jesus is that he is "amazed" at the Nazarenes' lack of faith. "Amazement" is often people's faith response to Jesus' miracles. Now Jesus is "amazed" at the unbelief of his own townspeople. ■

DO

Make a conscious effort to be more aware of God's power at work in those around you at home and in the workplace.

PRAY

Pray for the courage to witness to the Good News without fear as Jesus did.

SAY

"Lord, help me always to speak your truth with love. Amen."

LEARN

To be a prophet is to witness to the Gospel no matter the cost.

We must never rush to judge, reject or dismiss.

The Christian is always tuned into the signs of the times.



REFLECT

According to the old proverb, familiarity breeds contempt. In other words, extensive knowledge of or close association with someone or something leads to a loss of respect for them or it. It is what Jesus experienced in today's Gospel. His own townspeople weren't interested in listening to him. After all, he was the local carpenter's son. They knew all his family and knew there was nothing special about him.

Andrei Sakharov also experienced rejection. Sakharov was a brilliant Russian scientist who helped develop the Soviet Union's nuclear programme. The Communist authorities showered him with honours for his achievements, but when he began to speak out against the bomb and against the state's heavy hand, his colleagues turned against him. They wouldn't listen to him. He was shunned. The authorities stripped him

of his honours and sent him and his equally courageous wife Yelena into internal exile in the remote city of Gorky, where he could contact no one. Sakharov was punished severely for speaking the truth. But he didn't back down and he was vindicated in the end.

There are prophets all over the world who are applauded internationally for what they have to say but who are not acknowledged or lauded at home. Think of the Pakistani activist, Malala Yousafzai, who as a schoolgirl campaigner for female education became the youngest ever Nobel Prize laureate. She was shot by the Taliban in 2012 because they didn't like what she had to say. Her own people refused to listen to her.

When we close our minds to hearing something that might be new and challenging simply because of who says

it, we are not allowing for the possibility of growth.

It happens in all walks of life. Young people will listen to the wisdom of their friends' parents but not their own parents. Older people are reluctant to hear what the young have to say because they have no experience and the old know better. The new person in the office isn't listened to because she has not been around long enough to know what makes the place tick.

Today's Gospel is a warning against falling into that trap. God may be working through the person right beside us who is all too well known to us. We must never allow arrogance or familiarity or misogyny to cloud our judgement or close our ears to the prophetic voice or to the uncomfortable truth. ■