

Parishes of Dromara and Drumgooland

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6th August 2023

The Transfiguration of the Lord

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

Tue 9:00am Dromara

Wed 7:30pm Leitrim

Fri 7:30pm Dromara

Masses for the Feast of Assumption

Mon 14th 7:30pm Dechomet

Tue 15th 10:00am Dromara
7:30pm Leitrim

The next of the **Five Consecutive First Saturday of the Month Devotions** will continue directly after 6pm Mass in Dechomet on **Sat 5th Aug** with a 15-minute meditation and the Rosary. Confessions available from 5:30pm (or can be availed of within 20 days). Along with receiving Holy Communion, everything is offered in *reparation to Our Lady's Immaculate Heart for peace as requested by Our Lady in Fatima.*

ANNIVERSARIES

LEITRIM

Sat 5th Cowan Family
Paddy O'Hare

Sat 12th Bernard & Ellen Cunningham

DROMARA

Sun 6th David & Mary Ellen McKay (*Dree*)
Harry McNeill

Fri 11th Kathleen, Gerard, Barney &
Pat McNeill & Deceased
Family Members

Sun 13th McKenny Family (*Artana*)
James McAteer

DECHOMET

Sat 12th Rosaleen Turley (MM)

Collections Parish	Dromara	Drumgooland
	£679	£761

The sick and housebound will be attended this week.

*We Welcome into Drumgooland Parish
Arthur McAlerney Smyth*

*Congratulations to Roisin McNeill and
Dom Corrigan who were married recently*

Update on capital works

Gargory Parochial House & extended car park

The Diocese has approved the proposal to demolish the house and create additional car parking.

Lighting on Leitrim Cemetery

A contractor has been chosen to undertake the work and begin it as soon as possible.

National Novena at Knock Shrine

14th - 22nd August

Daily Ceremonies 3pm & 8pm
(*Anointing of the Sick at 2:30pm*)

The National Novena to Our Lady of Knock offers you the opportunity to step away from everyday life and immerse yourself in prayer in the beautiful, peaceful grounds of Knock Shrine. Over the course of the nine-day Novena, we will hear from guest speakers each day who will offer insights on a variety of topics, from personal faith stories, to how we are responding to a changing world. You are invited to take this time to reflect and explore within yourself on how to embrace the challenges we face in our faith. Our theme for this year is 'Caring for Creation'. Workshops will take place at 12 noon and daily walking tours (*organised by Knock Museum*) will take place at 10:30am throughout the Novena.

The Family Day will take place on

Sun 20th Aug from 11am - 3pm.

Full programme at www.knockshrine.ie

SVDP: Dromara 077 3883 8191

Drumgooland 078 2541 9067

Safeguarding Contact:

P Carville 077 8991 7741

Sunday Message

THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

THE WORD

Year A • 6 August 2023 • Colour: White • Psalter Week 2



DO NOT BE AFRAID

(MATTHEW 17: 1-9)

Over the next few weeks, we are going to witness some extraordinary events in Matthew's Gospel.

Up to now, Jesus has preached at length to crowds of followers about the kingdom of heaven and the responsibility we have as believers to bring about the kingdom here on earth. But today, we're getting a glimpse of something astonishing. As Peter, James and John climb a mountain with Jesus, the appearance of their Lord changes and his face shines like the sun, his clothes a dazzling white. This is one particular event in the Gospels I would love to have been in attendance. The true nature of Jesus is being revealed and in case there is any doubt, God the Father speaks from the clouds: 'This is my Son.'

Understandably, the disciples are terrified and the gentle touch of Jesus brings with it some peace and reassurance. I wonder was their first instinct to run down that mountain and never return? If you were to place yourself in this particular scene, how would you have responded? The disciples simply fell to the ground, terrified. Their reaction to what they had seen and heard is an indication of the truth of this event. Jesus is revealed as both human and divine.

Despite the dramatic way this message is revealed to the disciples today, they are consoled by the words of Jesus, 'Do not be afraid.' They look up into the eyes of Jesus and they see their friend. ■

REFLECT

The words 'be not afraid' are engrained in us as baptised members of the Church. As children, we grew up listening to Gospel stories read to us by our parents and teachers, where Jesus tells us to be calm and at peace, 'I will be with you always.... be not afraid.' It could also be said, that whenever we prayed to Jesus as children, we formed this trusting bond with him, where we believed in his protective presence. So it's little wonder, that as we grow up into adulthood, these protective images of Jesus never leave us. The constant refrain 'be not

afraid' is a hymn that is silently sung within us when we pray.

This refrain is what keeps the disciples firm in their faith and in their mission of preaching and teaching. It is no accident that Jesus' reassurances were repeated at various occasions during moments of trial and stress in the lives of the disciples. The disciples will have to delve deep into their well of memories after the death of Jesus, to recall those wonderful moments of intimacy with him, where he often said, 'Courage, be not afraid.' Let us take this refrain from today's Gospel and allow it to help us in our prayer and our daily lives. ■

LEARN

When the late Pope John Paul II found out he had just been elected Pope, the first words from his lips were: 'Be not afraid.' He then addressed the world by saying:

'Why should we have no fear? Because we all have been redeemed by God. The power of Christ's Cross and Resurrection is greater than any evil which we could or should fear.'



SAY

God our Father, I cling to you and I trust in your promises. You have told us not to fear and so I choose to hold your hand for I know I am sheltered by your grace.

DO

After today's encounter with Jesus, the disciples see him in a new way. He is both human and divine. He is the Son of God. Take a little time this week to reflect on your own image of Jesus. How do the Gospels shape this image for you?