

Parishes of Dromara and Drumgooland

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3rd Sunday in ordinary time

26th January 2025

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

Recently deceased



ANNIVERSARIES

Leitrim

Sat 25th Mary McAnulty MM
Henry & Rita O'Hare
Carol Cowan
Evelyn Clarke

Dechomet

Sat 25th McEvoy Family, Dechomet
Sat 1st Mickey Turley

Dromara

Sun 26th Kathleen, John & Sarah Gordon
Margaret Mary Reavey
Fri 31st Gerry & Winnie Dunniece
Sun 2nd Liz McKay MM
Daniel, Liam & Mary Marmion
& Deceased Family Members
Dan & Mae Flynn
Kathleen O'Hare (*Dree*)

SVP contact numbers

Dromara 07738838191 / Drumg 07825419067

Diocesan Safeguarding Officer: Stephen Sherry

07301246329 / safeguardingdirector@dromorediocese.org

Collections Dromara Drumgooland

Parish £ £

Thank you for your continued contributions

Please join the '*Friends of St Michael's Finnis Parents Group*' on **Sun 26th Jan at 3pm** for a great afternoon of **Bingo** in the Parish Hall.

£100 JACKPOT MUST GO!

Doors open at 2:30pm.

Good fun, refreshments and a great raffle so please come along and show your support for the school.

STORM EOWYN!

Power cut Fri 24th Jan to Mon 27th Jan!

No bulletin printed!

Sunday Message

3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE WORD

Year C • 26 January 2025 • Colour: Green • Psalter Week 3

START SPREADING THE (GOOD) NEWS

LK 1:1-4; 4:14-21



It's no wonder his listeners are astonished. Here is one of their own, the son of a local carpenter, making such an extraordinary statement, and making it with such authority. Quoting a text from the prophet Isaiah, Jesus tells them that the spirit of the Lord is upon him and has anointed him to bring good news to the afflicted.

And what good news it is; far better than the boldest manifesto of even the most ambitious political party. Liberty to captives, sight to the blind, freedom for the oppressed, a year of favour from the Lord. And, unlike political manifestoes, this isn't an empty pledge. This is happening. Jesus tells them, right here right now, even as he speaks.

It's the kind of good news everyone longs to hear and to believe - an end to suffering, to selfishness, and to all that weighs them down, the promise of a new way of living and relating, the assurance of a new kind of world, the world as it should be.

And the amazing thing is that making this good news happen is not impossible at all. Every time we follow the way of Jesus and live his truth, we are making it real. ■

SAY

"Lord, help me to proclaim the good news to all who need to hear it."

DO

Make a point of trying to communicate only good news this week.

Try to be grateful for all the good things in your life.

PRAY

Many people today feel lost, broken, burdened. Remember them in this Mass. Pray for them.

LEARN

The good news that Jesus announced to the people of Nazareth all those centuries ago he announces to us too

We are all called to proclaim the good news

The Christian is one who follows the example of Jesus



REFLECT

Once every four years an extraordinary event takes place in Washington DC: the inauguration of the newly elected or re-elected president of the United States. It doesn't have the pageantry of a British royal coronation or of the installation of a pope, but it is a solemn moment. The president swears on a bible to uphold, protect and defend the constitution of the United States, "so help me God."

The president then delivers an inaugural address - outlining his or her vision for the next four years and for America's future.

Most inaugural addresses have been largely forgotten. Only a few are regarded as great: Lincoln's second, just 700 words long, with its talk of reconciliation after the bitter civil war; Franklin D. Roosevelt's first in 1933, at the height of the great depression, when he assured a forlorn people: "You have nothing to fear but fear itself." John Kennedy's in 1961, when he challenged Americans to

work together to build a better world: "Ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country."

One address, delivered on a biting cold Washington morning in 1841, was so long that the new president, William H. Harrison, picked up a chill, which led to his death from pneumonia just one month later, making him the first president to die in office.

Today's Gospel includes what you could call Jesus' inaugural address. He has gone to the synagogue in his home town and is invited to do the reading.

But when he stands up, he ignores the reading for the day and chooses instead a section from the prophet Isaiah. It speaks about a mysterious figure who has been empowered by the Spirit to bring Good News to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives, new sight to the blind, to set the downtrodden free, and announce a year

of God's favour, when debts would be cancelled and everyone would be given a new start. Many Jews believed this person would be the Messiah. In choosing this reading and this moment, Jesus is announcing that he is that Messiah.

You can imagine how taken aback his listeners must have felt when they heard Jesus speak those words.

Jesus' choice of Isaiah's words is a deliberate call to hope. He is inaugurating a new 'year of favour,' especially for the poor. It is an inclusive, all-embracing, liberating vision.

The good news he announced to his townspeople in Nazareth at the beginning of his public ministry he announces to us today also. God's favour is with us. As his followers, all we need to do is to listen to him, heed his words, and live according to his vision. ■