

"Neither do I condemn you,"

This Sunday we break with the gospel of Luke and take a story from the gospel of John. It has been selected because it deals with the theme of

forgiveness. As with last Sunday's gospel, so too here we see two different attitudes to the mercy of God. This time, however, it is not in a parable but in a real incident in which those with a narrow view of the mercy of God wish to use the misery of this woman as an opportunity for point scoring against Jesus. For the Pharisees, the scriptures are being read with a view to making



them powerful as judges and experts in the Law. For Jesus, the scriptures are to be read as a way to understand the overwhelming mercy of God. In highlighting their hypocrisy, Jesus calls them to repentance. In highlighting God's love for her, he calls the woman to a new life.

Reflection

'No need to recall the past' is the jubilant cry from the prophet in the first reading as he tells the people to look around them and discover that God is as concerned with saving them as he was with saving their ancestors in Egypt. Paul too, from his prison cell, is able to speak words that resound with hope and this is because through Jesus he has become aware of the presence of God with him in all the circumstances of his life. He can also say, 'I forget the past because he knows that each new day offers an opportunity to come to know the love of God, a love which always triumphs over suffering and death. The woman is the gospel also discovers that she can leave the past behind because the encounter with Christ has brought her to a new day. As we draw close to Holy Week, we are invited to recognise that in the saving mystery of Easter God is always doing a new thing.



Confirmations - we would like to extend congratulations to the children of the parish who received the sacrament of confirmation this weekend.

WELCOMING HOST FAMILIES WANTED for International Students, term time or for the month of July. Please call 0874088282 for further information.

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.

Offertory Envelopes: New offertory envelopes come into effect next weekend Gift Aid envelopes will be delivered, help needed to deliver. Pink envelopes available at church doors Thank you for your ongoing support over the past year

Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem - annual Spring Mass celebrations in Derry - Over the weekend of Saturday 2nd April and Sunday 3rd April 2022, Knights and Dames from this prestigious Catholic Order will travel from all over Ireland to Derry City They will be present at 12.30pm Mass on Sunday afternoon in St Eugene's Cathedral. They will attend also a special Mass celebration on Saturday afternoon at 4.30pm in St. Columb's Church, Waterside. Both events are open to the public and parishioners from the Diocese are invited to attend in person or join virtually, as the masses will be live-streamed on the Cathedral and Parish websites.

C.A.L.M.S. (Community Action for Locally Managing Stress) Mental Health Support-Line is offering the following: providing support with anxiety, panic, insomnia, low mood, depression and stress; a listening ear; and relaxation/breathing techniques. The service is available via telephone or zoom free of charge. Tel 079 0704 0568 or 028 71268698 Monday to Friday 10.00 am to 5.00 pm or leave a message out of hours. Visit www.calmsstresscentre.org.



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

12:30pm St Columb's

Evening (Sunday) 06:00pm St Columb's

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

The <u>full schedule</u> is available on the parish website

All Liturgies are streamed on www.youtube.com/watersideparish



Rest in Peace

Deaths:

Mary Ellen McElhinney, Daleview, Jim Doherty, Bentley Terrace

Anniversaries:

William Ball, Kathleen Arbuckle, Jim McGill, John Callan, Celine Deehan, Eddie Henry, Shane Melarkey, Sharon Murphy, Patsy Ferry, Gerard and Mary Lynch, Danny Doherty

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

Parish Office 028-7134 2303 secretary@watersideparish.net 028-7134 2303 secretary@watersideparish.net 028-7134 2303 secretary@watersideparish.net 028-7134 2303 sean.odonnell@derrydiocese.org 028-7134 2303 Roni@watersideparish.net

Website: www.waterside parish.net Facebook: @watersidestrathfoyle

Twitter: @WatersideParish