

Sunday Message

THE WORD

Year A • Season Colour: White • Psalter week 2



THE PARACLETE (JOHN 14:15-21)

Jesus promises the disciples that he will not abandon them when he departs, but will ask the Father to send the gift of the Paraclete or Advocate.

Throughout our reading, we find the theme of love, the attitude which will allow the disciples to keep Jesus' commandments. The Paraclete will be the Spirit which communicates truth, it will be the ongoing presence of God's self-revelation in the world.

However, there is another world which does not recognise Jesus and which has responded to his revealing of his message by rejecting it and him as well. In this sense the disciples are in a different world whose centre is Jesus. There is no account of an ascension as such in the Fourth Gospel, no depicting of a physical departure: for John, the Easter/Paschal Mystery all takes place on the cross. The Cross is the means of the lifting up (ascension) of Jesus, his death, and the place of his handing over the Spirit (Pentecost). What Jesus was to his disciples and the people of his day, the Paraclete is to the worshipping community today. The earthly Jesus is no longer present, but the living, exalted Jesus is. Those who have rejected Jesus ("the world") will not be aware of his presence, but those who have put their faith and trust in him will be. Jesus has spoken frequently in the gospel about the oneness of himself and the Father, and now he speaks of the relationship between himself and the believer in similar terms, and this will be one of the results of his departing from them now. The mark of this relationship is love, and a loving commitment to Jesus through keeping his commandments. ■

SAY

Reverence the Lord Christ in your heart
(1 Peter 3:15).

REFLECT

The gospel reading invites us to think about how Jesus is present to disciples today. In John's thought, this is through the presence of the Paraclete. In the bible, the Spirit of God is seen usually in terms of power: it is an enabling force which allows a person to carry out his or her appointed task. The Holy Spirit at Pentecost and throughout the Acts of the Apostles is depicted very much in this way. The presence of the Spirit in the Fourth Gospel is much more in the way of an indwelling: Jesus tells the disciples, you know him, he abides in you and he will be in you.

One of the key documents of the Second Vatican Council is the one on Divine Revelation and its title is "God's Word". It tells us that God's purpose in this self-revealing is to invite human beings into a relationship characterised by friendship. It is not a matter of the revealing of rules and regulations. This revelation is handed on in oral form, until it is committed to fixed written forms, and the handing on is what we call tradition. It is instructive that it is in connection with the Tradition of the Church that the Holy Spirit is most frequently mentioned. It is the Holy Spirit which enables the community to reflect on the Scriptures and to discern their meaning for today. ■

DO

Switch on an electrical appliance. Think about how dependent you are in your daily existence on an invisible power. We should rely on the Holy Spirit in a similar way to live a proper Christian life.



LEARN

The Tradition of the Church is what the community believes.

Customs such as liturgical forms are not part of the Tradition of the Church.

The title Paraclete really means legal assistant, advocate: it is the Johannine expression for the Holy Spirit.

PARISH OF DROMORE

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Sixth Sunday of Easter

Sunday Mass Times

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

Weekday Mass Times: St Colman's

Mon, Wed, & Fri: 9.30am: Liturgy of the Word
with Eucharist

Tues & Thur: Mass 9.30am

Ballela Anniversaries

Sun 21: Jimmy Cosgrave
Mary Alice McEvoy
Claire Priestley
June McGrath

Sun 28: Lucy McAleenan
Mary Frances O'Hare

Dromore Anniversaries

Sun 21: Jack & Jim Moreland
Jim & Sally Cunningham

Sun 28: James McGreevy
Francie & Philomena McCrory
Patricia McCann
Cecilia Mallon

Offertory Promise Collection £1018.11

Readers - Dromore

Sun 28: José Calixto

Blessing of the Graves

Dromore - Sun 11th June 3.00pm

Kilwarin - Sun 11th June 6pm

Ballela - Sun 18th June 3pm

Please note there will be **NO Mass**, just Blessing of the graves. There will be a prayer service and parishioners are asked to bring a bottle of water which will be blessed during the service and each family will then bless their own graves.

Do This In Memory

Will take place on Sun 21st May in Both Churches.

Whist

Will take place in St Colmans Hall Dromore on Sun 21st May. Ladies to supply pastry: Caroline Rooney & Deirdre Downey

Sunday 21st May 2017

Parish Draw Winners Week 4

£100	Angela Hamilton	481
£50	Finn Murphy	483
£30	Veronica Moreland	435
£20	Rita Keenan	151

Ballela GAC Lotto

Lotto Numbers: 2 5 10 13

No £10 winner's, Sellers draw: Sean Burns

Results: Senior's Ballela 6-23, Ballyvarley 0-5

Camogie: Ballela 2-3, Clonduff 7-17

Tractor Run will take place on Sun 25th June, More details later

Tea & Chat

There will be Tea & Chat in St Colmans Hall Dromore after mass next Sunday 21st May. Everyone Welcome.

Calvary Omeath, The Rosminian Fathers

The Annual Novena in honour of Saint Jude will take place from Sat 3rd June to Sun 11th June.

Mass each evening at 7.30pm. Healing Mass on Sun 11th June at 7.30pm. This year our celebrant will be Fr Oliver Stansfield I.C.

Pentecost Retreat Day

On Sat 3rd June in the Dominican Lectio Centre, 35-37 Dominic St, Newry, there will be a Pentecost Retreat Day. Introducing the practice of Lectio Divina.

Readings, Recognising, Resting in and reflecting on the

Sunday Gospel. The journey with the word will conclude with celebration of the Eucharist at 4pm.

Cost is £5 to include Soup and Sandwiches. Places are limited so if interested please contact: Lectio Centre on 02830262178 or email; lectocentre35@gmail.com.

2017 Guided tours of Newry Cathedral

Following the interest shown in the guided tours of the Cathedral over the past four years there will be a further series of guided tour on the following

Wednesdays: 31st May – 7.00pm

28th June – 2.00pm

19th July - 7.00pm

16th Aug – 2.00pm

The tour will take approx. 90 mins. Please meet at the main door of the Cathedral. There is no charge for tour.