

Parishes of Dromara and Drumgooland

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11th Sunday in ordinary time

16th June 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 7th 7:30pm Dromara

Holidays

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

ANNIVERSARIES

Leitrim

Sat 15th **Mary Teresa Rooney MM**
Bernadette Savage

Wed 19th John & Marie Love

Sat 22nd **Eamon Duggan MM**
Patricia Hamilton
Sam Duggan

Gargory

Sun 16th Noel King
Seamus Gribben

Dechomet

Mon 17th William & Elizabeth Burns

Sat 22nd Rosaleen Turley

Dromara

Sun 23rd Michael, Teresa & Dominic O'Hare

Diocesan Safeguarding: Stephen Sherry 073 0124 6329

Email: safeguardingdirector@dromorediocese.org

SVP contact numbers

Dromara 077 3883 8191/Drumgooland 078 2541 9067

Education of Priests envelope collection 23rd June

This collection goes primarily towards the tuition and accommodation fees of students preparing for the priesthood, the permanent diaconate, and those lay faithful in theological and vocational on-going formation in the

Diocese of Dromore. We currently support two students for the priesthood in Maynooth and four candidates for the permanent diaconate.

Unfortunately, the collection for the education of seminarians across the diocese has in the past few years fallen far short of what is necessary to meet those costs.

Please give generously.

Collections Dromara Drumgooland

Parish £591 £1,938

Priest £852 £1,174

Thank you for continuing to support your parish.

Figures include May standing orders

*We welcome into Dromara Parish
Madison Malone*

Dromore Diocesan Historical Society

Mon 24th June 8pm

St Clare's Convent

Mayobridge

The Society is delighted to invite members and friends to St Clare's Convent for an event to mark the centenary of the founding of the Convent in the village.

This event will be led by
Sr Joan McAteer OSC.

The Annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock

will take place on **Sat 29th June**

Further details regarding transport and cost will follow in due course.

Solitude Saturday

Saturday 29th June £20

An opportunity to take some time for yourself, in the beautiful surroundings of

Glenvale Convent.

Beginning with Mass at 10am and ends at 3.30pm. Refreshments and a light lunch included.

Early booking essential

Contact: 028 3083 2828

Southern Area Hospice Services are delighted to launch their 2024 **Camino walking trips** and are looking for participants to join them on the French Way **2nd-9th Sept.**

Participants will take on the challenge of walking 113km, which begins in Sarria ending in the beautiful city that is Santiago de Compostela to help raise funds for Hospice services.

With a fundraising target of over £3.6million, SAHS rely heavily on the local community to help them reach their target so they can continue to provide the highest standard of specialist palliative care. To register your interest please

contact Brian on (028) 3026 7711 or email hylandb@southernareahospiceservices.org

Sunday Message

ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE WORD

Year B • 16 June 2024 • Colour: Green • Psalter Week 3



TINY SEEDS

MARK 4:26-34

Today's Gospel contains two parables about seeds. The Parable of the Seed Growing Secretly is found only in Mark's gospel.

It stresses the mysterious growth of the seed that is beyond human control. The harvest comes about in three stages. First, the seed is sown. Then, while the farmer goes about his normal routine of life, the seed grows and the farmer "does not know" how. Finally, only when the grain is ripe does the farmer come into play again when his skill is called for. The point of the parable is that once the seed is sown, the farmer lets it be and trusts the soil to bring about growth, even though he doesn't understand the process. When the grain is ripe, then he knows he must act to gather in the harvest.

Jesus has sown the seeds of his word. Now, in this present time, those seeds are growing, even though we cannot see anything dramatic happening. We cannot speed up or slow down the coming of the kingdom. But its plentiful harvest will take place. We just need to trust in God.

The Parable of the Mustard Seed deals with the apparent insignificance of the Kingdom of God at the time Mark was writing his Gospel. It stresses the amazing contrast between the tiny seed and the vast outcome resulting from its growth. The small seed turns into a great tree in which the birds build their nests. The point of the parable is that all kinds of faithful people will find a home in the Kingdom of God and God will protect them. They should not be disheartened by the kingdom's humble beginnings.

The message is clear. The Kingdom of God is a mysterious thing. Its beginnings may be modest or even insignificant. It will grow, but its growth does not depend on human action. Like the farmer, God scatters the mysterious seed of the kingdom through Jesus, hoping it will take root and produce a plentiful harvest. ■

SAY

"Lord, help me to build the Kingdom of God by being a seed that gives life to my church and my community."

LEARN

The word of God is something alive and active

All our prayers and good works help the Kingdom of God to flourish

DO

We can sow seeds of God's kingdom in lots of little ways. We can sow seeds of:

- justice: showing up wrongdoing, doing the right thing, exposing evil wherever we find it
- compassion: caring for others, no matter who they are, like Leonard Cheshire did
- forgiveness: being willing to forgive even when - especially when - we've been badly hurt or let down
- tolerance: casting aside prejudice or the tendency to judge - the person in the hijab, the LGBTQ couple holding hands, the newly arrived refugee
- availability: making time for someone who needs a comforting presence or listening ear
- love: letting go of selfishness, of self-interest, to put others first

PRAY

Pray for missionaries and all who work to sow the seeds of God's kingdom throughout the world.

REFLECT

Little things we do can make a tremendous difference for good. From tiny seeds, God's kingdom grows.

Group Captain Leonard Cheshire was an RAF pilot during World War II who took part in the Battle of Britain and D-Day, receiving the Victoria Cross for bravery.

After the war, he returned to his country estate unsure what to do with his life. Then, in 1948, a man called Arthur Dykes approached him. Arthur had cancer and he asked Cheshire if he could park his caravan on Cheshire's estate while he recovered. Cheshire agreed, but when he discovered that Arthur was terminally ill, he took him into his own house instead. Leonard Cheshire did his best for Arthur but felt inadequate when it came to caring for him.

He had no nursing experience and wasn't good with soothing words either, so he fell back on the two things he knew he could provide: companionship and availability.

During those last weeks of Arthur's life, a deep friendship developed between them. Arthur was in great pain and found the nights most difficult of all. So Cheshire slept on a mattress on the floor near Arthur's bed. He gave Arthur a little hand bell and told him never to hesitate to ring it should he need anything. Cheshire would always be on call.

How reassuring it must have been for this destitute man to know he had a loyal friend in his final days.

Soon after Arthur's funeral, on Christmas

Eve 1948, Cheshire became a Catholic. Meanwhile, he began to take others into his house to care for them, too. In early 1949, eight residents were in his house. Six months later, 28. And the numbers continued to grow.

In 1959, Cheshire married Sue Ryder, also a noted Catholic humanitarian, and together they dedicated their lives to caring for others. By the time he died in 1992, Leonard Cheshire had left a string of homes dedicated to the sick and disabled.

From one simple act of kindness in 1948, something beautiful blossomed. As Leonard Cheshire showed, little things we do can make a tremendous difference for good. From tiny seeds, God's kingdom grows. We just need to plant them. ■