

Parishes of Dromara and Drumgooland

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Fourth Sunday of Easter

21st April 2024

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 20th Margaret Morgan
Martin Brown
Wed 24th Mary Ward & Deceased
Family Members
Eileen McCartan
Sat 27th Clare McCrickard
Jim Joe O'Hare

Dromara

Sun 21st Stephen O'Hare
John & Margaret Lundy (*Dree*)
Sun 28th Mary Ann & Seamus Lundy (*Drin*)

Gargory

Sun 21st 2pm Benny Brown MM

Dechomet

Mon 22nd Charlie Rooney & Deceased
Family Members
Sat 27th Paddy & Phil Turley

Cemetery Sunday 26th May

Youth Summer Programme

8th - 11th Jul Camp 1 £160

15th - 19th Jul Camp 2 £180

Places are offered to young people (12 to 15 years old)

who are altar servers, sing in choirs, read, or help in any other way in the parish

Contact the Youth Director, Frances McNally, at

youthdirector@dromorediocese.org

Dromore Diocesan Historical Society will welcome **Plunkett Campbell**, renowned local historian and author of several publications on Tullylish Parish, to speak on "*The Family of WB Yeats: The Tullylish Connection*" on **Mon 29th Apr 8pm** in the Parish Den, Laurencetown Church. All welcome.

Diocesan Safeguarding: Stephen Sherry 073 0124 6329
Email: safeguardingdirector@dromorediocese.org

Collections	Dromara	Drumgooland
Parish	£946	£989

Thank you for continuing to support your parish.

Trócaire £1,560 received last week, thank you. Please return any donations over the next few weeks

Emails

Please use the email address at the top of the bulletin. The old email address (...aol.co.uk) is no longer working properly and often cannot be accessed.

Confirmation

Tues 23rd Apr St Mary's 6pm in Dechomet
Wed 24th Apr St Michael's 6pm in Finnis
Fri 26th Apr St Matthew's 6pm in Leitrim
All parishioners are welcome to attend

We welcome into Drumgooland Parish
Ariya Maeve McCabe

Anam Cara Armagh

Parent Evening for bereaved parents
Wed 24th Apr 7:15pm, Armagh City Hotel

Peter Morgan's Cottage

Music Sessions continues **Fri 26th Apr** at 7:30 pm. Great music song and stories. Come and join us, participation welcomed. Light supper. Everyone welcome!

Dromara GAC Senior Camogie team are hosting their 4th year of the *Darkness into Light* walk on Sat 11th May at Slieve Croob. Money raised will go to '*Samaritans of Newry*'. The walk is planned to commence at 4:30am in the hope to see sunrise. Everyone welcome.

A quiz will be held in King's Bar, Finnis on **Fri 26th Apr** to help raise money for the above appeal. The quiz will commence at 8:30pm with a raffle on the night.

Invite from Parish of Magheradroll
Art Historian, Ruth Sheehy MLitt, will give a talk on the *Stained Glass Windows in Church of Christ the King.*

in Christ the King Church, Drumaness
Sat 27th Apr 11am

Tea/Coffee available from 10:15am

SVP contact numbers

Dromara 077 3883 8191/Drumgooland 078 2541 9067

Sunday Message

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

THE WORD

Year B • 21 April 2024 • Colour: White • Psalter Week 4

THE GOOD SHEPHERD AND HIS SHEEP

JN 10: 11-18



The Gospel story indicated that Jesus does not surrender his life for his sheep, he lays it down. Out of love, he gives his life willingly. He said at the last supper that no one has a greater love than to lay down one's life for his friends. He did this not when we were redeemed or lovable, but when we weren't redeemed or lovable.

Scripture Scholar Denis McBride points to the ways Jesus shepherds his flock: Jesus tackles his opponents face to face. He confronts those who steal the dignity of the little ones. He warns his followers about the rough terrain ahead. He goes there before them. He endures isolation and insult. He risks being slaughtered himself. He does lay his life down for his sheep.

The image of the Good Shepherd is a consoling one. Despite the events of Good Friday and the joy of Easter Sunday, Christ remains in the Church as our watchful protector. He knows his own and we know him. Through his care and protection, we are strengthened, and we preach his Word with confidence and courage. ■

DO

How can we as followers of Christ become a Good Shepherd to our neighbour? What small gestures of love and charity can we make?



LEARN

The Church is the visible plan of God's love for humanity because God desires that the whole human race may become one People of God, form one Body of Christ, and be built up into one temple of the Holy Spirit.' (Paul VI, June 22, 1973)



SAY

'Be sure that you first preach by the way you live. If you do not, people will notice that you say one thing, but live otherwise, and your words will bring only cynical laughter and a derisive shake of the head.'

(Saint Charles Borromeo)

REFLECT

We are reflecting on one of the most popular images in the Gospels. The pastoral care of the shepherd, who leads his large flock and protects them from harm. During the life and ministry of St. Alphonsus de Ligouri in Italy, it's interesting to note that his main work and energy went into ministering to shepherds, in the hills of southern Italy. They were a group of people who were forgotten about, or who existed on the periphery of society. In the time of Jesus, many herds consisted of thousands

of sheep, their sheer number requiring highly skilled people to look after them and know how to cure their ailments. The flocks spent most of the year on the vast open uplands, from March to mid-November and the winter was spent under cover. Hyenas, jackals and wolves roamed the hills, as well as robbers on two legs...and the shepherd was usually armed with a knife. The shepherds care and courage were legendary. Shepherding was a hazardous occupation and outdoor living was rough. During the long dry season,

they had to move their flocks in search of new pastures. It's no wonder that the image of the shepherd is used so many times by Jesus in the Gospels. They are the example of how to care and love and protect. They show exemplary strength and courage. And indeed, when we think of Jesus, when we see images of him on icons and stained-glass windows, the image of a lamb or a staff are not very far away. He is our shepherd. He knows us, we belong to him. ■