

# PARISH OF DROMORE

Very Rev Conor McConville PP

Very Rev PJ Murray

Rev Dr Frank Rice, Permanent Deacon

Parochial House Tel: 028 9269-2218

Mobile: 07746-842977

Parish website: [www.stcolmans.org](http://www.stcolmans.org)

Parish email address: [office@stcolmans.org](mailto:office@stcolmans.org)

St Vincent de Paul Helpline: 07738838187 Diocesan Safeguarding Officer: Patricia Carville 07789 917741

## Mary, The Holy Mother of God

## Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2017

### Sunday Mass Times

**St Colman's Dromore**                      **All Saints Ballela**  
Sunday 11.00am                              Sunday 9.45am

### Weekday Mass Times: St Colman's

Mon, Tues, Thur & Fri 9.30am

Wed: 9.30am: Rosary with Eucharist

Sat: 10-11am: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Sat: Confessions 10-11am (First Sat of the month)

### Epiphany of the Lord

Thur 5<sup>th</sup> Vigil, Ballela – 7.30pm

Fri 6<sup>th</sup> Morning, Dromore – 10.00am

Fri 6<sup>th</sup> Evening, Magheralin – 7.30pm

### Ballela Anniversaries

Sun 1: None

Thur 5: James McCusker, Kilkinamurry

Sun 8: None

### Dromore Anniversaries

Sun 1: Dominic McClure

Sun 8: Hugh McGrath

Sam Clarke, Sam Clarke Snr, & Lily Clarke

Margaret McQuillan

### Offertory Promise Collection £2184.28

### Readers - Dromore

Sun 1: Anwin Robin

### Collectors Ballela: January

Patricia McCormic & Ryan Doyle

### School Enrolment for 2017-18

If your child was born between 2/7/13 and 1/7/15 you can apply for a funded place for Nursery. If your child will be 4 on or before 1<sup>st</sup> July 2017 they should apply for P1. Please contact the school office or go to

[www.eani.org.uk/admissions](http://www.eani.org.uk/admissions) to download an application form. Closing date is Wed 11<sup>th</sup> Jan.

### The Abbey Christian Brothers' Grammar School

Open day on Sat 14<sup>th</sup> Jan from 10.00am-12.30am.

### Sick Visits

The Sick of the parish will be visited as follows:  
Wed 4<sup>th</sup> Jan – Dromore & Ballela.

### Parish Draw Winners Week 34

£100	Geraldine Starrs	562
£50	Jack Doyle	339
£30	Sinead Lennon	286
£20	M McClenaghan	121

### Ballela GAC Lotto

Lotto Numbers: 1 3 7 15

£10 Winner Sinead Burns.

Seller's Draw: Anglers Rest

Next week's Jackpot: £5000

Next Committee meeting Tues 10<sup>th</sup> Jan.

### Weight watchers class

The class will resume on Monday evenings at 6pm beginning on 9<sup>th</sup> Jan 2017 in St Colman's Hall, Dromore. Everyone welcome, Tea/coffee. For more information contact Gearldine 07776109903.

### World Meeting of Families

In preparation for the World Meeting of Families in Ireland in Aug 2018, Pope Francis has invited families here to reflect on the event theme. To mark the beginning of this reflection we have prayer cards available for people to take home, these are placed beside the crib, also a prayer card is placed in front of the crib were families and others who visit the scene of the Holy Family can pray .

### St Colman's College Newry

Open Day on Sat 21<sup>st</sup> Jan from 10.00am – 1.00pm. Principal Cormac McKinney will address guests at 11.00am & 12noon. For further details:

Tel 02830262451, email: [info@stcolmans.org.uk](mailto:info@stcolmans.org.uk).

Prospective post 16 students and their parents/guardians are also very welcome to attend.

## Happy New Year

*Another year, another start  
A time of hope for every heart,  
A time to leave the past behind  
And share a newfound peace of mind.  
Then going forward day by day,  
Find love and joy along life's way.*

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# A NEW YEAR!

LUKE 2:16-21



## The first words we hear from the Bible in this New Year are words of blessing in the first reading (Num 6:22-27)

In fact, the first action of God towards human beings after their creation is to bless them. This blessing involves first of all being fruitful, that children and family life are, in God's sight, a blessing. The next result of this blessing is that God gives human beings the care of the earth, the stewardship of creation. Being made in the image and likeness of God, human beings should treat the natural world with care and respect and so reflect the Creator.

Most people think of the opening chapters of the Bible as presenting the original state of the world: an ideal, peaceful situation which was somehow ruined, Paradise Lost. But perhaps there is another way of looking at the stories of creation, that they are putting before us a vision of how the world ought to be and our responsibility as human beings to bring that about.

Saint Paul's vision of what Christ has achieved in God's plan includes not only human beings but the entire universe. It is a sweeping, cosmic view which teaches that all God's creation has been redeemed, and will be brought to that very good state that Genesis declares it to be.

At the New Year, most people make their New Year Resolutions. Most of us are only too well aware of how long these last. Maybe a better way would be to make our resolutions one day at a time, just for today. We might ask for the grace to see how our presence to other people and what we do could be a blessing to them. We might think about how we can be in some way the image and likeness of the God we say we believe in. New Year resolutions are one way in which we admit to ourselves that there are aspects of our lives which we would like to improve: if the God we believe in is benevolent and peaceful, then we should be trying to bring about a world where these attitudes are not a dream but a reality. It is a demanding vision, but one which Jesus came to bring about. ■

### SAY

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for me.

### DO

Consider your New Year resolutions. What is it in your life that you really want to improve? Does an indefinite period seem rather daunting? Would making a renewed resolution and effort each day make more sense?

### REFLECT

Many of the disasters we witness on our news programmes are the result of human beings exploiting the natural world and each other. The underlying message of the bible about the environment and natural resources is that they are there for human use, but should be respected and cared for. The problems of our world do seem to be overwhelming and there are no simple answers to such complex questions, but the greatest danger is that people lose hope and adopt an attitude of What's the use? So, we might decide today that whatever we do in our own lives will contribute to the total amount of good in our immediate surroundings and in that way we will be adding to the peace and goodness in the world. In that way we will become a blessing and reflect more the image and likeness of the God we say we believe in. ■

### LEARN

It is easier to make resolutions day by day: a period of twenty-four hours is manageable, and each day is a new start.

Blessing in the bible is connected with fertility in human beings, animals and crops.

Material prosperity is seen by some as a sign of God's favour and approval. For people holding this view, misfortune suggests something amiss in the person's relationship with God.

Wisdom writing in the bible considers human life in all its aspects: the Garden of Eden story first presents a vision of how the world ought to be, then how it actually is.