

# Parishes of Dromara and Drumgooland

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## Second Sunday of Easter 27<sup>th</sup> 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

### ANNIVERSARIES

#### Leitrim

Sat 26<sup>th</sup> Jim Joe O'Hare  
Clare McCrickard  
Patsy McAnulty

Wed 30<sup>th</sup> Mary Ward & Deceased  
Family Members

Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> Barnie Cowan  
Alice Owens  
Theresa & Charlie O'Higgins

#### Dromara

Sun 27<sup>th</sup> O'Hare Family (Moneynabane)  
John King (Finnis)

#### Dechomet

Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> Paddy & Phil Turley

#### Gargory

Sun 4<sup>th</sup> Marie McEvoy MM  
John Donnelly

### Jubilee Year of Hope

Upcoming event in Ss Patrick & Colman Cathedral

#### Sun 18<sup>th</sup> May – Family Mass

followed by the blessing of the Grotto in the  
Cathedral Garden and a Family Picnic.

Gargory Altar Rota  
May - Fiona & Doreen

St Michael's Collectors Rota  
May - Brian & Eamon

### SVP contact numbers

Dromara 07738 838191/Drumg 07825 419067

Diocesan Safeguarding Officer: Stephen Sherry  
07301246329/ [safeguardingdirector@dromorediocese.org](mailto:safeguardingdirector@dromorediocese.org)

Collections	Dromara	Drumgooland
Parish	£1,618	£1,192

Thank you for your continued contributions

### Sun 27<sup>th</sup> Apr Carlo Acutis

*This event has been postponed*

**Archbishop Eamon Martin** "On hearing today the announcement that **Pope Francis** has died, my heart is filled with both deep sadness and immense gratitude, as we say farewell to a faithful shepherd who has walked closely with his people and carried their joys and sorrows in his heart. Pope Francis' papacy has been a profound gift to the Church and World. On behalf of the Irish Bishops' Conference, and the Catholic faithful on the island of Ireland, I extend sympathy to Pope Francis' family members, to those who have worked most closely with him, and to all those around the globe who loved him and will mourn his loss".

Full statement available on [www.dromorediocese.org](http://www.dromorediocese.org)

**A Book of Condolences** for people to record their sympathy on the death of **Pope Francis** is available on the homepage of [catholicbishops.ie](http://catholicbishops.ie) and on the Irish Bishops' social media platforms.

A Book of Condolences is also available at **Newry Cathedral** during opening hours, expect for during services.

### First Holy Communion

Sat 10<sup>th</sup> May St Matthew's 11am Gargory

Sat 17<sup>th</sup> May St Mary's 10am Dechomet

Sat 17<sup>th</sup> May St Michael's 12 noon Finnis

### Dromara Parochial Hall

#### *exterior building general tidy-up*

The Dromara Parish Committee would be very grateful for volunteers to assist them with a general exterior tidy-up of the Parochial Hall, on **Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> May from 10am** onwards. Jobs include power washing of front steps / walls / gutterings / drains / weed killer application / yard sweeping and trimming of hedges. Please get in touch with Conor McKay or any member of the Parish Committee if you can attend.

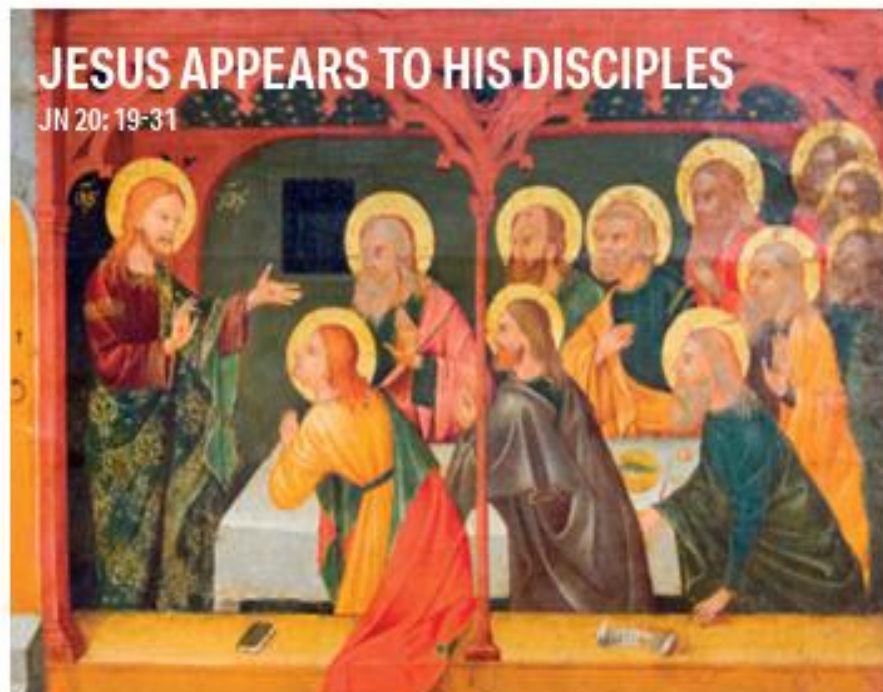
Dromara GAC are hosting their 5<sup>th</sup> year of the **Darkness into Light** walk on **Sat 10<sup>th</sup> May** at Slieve Croob. Money raised will go to 'Inspire NI'. The walk is planned to commence at **4:30am** in the hope to see sunrise. A quiz will also be held on **Sat 10<sup>th</sup> May** in Kings Bar, Finnis at 8:30pm for the above charity.

# Sunday Message

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

## THE WORD

Year C • 27th April 2025 • Colour: White • Psalter Week 2



### JESUS APPEARS TO HIS DISCIPLES

JN 20: 19-31

In today's Gospel the disciples are gathered in a locked room. You can imagine how scared they are, and the recent violence has made them security conscious. They have run away from society and are left pondering the question, 'what happens next?'

The atmosphere is charged with fear and yet, for all their defensiveness, they cannot keep out the love of the risen Christ. Jesus seeks them out and he appears in their midst. The encounter is framed by Christ's offer of peace and love. The response of the disciples is of joy. For the evangelist John, Easter Sunday is Pentecost and the gift of the Spirit is the breath of the risen Christ. The disciples breathe in and the Spirit becomes part of their lives. But Thomas is missing and when he arrives to hear the story, he refuses to believe. Thomas is an interesting character. He is part of the group but he is also very independent. He can think for himself. Scripture scholar Denis McBride states that for Thomas, honesty is more important than loyalty. His doubt cannot be transformed into faith by willing it. The other disciples only come to believe in the risen Jesus when they see him. Thomas comes to believe in the risen Christ in the same way the disciples do. He stands for all those who have not seen the Lord but are asked to believe in him. ■

## REFLECT

Everybody has some kind of faith. Think about the countless people who pass through airports on an annual basis. They journey through the web of passages that eventually brings them to a cigar shaped aluminium tube, also known as an airplane. With its engines and travelling at incredible speeds 35,000 feet above the earth, passengers don't really understand much of what's happening, but are content to have faith that it will all work!!

The main character in today's Gospel is the famous Doubting Thomas. The admirable quality he brings to the gathering is his questioning mind. He's not casual about his faith and belief in Jesus. Everybody in the locked room is called to believe in the risen Christ and witness the wounds of Christ and his greeting, 'peace be with you.' For Thomas, the signs and miracles of Jesus during his public ministry are one thing, but it's quite another to encounter Jesus risen from the dead. Like Thomas, we are all free to question and to react to God's works in our own way. Thomas was broken-hearted when Jesus was crucified and buried. He possibly wanted to be alone in his grief, needing time to process the events that unfolded. But there is something admirable about Thomas. Remember, it had been Thomas' wish for himself and the other apostles to go to die with Jesus. In today's encounter, he professes his faith once again with the words, 'My Lord and my God.' ■

## DO

The Church must constantly be in appreciation of the missionary work that has gone before us. Take the opportunity this week to read about the missionary life of a lay person or religious. What inspiration can you gather from their stories?

## LEARN

'Only the certainty that the Crucified Christ lives on as the Risen Christ, glorified by God, gives us the solution to the riddle of Jesus as a person and makes the Church possible and real.'

(Fr. Hans Kung)



## SAY

**'Sweetest Jesus,  
Body and Blood most Holy,  
be the delight and pleasure of my soul,  
my strength and salvation in all temptations,  
my joy and peace in every trial,  
my light and guide in every word  
and deed,  
and my final protection in death.  
Amen'**

St. Thomas Aquinas  
(The Aquinas Prayer Book)