

# Parishes of Dromara and Drumgooland

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

## *Easter Sunday of the Lord's Resurrection*

5<sup>th</sup> April 2026

### Weekend Masses

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

**Weekday Mass this week**  
**Fri 10<sup>th</sup> 7:30pm Dromara**



*We pray for our recently deceased*  
*Frances Brown, Drumaness*

### ANNIVERSARIES

#### Leitrim

Sun 5<sup>th</sup> 10am Chris Owens MM  
Gerry Trainor MM  
Sat 11<sup>th</sup> Agnes & John Boyd

#### Dromara

Sun 5<sup>th</sup> Peter Joe O'Hare MM  
Arthur Gilmore  
Paddy & Eileen Dillon  
Stephen O'Hare (*Finnis*)  
Sun 12<sup>th</sup> Gerry & Cissie O'Hare (*Finnis*)  
Barbara & Annie Gordon  
Kathleen O'Hare (*Dree*)

#### Gargory

Sun 12<sup>th</sup> Dessi Stokesbury

### **April Rotas**

Leitrim - Bridie, Maura & Bernie  
Gargory - Marian

### Cemetery Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May

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

### SVDP contact numbers

Dromara 07738 838191  
Drumgooland 07825 419067

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<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCiTLQJ1tek5IHBTdkMR6ptw>

### Collections Dromara Drumgooland

Parish £829 £1,808

*Thank you for your continued contributions*

Thank you to all who helped to organise the services over the Triduum and for all the people who took part.

This year's box of envelopes contains a **Gift Aid** renewal card.

If you are a taxpayer, please sign the card and return it (*in an envelope*) to the collection basket over the next few weeks. If you are not a taxpayer, please mark the card N/A or put an X on the card and return it, this helps our records.

Last year the Gift Aid scheme brought in useful funds to the parishes:

Dromara £8,173

Drumgooland £18,375

Please return **Trócaire** boxes and envelopes from 11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup> April onwards. If you want Trócaire to claim Gift Aid on your donations, please complete the form on the envelop or the card on top of the box. It is Trócaire that makes the claim, not the parish. If you are making a donation by cheque, please make the cheque out to the *Parish of Dromara* or *Parish of Drumgooland*, it makes it simpler and reduces the bank costs for Trócaire.

The sick and housebound will be attended on 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> April

### **Parish Council Meetings**

Drumgooland Mon 13<sup>th</sup> April  
Dromara Mon 20<sup>th</sup> April

*Congratulations to Aaron Gilmore and Sarah Jane Clement who were married recently.*

### Diocesan Director of Safeguarding

Stephen Sherry 07301 246329  
[safeguardingdirector@dromorediocese.org](mailto:safeguardingdirector@dromorediocese.org)

# Sunday Message

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S RESURRECTION

THE WORD

Year A • 5 April 2026 • Colour: White • Psalter Week 1

## SHOUT FOR JOY

JOHN 20:1-9



This is the greatest day in the Christian calendar, the day of our redemption. Jesus, our brother, has broken the chains of death through the power of the Father. Death, the last and greatest enemy, has been overcome.

Through the death and resurrection of Christ Jesus, life and hope and salvation have replaced death and despair and darkness.

Though the death and resurrection of Christ Jesus, we are an Easter people, a redeemed people, people alive with joy. God has shown how much God loves us. God is faithful to God's promises. Secure in that love, certain of God's promises, we live as resurrected people, delighting in the good news of our salvation. ■

### LEARN

Today, we begin the Season of Easter, which will continue for 50 days until Pentecost. These 50 days are celebrated as one feast, the "Great Sunday." During these days, we celebrate the very basis of our faith – that God raised Jesus from the dead.

### SAY

"We are an Easter people and alleluia is our song."

### PRAY

Pray for the community of believers throughout the world that they may grow stronger in the faith. Pray especially for all those who are finding it hard to experience the joy of Easter.

### DO

When the apostles realised that Jesus had been raised from the dead, they hurried back to tell the others the astonishing news. They became, at that moment, witnesses to the Good News. We too are called to be witnesses to the Good News. How boldly, how joyfully, do you witness to the Gospel?

### REFLECT

Every morning I go for a walk. I take the same route and meet more or less the same people. Recently, I carried out an experiment. I decided to smile at everyone I encountered on my walk. Perhaps two-thirds smiled back. Some were distracted or preoccupied, had their eyes down, or were looking at their phones. Still, I persevered. Now almost all cheerfully return my greetings. Smiling, it seems, is contagious.

In 2024, an unusual event took place in the Vatican. Pope Francis met with scores of comedians from throughout the world. He told them their vocation is important, because the world needs humour, it needs joy. One of those present was the American comedienne Whoopi Goldberg, star of the Sister Act movies, who is now a panellist on a network talkshow in America called The View. Whoopi spoke about the Vatican gathering on The View soon after it took place.

She spoke about it again after the death of Pope Francis – about the impact his words made, about how she and the others felt valued and appreciated by a major world leader in a way they never had before, about the warmth and goodness of Pope Francis. No other world leader had ever done as Pope Francis had done – invite comedians to meet him, encourage them, tell them they mattered. It made a tremendous impression on all present. She especially treasured her personal meeting with him.

So, it's no surprise that in his letter *Gaudete et Exsultate* (Rejoice and be Glad), Pope Francis refers to joy and a sense of humour as one of the signs of holiness. He writes: A sign of holiness is "joy and a sense of humour. Far from being timid, morose, acerbic or melancholy, or putting on a dreary face, the saints are joyful and full of good humour. Though completely realistic, they radiate a positive and hopeful spirit. The Christian life is 'joy in the Holy Spirit' (Rom 14:17)."

Pope Francis radiated that joy himself. It was something that baffled some of his old

Argentinian friends who remembered him as a dour fellow with a lugubrious face. They wondered what had happened? How had he transformed into the joy-filled, smiling pope they saw now? And Francis told them about an experience he had immediately after his election as pope when he was praying in the oratory known as the 'room of tears.' He had an extraordinary experience of the presence of the Holy Spirit, a feeling of serenity and joy, and it had never left him, he said. It carried him through each day.

And it informed his entire ministry – his preaching and his writing. One of the striking features of Pope Francis's letters is his liberal use of the word 'joy' – the joy of love, the joy of the Gospel, rejoice and be glad. It was an attitude he emphasised over and over again.

Christians must radiate joy. The Gospel is Good News, the best possible news. Mary's Magnificat is a wonderful prayer of praise and joy. "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord," Mary sings, "and my spirit rejoices in God my saviour." The first part of the Magnificat is an exuberant hymn of praise.

Telhard de Chardin once said that "joy is the most infallible sign of the presence of God." We are a joyful people because we know that God is with us. We know we have been saved. Through the death and resurrection of Christ, we know that death has no more power over us.

Knowing we are redeemed, why wouldn't we be full of joy? We must show that joy every day. On this Easter Day above all, we must radiate joy.

Joy means hopeful witnessing, daily Good News transmission, an exuberant delight in God despite everything. We can experience and share joy even in the most challenging of situations. Celebrate the joy of the resurrection today. Let all who encounter you feel your joy. Let them see it. We have every reason to smile. ■