

MIND THAT CHILD!

MARK 9:30-37



Jesus' journey towards Jerusalem and his destiny continues, as does his instruction of the disciples with the second prediction of the suffering which awaits him.

Mark sharpens his rather negative view of this group by presenting them as not only failing to understand but also as being reluctant to ask him to explain. Instead, they get into an argument about the order of ranking amongst themselves. Jesus then sits down, which means that he is teaching officially, and tells them that true greatness consists in service and respecting those whom society regards as not counting for much. He presents them with a child to illustrate his point; here the child does not represent innocence but a person with no rights or standing within the community. There is nothing to be gained by taking notice of a child in the society of that time. By embracing the child, Jesus is performing a symbolic action: he is showing by his attitude and action that God is reaching out to those individuals whom the society of the day does not recognise as worthy of care and respect.

We might note that Jesus is telling his listeners that they should welcome those people whom the child represents as they would welcome Jesus himself, and in this way they will welcome the Father. The apparently insignificant person thus represents Jesus and should be treated with the appropriate honour and respect. The Lord says this most clearly in Matthew's account of the Last Judgment: "Whenever you did this to the least of these, you did it to me." ■

DO

When you are walking through the street, notice the children whom you encounter; notice also the beggars, the homeless. These are the people in whom we should meet and welcome Jesus.

SAY

Lord, help me to see others as you see them.

LEARN

The title 'Son of Man' is often linked with the Passion in Mark's version of the Gospel.

Capernaum is the town on the north-west shore of the Sea of Galilee which Jesus made his base when he left Nazareth.

Sitting is the posture proper to a rabbi teaching his disciples; in our liturgy, the proper position for a bishop when he preaches is to sit.

Mountains are places of revelation in the Bible

REFLECT

The cross is a paradox: it is here that the Gospel reveals who Jesus really is, and who God really is as well. We find the cross at the heart of Jesus' teaching about what it means to be his disciple. It is all about self-giving, self-sacrifice, and renouncing what people normally understand as power. Jesus may well be Lord and Master, but he does not 'lord it' over others. His embrace of the child is not simply affection, but a parable in action, to illustrate what should be the attitude of anyone who claims to be his disciple, to follow his teachings. The noun 'authority' comes from the root 'to increase': authority should be seen within the Christian community as a service which enables people to grow as persons into the fullness of what it means to be a human being made in the image and likeness of God. Power is a different matter: it can be used for good, or ill, which we usually refer to as an abuse of power or position. The more authority or power a person holds, the more careful they have to be to use it for the purpose for which it is intended. As Christians, we have the example of Jesus to guide our attitudes and actions. Pope John XXIII regarded the task of church leaders as being "not to look after a museum but to cultivate a flourishing garden of life". ■

PARISH OF DROMORE

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Twenty - Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday 23rd Sept 2018

Sunday Mass Times

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

Weekday Mass Times: St Colman's

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

Tues & Fri : Mass – 9.30am

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

Weekday Mass times: All Saints

Thursday – 7.00pm

Ballela Anniversaries

Sun 23: Patrick & Margaret McAleenan
Mona Clarke
Bridget O'Rourke

Thurs 27: Joseph McEvoy

Sun 30: Sarah McEvoy
Joe McCusker
Sister Bronagh Meehan

Dromore Anniversaries

Sun 23: Rosalind Rooney
Vincent Mallon
Arthur McCann

Sun 30: David & Moninna McGrath
Isabel McEvoy
Rose, Dan snr & Elizabeth Brennan
Robert Guy
Deceased members of The Kelly,
Guy & Brennan Family

Offertory Promise Collection £1031.96

Readers - Dromore

Sun 30: John McKeown

Whist

Whist will take place on Sun 23rd Sept in Dromore Hall at 8.30pm.

Proposed change in mass times

Fr Maginness purposes a change in the week day schedule to provide an evening mass in Ballela in addition to the morning masses in Dromore, the proposal pattern is Morning mass - **9.30am** in Dromore on **Tuesday & Friday** and Evening mass – **7.00pm** in Ballela on **Thursday**. This pattern will commence the week beginning Sun 23rd Sept.

Parish Draw Winners Week 24

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|------|-----------------|-----|
| £100 | David Rodgers | 157 |
| £50 | Frank Doyle | 393 |
| £30 | June McCorry | 052 |
| £20 | Martin McDonald | 241 |

Ballela GAC Lotto

Fri 21th Sept: 4 6 10 22

No £10 winners Seller: Gary McMullan

Next week's Jackpot £2000

"Night at the Race's"

Will take place on Fri 5th Oct at 8pm in Anglers Rest. To sponsor a race its £50, to sponsor a horse it £10 Admission £10 on the night which includes food.

Gallbog Charity Tractor Run

Will take place on Sat 29th of Sept from The Gallbog Bar. Registration from 1.30 and departure 2.30. In aid of Diabetes UK care, connect, campaign Northern Ireland.

Anam Cara Armagh

The organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding a Bereavement Information Evening on Wednesday 26th September at 7:30pm in the Armagh City Hotel, Armagh, BT60 4FR. This is a free event and open to all bereaved parents. As Anam Cara will need to confirm numbers for teas, coffees, etc, please RSVP to info@anamcara.ie before Tuesday 25th September or call 02895213120.

Weight Watchers Class

Join our friendly Weightwatchers class in St Colmans Hall Dromore every Tuesday morning at 10am. With 12 weeks to Christmas, what have you to lose only those extra pounds? Contact Orla on 07986326099 if you have any queries.

Annual Knock Pilgrimage Day

Human Life International (Ireland) calling all families, consecrate your Family to Our Lady this Year Of The Family at special prayer event in Knock on Sat 6th Oct. See poster at back of church for details.

Novena to St. Therese

Will take place in Dromantine from 23rd September 2018 – 1st October 2018. There are two sessions per day 10.00 a.m. and 7.30 p.m.