



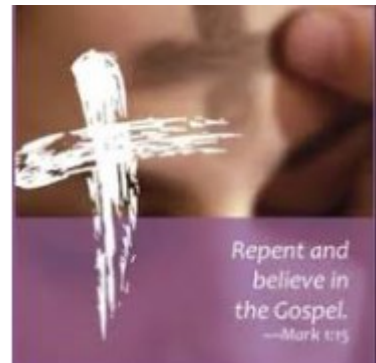
# Parish News

## Sunday 20th March

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### *It may bear fruit next year*

The scene presented here is one in which Jesus challenges the traditional view that if something bad happens to you then it must be some form of punishment from God. Jesus rejects this idea and instead tells his listeners that any experience of hardship should be a reminder to us of the need to repent. This idea is then put beside the image of God as the gardener who wants to give his plants all the help they need to mature and bear fruit. This gospel also gets to the heart of what Lent is all about. True repentance is not about being obsessed with sin - it is about recognising where God is at work in our lives and responding to him.



During Lent the themes of repentance and reconciliation are very much part of the liturgy. These two themes are intimately intertwined: repentance is possible because God is offering us reconciliation, and being reconciled with God involves the commitment to a new style of life and building the new creation made available in Christ. The call to repent is the call to turn over a new leaf, to begin afresh; reconciliation is the fruit of this turning around and links the personal new beginning with the work of the whole body of Christ to establish the kingdom of peace and love.

What is brought out in today's gospel is that the possibility of repentance is continually offered to us. But the actual act of turning is a painful process of evaluating our lifestyle, actions, and attitudes - a process far more painful than just the trip to the confessional.

The task is to locate the personal act of turning within the whole process of reconciliation inaugurated by Christ who reconciled the world to God through his suffering and death. Carrying on this process is the task of the whole body of Christians, our 'ministry of reconciliation' (cf 2 Cor 5:18).



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### **The Year of Prayer for Vocations**

For those whom God is calling to serve Him in priesthood or religious life, that they will go courageously to the people to whom God sends them, preaching the message of God's patient and compassionate mercy.

On Friday 25 March, the Feast of the Annunciation, there will be a celebration of Mary's "Yes" to the Lord, in St Eugene's Cathedral, Derry, beginning with Evening Prayer at 7pm, Mass (celebrated by Bishop McKeown) at 7:30pm, followed by the Rosary and Night Prayer.

All are welcome to attend, or to join the celebrations online via the Cathedral webcam.

**SYNOD 2021/2023: Parish Listening Sessions:** will take place in the parish hall on Saturday 26th March and Saturday 2nd April between 10:30 and 11:30am. The 1st session is for the Readers of the parish. The 2nd session on Saturday 2nd April is a general invitation to everyone in our parish community.

The focus of the sessions will be on how we can improve and grow as a parish community. If you would like to participate in the second session please email [wpsynod2123@gmail.com](mailto:wpsynod2123@gmail.com) with your contact details.

Your voice is important. We would also encourage everyone to complete our online synod questionnaire to have your voice heard [online synod questionnaire](#)

**Lenten Prayer Resource** - The Stations of the Cross - Fr Sean in conjunction with Shalom World. Check out this excellent resource and add it to your lenten / daily prayer life. [The Stations of the Cross.](#)

**Additional Lenten Mass** each weekday morning at 7:15am in St Columb's Church, Chapel Road

**Trocaire Boxes** are available at the back of our churches

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**NO GREATER LOVE** – Five-week ‘zoom’ programme, each session lasting one hour, with a time for prayer, sharing and reflection. This programme is considered a great way to prepare our hearts and minds for the holiest of seasons in the Church calendar. In a series of short films shot on location in the Holy land, No Greater Love is a biblical pilgrimage, taking us through the key events of Christ’s passion and revealing His amazing love for us. Best-selling author, Edward Sri, will guide us through the final hours of Christ’s life. You will walk step by step with Jesus through the Scriptures from the Garden of Gethsemane to Mount Calvary. Hosted by the Living Church Office in Down & Connor diocese, there are six ‘starting’ options to choose from: Tuesday 8 March at 7:30pm, Wednesday 9 March at 7:30pm, Thursday 10 March at 11.00am or 7.00pm, Monday 14 March at 11.00am or 7.00pm. Please consider participating! To book your place please click on the link:

[No Greater Love](#)

**Lectio Divina:** Praying with the Scriptures this Lent - Over the next four Mondays, Monday 7th, 14th, 21st, and 28th March, following the 11am Mass in St Joseph’s, Galliagh, you are invited to a one-hour time of Prayer with the Scriptures in the St Pio Centre, Galliagh, (11:45am-12:45pm approx). The focus will be on the Gospel for each of the upcoming Sundays of Lent. The Gospel reading and instructions will be provided for each session. All are most welcome!

**STORIES OF HOPE:** You are invited to Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Steelstown, Derry on four Tuesdays of Lent at 7pm to listen to local people share their personal journeys of faith:

Tuesday 8 March Fr Isaac and Mikhail Kennedy

Tuesday 15 March Ciara Mc Alister and Jenny Mc Grath

Tuesday 22 March Rev. Canon Katie Mc Ateer

Tuesday 29 March Paul O’Hea

Each evening there will be music and tea/ coffee afterwards. All are welcome.

### **Diocesan vacancies**

**Parish Office Manager** 35 hours per week

Location Parish of Templemore: St Eugene’s Cathedral

closing date 22.03.2022

**Sacristan & Caretaker** 16 hours per week Ardmore Parish, Derry

closing date 22.03.2022

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### Our Parish Mass Schedule

#### Weekday schedule Monday to Friday

09.15am Immaculate Conception  
7:15am (Lent) & 10:00am St Columb's,  
11:00am St Oliver Plunkett  
11:00am St Mary's Oratory (**Wednesday only**)  
07:30pm St Columb's

#### Saturday Morning

10:00am St Columb's  
11:00am Immaculate Conception

#### Weekend schedule Vigils

06:00pm Immaculate Conception  
06:00pm St Oliver Plunkett  
07:00pm St Columb's  
08:00pm Immaculate Conception

#### Morning (Sunday)

09:30am Immaculate Conception  
10:00am St Columb's  
11:15am St Oliver Plunkett  
12 noon Immaculate Conception

#### Evening (Sunday)

06:00pm St Columb's

**NB!** Mass in St Mary's Oratory, Newbuildings on Wednesday at 11:00am

The [full schedule](#) is available on the parish website

*All Liturgies are streamed on [www.youtube.com/watersideparish](http://www.youtube.com/watersideparish)*

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### Rest in Peace

#### Deaths:

Clare Quinn, Temple Road, Strathfoyle

#### Anniversaries:

Sr Mary Stanislaus Carey, Patrick and Anne Deehan, Eamon McDaid, Monica Wilton, Lil McLaughlin, Matt Morrison, Susan Coyle, Edmund McIntyre, Mary Deeney, Philomena Carlin, May McCready, Sarah O'Kane, Catherine and David McCarter, Mary Murphy, Johnny Gallagher

### A Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things,

and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,

come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.



### Contact Details

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Twitter: [@WatersideParish](https://twitter.com/WatersideParish)