

Parishes of Dromara and Drumgooland

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

3rd Sunday of Advent
14th December 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

Confessions for Christmas

Mon 22nd 6:45-7:15pm Dechomet
Tues 23rd 6:30-7:00pm Dromara
Tues 23rd 7:30-8:00pm Leitrim
Wed 24th 10:00-10:30am Gargory

Christmas Masses

Christmas Eve 6pm Leitrim 7:15pm Dromara
8:30pm Dechomet 9:45pm Gargory
Christmas Day 9am Gargory 10am Leitrim
11am Dromara

ANNIVERSARIES

Dechomet

Sat 13th Jim Doyle
Sat 20th John Greeran
William James Doyle

Leitrim

Sat 13th James Quail
Wed 17th Patsy Bannon
Anne McAlerney
Joe McCrickard
Barney & Agnes Morgan
Sat 20th Brendan Cunningham
Patrick Smyth

Dromara

Sun 14th Canon Gerry McCrory
Sun 21st Liz McKay
Gerard & Mary McGrillen
Christopher O'Hare

Diocesan Director of Safeguarding

Stephen Sherry 07301 246329
safeguardingdirector@dromorediocese.org

Collections Dromara Drumgooland

Parish	£743	£2,080
Priest	£634	£1,586

Figures include Nov standing orders

Thank you for your continued contributions

St Mary's Choir Dechomet

There will be a short Choir Rehearsal
after 6pm Mass **Sat 13th Dec**

SVDP Dromara Christmas Collection Sun 14th Dec.

Thanks for your support throughout the year

SVDP Drumgooland Christmas Appeal

If you wish to contribute, please take a
blue envelope from the back of the chapel
and return to any volunteer or place in the
collection basket.

SVDP contact numbers

Dromara 07738 838191
Drumgooland 07825 419067

A meeting to establish a New Men's Shed
will take place on **Mon 15th Dec at 8pm**
in Liatroim Fontenoy's Hall.

All men of the parish are warmly invited.

Come share your thoughts as we work
together to build a space for friendship
and community.

If you can't make this meeting but are
interested in getting involved,
please contact Dan on 07999709903

**This Christmas the Friends of St Michael's
Parents' Group are running a Cash Call.**

Tickets are £10 each or three for £20.

1st prize is £300 & 2nd prize £200.

Tickets can be purchased through
the school or via PayPal.

Please see Facebook for more details.

We welcome into Drumgooland Parish
Nina Anaíya Mía Hempton

Sunday Message

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

THE WORD

Year A • 14 December 2025 • Colour: Rose or Violet • Psalter Week 3



ARE YOU THE ONE?

MATTHEW 11:2-11

This Gospel reading offers a rich moment of transition between the Old Testament expectation and the New Testament fulfilment. John the Baptist, representing the prophetic tradition of Israel, sends his disciples to Jesus with a pivotal question: "Are you the one who is to come?" His inquiry is not necessarily one of disbelief, but of seeking confirmation — asking whether Jesus truly fulfils the hopes spoken by the prophets.

Rather than offering a direct claim, Jesus points to His works. His answer echoes Isaiah's prophecies: the blind see, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor receive good news. These are not random miracles, but signs that the long-awaited time of salvation has begun. Jesus allows the Scriptures to speak for Him.

The passage also offers a reflection on John's role. Though imprisoned and perhaps confused, John is praised by Jesus as the greatest among those born of women.

This Gospel encourages us to recognise how Jesus fulfils God's promises, not in dramatic displays, but in merciful action, quiet healing, and good news shared with the lowly.

This passage teaches us that God's work often unfolds differently than expected — and that recognising the signs requires humility, faith, and patience. ■

DO

Take time each day to notice small signs of goodness — moments of kindness, healing, or encouragement — in your home, parish, or community. At the end of each day, thank God for one way His quiet work was visible.

REFLECT

John the Baptist is in prison. He had spent his life preparing the way for the Messiah, but now, facing death, he begins to wonder: Is Jesus truly the one? So he sends messengers to ask, and Jesus answers not with a simple yes or no, but with evidence: "The blind see, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the Good News proclaimed to them."

Jesus is quietly fulfilling the words of Isaiah — not with spectacle or force, but with mercy, healing, and hope. This is God's way: humble, patient, and often surprising. John had imagined something more dramatic, but Jesus reveals a kingdom built on compassion, not domination.

This Gospel is perfect for Gaudete Sunday — the Sunday of joy. Not a shallow or noisy joy, but the deep joy that comes from knowing that God is truly at work, even when we don't fully understand His ways.

When we face doubt, disappointment, or delay, Jesus invites us to look again. Where is mercy happening? Where is grace quietly at work?

Today, we rejoice not because everything is perfect, but because Christ is near. And whenever He is, healing and hope are never far behind. ■

SAY

When I'm unsure,
Lord, give me peace.
When I can't see clearly,
let me still follow You.
Let Your quiet grace be enough
for today.
Amen.

LEARN

The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC 548) teaches:

"The signs worked by Jesus attest that the Father has sent him. They invite belief in him. But for those who turn to him in faith, he grants what they ask. So miracles strengthen faith in the One who does his Father's works."