

# Parishes of Dromara and Drumgooland

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## Second Sunday of Advent

8<sup>th</sup> December 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** 7:30pm Dromara

### Recently deceased



*Sean Keary, Ballymaginthy*

### ANNIVERSARIES

#### Leitrim

**Sat 7<sup>th</sup>** Fr Lionel Murray  
Arthur James Doyle  
Deceased Members of Behan Family  
Rosie McAleenan & Margaret O'Hare  
(Backaderry) & Deceased Family Members  
Patrick Charles McAleenan  
Helen Moorehead  
Deceased Members of Murphy  
Family (Leitrim)

**Wed 11<sup>th</sup>** Anne McAlerney  
Eamonn McAnuly

**Sat 14<sup>th</sup>** Patrick Smyth  
Barney & Agnes Morgan  
McMullan Family (Legananny)

#### Gargory

**Sun 8<sup>th</sup>** Tommy McAleenan MM

#### Dromara

**Sun 8<sup>th</sup>** Laura Armstrong, Hughie, Isabella  
& Hugh Lavery

**Tue 10<sup>th</sup>** Rose & Owen O'Hare (Finnis)

**Fri 13<sup>th</sup>** Madge McKenny MM

**Sun 15<sup>th</sup>** Canon Gerry McCrory

#### Dechomet

**Mon 9<sup>th</sup>** Margaret Gilmore

### SVP contact numbers

Drom 077 3883 8191 / Drumg 078 2541 9067

### Diocesan Safeguarding

Stephen Sherry 073 0124 6329

Email: [safeguardingdirector@dromorediocese.org](mailto:safeguardingdirector@dromorediocese.org)

### SVP Drumgooland - Winter Fuel Allowance

Anyone who thinks they may be eligible for Pension Credit can contact Age NI 0808 808 7575 and ask for support with benefits advice. Make the call!

### Collections Dromara Drumgooland

Parish £394 £1,274

*Thank you for continuing to support your parish*

### St Michael's Hall Hire

Whist £500 GAA £50

**Do This In Memory w/e 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> Dec**

### *Christmas Masses*

**Christmas Eve** 6pm Dromara 7:15pm Leitrim  
8:30pm Gargory 9:45pm Dechomet  
**Christmas Day** 9am Gargory 10am Leitrim  
11am Dromara

### *Confession for Christmas*

**Fri 20<sup>th</sup>** Dromara 6:30pm - 7:15pm  
**Sat 21<sup>st</sup>** Leitrim 6:45pm - 7:15pm  
**Mon 23<sup>rd</sup>** Dechomet 6:45pm - 7:15pm  
**Mon 23<sup>rd</sup>** Leitrim 8:00pm - 8:30pm  
**Tues 24<sup>th</sup>** Gargory 10:00am - 10:30am

### **Holy Year 2025 - 'Pilgrims of Hope'**

The Holy Year will be opened in Dromore Diocese on **Sat 28<sup>th</sup> Dec** at 6pm in Newry Cathedral. Each parish is asked to send at least one family to this mass. If anyone is willing to attend, please let me know.

**St Mary's Choir rehearsal Sat 7<sup>th</sup> after 6pm Mass**

### **Christmas Whist in St Michaels Hall**

**Tues 10<sup>th</sup> Dec 8pm.** Everyone Welcome.  
Please come and support.

*We welcome into Drumgooland Parish*

*Connie O'Rourke and*

*Caolán Francis & Connor Stephen McAnulty*

**Please enter 'The Friends of St Michael's Finnis Parents Group' Cash Call.** Prize £500. Enter preferably via PayPal (select friends and family) or you can send money into the School with your name and mobile number. <https://www.paypal.me/FOSM1964>  
1 entry £10 or 3 for £20. The call will be made on **Wed 18<sup>th</sup> Dec at 5pm.** Caller must be over 18 and must answer within 5 rings. Good luck!

### **Dromore Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage 2025**

Anyone who is interested in going to Lourdes as a Pilgrim or Assisted Pilgrim in May next year please get in contact with any of the Committee Members listed below as soon as possible.

Kieran McEvoy 07986 366162

Ann Kelly 07788 195938

Anne Mackin 07845 234149

Moira McCullough 07779 131025

# Sunday Message

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

THE WORD

Year C • 8 December 2024 • Colour: Violet • Psalter Week 2

## TO BE A LIGHT

LK 3:1-6



John the Baptist is the last of the great prophets of the Bible, and he is the forerunner of Christ. A prophet isn't someone who sees into the future as if into a glass bowl.

A prophet is one who reads the signs of the times and speaks with the voice of God.

John preached a message of repentance. He called for an end to division and conflict and for a time of peace and harmony. He pointed to the one who will bring this about - Jesus. Both the first reading and the Gospel speak about the coming of one with integrity who will bring peace to the nations. There is a sense of excitement in the book of Baruch - a time of joy is coming - and in the Gospel we are told to get ready, to prepare, because things are going to change. With the coming of Jesus nothing will ever be the same again. ■

### DO

Light a single match or candle. See the difference even one little light makes.



### PRAY

Pray that God's light will shine in you, so that all will know that hope has broken into our broken world and that darkness has been overcome.

### LEARN

The Christian is one who points towards Jesus

The Christian is called to be prophetic

To be people of the light is to let God's light shine in us and through us

### REFLECT

In 1989, newly elected U.S. president George H.W. Bush used an expression in his inaugural address that also describes the Christian calling. He spoke of a 'thousand points of light.' If you've ever been in a pitch-dark church or arena that is illumined by candles, you know the wonderfully soothing, intimate atmosphere that is created. The candlelight cuts through the darkness, smothering its power. The glow from even one candle punctuates the darkness, like a little flicker of defiant hope.

It is no coincidence that this time of year is dark, dreary and dull. We are in deep mid-winter. Darkness envelopes us. The nights seem endless; nature and the weather perpetually glum.

When we look at the world around us, it seems that darkness has also taken hold: the catastrophic impact of climate change; war in Ukraine and in the Middle East; more refugees than at any time since the end of the Second World War; the rise in racism and right-wing populism; the pressure on our hospitals and other public services; the many burdened by loneliness, depression, financial worries or physical illness.

On days when the news is filled with grim tidings, it can seem as if we're stuck in deep mid-winter, as if the darkness will engulf us... and then Advent comes along.

Advent is the great season of light. In this dreary mid-winter, Advent reminds us that darkness doesn't have the last word, because into the darkness a light has come - Jesus, God-with-us, light of the world. Advent reminds us that God has heard the cry of God's people and responded by sending his Son as one like us to give us life. Our Christian hope is rooted in the knowledge that God has come among us, is with us now, and will come again at the appointed time. Hope has taken shape in Jesus, our point of light. As his followers, we are people who walk in the light. ■

### SAY

"What marvels the Lord has worked for me. Indeed, I am glad."