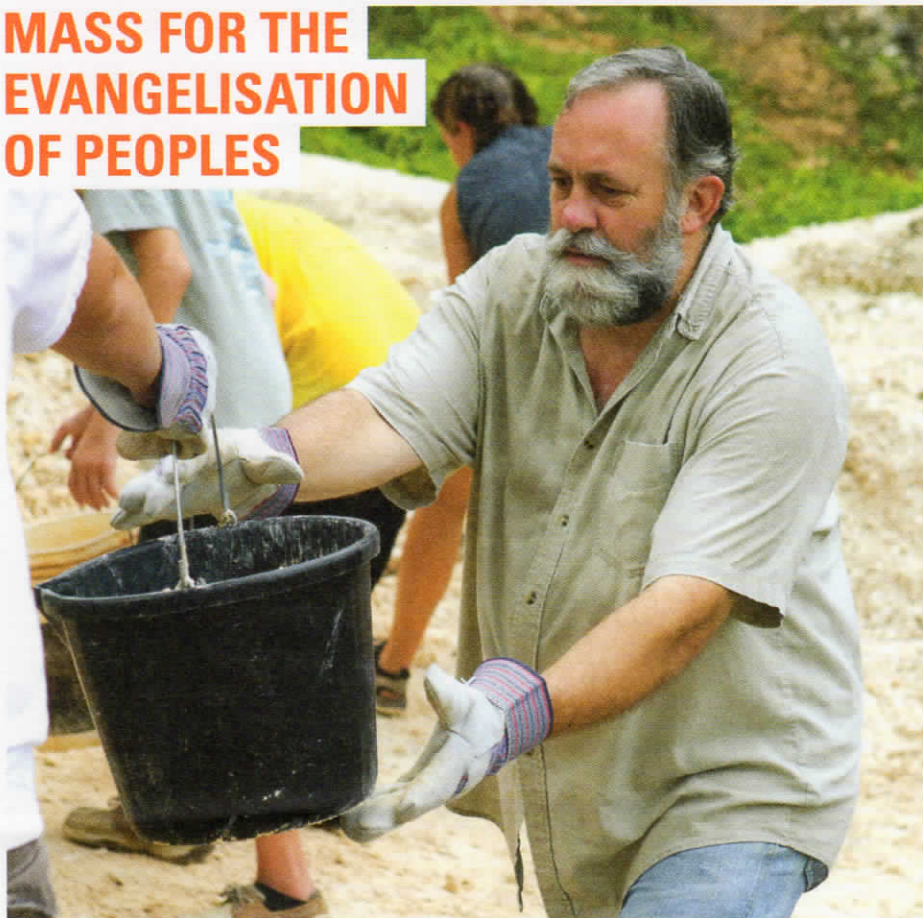


THE WORD

Year A • Season Colour: Green • Psalter week 1

MASS FOR THE EVANGELISATION OF PEOPLES



Man helps pass along a bucket of dirt to a fellow missionary on a trip to build a church in Jamaica.

Our second reading today is from the earliest document of the New Testament.

The apostle Paul is writing to some of the first Christians, and begins by giving thanks to God for the way in which they accepted his preaching of the Gospel and how they are living that out under God by their active faith, practical love and steady hope. His mission to them has borne fruit under the Holy Spirit and now their mission is to continue to live out their faith in action. Paul does not regard faith as something private to the individual but as power and as the Holy Spirit and as utter conviction. He describes the people of the community in Thessalonica as the people God loves and has chosen. But this choosing also brings responsibility: the responsibility is to be the people of God in the world. That is the mission of the Church, to show to the world the kind of God we believe in. The Bible reveals God as a God first of all of justice, who is angered at the way in which the weaker members of society are exploited by those with power and wealth. Sin is often built into the way in which society functions, and the Bible is much more concerned with this as an offence against God than with what we might regard as individual (and especially sexual) moral behaviour. ■

LEARN

The Jewish people of Jesus' day (and now) believe that their mission is to be the people of God in the world by observing the Torah, the Law. There was no need to convert others to their religion.

The disciples of Jesus, after their experience of Jesus risen from the dead, believed that they had a mission to preach the Gospel to anyone who would accept it

The word *apostle* means one *who* is sent.

The chief missionary of the apostolic church was Paul, who had not known Jesus in His lifetime, but was an apostle because he had encountered the risen Jesus on the road to Damascus and received his commission to spread the Gospel directly from the Lord.

The Church today is understood best as *The People of God*. Anyone who wants to become a member of this people is welcome to do so.

REFLECT

In some churches you will see a notice which says *Welcome to your Mission Field*. This notice is placed above the doorway leading out of the church! This can be very effective and sobering when outside the church door there is a busy town street: because this is precisely where most of us find ourselves, and where our mission lies. As we reflect today on the Mission of the Church, we remember those women and men who carry out mission work in an exceptional way, for instance by going abroad to spread the Gospel message, or by witnessing to Gospel values in situations filled with danger. But all of us are called to be witnesses, missionaries in that sense. We may feel that our society is no longer Christian and that *something should*

be done. But what? And by whom? The uncomfortable answer is that we are the ones who can do something. How? There are some associations which rely on *attraction rather than promotion* to spread their message. Instead of advertising their existence, they grow by personal contact and word of mouth. The members take opportunities as they present themselves to reach out to people in particular need by sharing their own experience. Not many of us are comfortable with being accosted in the street by evangelical preachers and realise that this is not the way we would choose to communicate our faith. But we all have chances to suggest to others that we have a possible answer to their deepest longings. And that is *our* mission. ■

DO

Take a risk the next time someone indicates that there is a lack in their life which you sense the Gospel message might fill: speak to them gently about how your faith helps you to meet the challenges of life.

SAY

You are my witness.

PARISH OF DROMORE

Very Rev Conor McConville PP, Tel: 02892-611347
Parochial House Dromore Tel: 02892-692218

Rev Dr Frank Rice, Permanent Deacon
Mobile: 07746-842977

Parish website: www.stcolmans.org
St Vincent de Paul Helpline: 07738838187

Parish email address: office@stcolmans.org
Diocesan Safeguarding Officer: Patricia Carville 07789 917741

World Mission Sunday

Sunday 22nd Oct 2017

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: 9.30am Mass

Sat: 10-11am: Exposition of The Blessed sacrament

Ballela Anniversaries

Sun 22: Anthony McEvoy, Kilkinamurphy
Bridget O'Rourke (Months Mind)
Elizabeth McCusker
Johnny McEvoy

Sun 29: Hugh, Mary Teresa & Hugh Jun McCusker
Sarah McEvoy (Months Mind)

Dromore Anniversaries

Sun 22: David & Moninna McGrath

Sun 29: None

Offertory Promise Collection £835.93

Readers - Dromore

Sun 29: Siobhan McArdle

Do This In Memory

Will take place today Sun 22nd Oct in both churches.

November Dead Lists

Are available at the back of the church. Please take one and return it within the next few weeks.

Tea & Chat

Will take place in St Colmans hall Dromore on Sun 22nd Oct after mass. Everyone welcome.

Lourdes Committee Meeting

Sorry meeting had to be cancelled last week due to Ophelia. Meeting will take place Monday 23rd in Ballela at 8.30. Sorry for any inconvenience this may have caused.

Parish Draw Winners Week 26

£100	William Maginess	167
£50	Derek Marks	062
£30	Kath Cosgrave	318
£20	Stephen Kelly	024

Ballela GAC Lotto

Lotto Numbers: 4 16 18 24

£10 winner: Maureen McCusker

Seller's Draw: The Anglers

Next week's Jackpot £2000

The Club Dinner Dance will be held in The Anglers Rest on Fri 10th Nov at 7.30pm sharp. Tickets are £25 available from any committee member.

Ballela Community Group - CPR Training

The Group are holding a CPR training event on wed 15th Nov at 7.30pm in Ballela School. CPR is a lifesaving technique useful in many emergencies in which someone's breathing or heartbeat has stopped. This event is FREE and is open to all age groups.

St. Mungo's 2 - The Umpire Strikes Back

St Michaels GAC Magheralin presents a 2 man Comedy play by the famous comedians Grimmes & McKee on Sunday 29th October, 8.00pm St. Patrick's Hall, Magheralin Tickets £15 Contact Fearghal on 07867 536478.

PIPS

PIPS suicide awareness meeting Wednesday 25th October, 3.30 to 6.30 at Via Wings, Dromore. All welcome.

Prayer of The day

Christ has no body now on earth but yours, no hands but yours, no feet but yours.

Yours are the eyes through which Christ's compassion is to look out to the world.

Yours are the feet by which he is to go about doing good. And yours are the hands by which he is to bless us now.