

Parishes of Dromara and Drumgooland

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22nd Sunday in ordinary time
31st August 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

The sick & housebound will be attended this week

ANNIVERSARIES

Dechomet

Sat 30th Margaret Ross
Timothy Doyle

Leitrim

Sat 30th Cissie McAnulty
Wed 3rd Winnie Savage (*Backaderry*)
Sat 6th Eddie McAleenan
Eugene O'Hare & Deceased
Family Members
Nicky Duggan & Deceased
Family Members
Fr Jim Keer

Dromara

Sun 31st Daniel Hughes (*Derry*)
Dan Hughes & Deceased
Family Members (*Finnis*)
Eileen & Peter O'Hare &
Deceased Family Members

Fri 5th Rossa Kelly
Anne Mullan
Patrick McKey

Sun 7th Pat & John Gordon

Gargory

Sun 7th Elizabeth & Patrick McCartan

St Michael's Bowling Club

The Bowling season will resume on
Thurs 4th Sept in St Michael's Hall Finnis at 7:30pm
New Members are warmly welcomed

SVP contact numbers

Dromara 07738 838191/Drumg 07825 419067

Diocesan Director of Safeguarding

Stephen Sherry 073 0124 6329

safeguardingdirector@dromorediocese.org

Collections

Dromara Drumgooland

Parish £408 £925

Thank you for your continued contributions

We welcome into Drumgooland Parish
Isla Rose Clarke & Aoibh Alice Hynds

New Altar Servers

The forms will be available through the primary schools in the coming weeks.
All children will be trained, and the parish follows the safeguarding policies of the diocese.
The forms can be handed in at mass or returned to the school.

Any altar server who no longer wishes to serve, please let me know. The help of older altar servers is greatly appreciated, especially to help the new altar servers settle in their roles.

Preparation for First Holy Communion

The *Do This in Memory* material has not yet been printed but hopefully will be available later this month. The dates for the programme will be published as soon as possible.

Parish Council Meetings

Drumgooland Mon 8th Sept 8pm
Dromara Mon 15th Sept 8pm

Planning Ahead

This year it was challenging to get priests to cover the Sunday masses when I was away. It will always be my preference to have all Sunday masses covered but that may not always be possible in the future

There are a few options:

- A reduced mass schedule, e.g. only two masses
- I do not take holidays
- Prayer services if a priest is not available
- No service or mass, people go to another parish

I do not offer those ideas lightly, yet it is important to be realistic. Please reflect upon these ideas, feel free to offer other solutions.

Celebration of the Canonisation of St Carlo Acutis

Sun 7th Sept Mass at 5:30pm

Cathedral of Ss Patrick & Colman, Newry
All welcome, especially Families and Young People.
Refreshments afterwards in Newry Parish Centre

Sunday Message

22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE WORD

Year C • 31 August 2025 • Colour: Green • Psalter Week 2

IT'S HARD TO BE HUMBLE!

LK 14:1-14

Today's readings focus on humility. In the Book of Ecclesiasticus, the author advises that "the greater you are, the more you should behave humbly. There is no cure for the proud person's malady," the author says, "since an evil growth has taken root in him."

In the Gospel, Jesus advises that if you're a guest at a party, sit at the lowest place, so that when your host arrives, you may be told to move higher. When you hold a party, he goes on, don't invite the rich and influential, who can repay you, but rather the poor and insignificant.

Jesus' point is clear: The Christian mustn't be concerned with image, power or status but with service. Service of God and neighbour is what counts.

Jesus is the best example of humility. He identified with the least of all. He chose the sick over the healthy, the weak over the powerful, the poor over the rich, sinners over the pious. He washed feet. He mixed with outcasts. He emptied himself, taking the form of a servant. He shows us how to live.

Still, it's difficult to be humble in today's social media world, with its focus on beauty, bigness and bling. Our competitive environment promotes individualism, vanity, vaulting ambition. To succeed in life, you are told you must be aggressive, driven, ruthless.

Humility is different. Humility is the opposite of Me First. It's the ability to stand in the other's shoes; to consider experiences that are not our own. It is revolving our actions around others rather than ourselves. It is being least, being servant, being little, being last. Live like that, Jesus tells us, and heaven awaits us. ■

REFLECT

To be humble is to have four attitudes writ large.

First, it is the honest recognition we are not perfect. Despite our best intentions, we sin all the time. Whatever our rank in society or church, we are not perfect. We know we're not perfect. And so the humble person doesn't have a big head. The humble person doesn't rush to judge, doesn't discriminate against, bully, hurt or exclude. How can I look down on another when I know how imperfect I am?

We acknowledge this at Holy Communion when we say, "Lord, I am not worthy..." I am not worthy that you should come into my house. I'm not worthy to be in your presence. I don't deserve you. The journey to perfection will never be complete this side of the grave. Humility is honest awareness of my imperfection writ large.

Second, humility is simplicity of life. It's an attitude Pope Francis has trademarked since his election - his refusal to live in the papal apartments. His refusal to wear flashy vestments. His use of ordinary language.

Our world is greedy and grasping, constantly insisting we need to look young and perfect,

never to be content with how we look, to always want more, to always be optimising, believing we can never have enough.

Humility is being satisfied with sufficient. It's knowing our biggest treasure, our ultimate security, is God. Always wanting more gets in the way of putting God and others first.

Simplicity of life is also a way of cherishing our endangered earth, and of showing solidarity with the poor, who through others' greed are denied life's basic comforts. Humility is simplicity of life writ large.

Third, humility is prayerfulness. Archbishop Fulton Sheen once said: "Only the humble can pray, for prayer presumes we need someone and something." When we ask God for something, when we thank God for something, we are admitting our dependence on God, that on our own we can do nothing. And so we turn to God in our need, our gratitude, our joy, our heartbreak. We place ourselves before the God who is our strength. Humility is prayerfulness writ large.

Fourth, humility is knowing I don't know everything. The reservoir of human learning

SAY

"Lord, I know the values of your kingdom are different from those I see around me. Yours are the values I would like to have. Help me to have an attitude of humility and of gratitude. Amen."

DO

Examine your values, your attitudes. Do you always expect to be treated better than others? What sort of opinion do you have of yourself?

PRAY

During Mass, pray for a greater awareness of your utter dependence on God. Pray that the poor will have what they need to live.

LEARN

The Christian is always humble

The Christian trusts in God's goodness and love

All are equal in the eyes of God

is larger now than ever in our history, and expands every day. We have access to more knowledge than ever before - about the brain and matter and the origins of things. Ask Siri or Alexa almost any question, and they'll supply an instant answer. Everyone is now an expert or think they are. This is especially true on platforms like X, TikTok and Facebook. Few on social media admit to being wrong. You follow those you agree with; you unfollow those you disagree with. We have become more testy, insistent, dogmatic, strident.

Humility is acknowledging I don't know everything and that that's okay. It's how it should be. The poet TS Eliot said, "The only wisdom we can hope to acquire is the wisdom of humility." Humility is admitting my limitations writ large.

Today's readings aren't about shunning the limelight, being invisible, staying silent. They're not about not taking legitimate pride in positive achievements - like a loved one's success. They are, rather, a summons to a wholesome, selfless, generous way of living that imitates Jesus, our model, the servant king. ■