

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

First Sunday of Advent

Sunday Mass Times

St Colman's Dromore **All Saints, Ballela**
Sunday, 11.00 am Sunday, 9.45 am
Sunday Masses are broadcast live on Facebook
(www.facebook.com/stcolmans)

Weekday masses

There will be no public masses this week as our contribution to the current lockdown.

Ballela Anniversaries

Sun 29: None

Sun 6: None

Dromore Anniversaries

Sun 29: Felix McConville(Months Mind)
Ambrose McConville(Months Mind)
Daniel Donaldson & Armelle Davenport

Sun 6: James Murray

Offertory promise collection £754.00

SVP alternative "Giving Tree"

This year the committee are NOT having a "Giving Tree". Instead parishioners are encouraged to donate on line. You can go to :
www.svp.ie/dromoreconferencedownappeal
and make a donation.

St Vincent de Paul Annual Church door Collection on 13th December

While the churches are closed, donations can be left in the parochial house using the envelopes or return envelopes to the church on **Sunday 13th Dec.**

ACCORD pre-marriage courses and counselling

ACCORD online Marriage Preparation programmes which can be booked at www.accord.ie in January to March 2021. ACCORD Newry continues to offer 'in person' Couples Relationships counselling. Contact Moira O'Hare at Accord (07918 170686) for information (office hours: Mon-Wed 5.00 – 8.30 pm and Thurs 5.00 – 7.30 pm)

29th Nov 2020

Circuit-breaker Lockdown

Starting **Friday 27th November** for two weeks, the churches will be **closed for public worship** (including masses and baptisms). Masses will be said privately and broadcast on Sundays via Facebook. Parish halls will also be closed, but the parish office will be operational (but no visitors please!).

We urge all parishioners to follow the guidance fully and stay at home during the lockdown – this is the single most important action we can all take. There should be no household gatherings, other than those involved in support bubbles. You should work from home if at all possible, and only leave for essential purposes such as education, healthcare, to care for others or outdoor exercise.

Remember a loved one with an Engraved Leaf on the Southern Area Hospice Memory Tree

The Memory Tree is located in the Southern Area Hospice Memory Garden and provides a beautiful and meaningful way to remember a loved one whilst also helping the Hospice to continue delivering specialist palliative care to patients and support to their families. Call 028 3026 7711 for details or visit <https://www.southernareahospiceservices.org/memory-tree>

Advent candles

Candles are lit to symbolise the light of God coming into the world through the birth of Christ. On the first, second and fourth Sundays of Advent a purple candle is lit. The colour purple as used during the period of Lent, reminds us to prepare a welcome for Jesus during the Advent season. On the third Sunday of Advent a pink candle is lit. Pink is the colour of Joy to remind us that we should be ready to welcome Christ at Christmas. On Christmas Eve the white candle is lit to celebrate the Birth of Christ – The light of the World.

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Feasts of the Week

Monday - St Andrew the Apostle

He was born in Bethsaida, in Galilee, and worked as a fisherman. He may have been a disciple of St John the Baptist. He became one of the first to follow Jesus and introduced his brother, Simon Peter, to him. As one of the twelve Apostles he was widely venerated in ancient times, and became patron saint of Scotland because according to legend some of his bones were brought there and buried at the place where the town of St Andrew's now stands.

Thursday - St Francis Xavier (1506 - 1552)

He was born in the Basque country of Spain in 1506. He met Ignatius Loyola when he was a student in Paris, and he was ordained priest in 1537. In 1541 the Pope sent him as part of a mission to India, and he spent the rest of his life in the East, preaching the Gospel in Goa and Malacca. He made many converts and fought against the exploitation of the native population by the Europeans. He spent two years on a successful mission to Japan, laying the foundations of many Christian communities; and in 1552, after entering China secretly to preach the Gospel there, he died of fever and exhaustion on the Chinese island of Shangchwan.

Friday - Saint John Damascene, priest, Doctor

He was born of a Christian family in Damascus in the second half of the seventh century, where his father was a high official under the Umayyad caliph; a post which he inherited. When the Iconoclast movement (seeking to prohibit the veneration of icons) gained acceptance in the Byzantine court, John, being under Muslim rather than Byzantine rule, was able to write effective treatises attacking Iconoclasm and attacking the emperor for supporting it. At about this time he retired to the monastery of Saint Sabas near Jerusalem, where he became a monk and was ordained. He died in the middle of the eighth century.

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