

**'COME TO ME,
ALL YOU WHO
ARE WEARY....'**

(MATTHEW 11: 25-30)



Painting in Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ascension by Felix Tafart (1896)

Let us take the first reading and the Gospel as an inseparable pair for today's reflection. The prophet Zechariah announces a new kind of leader who in humility and mercy will arrive into Jerusalem on a young donkey.

This new leader or King will bring peace and love to a world at war. 500 years later, we move into the world of Matthew's Gospel and the proclamation of Jesus that he indeed is the King as foretold by the prophets. Those who come to know Jesus will know God, as Jesus will reveal him to us in Word and action. But the crucial part of this Gospel is the humility of Jesus in a world that rejects him. The image from Zechariah of a King riding into Jerusalem on a donkey is helpful here. There is an offer from Jesus in today's Gospel. 'Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest ... for I am gentle and humble of heart.' With true humility and vulnerability, Jesus embraces the world with peace and mercy. This is a new kind of leadership or authority. There is a good chance that the people of Israel have never heard such words from a leader before. No wonder there is hesitancy in following Jesus and a genuine scepticism in hearing this message.

It takes a genuine leap of faith even for us listeners of the Word today, to trust God in our moments of weariness. To find rest for our souls in the loving and humble embrace of Jesus Christ. ■

SAY

God our Father, grant me the grace to never view myself greater than anyone. Let my heart always imitate Your humility.

LEARN

'There is more value in a little study of humility and in a single act of it than in all the knowledge in the world.'
(Saint Teresa of Avila)

DO

Reflect a little this week on how God revealed himself to the world. Jesus arrived into town in the most humble of ways. How do we practise humility?

'Prayer is the raising of one's mind and heart to God But when we pray, do we speak from the height of our pride and will, or out of the depths of a humble and contrite heart? Humility is the foundation of prayer.'
(Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2559)

REFLECT

As a priest, the joy and privilege of having sons and daughters of my own is something I have long accepted as past me, which makes the blessing of nephews and nieces a treasure in my life. To much of my sisters' surprise, I have often appeared in the delivery ward of a maternity hospital within an hour of a baby's arrival with chocolates, flowers and a helium balloon to emotionally greet the family's new arrival. I'm probably a little over enthusiastic to be honest and at times it can be difficult to get past the strict ward nurses. I've been told time and time again that maternity wards are for parents and grandparents only!

The vulnerability of babies and small children is what strikes me most in watching these new arrivals into the family. They need so much care and love and attention. It's not possible for a parent to switch off for even a minute. Round the clock care is needed to ensure nappies are changed, bottles of milk are made and clean clothes are always in ready supply. Vulnerability is the mark of every baby and child.

A child's mind is not clouded by aggression or hostility. Through a child you can see a desire to learn and absorb information. Even a baby will have an astounding curiosity of all things happening around him/her.

And Jesus says today that the truth about God will be revealed to these children before it can be revealed to the learned and the wise. To know God is to know the most vulnerable and marginalised of our world. ■

PARISH OF DROMORE

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Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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 9: Dan & Sadie McCusker
Kathleen McGrath

Sun 16: Mary Meehan
Rose Rooney

Dromore Anniversaries

Sun 9: Joe Downey

Sun 16: Stephen Magee (Months Mind)
John & Josephine Gracey

Offertory Promise Collection £890.70

Readers - Dromore

Sun 16: Brendan McCann

St Colman's Conference of St Vincent de Paul

Annual Senior Citizen's Outing to Carlingford will take place on Sunday 6th August 2017 leaving at 1.15pm. Application Forms are now available in the Church Porch and in the Parish Hall. Those wishing to travel should return their completed forms by 29th July 2017 Numbers are limited and will be allocated on a "first come, first accepted" basis.

Dromantine Summer Camp 2017

5 nights' accommodation, 6 days of fun filled activities, and 3 meals a day for only £150! Fun! Faith! Friendship! Running 47 years, welcome Boys and Girls aged 11-17.

Boys Camp – week 1: Sun 16th July – Fri 21st July
Girls Camp – Week 3: Sun 13th Aug – Fri 18th Aug

Visit our web site for further information about the Camp and available spaces remaining.

Summertime.dromantineconference.com/
or Tel: 02830821224

Sunday 9th July 2017

Parish Draw Winners Week 11

£100	kathleen McGrath	178
£50	John Doyle	334
£30	Paul Delaney	341
£20	Walter Stokesbury	496

Ballela GAC Lotto

Lotto Numbers: 10 17 20 21

No £10 winner's

Sellers draw: Anglers Rest Jackpot £650

Ballela Community Group, Treasure Hunt

Will take place on Sun 23rd July at 2pm in All saints PS Ballela. Cost is £5 per person and children under 12 free. This includes afternoon tea consisting of delicious homemade buns, scones and sandwiches, tea/coffee. There is a Cash prize for the winner. We hope everyone comes along and enjoys the fun.

Next meeting Mon 17th July at 7.00pm

The World Meeting Of Families

The World Meeting of Families (WMOF) will take place in Dublin on 21-26 August 2018. The national launch of the event will take place in Knock on 21st August this year at the 3.00 pm Mass. Dioceses have been invited to nominate a family that would represent it at the ceremonies (not necessarily in a speaking role). The family could be a wide extended family, with grandparents, parents and children. If you would like your family to attend the Mass in Knock on 21st August as the diocesan representatives, please contact the diocesan office by email at bishop@dromorediocese.org outlining the family group you wish to bring. The family will be chosen in early August.

One Million Rosaries

We know that the retention of the 8th Amendment is of vital importance to save the lives of the innocent children of Ireland. A group of us known as the "friends of Our Lady of Guadalupe" have launched a Campaign for One Million Rosaries and One Million Visits to the Blessed Sacrament to offer to Our Lady of Guadalupe. Please sign the sheet at the back of the Church in the hope that you will support our endeavour.