

Parishes of Dromara and Drumgooland

Fr Peter McNeill Tel: 028 4065 0207 Emergency Tel: 07969 403762
Email: dromaradrumgooland@dromorediocese.org Web: www.dromaradgooland.org

Dedication of the Lateran Basilica **9th November 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

November Dead Lists

All envelopes are opened and placed before the altars in the four churches. The choice of including a donation is a personal one, it is not essential. £1,195 was received. Thank You.

ANNIVERSARIES

Leitrim

Sat 8th Pauline Kelly
Alice McAnulty
James & Esther O'Rourke
Patsy McCabe

Wed 12th Michael & Margaret McCartan &
Deceased Family Members
John Joe Malone
Patsy Quinn
Sarah & Hugh McAnulty

Sat 15th Kieran McCrickard
Rita O'Hare
PD Cunningham

Gargory

Sun 9th Betty McGreevy
Thomas McAleenan

Dromara

Sun 9th Sarah Hughes (Finnis)

SVP contact numbers

Dromara 07738 838191/Drumg 07825 419067

Diocesan Director of Safeguarding

Stephen Sherry 07301 246329
safeguardingdirector@dromorediocese.org

Collections

Dromara Drumgooland

Parish	£1,022	£1,783
Priest	£756	£1,355

*Figures include Oct standing orders
Thank you for your continued contributions*

Remembrance Masses

Thank You to all who came to our Remembrance Masses. The participation of readers, choirs, those who distributed the candles and prepared the churches, all helped to make an atmosphere of prayer and reflection

Evora Hospice

Thank You to all who made donations to the Hospice collection.
The total donated was **£1,495**

CountryFIT Liatroim

Dance Classes

Liatroim Fontenoy's Club Rooms
Mondays in November from 8pm
Beginners welcome
£8pp pay at door

PIPS Hope & Support

*Interdenominational Christmas Service
of Remembrance, Hope & Healing.*

Sun 14th Dec at 4pm.

St Mary's Church of Ireland, Hill St, Newry

This special evening offers an opportunity to celebrate the lives of loved ones, find comfort in reflections, poems, beautiful music and song, and share in a candlelight procession and Memory Tree ceremony.

You are very welcome to bring something personal with you on the day to place on the Memory Tree, and Memory Cards and Candles will be available in the church. Following the service, the Memory Tree will be placed in Newry Cathedral throughout the Christmas period, where anyone may visit or add memorabilia.

Sunday Message

DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA

THE WORD

Year C • 9 November 2025 • Colour: White • Psalter Week 4



MOTHER CHURCH

JOHN 2:13-22

Today is the feast of the dedication of the Lateran Basilica which is located in Rome. We might think that St Peter's is the pope's main church in Rome but, in fact, that distinction goes to the Basilica of St John Lateran.

St John Lateran is the pope's main church because it is the cathedral church of the Diocese of Rome, which has the pope as its bishop. It is the seat of papal authority and therefore is, in a sense, the parish church of Catholics throughout the world.

Every year, on 9 November, the anniversary of its dedication is celebrated by Catholics everywhere as a way of expressing the unity of the whole Church with the Bishop of Rome.

It is an opportunity for us to reflect on the universal nature of the Church, and what it means to be a member of it. ■

REFLECT

Today we celebrate the feast of the dedication of a particular church in Rome, but the readings remind us that what is really important is not bricks and mortar but rather our relationship with God and one another.

In the Gospel, Jesus drives out the money changers who had turned the Temple into a marketplace rather than a house of worship. He then refers to his own body as a sanctuary, a theme taken up by St Paul in today's second reading.

The Greek word for Church is *ekklesiá*, which means a community of believers, people who come together in faith. When St Paul tells the people at Corinth that they are God's building, he is speaking of the community that they have become. Each of them has become a new person because God's Spirit lives in and among them. They are the holy temple in whom God resides.

This is an extraordinary statement when you think about it. We are God's building. We are God's temple because God dwells in us.

This knowledge has clear implications for how we see and relate to our physical bodies, and for how we see and relate to each other. I must treat my physical body as a sacred vessel, taking good care of it, respecting and treasuring it. I must treat every person's body in the same way. Imagine how different our world would be if we all tried to do just that. ■

SAY

"Lord, I thank you for the gift of the ecclesial community of which I am part. Help me to do my part to build it up. Amen."

DO

Through baptism you are a member of the Church. Think about what it means for you to be a member of the Church.

LEARN

The Emperor Constantine built the Lateran Basilica in the fourth century on land that had belonged to the Lateran family (hence the name 'Lateran'). It has had a rather unfortunate history. The original building, dedicated to the Saviour, was sacked by barbarian invaders and restored in the fifth century, ruined by an earthquake in the eighth century and rebuilt in the ninth, twice burnt down in the 14th century and then restored. It was the residence of the popes until 1308. Pope Innocent X commissioned the present structure in 1646.

'Basilica' is the word given to an early form of building used for Christian worship. It was modelled on the Roman Basilica - a building used as a law court and a commercial exchange. At first the name 'basilica' was used of churches which resembled the Roman building, but now the title of 'basilica' is given by the pope to certain privileged churches both in Rome and throughout the world.

The dedication of churches can be traced back to the Jewish practice of dedicating the Temple in Jerusalem to God. Once the Temple had been dedicated, there was a feast each year to celebrate the anniversary of the dedication. This feast was celebrated not only in Jerusalem but in every synagogue as well. Similarly, every Western Catholic church observes the dedication of the Lateran Basilica in Rome.

PRAY

Pray for our Holy Father. Ask the Lord's blessing on his ministry of leadership and service as Bishop of Rome and our bishop too.

