



LOVE

ONE

ANOTHER

THE ONE COMMAND OF THE NEW COVENANT

(JOHN 13:31-35)

SAY

Lord, help me to be your true disciple.

LEARN

In John's Gospel, light and darkness are symbolic of the realms of God and Satan: each person has to make a decision for one or the other.

The giving of the new commandment suggests the establishing of the new covenant.

The themes of glory and God's revelation are closely linked in the Fourth Gospel.

DO

When you wash your feet, think of Jesus washing the feet of his disciples. He explains the meaning of this total self-giving in terms of mutual love and self-giving. Decide how you can better live up to Jesus' command and start to put it into practice.

Judas has gone *into the night*. He has chosen to leave the Light and enter the darkness of those who are plotting Jesus' death.

But this leads to Jesus' cry of celebration, that the hour has come when he will be glorified and that Father will be revealed. In the Fourth Gospel, the Passion and Crucifixion are not the apparently tragic events that we might imagine when we read the other three accounts, but they are the time of Jesus' triumph. His being lifted up on the cross is the moment of his being exalted in glory and his mission from the Father is accomplished.

One of the features of the making of the covenant between God and human beings is the giving and accepting of commandments. In John's version, we do not find the institution of the eucharist at the Last Supper: that is presented in the story of the Feeding of the Crowd. In our passage today, we find the giving of the new commandment, which is to love one another as Jesus has loved his disciples in his total self-giving. As he does this, he addresses his disciples in terms of tender affection as *My little children*. Jesus' glory is revealed in the context of unconditional love which his disciples must now show towards one another. In this way, they will imitate Jesus and so reveal him to other people. ■

REFLECT

Many people appreciate clear rules. They know where they stand. If they keep the rules, then they are satisfied that they have done the right thing and will be in the good books of whoever happens to be in charge. The Ten Commandments seem to be clear, by (mostly) telling people what they should *not do*. The Eight Beatitudes set out more the kind of person the disciple of Jesus ought to be. The Fourth Gospel sums up Jesus' teaching in *one* commandment, namely, to love one another, a vague and

mystifying 'commandment' if ever there was one, we might think.

But this commandment may well turn out to be much more demanding than the other expressions of the divine will. Earlier in the section about the Last Supper, Jesus had given his disciples an example of what total self-giving involves when he washed his disciples' feet and proposed this as how they should also relate to one another. Here he is telling us that it is through the way his disciples treat each

other that other people will recognise him. It is important that we discuss strategies for parish life, but perhaps we need to remember that at the heart of all our activities there has to be our own personal relationship with Jesus which reveals itself in our relationships with one another. This will surely be much more demanding than simply keeping the rules: it will involve the cross, but for John, the cross is the place where unconditional self-giving is revealed. *Where charity and love are, there is God.* ■

PARISH OF DROMORE

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Fifth Sunday of Easter

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 : Liturgy of the word - 9.30am

Tues & Fri: Mass - 9.30am

Weekday Mass times: All Saints

Thursday - 7.00pm

Ballela Anniversaries

in 19: Johnny Doyle

Jim & Lucy McAleenan

Sun 26: Kathleen Burns (Months Mind)

Dromore Anniversaries

Sun 19: Patricia Poland (Months Mind)

Jack & Jim Moreland

Esme Gilmore & Mary Beins

Sun 26: Jim & Sally Cunningham

Cecilia Mallon

Tom Mackin

James McGreevy

Offertory Promise Collection £688.09

Readers - Dromore

Sun 26: Eibhlin Scott

Blessing of the Graves

Will take place on the following:

Sun 2nd June at 2pm - Dromore

Sun 16th June at 2pm - Ballela

At both Churches there will be a collection, proceeds will be for cutting and maintenance at both cemeteries, please be as generous as you can.

Youth Ministry collection (19th May)

This provides support for the valuable work of engaging the youth in a range of activities and ministries across the Diocese, through initiatives like the John Paul II Awards, GIFT (Growing in Faith Together) and other faith-based youth activities. Fostering the faith of our youth is everyone's responsibility.

Tea and Chat

Will take place on Sun 19th May in Dromore hall after 11am mass. Everyone welcome.

Sunday 19th May 2019

Parish Draw Winners Week 8

£100	Soyrana Hamilton	097
£50	Louis Carr	179
£30	Josephine Montgomery	056
£20	Seamus Lavery	551

Ballela G.A.C Lotto

Sun 5th May : 5 16 17 20

£10 winner Chrissy Burns. Seller : Sean Burns
Jackpot £2000

Ballela Community Group

Internet Safety awareness

We are having a Free "internet Safety Awareness" night for Parents/Adults on **Wed 29th May** in Ballela School from 7-8pm, this is a cross community event. Everyone welcome.

Whist

Whist will take place on Sun 19th May in St Colman's hall at 8.30pm. Ladies to supply pastry: Frances Kattorah & Sally Doherty.

Do This in Memory (week 9)

Will take place on Sun 19th May in both churches. This is the final week and the children will be receiving their certificates.

Dromantine Family Fun Day

Will take place on Sun 9th June at 1.30pm with live country music & a host of guest country singers, funfair, Gun dog display, Vintage Tractors, Craft fair stalls and much more. Admission is £5 per car.

Family Bingo Night

St Colman's P.S. Dromore are having a Family Bingo night on Thurs 30th May at 7pm in St Colman's Hall, Dromore in aid of school funds. Everyone welcome.

Youth Volunteering at Knock Shrine

16 to 18 years old - Fri 28th to Sun 30th June or Fri 16th to Sun 18th August. Cost £60 each - covers transport, accommodation and food and a T/shirt. For information contact Frances at Diocesan Youth Office 02830833898 or email - dromored@btconnect.com for a registration form.