

Parishes of Dromara and Drumgooland

Fr Peter McNeill Tel: 028 4065 0207 Emergency Tel: 07969 403762
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Live Streaming of Masses <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCiTLQJ1tek5IHBTdkMR6ptw>

Second Sunday of Easter 12th April 2026

Weekend Masses

Sat 6:00pm Dechomet 7:30pm Leitrim
Sun 9:00am Gargory 11:00am Dromara

Weekday Masses

Mon 9am Leitrim 7:30pm Dechomet
Tues 9am Dromara
Wed 7:30pm Leitrim
Fri 7:30pm Dromara

Financial Statements for 2025 are on the reverse

ANNIVERSARIES

Leitrim

Sat 11th Agnes & John Boyd
Sat 18th Brendan Boyd
Patsy McAnulty

Gargory

Sun 12th Dessi Stokesbury

Dromara

Sun 12th Gerry & Cissie O'Hare (Finnis)
Barbara & Annie Gordon
Kathleen O'Hare (Dree)
Tue 14th Julia McCann

Dechomet

Mon 13th Patrick & Mary Doyle (Dechomet)
Sat 18th Patrick Hugh & Elizabeth Doyle

Cemetery Sunday 24th May

Gargory after 9am mass
Dromara 12 noon
Leitrim 3pm
Dechomet 5pm

SVDP contact numbers

Dromara 07738 838191
Drumgooland 07825 419067

Diocesan Director of Safeguarding

Stephen Sherry 07301 246329
safeguardingdirector@dromorediocese.org

Live Streaming of Masses
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCiTLQJ1tek5IHBTdkMR6ptw>

Collections	Dromara	Drumgooland
Parish	£1,222	£2,962
Priest	£1,221	£3,289
Sick & Retired	£406	£550

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

The sick and housebound will be
attended on 13th & 14th April

Parish Council Meetings

Drumgooland Mon 13th April
Dromara Mon 20th April

Dromore Diocesan Historical Society

Mon 20th April 7:30pm Newry Parish Centre
The Society's next event of its 2026 programme
is a talk by **Ciaran MacMurcuidh** entitled
*"Exploring Placenames within the
Diocese of Dromore"*
Adm £1. All welcome

Dromore Diocese Youth Com

Young Adults (18 to 35 years) gathering
Thurs 23rd April 6:30pm to 9:15pm
Refreshments from 6:30pm to 7pm
Dromantine Retreat & Conference Centre,
Newry, BT34 1RH
Music, Prayer, a Conversation,
a social gathering, time to share ideas,
make things happen, meet like-minded people.
We welcome parents, those who work with
our young people, teachers, sport coaches,
youth leaders etc – those who value their faith
and the faith of our young people.

If interested email:

youthdirector@dromorediocese.org

We look forward to meeting you all.

Lough Derg 2026 Pilgrimage Season

One-Day Retreats May, Aug & Sept
Quiet Days Fri 22nd May & Fri 11th Sept
Heritage Day Thurs 20th Aug
Lakeshore Pilgrimage Sun 30th Aug
Further details: +353 (0)71 9861518
info@loughderg.org www.loughderg.org

Sunday Message

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

THE WORD

Year A • 12 April 2026 • Colour: White • Psalter Week 2



It's the evening of the first Sunday after Jesus' crucifixion, and his disciples have gathered behind locked doors. They're afraid that those who executed Jesus will come for them too, so they quiver in fear. Suddenly, Jesus appears before them. They are flabbergasted, but Jesus shows them his wounds, and they know it is the Lord.

Jesus' very first words to them, the first words he speaks after his resurrection, are of peace: "Peace be with you." Moments later, he repeats those words: "Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, so am I sending you."

One of the disciples, Thomas, was absent that evening, so when they tell him that Jesus is alive, he doesn't believe them. Why would he?

A week later, the disciples are in the locked room again and this time Thomas is with them. Once more, Jesus appears, and again, his first words are a greeting of peace. He knows what Thomas had said about him and so he offers him an invitation. "Put your finger here; see my hands. Put your hand into my side. Doubt no more but believe."

Thomas doesn't need to touch Jesus. Seeing with his own eyes is enough. He falls on his knees and gives the most wonderful profession of faith in all of history: "My Lord and my God!"

In reply, Jesus offers words of comfort and praise for all future believers: "You believe because you can see me; happy are those who have not seen and yet believe."

Peace is a gift of our faith. Knowing God is with us, assured of the promise of eternal life, we can be at peace. ■

REFLECT

In his letter introducing the jubilee year 2025, Pope Francis identified several signs of hope. It's telling that the first sign of hope he lists is the urgent desire for peace in our world. "Heedless of the horrors of the past," he writes, "humanity is confronting yet another ordeal, as many peoples are prey to brutality and violence. What does the future hold for those peoples, who have already endured so much? How is it possible that their desperate plea for help is not motivating world leaders to resolve the numerous regional conflicts in view of their possible consequences at the global level?" Is it too much to dream that arms can fall silent and cease to rain down destruction and death?

The need for peace challenges us all, and demands that concrete steps be taken. We must pray, he writes, for an end to war and for negotiations aimed at a lasting peace.

It is easy to see why Pope Francis chose the desire for peace in our world as the first sign of hope. Once again, war is raging on the European continent, creating more refugees than at any time since the 1940s. Fifty-nine wars are now being fought worldwide, either between nations or between ethnic or social groups. Once again, politicians have come to power who seek to build walls and barriers rather than promote harmony and understanding. Once again, hate speech is on the rise, fuelled by social media platforms which, far from fulfilling their stated mission of bringing people together, are being manipulated to stoke conflict and confusion, driving people apart.

We know that bullying, domestic violence, racism, xenophobia, homophobia, sexual exploitation and discrimination are as rampant as ever, while our consumer society leaves many people feeling restless, excluded, angry and unfulfilled.

For all our modern sophistication and technological advances, it seems that division, violence, tribalism, hatred, and revenge are deeply ingrained in our human DNA. Peace is difficult to make or to enjoy.

Jesus promises those who sow peace that they will be called "children of God."

We are peacemakers, first, by knowing that peace is God's gift to us. It is how the resurrected Lord greeted his disciples: "Peace I leave you, my peace I give you." It is what we pray for in the liturgy: "The peace of the Lord be with you." It is what we pray for before receiving Holy Communion. Peace is a gift of our faith.

But to be effective peacemakers, we must be at peace with ourselves. God is the source of peace and calls us to exhibit peace in our own lives. Anger, resentment, failure to forgive, self-pity, lust, restlessness, self-obsession, jealousy, envy, greed, addiction, self-harm, regret - all can keep us from experiencing peace. But the resurrected Lord assures us, "Do not let your hearts be troubled." Troubled hearts are an obstacle to peace. Peacemakers are people at peace with themselves.

We are peacemakers when we make the effort to walk in our opponents' shoes, to try to see things from the others' point of view, when we display a readiness to talk, listen, and understand. Closed minds and hard hearts, incapable of dialogue, are impregnable obstacles to peace.

Finally, we are peacemakers when we actively desire peace and never stop working toward it. Whether it's to build harmony between two people or two families or between two tribes or two nations, the desire for peace is part of our message to the world. ■

LEARN

Faith is a gift never to be taken for granted

Peace is a fruit of the Holy Spirit

PRAY

Pray for the people of Palestine, Ukraine, Sudan and all who are victims of war. Pray for a just and lasting peace.

DO

Think of practical ways in which you might show your opposition to war. Is there anybody with whom you need to make your peace?

SAY

"My Lord and my God."