

Parishes of Dromara and Drumgooland

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Commemoration of All The Faithful Departed 2nd 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
Sat 1st 10am Gargory

November Masses for the Recently Deceased

Mon 3rd Dechomet
Wed 5th Leitrim
Fri 7th Finnis
All at 7:30pm

The names of those who have died in the parish over the past year will be read out, one or more members of the family will be invited to bring up a candle in their name. There will also be an opportunity to bring up a candle in memory of a loved one who has died more than a year ago or buried elsewhere.

November Dead Lists are available at the back of the churches. Please return them as soon as possible. All envelopes are opened and the lists placed in a basket before the altar. If anyone wishes to place a memory card or photo of a loved one in front of the altar they are welcome to do so.

We pray for our recently deceased



Patrick Moore, Ardtanagh, Dromara

ANNIVERSARIES

Dechomet

Sat 1st Peter Kelly & Deceased Family Members

Leitrim

Sat 1st Christy Morgan (Derryneil)
Rose McAleenan & Nicholas Duggan
Sat 8th Pauline Kelly
Alice McAnulty

Dromara

Sun 2nd Bridget, Peter & Frank McEvoy
Sun 9th Sarah Hughes (Finnis)

Gargory

Sun 9th Betty McGreevy
Thomas McAleenan

Collections Parish	Dromara	Drumgooland
	£618	£851

Thank you for your continued contributions

The sick and the housebound will be attended this week

The **2026 anniversary book** is now available

Table Quiz in King's Bar on Fri 7th Nov commencing at 9pm.
All welcome Proceeds in aid of Lourdes Funds

Archbishop Eamon Martin invites **Choirs & Church Musicians** to participate in an afternoon of joyful celebration of the gift of sacred music on **Sun 23rd Nov**, *The Solemnity of Christ The King*.
The day will begin with a facilitated workshop at Newry Conference & Banqueting Centre (*The Mall*) from 2:30pm – 4:30pm, where participants will have the opportunity to learn new music, make new friends, share their gifts and have some fun.
The event will provide an opportunity for everyone to contribute to the musical liturgy for the 5:30pm Mass in Newry Cathedral, with Archbishop Martin presiding.

If you wish to attend, please email the Diocesan Secretary your name and parish before Mon 17th Nov - agatha@dromorediocese.org

November Rota

Leitrim Cleaners

Geraldine, Deirdre & Siobhan

Gargory Altar

Rosaleen & Anne

St Michael's Collectors

Seamus & Peter

SVP contact numbers

Dromara 07738 838191/Drumg 07825 419067

Diocesan Director of Safeguarding

Stephen Sherry 07301 246329
safeguardingdirector@dromorediocese.org

Sunday Message

Commemoration of All The Faithful Departed

THE WORD

Year C • 2 November 2025 • Colour: Violet or Black • Psalter Week 3



LIFE-GIVING WORDS

LK 7:11-17



In today's Gospel, a boy who has died is being taken for burial. In Palestine, when a person died, the body was washed, wrapped in a shroud and carried by neighbours and friends to the place of burial, usually a cave with a stone at its mouth.

For a widow to lose her only son at a young age was a particularly sad event. In a society lacking social services, a woman without a male member of the family – husband or son – was in a particularly vulnerable position. It was a devastating situation to be in.

Jesus is at the gate of the town when the funeral party passes by on its way to the burial place. He sees the bereaved mother's tears and feels sorry for her. He tells her, "Do not cry." He then halts the procession by putting his hand on the funeral bier and, with a few words, orders the young man to get up. Immediately, the young man sits up. He has been restored to life.

Everyone is filled with awe. They've witnessed something extraordinary. The mother's sorrow turns to joy. Her son has been given back to her.

This story points to Jesus' authority over life and death. His words have divine power. They give life. That's why on this All Souls' day, we can remember and pray for our departed loved ones confident they have crossed the threshold to a new, transformed, glorified life with Christ in God forever. ■

REFLECT

Almost ten years ago my father died. He had just celebrated his 84th birthday and had gone into hospital with what presented as a mild chest infection. He appeared to be recovering until, suddenly, out of the blue, early in the morning of 2 December 2015 we got an urgent phone call from the hospital to come in.

We gathered round his bedside shell-shocked, bewildered. Dad was unconscious, an oxygen mask covering his face. We watched him struggle for breath. We spoke to him, shed tears for him, prayed for him, held him tight. We kept telling him how much we loved him and what a wonderful man he was.

After the machine was turned off, we watched helplessly as his breathing grew more laboured, and held our breaths as we watched him fight to get his breath. And then, after five minutes or so, he took one long breath, let it out, and took in no more. He had gone from us. We would never enjoy his company again in this life.

Four years later, in the same hospital, we watched heartbroken as our mother also went home to God.

By the time we are adults, and probably earlier, most of us will have experienced grief and loss. We will have lost a family member or close relative, and will have come face to face with the finality of death. The intense pain of grief passes, eases with time, and on their anniversaries, birthdays, and other occasions, we call them to mind and commemorate them in various ways.

This is what we do in a special way every November and on this feast of All Souls. We take time to remember our deceased loved ones and the deceased members of our community, and to pray for them.

That is why visiting graves and writing out the November List of the Dead are such beautiful, long-standing customs. We are recalling those we don't want to forget. We remember them with love and gratitude, and we entrust them to God, asking God to take them to himself, knowing we will one day meet them again. ■

PRAY

Take some time every day this month to pray for your deceased loved ones, thanking God for them.

DO

Visit a cemetery or light a candle for all those who have died. Remember especially those who may have no one to pray for them.

SAY

"Lord, thank you for our loved ones whom you have called from this life. Watch over and protect them, and bring them to the fullness of eternal joy where we hope one day to be united with them in your presence forever. Amen."

LEARN

The Church has always placed great importance on praying for the dead. From its earliest years, it has honoured the memory of the dead and offered prayers for them so that they may enjoy the glory of heaven. It also recommends almsgiving, indulgences and works of penance undertaken on behalf of the dead. November has traditionally been the month in which the Church prays in a special way for the souls of those who have died.

The Church teaches that those who die in God's grace and friendship are assured of eternal life but may have to go through a period of purification before reaching the holiness necessary to enter the joy of heaven. This period of purification is called purgatory.

A 10th century Benedictine monk, Odilo of Cluny, was instrumental in spreading the celebration of today's feast throughout the Church.