

## THE WORD

Year B • Season Colour: Green • Psalter Week 2

### NOT ONE OF US!

(MARK 9:38-43. 45. 47-48)



Printed image of Jesus preaching to the crowd, in Grace Church Chiangmai, Thailand

Today's Gospel reading first presents us with two examples of Jesus' attitude towards people who do not belong to the circle of his disciples.

We might describe Jesus as being positively tolerant of the exorcist who was using his name, and therefore his power, to cast out devils without being authorised beforehand. We might note that the person concerned was actually able to perform this act of power; the name of Jesus was sufficient to bring about the desired result. The disciples, however, take a different view: the person has no business using the name of Jesus as he is "not one of us". They are jealous of their own privileges and try to stop him. The detail that the exorcist was actually successful does not seem to matter to them at all, despite the fact that they themselves had been unable to perform a similar feat a short time before.

The second case, that of strangers who are kind to the disciples "in the name of Christ", echoes the earlier teaching about welcoming Christ in the little child who represents the social 'nobodies'.

The final section is concerned with discipleship. Anyone who puts a block in front of a simple believer and causes them to fall away or into sin is condemned in the strongest terms. The "little ones" are those genuine but vulnerable members of the community. The sayings about cutting off parts of the body which lead disciples into sin are examples of the exaggeration customarily used at the time to emphasise the gravity of a situation and are not to be taken literally. However, we find the image of the body used elsewhere to represent the Christian (and civil) community, so cutting off the offending members of the physical body may also mean dealing severely with people who harm the body of believers by excommunicating them – as a last resort, of course. ■

## LEARN

'Hell' (or Gehenna) originally referred to the Hinnon Valley which ran south and west of Jerusalem; it was later condemned by the prophet Jeremiah as a place of pagan worship.

Gehenna later was used as a rubbish dump where fires perpetually burned: it was the 'Smokey Mountain' of its day.

The idea of hell belongs to apocalyptic writing, which is concerned with the end of the world and divine judgment. It represents, in symbolic terms, the opposite of eternal life with God.

We may believe in hell: we do not have to believe that there is anyone in it.

## SAY

**They are my Christian sisters and brothers.**

## DO

As you travel around, notice the various churches. Think positively about the faith and commitment of the people who worship there, and pray for them.



Matthias Church in Budapest, Hungary

## REFLECT

One of the most positive religious developments of the second half of the 20th century was the growth of the ecumenical movement. Christian bodies which had viewed each other with suspicion and hostility began cautiously to talk to one another and discover what they have in common rather than what divides them. One

of the most significant and dramatic gestures in this area came from Pope Paul VI. In 1966 there occurred the first official visit by an Archbishop of Canterbury since 1397 in the person of Dr Michael Ramsey. While archbishop of Milan, Paul had taken trouble to learn about the Anglican Church which he later called "our beloved sister". After

the final service at the Basilica of St Paul Outside-The-Walls, the pope took off the ring he had worn as archbishop and put it on Ramsey's finger. Jesus said that no one who performs a work in his name is likely to speak ill of him. Maybe that is a lesson on which we might all reflect. ■

# PARISH OF DROMORE

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## Twenty – Sixth 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, & 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 30:** Sarah McEvoy  
Joe McCusker  
Sister Bronagh Meehan

**Sun 7:** Frank Magee

### Dromore Anniversaries

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

**Sun 7:** Hugh Downey

**Offertory Promise Collection** £846.25

### Readers - Dromore

**Sun 7:** John O'Hare

### Do This In Memory

A meeting for the parents of children in the parish who will make their First Holy Communion in 2019 will be held in St Colmans Hall Dromore on Thurs 4<sup>th</sup> Oct at 8.00pm. This meeting is for parents only, children do not need to attend.

### Parish Notices

Please have all notices for Bulletin in for 10am Thurs 4<sup>th</sup> Oct as the Parish office will be closed on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> Oct.

### Daughters of Charity of St Vincent de Paul

Will visit both churches on **Sun 7<sup>th</sup> Oct** to speak about their work in Africa. A collection will be taken up at mass for the charity, please be as generous as possible.

## Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> Sept 2018

### Parish Draw Winners Week 25

£100	Seamus Downey	027
£50	Eamon Rooney	378
£30	Mabel McCutcheon	122
£20	Maureen Rooney	300

### Ballela GAC Lotto

Fri 28<sup>th</sup> Oct: 5 6 12 20

No £10 winners    Seller: John Doyle

Next week's Jackpot £2000

### "Night at the Race's"

Will take place on Fri 5<sup>th</sup> 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.

### 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 6<sup>th</sup> Oct. See poster at back of church for details.

### Novena to St. Therese

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

### Lourdes Meeting

Lourdes meeting in Ballela at 8.30pm on Mon 1st October everyone welcome.

### Sick Visits

The sick of the parish will be visited as follows:

**Tues 2<sup>nd</sup> Oct** – Ballela

**Tues 9<sup>th</sup> Oct** – Dromore

### Change in Mass times

Just a reminder of the change in mass times in the Parish: Morning masses in Dromore on Tuesday & Friday at 9.30am and Evening mass in Ballela on Thursday at 7.00pm. This new pattern started last week.