

THE WORD

Year C • Season Colour: Green • Psalter Week 4



ONE BRIDE FOR SEVEN BROTHERS?

(LUKE 20:27-38)

SAY

Jesus is the Resurrection and the Life

(see John 11:25)

There was no one official set of beliefs in the time of Jesus. There were certain important differences among the religious groups, for instance, the Pharisees and the Sadducees.

In today's Gospel reading, we have an example of such a teaching, namely, the resurrection of the dead. The opponents of Jesus use a belief which they themselves do not accept, to challenge Jesus and put him on the spot. Whose wife will a woman be at the resurrection if she has been the spouse of seven brothers in turn?

If this bizarre puzzle were restricted to just two or possibly three male siblings, it would be a genuine question. In a society which had little or any idea of a meaningful existence after death, a person's survival depended on descendants carrying on their name. This was seen, not as the family surname being passed down the generations, but as the person's existence being somehow prolonged because their name was remembered by later members of their family. This was the older Jewish belief, so the Sadducees could claim that their article of faith was more traditional than the later development which the Pharisees held.

Jesus' reply includes a reference to another disputed question, that of the existence of angels. He implies that life in the resurrection is of a different order to present existence, but it is God who is the giver of both. The point about angels may well be that since they have no possibility of producing offspring, there will be no need for marriage. His opponents began by appealing to Moses, the great figure in Torah thought: Jesus answers them by quoting from the same source. His reasoning may not seem convincing to us, but according to the rules of argument of the time, it is enough to answer the Sadducees. ■

DO

Look at tombstones or the obituary column in a newspaper. Renew your belief in the resurrection of the dead.



LEARN

If a man died childless, his brother was expected to marry his widow and raise up children for him: this is known as 'levirate marriage'.

Onan's sin was that he refused his obligation to raise up children for his deceased brother.

Belief in the resurrection of the dead comes late in the Hebrew scriptures: the Pharisees believed in it, the Sadducees did not.

REFLECT

A Jewish person recently remarked that this life is all that he has. Christians are familiar with the idea of resurrection: it is the core of our faith. The Easter proclamation is "The Lord is risen!" Baptism, the chief sacrament of initiation, means entering into the life of the risen Christ.

However, this belief in a future life can undermine our appreciation of this present one. Some people accept intolerable living conditions, hoping that they will be rewarded with some blessed state in the next. They may even be encouraged to adopt such a fatalistic attitude by powerful individuals who want to preserve their own position and power.

Another unfortunate consequence of looking to a future life beyond this one is that we may not accept that we have responsibilities for the state of our world: we may become literally otherworldly and focus on heaven rather than on earth.

Jesus tells his opponents that all people are in fact alive to God, the giver of all life. We might look at the way we live now, and try to reflect the kind of God we claim to believe in. ■

PARISH OF DROMORE

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Thirty Second 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

Weekday Mass times: All Saints

Thurs: 7pm

Ballela Anniversaries

Sun 10: Joe Magee

Sun 17: Margaret McAnarney & members of the
McCann family Co Cavan

Dromore Anniversaries

Sun 10: Geordie Gorman (Months Mind)

Sun 17: Patrick and Lucy Delaney

Offertory Promise Collection £1022 27

Readers – Dromore

Sun 17: Michaella Zigashane

Masses for those who died since Nov 2018

Will be held in both churches on Sun 24th Nov

Please inform the parish office of parishioners not buried in the parish to be included in this mass. The following is a list from our parish records of those who have died since Nov 2018: Kathleen McGregor, Mary Lavery, Philomena Walker, Patricia Poland, Kathleen Burns, Sean Darby, Catherine Timmons, Annette Prentice, Janina Ewa Szkaradek, Hugh Lavery, Martin McAteer, Peter Finegan & George Gorman.

Hospice Collection

Hospice collection will be taken up in both churches on Sun 17th November. Please be as generous as you can.

Do This In Memory

Will take place in both churches on Sun 17th Nov.

Whist Will be held in St Colman's hall Dromore on Sun 17th Nov at 8.30pm. Ladies to supply pastry: Rosaleen Mulholland & Dolores Downey.

Tea and Chat

There will be Tea and Chat in St Colman's hall on Sun 17th of November after mass. Everyone welcome.

Sunday 10th Nov 2019

Parish Draw Winners Week 33

£100	Jackie Delaney	120
£50	Dominic Downey	155
£30	Bernadette Jenkins	096
£20	Attracta Herron	244

Ballela G.A.C Lotto

Sun 3rd Nov: 6 14 18 20

No £10 winner's

Seller: Sean Burns Jackpot £2000

Festive Flower Arranging

Ballela Community group are having an evening of Festive Flower arranging on **Wed 27th Nov at 7.30pm** in Ballela school. Admission is £5 which includes mulled wine, shortbread and mince pies and also a free ticket for the raffle for a flower arrangement. Arrangements will be made by Donna Morgan and there will be lots of ideas for everyone to decorate their home this Christmas.

St Colman's P.S Dromore 50th Celebration

The Governors, staff and pupils of St. Colman's P.S. Dromore, wish to invite past pupils, parents, staff and the wider community to our 50th Anniversary Celebration, **Wednesday 20th November at 6.00pm - 7.30pm**, in St. Colman's Primary School, Dromore.

Night of Music

The Irish Pilgrimage Trust is having a night of music in St Therese's Church Banbridge on **Sun 8th December at 7.30pm**. Singers are Malachi Cush, Liam Lawton & Karl McGuckin with special guests Fiona Flynn & Mary Queen of Peace Junior Choir. Tickets are £20 and can be purchased at Banbridge Parish office, Newry Parish office or by ringing 07855 802 011.

Financial Report

The Financial report for the last two years is now available at the back of the Church for you to take home with you, there is one copy for each household.

Songs of Praise

Dromore Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church Rampart Street Dromore, invites you to join them for Songs of Praise on **Sun 17th November at 3.00pm**.

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