



Imagine the disciples' panic. They are in the boat all by themselves when a storm begins to rage. It's so bad the boat is in danger of sinking. They are full of fear. All seems lost... and then they see Jesus walking towards them, on the water.

Eager as ever, Peter asks Jesus if he, too, can walk on the water, and Jesus invites him to come to him. Peter climbs out of the boat, but the wind rises, and he begins to sink. Even Peter, the most important figure in the early church, has a faith that falters in the midst of the storm.

Jesus saves him, and castigates him for his weak faith. As soon as they are back in the boat, the storm eases, the winds calm, and the awestruck disciples acknowledge Jesus as the Son of God.

The message is clear: the boat represents the Church, and the disciples represent all believers, while the storm represents the difficulties and doubts the Church is facing. The boat will face many storms, but if the disciples make sure to recognise Jesus and trust in him, they will always be safe. Trust in God and an adventurous faith have the power to overcome doubting fear. ■

REFLECT

One of the classic songs of the last half century is 'Bridge over Troubled Water'. At the time he wrote it, Paul Simon was influenced by Gospel music, and this influence comes across in the chorus of the song:

When you're weary, feeling small
When tears are in your eyes
I will dry them all
I'm on your side
Oh, when times get rough
And friends just can't be found
Like a bridge over troubled water
I will lay me down...

The words speak of offering comfort, solace, help, refuge. It is the assurance Jesus offers his frightened followers in today's Gospel.

It's what he offers us in our distress and at all times. Jesus is our bridge over troubled water. It's easy to trust in Jesus when life is good and all is plain sailing. Like Peter, we can even begin to think we can walk on water. Nothing can sink us.

Then, suddenly or over time, the skies darken and storm winds blow in. Maybe a relationship crumbles or our health fails, or financial woes overwhelm us, or scandal envelops us, and, like Peter, we founder. We begin to sink. Our faith is tested. We feel lost and frightened and afraid. But we are not alone. Jesus is with us in every storm in which we find ourselves. He never abandons us. Trust in him, call out to him, as Peter does, and we will be safe. ■

SAY

**"Lord, I believe;
help my unbelief."**

DO

As Christians, we know that Jesus is with us in the midst of any storm in which we find ourselves. But he is more than with us; he calls on us to face that storm. To have courage. To trust. To be not afraid. Think of the challenges and difficulties you and your loved ones are facing at this time. Ask the Lord's help in facing them.



PRAY

Pray for those who feel as if they are caught in a storm – those who are ill, or depressed, or suicidal, or bullied, or suffer from discrimination or intimidation – that they may experience Jesus's soothing, calming, saving presence with them.

LEARN

God is with us always, in good times and bad.

It is okay to experience doubts and difficulties so long as we continue to trust in God.

PARISH OF DROMORE

Rev Feidhlimidh Magennis Tel: 07702665123

Parish website: www.stcolmans.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/stcolmans

St Vincent de Paul Helpline: 07738838187

Rev Dr Frank Rice, Deacon - Mobile: 07746-842977

Parochial House Dromore - Tel: 02892-692218

Parish email address: office@stcolmans.org

Diocesan Safeguarding Officer: Patricia Carville 07789 917741

Nineteenth Sunday in ordinary Time

Sunday Mass Times

St Colman's Dromore

Sunday, 11.00 am

Sunday Mass will continue to be broadcast live on our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/stcolmans)

All Saints, Ballela

Sunday, 9.45 am

Weekday masses

Mon, Tues and Fri: 9.30 am (St Colman's)

Thurs: 7.00 pm (All Saints)

Saturday: 10.00 am (St Colman's) Feast of The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Ballela Anniversaries

Sun 9: Hugh Lavery

Bernard, Mary, Frank and Barney McAnarney
Andy & Theresa McGivern

Sun 16: None

Dromore Anniversaries

Sun 9: Geraldine Mulholland

Sun 16: Tom Aherne (Months Mind)

Offertory promise collection £849.00

Readers Dromore

Sun 9: Katie Rice

Confirmation

You are asked to pray for the P7 children of St Colman's PS, Dromore. They have concluded their time at the school but before they commence their new school year, we will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday 22nd August at 4.00 pm in St Colman's Church, Dromore. There are 20 children to be confirmed and, in accordance with social distancing requirements, only the children and their sponsor and immediate family will be permitted to attend and occupy one pew. So while not able to be present, the rest of the parish is invited to pray for them on this important day.

Thanksgiving Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine

4th September 2020. £499.00 per person sharing. Price includes return bus transfer to Knock, 3 nights' in 4 star Park Hotel with Full Board. All entertainment and excursions. Wheelchair accessible rooms.

Single supplement £90.00. Contact Patricia on 01268 762 278 or 07740 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com

9th Aug 2020

Dromore parish - Church guidelines

From Monday 10th August, we ask all adults and young people to wear face masks in church. There will be masks available at the door for those who arrive without one. We will be maintaining our social distancing practices. This is an ADDED measure to protect others. Please be a leader of good practice in church and in our community.

- Parishioners are asked to share responsibility for maintaining a social distance of **2 metres**
- As the churches are indoor spaces, there will be a limit on the numbers permitted to attend any mass.
- The Sunday Obligation continues to be suspended and you are invited to attend on another day of the week: **two additional masses** have been added.
- Parishioners are asked to follow **guidance on notices** and from **ushers** regarding seating, directions of travel and use of facilities.
- Parishioners are asked to use the **hand sanitisers** on entry to the churches.
- Parishioners are asked to wear **face masks** in the churches.
- **Bulletins and missalettes** cannot be reused so please bring your copies home or place in bin at front door.
- The **collection** basket will **not** be passed around the church. Please deposit envelopes in box in church porch.

The above arrangements will apply to all celebrations (masses, baptisms, funerals, etc).

Youth 2000 Summer festival

The annual Youth 2000 Summer Festival is Ireland's largest Catholic Youth event, but this year, for the first time, it will be streamed live on the **14th-16th of August**.

Hear talks and workshops from some of the best Catholic speakers. Youth 2000 Ireland's motto is 'Youth leading Youth to the Heart of the Church' and we do this by leading Eucharistic-centred festivals, retreats and prayer meetings throughout the country.

Register FREE at www.youth2000.ie/summerfestival2020

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Face coverings indoors

From 10 August it will be mandatory to wear a face covering in a shop or shopping centre, or any indoor public space where it is not possible to maintain social distancing.

Remember, maintaining social distancing also depends on the behaviour of other people in the shared space. There are circumstances where it is not possible to wear a face covering, for example, where you are eating or drinking in a restaurant, pub or café, or where you are exercising in a gym.

In these circumstances it is acceptable not to use a face covering, but you should replace it as soon as practicable afterwards and maintain social distancing of at least 2 meters if you are in an enclosed space undertaking physical exercise.

Some circumstances make it difficult for some people to wear face coverings, for example:

- physical illness
- where it is distressing for someone to cover their face
- where someone is accompanying a person who relies on lip reading to communicate

It is important that we all respect one another and remember that the reasons for not wearing a face covering may not always be visible.

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Feasts of the Week

Monday – St Laurence, Deacon

Laurence was one of the seven deacons of the Church of Rome and was executed on 10th August 258, four days after Sixtus II and his companions. By now, few of the facts of his life are known for certain: he was probably a Spaniard from Toledo.

A basilica was built over Laurence's tomb fifty years after his death, by the Emperor Constantine, and the anniversary of his martyrdom was kept as a solemn feast – with considerably more solemnity than that of Pope Sixtus II (we do not know why). By the sixth century, it was one of the most important feasts throughout much of western Christendom. His name occurs (with Sixtus's) in the Roman Canon of the Mass.

Tuesday – St Clare

She was born at Assisi and came under the influence of Saint Francis. She left home at the age of 18 and, under Francis's guidance, began a community that grew to become the order of the Poor Clares (she was later joined both by her sister and by her widowed mother). In its radical attachment to poverty the Rule of the order was much more severe than that of any other order of nuns. In 1215 Clare obtained from the Pope the privilege of owning nothing, so that the nuns of the order were to be sustained by alms and nothing else. Such a rule was (like the Franciscan rule) both a challenge to established structures and a risk to those who followed it, and successive Popes tried to modify it. In 1247 Pope Innocent IV promulgated a new Rule that allowed the ownership of communal property: Clare rewrote it. A later attempt at mitigation in 1263 partly succeeded (perhaps because Clare was dead by then): some communities followed the old, strict rule and some followed the new. Clare was a noted contemplative and a caring mother to her nuns. She died at Assisi in 1253.

In our Diocese we pray for the Sisters of St Clare who have served in several schools, including Sacred Heart Grammar School, Newry.

Friday - Father Maximilian Kolbe

He was born on 8 January 1894 in occupied Poland: he joined the Franciscans in Lwów in 1910, and was ordained eight years later, as his country became free and independent for the first time in over 120 years.

He believed that the world was passing through a time of intense spiritual crisis, and that Christians must fight for the world's salvation with all the means of modern communication. He founded a newspaper, and a sodality called the Knights of Mary Immaculate, which spread widely both in Poland and abroad.

In 1927 he founded a community, a "city of Mary," at Teresin: centred round the Franciscan friary, it attracted many lay people, and became self-supporting, publishing many periodicals and running its own radio station. In 1930 he went to Japan, studied Buddhism and Shintoism, and through the Japanese edition of his newspaper spread the Christian message in a way that was in harmony with Japanese culture. In Nagasaki, he set up a "Garden of the Immaculate," which survived the atomic bomb. He also travelled to Malabar and to Moscow, but was recalled to Poland in 1936 for reasons of health. When the Germans invaded in 1939, the community at Teresin sheltered thousands of refugees, most of them Jews. In 1941 he was arrested and sent to the concentration camp at Auschwitz, where he helped and succoured the inmates. In August of that year a prisoner escaped, and in reprisal the authorities were choosing ten people to die by starvation. One of the men had a family, and Maximilian Kolbe offered to take his place. The offer was accepted, and he spent his last days comforting his fellow prisoners.

The man he saved was present at his canonization.

Saturday – The Feast of the Assumption

The commemoration of the death of the Blessed Virgin Mary (the Dormition, or falling asleep, as it was known in the East) is known as the Assumption because of the tradition that her body did not decay but that she was raised up, body and soul, into heaven. This tradition was already present in the sixth century; by the beginning of the twentieth century it was widespread; and after consulting the views of bishops all over the world, the Pope formally and infallibly declared the doctrine of the Assumption to be part of the authentic and ancient doctrine of the universal Church.