

Parishes of Dromara and Drumgooland

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Ascension of the Lord

1st June 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

The sick and housebound will
be attended this week

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

ANNIVERSARIES

Leitrim

Sat 31st Joe & Agnes McEvoy
Eamon Duggan (*Glossop*)
Wed 4th Kathleen Malone
Sat 7th Philomena, Owen, Christopher
& Janet Rice

Dromara

Sun 1st Vincent & Desmond O'Hare
Kevin O'Hare
Jerome Fitzsimmons & Deceased
Family Members
Sun 8th Dylan O'Hare

Dechomet

Sat 7th Aisling O'Donnell & Pat Doyle
Kathleen & Matt Ward & Deceased
Family Members

Gargory Altar Rota
June - Helen & Patricia

St Michael's Collectors Rota
June - Joseph & John

SVP contact numbers

Dromara 07738 838191/Drumg 07825 419067

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

Collections

	Dromara	Drumgooland
Parish	£447	£743

Thank you for your continued contributions

Thank you to all who have donated
to **Trócaire**, the total so far is **£7,167**.
It would be helpful to have all donations
returned by **8th June** in order to pass
the money onto Trócaire

Cemetery Services

Thank you to the readers, singers,
rosary leaders, collectors and stewards
who helped last weekend.

The collections for the upkeep of
the cemeteries were:
Finnis £1,205, Leitrim £2,829, Dechomet £712

We welcome into Drumgooland Parish
Annie Rose O'Hare

Dromantine Sunday Family Fun Day
Sun 8th June 1pm - 5:30pm

Attractions

*Fun activities, Food & drinks, Vintage Tractors,
Country & Western Singers, Amusements & stalls,
Gun Dog display, Grand Draw
and much more!*

Admission: £5 donation per car
Everyone welcome!

Society of African Missions
96 Glen Road, Newry, BT34 1RH

Guided tours of Newry Cathedral

This year marks the bicentenary of the laying of
Newry Cathedral's foundation stone on **June 8th,
1825**. To celebrate this significant milestone there
will be guided tours of the Cathedral on
Wed 11th June at 6:45pm & Wed 25th June at 2pm
Each tour will take approx. 90 mins. Meet at the main
door on Hill St. There is no charge for these tours.

Lourdes Pilgrimage 9th - 14th June
Candles & Petitions

Papers, pens and envelopes are available at
the back of each Chapel. Please **DO NOT** put
money in with petitions. Place in box provided.
Candles - contributions to large Parish Candle can
be placed in a separate envelope and marked candle
or please speak to a member of the Committee

Sunday Message

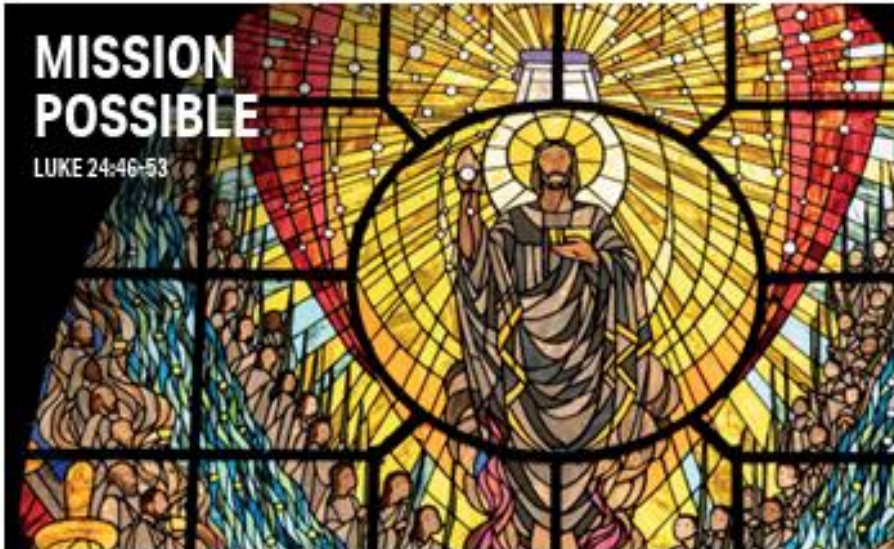
ASCENSION OF THE LORD

THE WORD

Year C • 1 June 2025 • Colour: White • Psalter Week 3

MISSION POSSIBLE

LUKE 24:46-53



Luke has the distinction of writing two accounts of the Ascension. The first is today's Gospel and the second, from the Acts of the Apostles, is the first reading.

There are slight differences between them. Most significantly perhaps, Acts places the Ascension some forty days after the resurrection. You could say that Luke has created the liturgical season of Easter that goes from Easter to Pentecost. For Luke, the time between resurrection and the coming of the Spirit is a privileged time of Jesus' presence with the disciples.

Today's Gospel begins with some final words of Jesus to the disciples. They are to preach repentance and forgiveness of sins, 'beginning from Jerusalem.' That will be the plan of the Church's mission. The Ascension is not a feast of farewell but one that celebrates mission. At the heart of the mission of the followers of Jesus is a liberating message of forgiveness.

The second part of today's Gospel is a short account of the Ascension itself. Jesus and his disciples go to the village of Bethany, outside Jerusalem, on the slopes of the Mount of Olives. As he blesses his disciples, Jesus is taken up to heaven. The disciples then return to the Holy City and frequent the temple 'praising God.' ■

DO

Pope Francis says that Catholics must be "shepherds living with the smell of the sheep." In other words, we must leave our comfort zones to make Christ present in all places and at all times. We mustn't confine ourselves to the security of our churches and homes but go out into the streets and alleyways to proclaim the Good News. There is an urgency to our task because there is a whole world out there that is hurting, lost, abandoned, that is being oppressed or experiencing injustice, and that needs to hear the message of Jesus. Our great commission is to bring the comforting and liberating message of Jesus Christ to all we meet.

PRAY

Pray for all those who witness to the Gospel by the example of their lives.

LEARN

Jesus has promised to be with us always, to the end of time

The feast of the Ascension reminds us that we are commissioned to preach the message of Christ

SAY

"Lord, I thank you for the gift of faith. Never let me forget that you are with me always, in the good times and the bad."

REFLECT

When Elie Wiesel was a teenager, he and his family were imprisoned in Auschwitz, one of the millions of Jews caught up in the holocaust. Apart from himself, all of Elie's family perished in that horrible place. After the war, he made it his business to remind the world about the holocaust, to ensure it would never be forgotten.

In one of his books, he describes an execution that all the prisoners were forced to witness. Three men were hanged by the Nazis, one of them just a teenage boy. They had been accused of blowing up a power station. As a warning to the others in the camp, all the prisoners were forced to walk by and see the execution at close range. By the time Elie marched by, the two adults were dead. But the youth was still alive, struggling between life and death. Behind

him, Elie heard a prisoner cry out: "Where is God now? Where is He?"

The lad lingered on. Once again Elie heard the man ask, "Where is God?" Then Elie Wiesel said, "I heard a voice within me answer him: Where is God? He is there, hanging on the gallows."

There are times when, like that man in Auschwitz, we can find ourselves asking, pleading, wondering where is God. Where is God in the midst of war, terrorism, fear, and hatred? Our world today is plagued by all kinds of injustice, violence, hatred. We worry about the security of Europe. We worry about the future of NATO. We worry about the growing tide of populism that seeks to set peoples against one another, encouraging suspicion and antipathy rather than harmony and commonality. We

worry that not enough is being done to protect our precious earth from the effects of climate change. We worry about the possible misuse of Artificial Intelligence and synthetic biology. The future can seem bleak.

But the promise Jesus made to his disciples is true: God has sent the Holy Spirit to be with us. The Second Vatican Council says that the Church, and all the People of God, are imbued with the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit gives us the strength to cope with the difficulties that come our way and the courage to witness to the Gospel. No matter how bad things might seem, we know that God will never abandon us, that God will always be by our side, as Elie Wiesel realised as he watched that boy on the Auschwitz gallows all those years ago. ■