

Parishes of Dromara and Drumgooland

Fr Peter McNeill Tel: 028 4065 0207 Emergency Tel: 07969 403762
Email: dromaradrumgooland@dromorediocese.org Web: www.dromaradrumgooland.org

5th Sunday of Lent
6th April 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 and housebound will be attended this week

ANNIVERSARIES

Leitrim

Sat 5th Agnes & John Boyd
Wed 9th Brendan Boyd

Dromara

Sun 6th Karen Rice MM
Sun 13th Cissie & Gerry O'Hare (*Finnis*)
Barbara & Annie Gordon (*Drumkeeragh*)

Dechomet

Mon 7th Mary & Henry O'Hare & Deceased
Family Members
Sat 12th Patrick Hugh Doyle
Elizabeth Doyle

Friends of St Michael's Finnis Parents Group
Bingo Sun 6th April at 3pm. Doors 2:30pm.
£100 JACKPOT MUST GO!

Easter Crafts and Coffee Morning

Peter Morgan's Cottage, Finnis
Sat 12th April 11am-2pm

Holy Week Vigil Assumption Grammar School

Wed 16th April 6pm -6am

Benediction & Mass will be celebrated at 10pm

Archbishop Eamon, along with the clergy of the diocese, will celebrate the **Chrism Mass** on **Thur 17th April at 10:30am** in Ss Patrick & Colman Cathedral, Newry. All are welcome, in particular, an invitation to attend is extended to families and schools in the diocese with children who will make their Confirmation this year. The Mass is also available via Newry Cathedral Parish webcam at www.newrycathedralparish.org

SVP contact numbers

Dromara 07738 838191/Drumg 07825 419067

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

Collections Dromara Drumgooland

Parish £317 £2,398

Thank you for your continued contributions

Do This in Memory preparation for First Communion will continue on Palm Sunday

Congratulations to the 38 children who were Confirmed this week

We welcome into Drumgooland Parish
Nainsi Deidre McAlerney

Dromara Parish Council
Meeting Mon 7th April 8pm

Holy Week Ceremonies

Holy Thursday

6:00pm Leitrim, 8:00pm Dromara

Good Friday

Stations 3:00pm Leitrim, Dechomet & Dromara
Passion 6:00pm Gargory, 8:00pm Dromara

Holy Saturday

Easter Vigil 9:00pm Dromara

Easter Sunday

9:00am Gargory, 10am Leitrim
11:00am Dromara, 12 noon Dechomet

Confessions

Mon 14th 6:45pm-7:15pm
Tues 15th 6:45pm-7:15pm
Wed 16th 6:45pm-7:15pm
Sat 19th 10am-10:30am

Thank you to the people who helped distribute the boxes of envelopes. The new boxes begin this weekend. If there is any mistake in the names, please let me know. If you received a box that you did not want, please inform me. There are spare boxes for new volunteers. If anyone would prefer to pay by standing order please email the parish.

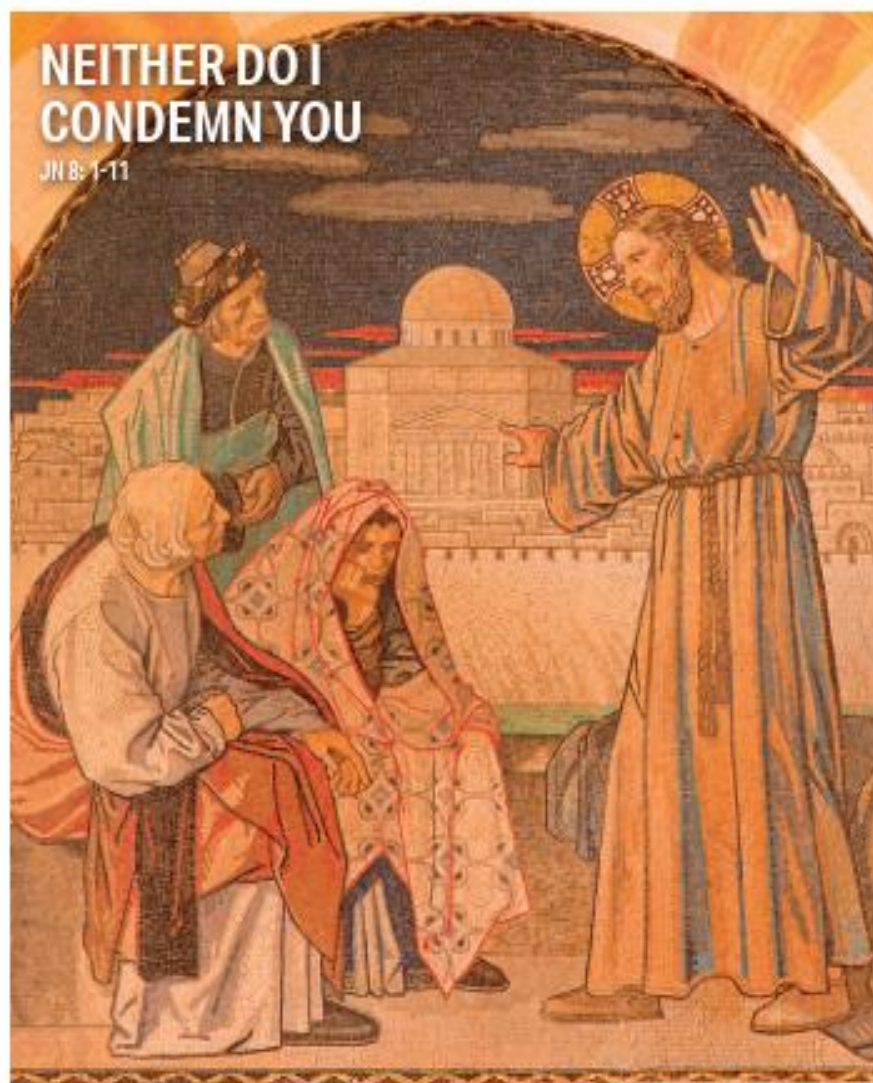
Trócaire – There are many requests for charitable support, sadly, there are too many people throughout the world who struggle for survival due to famine, war and earthquakes. Your generosity to Trócaire is greatly appreciated but sadly needed. Please return your donations (box or envelope) after Easter, from 26th / 27th April onwards. If you are a tax payer, sign the gift aid form, that adds 25% to your donation. If donating by cheque, please make payable to the Parish of Dromara or Parish of Drumgooland

Sunday Message

5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

THE WORD

Year C • 6th April 2025 • Colour: Violet • Psalter Week 1



NEITHER DO I
CONDEMN YOU

JN 8: 1-11

Adultery during the time of Jesus and throughout the New Testament was so widespread, that punishment was hardly ever invoked by the local leadership.

However, this doesn't deter the scribes and Pharisees from trying to entrap Jesus and asking him his opinion of the Law on the matter. The Law said that the punishment was death, but the manner of execution was unclear. The rabbis were often said to prefer the method of strangulation rather than stoning. Jesus is placed in a rather awkward position, and they are all keen to listen to his answer. If his answer is against the death penalty, he would be going against the Law and would be seen to be openly condoning adultery. If he decides for the death penalty, he might be denounced to the Romans, because the Jews didn't have the power to carry out the death penalty on their own.

He challenges the crowd. 'Let anyone who is without sin throw the first stone.' This turns the whole scene on its head, and Jesus becomes the one holding all the power. With tenderness and compassion for the woman, he informs everyone that God extends mercy to repentant sinners in order that they may turn from their sins. Unlike the Pharisees who wanted to condemn, Jesus wanted to forgive. ■

DO

Make an attempt in the coming week to articulate what the Eucharist means to you. What happens during your short time at mass that brings you back again?

LEARN

'It is time to act and during Lent, to act also means to pause.' (Pope Francis)



REFLECT

The village community has done nothing to apprehend the man with whom this woman has committed adultery (it takes two...). Only the woman is apprehended. There is discrimination, gender bias, here. She stands for those who are easily blamed because they are socially unacceptable, especially – in ancient societies – women.

Society wants to blame them and get rid of them. Put them in prison, isolate them, kill them if you need to. And make the community 'clean'.

The woman is one of most disadvantaged, pushed to the margins of the community. Like an immigrant, a foreigner, someone who should never have been there. She is made to stand in public shame in the midst of men. There is no mention of any other women present. They are all men. She is guilty of violating marital trust and is a marginalized woman. Doubly vulnerable. More still, she is being used to trap Jesus. As the commentator Denis McBride says, we can imagine ourselves in the place of the woman caught in adultery and probably have no problem filling in the faces of our accusers who are ready to heave a stone or two in our direction. The challenge of the Gospel however is whether we can see ourselves as the man who is caught up in forgiveness? Can we forgive as readily as Jesus forgives? ■

SAY

Lord Jesus Christ, nourish me with your body and blood so that I may become what I receive in showing your loving presence to the world.