

THE WORD

Year C • Season Colour: Green • Psalter Week 3



THE GOOD SAMARITAN (LK 10: 25-37)

The Gospel begins with the burning question, “What must I do to inherit eternal life?” Religious debates about the law of Moses were common in everyday gatherings and Jesus is the focus of their questioning today.

The questioner is an expert in the law and answers Jesus with conviction: loving your neighbour as yourself is the obvious way to inherit eternal life. Thinking perhaps that this line of questioning was finished, Jesus has to deal with further probing with the infamous question of Luke’s Gospel, “Who is my neighbour?” Jesus never refuses an opportunity to tell a parable in order to make a point and it will be very clear by the end of the story who our neighbour really is.

The parable focuses on a stretch of road between Jericho to Jerusalem, almost 30 miles long, with most of it desert and isolated. The road was infamous for robberies and attacks on lone travellers and indeed the traveller in this parable is attacked and robbed of everything he has. Now the burning question a lot of people might have is why did the priest pass by the man and not help him? Scripture scholars would state that this priest was on his way to the temple, and the law forbade priests to touch dead bodies. If they did, then they had to undergo a rite of purification and would not be admitted to the temple until this was done. So he passes by and another temple worker, the Levite, is not far behind him. You can see how Jesus is using the parable to point towards the strictness of interpretation in the law of Moses and the lack of compassion that can often prevail.

However, when the Samaritan passes, he has another version of the law. Samaritans were regarded as dangerous by the Jews and Jesus places him into the heart of this lesson on neighbourliness. The Samaritan bandages the man’s wounds, pours cleansing wine and soothing oil on them and gives an inn-keeper two days’ pay to provide for the injured man. A powerful moment in Luke’s Gospel and a wonderful example of using the law of love, mercy and compassion for the good of others. ■

SAY

“Blessed Mother, Star of the Sea, extend your maternal protection to the people of the sea and guide them from the dangers of the sea to a secure port.”

(Cardinal Peter Turkson)

REFLECT

Sea Sunday is a global celebration of the enduring and vital work of the Mission to Seafarers. The theme this year is ‘Quietly saving lives,’ which focuses on the amazing work chaplains do each day with hundreds and thousands of seafarers around the world. We remember seafarers today and people who work on our oceans, sailing ships across the seas, often in difficult circumstances, bringing us the goods we need and the material for industry. Life at sea is often lonely, difficult and dangerous. Seafarers find themselves far away from home, often sailing to countries where they don’t speak the language. Pope Francis gives special consideration today for those who work to free the sea from pollution and also acknowledges those who live in unworthy work situations at sea, forced to endure several months in the confined space of a vessel.

Sea Sunday is a celebration and a day of reflection where the whole Church is called to recognise seafarers as their neighbours and their Global family.

For further information on the work of the Mission to Seafarers and Sea Sunday - www.missiontoseafarers.org and www.apostleshiofthesea.org.uk ■

DO

Organise a meeting of your parish pastoral council and reflect on how your faith community responds to the needs of people on the margins of society.



LEARN

“The first question which the priest and the Levite asked was: ‘If I stop to help this man, what will happen to me?’ But the good Samaritan reversed the question: ‘If I do not stop to help this man, what will happen to him?’”

(Martin Luther King Jr.)

PARISH OF DROMORE

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Fifteenth 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: Liturgy of the word - 9.30am

Tues & Fri: Mass 9.30am

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

Weekday Mass times: All Saints

Thursday: Mass 7.30pm

Ballela Anniversaries

Sun 14: Mary Meehan

Sun 21: None

Dromore Anniversaries

Sun 14: Joe Downey

John & Josephine Gracey

Fri 19: Agnes Carr

Sun 21: Philomena & Francie McCrory

Patricia McCann

Offertory Promise Collection £822.20

Readers - Dromore

Sun 21: Brendan McCann

St Vincent de Paul Annual Outing

Annual Senior Citizens outing to Carlingford will take place on Sunday 11th August 2019. Transport will leave from the Parochial Hall, Dromore at 1.15pm returning at about 8.00pm. Application Forms are available in the Porch of St Colman's church and in the Parochial Hall.

Parish Office Holidays

Please note that the parish office will be closed from: Tues 9th July until Fri 19th July. If you ring the parish office and need a Priest in an emergency please follow the instructions left on the answer machine.

Blood Transfusion Service

Next blood donation session will be held in Cathedral Church Hall, Dromore on Wed 24th July 2pm -4pm & 5.15pm - 8pm.

Sunday 14th July 2019

Parish Draw Winners Week 16

£100	Felix McConville	095
£50	Margaret Mulholland	234
£30	Brian O'Neill	183
£20	Jessica Doyle	349

Ballela G.A.C Lotto

Sun 30th June : 5 6 11 13

No winners

Seller: Sean Burns

Jackpot £2000

Ballela Community Group

We are organising a trip to the Ulster Aviation Society at the Maze on Sat 27th July where you can see an unique array of over 30 aircraft and observe restoration in progress in two historic WWII hangers. Bus leaves Ballela school at 10am and it is filling fast only a few seats left, there will be a charge for the bus for adults but children are free. Admission to exhibit is by donation. To book a place phone Patricia O'Rourke: 07712933854 or Paula Burns: 02840671772

Messy Children's Liturgy

Messy Children's Liturgy will be running together with SeaPatrick Parish this summer on the following dates:

July 23rd (Parish Centre, St Therese's, Banbridge)

July 30th (All Saints' School, Ballela)

August 13th (All Saints' School, Ballela)

August 20th (Parish Centre, St Therese's, Banbridge)

Messy Children's Liturgy is open to all ages including children, parents and grandparents. Join us to explore characters from the Old Testament through different

crafts, activities and fun. Each session will begin at 10am and finish around 11.30am with tea, coffee and chat. For more information see Jill or Michael

Tel: 02840671401.

Pastoral Visits in Hospitals

Parishioners with relatives in hospital should inform the priest of the parish if they wish a pastoral visit for their sick relative. This is important, as priests visiting hospitals no longer have access to patient's lists.

Do you need financial or practical assistance or even a friendly chat?

The St. Vincent De Paul Society is here to help. You can contact us through our helpline number: 07738838187