

# Parishes of Dromara and Drumgooland

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## *The Baptism of the Lord*

11<sup>th</sup> January 2026

### Weekend Masses

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

### Weekday Masses

There will be no weekday mass  
on Mon 12<sup>th</sup>, Tue 13<sup>th</sup>, Wed 14<sup>th</sup>

**Fri 16<sup>th</sup>** 7:30pm Dromara

Weekday masses back to normal on Mon 19<sup>th</sup> Jan

I will be on holiday from Tues 6<sup>th</sup> Jan (*afternoon*)  
Wed 14<sup>th</sup> (*evening*). For any emergency sick calls  
or funerals during this time please try  
Fr Brian Brown at 074 9673 1619

### Do This in Memory

First Communion preparation programme  
will continue on **Sat 24<sup>th</sup> & Sun 25<sup>th</sup> Jan**

### ANNIVERSARIES

#### Dechomet

**Sat 10<sup>th</sup>** John Fitzpatrick  
Margaret Doyle

**Sat 17<sup>th</sup>** Mickey Turley

#### Leitrim

**Sat 10<sup>th</sup>** Patrick & Aidan McAnulty  
Bridie & Patsy Madine

#### Dromara

**Sun 11<sup>th</sup>** Winnie & Jimmy McEvoy

**Fri 16<sup>th</sup>** Dean Tony Davies & Terry Davies

#### Diocesan Director of Safeguarding

Stephen Sherry 07301 246329

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

#### SVDP contact numbers

Dromara 07738 838191

Drumgooland 07825 419067

### Collections Dromara Drumgooland

Parish £ £891

*Thank you for your continued contributions*

### Sun 11<sup>th</sup> Jan The Baptism of the Lord

Jesus is anointed with the Spirit and  
his power. He is proclaimed Messiah.

He now goes about doing good, working  
the signs that make him known as the Servant  
of God. He is the one who brings good news  
to the poor and tells of salvation.

Through our Baptism each one of us is  
ordered to the life of Christ – Priest, Prophet and  
King – and the Father looks on us with favour.

### Holy Hour in honour of Jesus the Divine Mercy

St Patrick's Church Mayobridge

**Sun 11<sup>th</sup> Jan at 3pm**

Everyone Welcome

### Children's Heartbeat Trust

Any person who wishes to make a donation  
to the Trust in memory of Louie Doyle,  
please place the donation in an envelope  
marked 'Heartbeat' and place it in the  
collection basket at mass.

All envelopes will be passed on  
to the Doyle Family.

### NI Blood Transfusion Service

Blood donation session

**Fri 16<sup>th</sup> Jan 12:30pm - 19:00**

The Lodge, Castlewellan

### Dromore Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage

15<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> May

Further details when available

### Gargory Altar Rota

Jan Fiona & Doreen

*We welcome into Drumgooland Parish*

*Lucy Rose McMullan and*

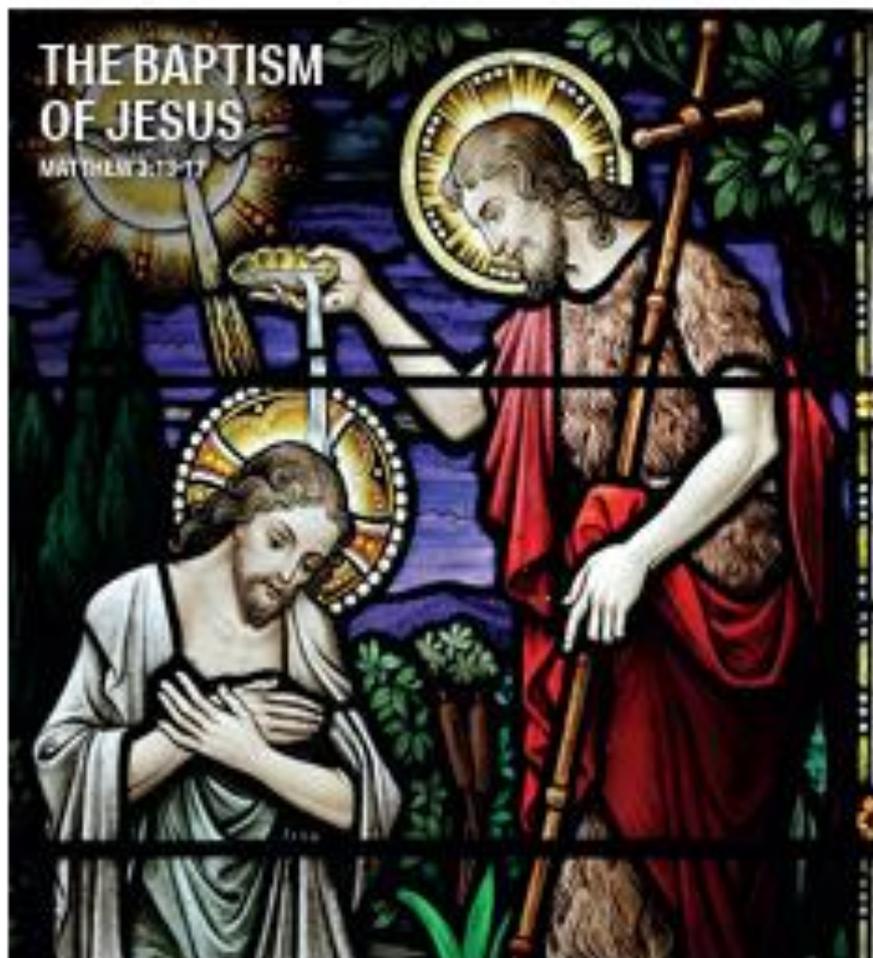
*Méabh Mary Jo Allen*

# Sunday Message

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

THE WORD

Year A • 11 January 2025 • Colleen, Wade • Pentecost Week 1



## THE BAPTISM OF JESUS

MATTHEW 3:13-17

This passage tells the story of Jesus being baptized by John in the River Jordan. At first, John doesn't want to do it — he feels unworthy. He knows Jesus is far greater than he is. But Jesus insists. He says, "Let it be so for now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness."

What does that mean? It means Jesus chooses to stand with us — with sinners, with the broken, with those in need of mercy — even though He Himself is without sin. His baptism is an act of humility and love. He doesn't need cleansing, but He enters the water to bless it for us all.

As Jesus rises from the water, something amazing happens. The heavens open, the Holy Spirit comes down like a dove, and the voice of the Father is heard: "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

This moment shows us the Holy Trinity — Father, Son, and Holy Spirit — united in love. It also shows us our true identity in baptism: we are God's beloved sons and daughters. Just as the Father delights in Jesus, He delights in us too. The baptism of Jesus reminds us that God comes close, not to judge, but to save. ■

### DO

Take a moment today to remember your baptism — maybe bless yourself with water or say a prayer thanking God for making you His beloved child.



### REFLECT

Why does Jesus come to be baptized? John the Baptist is confused — and so are we. Jesus is without sin. He doesn't need to repent. But He comes to the water anyway. Not to be cleansed, but to bless the waters of baptism for all who will follow.

This moment reveals something beautiful about Jesus. He doesn't stand apart from us — He steps into our mess. He chooses to stand with sinners, with the poor, with the broken. He begins His mission not with glory, but with humility. In His baptism, Jesus shows us the heart of God — a God who walks beside us.

And then, something holy happens. The heavens open. The Spirit descends like a dove. And the voice of the Father says: "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

That voice is not just for Jesus. Through our baptism, it becomes a voice for us, too. God calls each of us His beloved. No matter our failures, our fears, our doubts — God looks on us with love.

So today, remember your baptism. You are not just someone in the crowd. You are known. You are loved. You are God's child. And like Jesus, you are called to live in that love, and to share it with the world. ■

### LEARN

Jesus' baptism shows us that God loves us deeply and wants to be close to us. It reminds us that through baptism, we become God's beloved children called to live in His love.

### SAY

Heavenly Father,  
at Jesus' baptism, You declared Him  
Your beloved Son.

Help me to hear Your voice calling  
me Your beloved too.

Fill me with Your Spirit and guide  
me to live with faith and love every  
day.

Amen.