

Parishes of Dromara and Drumgooland

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Pentecost Sunday

8th June 2025

Weekend Masses

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

Weekday Masses

Fri 13th 7:30pm Dromara

I will be away on **Retreat from Wed 4th June**
(after mass) **until Fri 13th June (am)**

**There will not be any weekday masses
when I am away.**

For emergency sick calls or deaths please try
Fr Brian Brown 074 9673 1619

Recently deceased
Niall Bannon, Cappagh
Dominic Branniff, Drumaroad

ANNIVERSARIES

Dechomet

Sat 7th Aisling O'Donnell & Pat Doyle
Kathleen & Matt Ward & Deceased
Family Members
Sat 14th Rosaleen Turley
Bernard, Margaret & Patrick Doyle

Leitrim

Sat 7th Philomena, Owen, Christopher
& Janet Rice
Sat 14th Winnie McCrickard MM

Dromara

Sun 8th Dylan O'Hare
Fri 13th Sarah McGrillen

Gargory

Sun 15th Seamus Gribben
Noel King

SVP contact numbers

Dromara 07738 838191/Drumg 07825 419067

Diocesan Safeguarding Officer: Stephen Sherry
07301246329/safeguardingdirector@dromorediocese.org

Collections

Dromara Drumgooland

Parish £440 £1,061

Thank you for your continued contributions

Do This In Memory

The final part of the programme will
take place on **21st/22nd June.**

All children who have made their First
Holy Communion this year are invited
to come in their First Communion clothes.
P3 children are encouraged to attend
mass that weekend.

We welcome into Drumgooland Parish
Finn Joseph McMullan

St Michael's PS Finnis

'Clothing Bank' Fundraiser

We would like to appeal to our community
to recycle their unwanted clean clothes
and textiles like bed sheets, curtains
(not pillows/duvets) towels and shoes by
placing them in bin bags and taking them to
St Michael's PS, Finnis on Wed 25th June
and Thurs 26th June between 8am - 5pm.
Thank you for your continued support.

Dromara Vintage & Classic Club

Road Run for all vehicles

Sat 14th June 2pm

All proceeds to the *Northern Ireland*
Kidney Research Fund

Assembling from 12 noon at St Michael's
Church car park and Brian King's field.

Anyone unable to attend wishing to
make a donation can contact:
Brian McGrillen 07759672584

Lough Derg

Heritage Day Thurs 21st Aug

€15 adults; €5 children

Lakeshore Pilgrimage

along the Pilgrim Path in the footsteps
of pilgrims through the centuries

Sun 31st Aug

€25 per person

To book:

00353 71 98 61518

info@loughderg.org

www.loughderg.org

GOD'S FREE GIFT

JN 14:15-16, 23-26



Jesus promised his disciples that he would send his Holy Spirit after he had returned to his Father. In today's readings we hear how that promise was fulfilled. The Holy Spirit was given freely and the results were spectacular. The disciples began to speak in foreign tongues about the marvels of God.

Because the Holy Spirit is a free gift we might be inclined to show little appreciation. Perhaps we rarely even recognise the Spirit's presence in our lives. But imagine if we did begin to recognise the Spirit's presence in us, if we were enlivened by it, set on fire by it. What a different people we would be. And what a different world we would have. ■

REFLECT

After the passion and death of Jesus, the apostles cowered behind locked doors, full of fear. Their fear had cut them off from the world. Then, Jesus appeared in their midst, and their fear turned to joy.

Jesus breathed on them, breathed the breath of God on them, filled them with his life, with God's life – with confidence, hope, conviction, power. They became new people, ready to proclaim the Good News to the ends of the earth, even to die for it.

That same gift of the Holy Spirit that was poured out on the apostles at Pentecost is given to us, too. One of the gifts of the Holy Spirit is courage. The Spirit gives us the courage to follow Jesus whatever the cost.

American Benedictine Sister Joan Chittister says our model must be both Jesus the healer and Jesus the prophet. The popular embrace of Jesus the healer, she says, has obscured the more radical Jesus, who challenged the status quo and religious leaders of his time. "We live in an era that accepts half of what it means to follow Jesus," she says. We neglect the prophetic dimension.

Chittister wrote her book, *The Time Is Now*, she says, "because I could not bear the roar of the silence any longer." She warns we are at a time when huge choices must be made that will determine the future of the world.

Choice takes three forms, she writes. The first is avoidance and to withdraw from the fray. The second is submission and passive acceptance, to keep our head down and "become part of the great enabling silence." The third is to be prophetic. "This prophetic choice says 'no' to anything that ignores the will of God or God's creation." We must always follow the prophetic path, she says.

It's difficult to do that today. Many people don't want to hear from us. We can be tempted to stay silent, afraid to raise our heads, comfortable only in the safe spaces. But we have been given the gift of the Holy Spirit. And filled with the Holy Spirit, we need not be afraid; there is nothing we can't do. ■

SAY

"Lord, forgive me for the times I have lacked the courage to put you first. Amen."

PRAY

Pray that you will have the courage to witness to the Gospel every day.

DO

Think about the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Do you know them? Do you use them?

LEARN

In the 790s/early 800s, Charles, King of the Franks (better known as Charlemagne), was at the height of his powers. Regarded by many historians as the 'Father of Europe,' Charles had been steadily adding to his kingdom, extending it across most of France into northern Italy, Germany and Bohemia. Charlemagne's reign was marked by political and social changes that had lasting influence on Europe throughout the Middle Ages. He was also a key supporter of the papacy, and in the year 800, was crowned emperor in Rome by Pope Leo III.

So one might wonder why this great political and military leader with so much on his plate would also concern himself with a theological dispute to do with the Holy Spirit, known as the Filioque controversy. This was a debate between Western and Eastern Christianity over the addition of the words 'and the Son' to a clause of the Nicene Creed. (The word 'Filioque' means 'and the Son'.) While the original Creed professed the Holy Spirit as proceeding 'from the Father,' the Filioque altered this to 'from the Father and the Son.'

The Eastern (Orthodox) church sharply disagreed with the doctrine that the Holy Spirit proceeds not from the Father alone—as earlier Church Fathers had taught—but from both the Father and the Son, because it made the Son coequal with the Father. Instead, the Orthodox preferred the expression 'from the Father through the Son.' The dispute was one of the reasons for the split between Western and Eastern Christianity which endures to this day.

Charlemagne believed that the Filioque was the authentic version of the Creed and strongly promoted it throughout his empire. At the Synod of Aachen in 809, he petitioned Pope Leo III to have the clause accepted throughout the universal church. Though he personally supported the Filioque, Leo declined, in order to avoid a schism with the East. In 1014, however, the Filioque was formally accepted by the Vatican and has been part of the Creed in the Catholic church ever since.