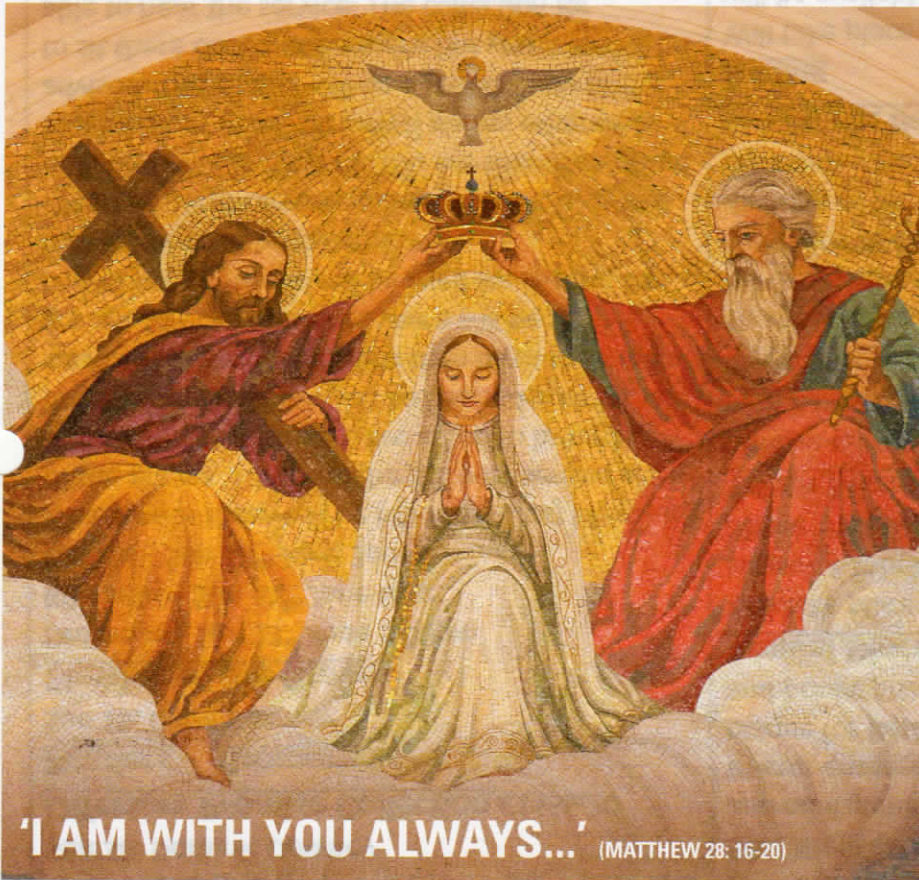


THE WORD

Year A • Season colour: White • Psalter Week 2



'I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS...' (MATTHEW 28: 16-20)

Painting of the Coronation of Mother Mary by the Holy Trinity at the Sanctuary of Fatima in Portugal.

We are greeted in today's Eucharist with the final words of Jesus in Matthew's Gospel.

One fear once felt by the followers of Jesus is now in the past. The news has spread quickly throughout the community that Jesus is risen. Eagerly the disciples await to be addressed, although there is some doubt amongst them as to whether Jesus survived such a brutal crucifixion.

This particular Gospel passage is often referred to as 'The Great Commission' as Jesus sets out his plan for a Church that will come to know God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. The Commissioning from Jesus states that his followers must go out to other nations to baptise and to teach the Word of God.

A contemporary reading of this passage

might also require us to include the message from *Lumen Gentium* (Vatican II) concerning the common priesthood. This commissioning by Jesus has huge implications for the whole Church, not just priests and religious. As a body of believers, there is an imperative to live out the compassion and mercy and love of Jesus in our parishes. Eleven disciples went to a mountain in Galilee today to receive a commissioning that would change their lives and change the lives of others. We received our own commissioning on the day of our baptism and we pray that the love expressed between Father, Son and Spirit may be reflected in our lives and the lives of the people we meet. ■

LEARN

'The Trinity is a mystery of faith in the strict sense, one of the mysteries that are hidden in God, which can never be known unless they are revealed by God.'

(*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 237)

DO

In light of today's Commissioning of the disciples, think of concrete ways you can go out to your community and bring the love and tenderness of the Trinity to the lives of others. No action is too small.

SAY

"It is not easy to find a name that will suitably express so great an excellence, unless it is better to speak in this way: the Trinity, one God, of whom are all things, through whom are all things, in whom are all things." (St. Augustine)

REFLECT

A woman once wrote about her experience of taking part in the women's mini-marathon in Dublin. She was nervous as all of her preparation for the event had taken place on her own. The crowds of women reflected the countless hours of fundraising for charities and the care being expressed for voluntary groups throughout the country. But once the race began, a lot of the conversations stopped, and a silence descended over the crowd as people took to the business of the race itself.

On passing a maternity hospital, the women looked towards a window where a mother with her new born baby stood to watch the race. At one point, the mother held the baby up so that the passing crowd could have a better look. An audible 'awe' sound came from the crowd.

The woman at the heart of this story said afterwards, that her experience of love and care and tenderness that day was probably the closest thing to experiencing the Trinity she will ever come to.

We often try to seek out words and complicated theories to explain the Trinity when in fact we all have the capacity to experience the life of the Trinity in our own lives. It could be the moment when you meet the love of your life and decide to get married. Or when you see your child setting off for his first day at school. Or perhaps it happens during the Eucharist through the words and actions of Jesus in the Gospels. At the heart of the Trinity is the experience of pure love. Most of us are lucky enough to know what that feels like. ■

PARISH OF DROMORE

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The Most Holy Trinity

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 11: William, Margaret, John &
Donald McCusker

Sun 18: None

Dromore Anniversaries

Sun 11: Owen & Elizabeth Cull
George Burns

Sun 18: Dominic Downey

Offertory Promise Collection £1436.20

Readers - Dromore

Sun 18: Ciara Downey

Blessing of the Graves

Dromore - Sun 11th June 3.00pm

Kilwarlin - 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 with Rosary 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. At both Churches there will be a collection; proceeds will be used for cutting and maintenance at both cemeteries.

Weather permitting we plan to have this service outside in the graveyard. You are therefore asked to go to your grave on arrival unless otherwise advised. The chapel will be opened if you prefer to sit there during the service but you may not be able to hear the service. The collection for maintenance of the graveyard will be taken up at the gates as you leave.

Ballela Church Clean Up

We ask that as many parishioners as possible help with the clean up on Mon 12th at 7pm.

Sunday 11th May 2017

Parish Draw Winners Week 7

£100	Brendan McGrillen	102
£50	Seamus Mallon	522
£30	Eileen McMullan	593
£20	John Murphy	135

Ballela GAC Lotto

Lotto Numbers: 8 11 12 13

£10 winner's: Noel Burns & Eileen McCusker
Sellers draw: Anglers Rest Jackpot £500

Tractor Run will take place on Sun 25th June in conjunction with PIPS as our supported charity. Registration will begin at 12 noon in the club rooms with the run at 2pm. £10 per tractor. There will be a BBQ along with tea, coffee & sandwiches, tuck shop and mini games. There will be a plaque for every tractor entered plus a refreshment voucher. A special plaque for Best Vintage Tractor, Best Modern tractor and booby prize for most dirty.

Annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock

Will take place on Sun 18th June, Buses leaving Lurgan, Banbridge, Warrenpoint & Newry. To book phone the parish office in Newry Tel: 0283026444.

Youth Ministry Collection

Will be taken up next Sun 18th in both Churches, please be as generous as possible.

Ordination to the Permanent Diaconate

To show our appreciation to Rev Michael Rooney on his Ordination to the Permanent Diaconate we would like to invite everyone over to Ballela school after Blessing of the Graves in Ballela next Sun 18th June for refreshments.

St Vincent de Paul Annual Senior Citizens'

Outing

Will take place on Sunday 6th August. Booking forms will be available at the end of this month. Mark this in your calendar now!!!

Whist

There will be Whist in St Colmans Hall on Sun 18th June. Ladies to supply pastry: Ethna Mulgrew & Dolores Downey.