

Parishes of Dromara and Drumgooland

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1st Sunday of Lent
22nd February 2026

Weekend Masses

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

Weekday Masses

Mon 9am Leitrim 7:30pm Dechomet
Tues 9am Dromara
Wed 7:30pm Leitrim
Fri 7:30pm Dromara

*We pray for the recently deceased
Pauline McConville (née King), Rathfriland*

ANNIVERSARIES

Leitrim

Sat 21st 12noon Desmond McElroy Memorial Mass

Dechomet

Sat 21st McEvoy Family (Dechomet)

Leitrim

Sat 21st Margaret McElroy
Margaret & Mary O'Hare
& Deceased Family Members

Wed 25th Eileen Cunningham
John McKay

Sat 28th Patrick McCartan

Gargory

Sun 22nd Theresa McCartan
Patrick & Elizabeth McCartan

Dromara

Sun 22nd Mary McBride
Sun 1st John Doole MM
Karen Rice
Mae & Dan Flynn

Leitrim Cleaners

Mar - Geraldine, Deirdre & Siobhan

Gargory Altar Rota

Mar - Phil

Diocesan Director of Safeguarding

Stephen Sherry 07301 246329

safeguardingdirector@dromorediocese.org

SVDP contact numbers

Dromara 07738 838191
Drumgooland 07825 419067

Collections **Dromara** **Drumgooland**
Parish £306 £695
St Michael's Hall £80

Thank you for your continued contributions

First Confessions

St Mary's, Dechomet, **Tue 24th Feb 7:30pm**

*We welcome into Drumgooland Parish
Olivia & Tomás Breenan
and Leo Andrew Priestley*

Music Night in Peter Morgan's Cottage
Fri 27th Feb 7:30pm. Some Songs, Music & Craic.
Light Supper provided.

Young Adult Event (18 to 30 +)

You are invited to join us in Dromantine,
Thurs 5th March 6.30pm.

We are very conscious of the struggles faced
by so many of our young people today.

We are keen to hear from you and your
friends to share your thoughts about how,
together, you can be part of pastoral renewal
in the Diocese of Dromore and how we can
offer new opportunities to you, your peers,
and the next generation.

Please pre-register via email

youthdirector@dromorediocese.org.

All welcome.

World Day of Prayer Fri 6th March 8pm

St John's Parish Church, Dromara
Every Welcome

Dromore Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage

15th - 20th May (inclusive)

Pilgrims and workers £890

Assisted Pilgrims £850

If interested, please contact any member
of the Lourdes Committee

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock Sun 31st May

Further information will follow.

Pilgrimage to Fatima 14th-21st Aug

Flying direct from Belfast Intl, *convenient flight times.*

7 Nights F/B Avenida Hotel

Spiritual Director Fr Andrew McMahan PP

For further information contact Joe 07776425631

Sunday Message

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

THE WORD

Year A • 22 February 2026 • Colour: Violet • Psalter Week 1



After His baptism, Jesus is led by the Spirit into the wilderness, where He faces three serious temptations by the devil. This time alone tests His commitment and faithfulness to God.

Each temptation challenges Jesus to misuse His power or trust in things other than God. The devil first tempts Him to turn stones into bread, appealing to physical hunger. Jesus responds by quoting Scripture, showing that true life depends on trusting God, not just satisfying our immediate needs.

Next, the devil offers Jesus all the kingdoms of the world if He will worship him. Jesus refuses, affirming that worship belongs only to God alone.

Finally, the devil tempts Jesus to throw Himself down from the temple, expecting God to save Him miraculously. Jesus again resists, relying on Scripture and trusting God's plan without testing Him.

This story shows us Jesus' perfect obedience and trust in God, even in difficult times. It reminds us that temptation is real but can be overcome by faith, prayer, and God's Word.

We learn from Jesus that true strength comes from God, not from giving in to immediate desires or shortcuts. ■

REFLECT

Jesus' journey into the wilderness shows us a powerful example of faith and trust in God. After His baptism, He is led by the Spirit into a lonely place, where He faces temptations that challenge His mission and identity.

Each temptation Jesus faces is a choice: to rely on Himself or to trust God. The devil tries to tempt Him with bread to satisfy hunger, with power over the kingdoms of the world, and with testing God's protection. But Jesus refuses to take the easy way out. Instead, He stands firm by quoting Scripture, showing us the strength that comes from knowing and trusting God's Word.

We all face temptations—moments when it's easier to give in to quick fixes, shortcuts, or selfish desires. Jesus' example teaches us that faith and obedience to God give us the strength to resist.

When life feels hard or uncertain, we can turn to God's Word and Spirit for guidance and strength, just as Jesus did. We don't have to face our struggles alone.

Today, ask yourself: How can I deepen my trust in God when I face challenges? Where can I turn to God's Word for strength and guidance? ■

LEARN

"The Lord was tempted in all things as we are, but without sin. He shows us that by relying on the word of God, we can overcome the devil's lies and temptations. Our strength is not in ourselves, but in God's truth, which must guide our hearts and actions."
(St. Augustine)

DO

Set aside a few minutes each day to read a short passage from Scripture and quietly reflect on it. Let God's Word strengthen you to face daily challenges with faith and calm.



SAY

Lord God,
You showed us through Your Son Jesus that temptation can be overcome by trusting in Your Word.
Help me to follow His example — to rely not on my own strength, but on Your truth and grace.
When I face struggles and challenges, remind me to turn to Scripture and prayer for strength.
Fill my heart with faith, so I may walk always in Your light.
Amen.

