



## **PARISHES OF GLENDELMOTT & STRATHFOYLE**

*PARISH BULLETIN*  
18<sup>th</sup> December 2022

### **JOSEPH AN EXAMPLE OF GOODNESS**

Over the last few weekends, as part of our preparation to celebrate the coming of Jesus Christ into the world and into our lives, we have been presented with some great biblical figures who were of central importance in the unfolding of God's plan for humanity. We had readings from the prophet Isaiah, we had John the Baptist and the Virgin Mary. Today we are presented with Joseph. He is presented to us as a model of faith, a model of gentleness and compassion.

Joseph was called upon to help Mary to bring Jesus into the world and to provide a home for him. We are called upon to do exactly the same thing. We are invited to listen to God's word and put that word into action, allowing Jesus to become God-with-us.

Joseph provides us with a powerful example of goodness, compassion, trust and deep faith. As we count down the final days to the great feast of Christmas, may Joseph, who made a home for Jesus, help us to make space for Jesus in our hearts, our lives and our home so that we can help others by our example to do the same.

**Communion to the housebound** – If anyone is housebound and would like to receive the sacraments for Christmas please contact the parish office on Monday or Tuesday during office hours (10.30am -1 .pm and 2pm -4pm)

**50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Annie's Bar murders** – To mark the occasion a 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary Mass will be celebrated in **St Columb's Church, Chapel Road on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> at 6pm.** Followed by wreath laying at Strabane Old Rd at 7pm and Followed by Relatives for Justice Quilt exhibition and walking in their shoes exhibition in An Chroi Community hub at 7.15pm All very welcome

**Hospital Mass** – Beginning on Christmas Eve the Hospital Mass will return to the hospital. **It will be celebrated at 8pm.** This means that this is the last weekend for the 8pm Mass in Church of the Immaculate Conception.

## Christmas Eve and Day Masses

<b>Vigil Masses</b>	<b>Church of Immaculate Conception</b>	<b>6pm</b>
	<b>St Oliver Plunkett, Strathfoyle</b>	<b>6pm</b>
	<b>St Columb's Chapel Road</b>	<b>8pm</b>
	<b>Altnagelvin Hospital</b>	<b>8pm</b>
<b>Morning Masses</b>	<b>St Mary's Oratory, Newbuildings</b>	<b>9.15am</b>
	<b>St Columb's Chapel Road</b>	<b>10am</b>
	<b>Immaculate Conception</b>	<b>10.15am</b>
	<b>St Oliver Plunkett, Strathfoyle</b>	<b>11.15am</b>
	<b>Immaculate Conception</b>	<b>12.15pm</b>
	<b>St Columb's, Chapel Road</b>	<b>12.30pm</b>

### PLEASE NOTE NO MASS ON CHRISTMAS EVENING

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**Masses from Monday 26<sup>th</sup> – Friday 30<sup>th</sup> - Mass only in St  
Columb's Church each day at 11am and 7.30pm**

**Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> December - Mass in St Columb's Church 4.30pm  
followed by Adoration until midnight**

**St Oliver Plunkett, Strathfoyle 6pm**  
**Immaculate Conception Church 6pm**

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**Confession – After morning Masses in all churches each day this week**  
**St Columb's Church Friday 5 – 6 (During Adoration)**  
**Christmas Eve 2 – 3pm**

**CHRISTMAS COLLECTION WILL BE TAKEN UP AT ALL MASS NEXT WEEKEND**

**Collections for last week: Glendermott: £3,236.00 Strathfoyle: £505.00**

**We welcome into God's family – Jesse Alex Yaw Daniels, Laganvale Manor,  
Belfast**

**Christmas Hamper Appeal 2022 – The parish Pope John Paul II Award Group  
would like to appeal for donations for their Christmas Hampers. Please drop  
donations into any of the Sacristies or the Parish Office in Chapel Road**

**Adoration** – Church of the Immaculate Conception on every **Thursday** after 9:15am mass until 8.00pm, Chapel Road on **Fridays** from 1.00pm until evening mass, and Strathfoyle after 11.00am mass on Mondays.

**St Oliver Plunkett's Strathfoyle** – We are recruiting new eucharistic ministers and readers to our team for Saturday, Sunday and Weekday masses. If you'd like to become involved, there will be an information/sign-up sheet at the back of the Chapel until the 6th January. For more information, please feel free to speak to Catriona Coyle after Saturday night mass or Róisín Coyle after Sunday morning mass or get in touch with any of the priests or Michael in the Sacristy who can pass your name on to us. Thank you in advance for your support and involvement.

**Anniversaries – Hugh Quigley, Harry Francis, James Stone, Pat Boyle, Moira Callan, John Gillespie, Bridie McConnell, Noel Elliott, Margaret Holmes, Tillie Killen, Bobby O'Donnell, Isaac Duddy, Gary Quigg, Eddie Watson, Joseph Vaughan, Jim Monaghan, Kieran Houston, Maureen Doherty**

*Grant them, O Lord, we pray, and all who sleep in Christ, a place of refreshment, light and peace.*

**“Lourdes 2023:** The Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage, led by Bishop Donal McKeown, will go direct from City of Derry Airport. 3rd to 7th July, four nights full board in the Hotel Agena: £745 sharing, £35 single supplement. Travel insurance up to age 79-£39. Age 80 to 94-£78. (Pilgrims may wish to use their own insurance). Further details and payment arrangements will be available in the new year via the Lourdes Pilgrimage Office, 164 Bishop Street, Derry, [derrypilgrim@outlook.com](mailto:derrypilgrim@outlook.com), tel 02871 260 293

**Christmas Lights of Love ceremony:** Foyle Hospice have announced that a free park-and-ride service will be available for their Christmas Lights of Love ceremony this year. The Foyle Hospice Lights of Love service, lighting up the Christmas tree in memory of loved ones who have died, will take place this year on 20th December at 7pm. Foyle Hospice are asking attendants to park at Thornhill College and the Reddin's shuttle bus will start transporting people from there at 6.30pm to the Hospice grounds. The shuttle bus will return you to your cars after the service and shuttles will end at 8:30pm

**Vocations** – The child to be born will be called Emmanuel, a name that means “God-with-us.” We pray for those called to the priesthood and religious life in their mission to proclaim the Good News of God’s love and of the presence of God in and with His people.

**Mary's Meals – Double the Love** – all donations made to Mary's Meals until 31<sup>st</sup> January 2023 will be doubled by a group of generous supporters, up to £1.5million. For more information, visit [www.marysmeals.org.uk](http://www.marysmeals.org.uk) or contact Caoimhe McCann on 07394564065.

**Pilgrimage to San Giovanni & Rome** – Bishop McKeown will lead a pilgrimage to San Giovanni & Rome from 25<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023. Price is £879pps (Single room supplement £150). For more details, email [info@marian.ie](mailto:info@marian.ie) or call Belfast on (028) 956 80005 or Dublin on (01) 878 8159.

**Walk in the footsteps of the Holy Family this Christmas: *An Irish Pilgrimage Guide to the Holy Land*** - a new book by Michael Kelly, Editor of *The Irish Catholic* newspaper which explores the places associated with the life of Christ. It is available now from all good bookshops, [www.columbabooks.com](http://www.columbabooks.com)

**Twelve Days of Christmas** – At Christmas we celebrate the gift of Jesus, our hope and peace, Jesus, the light of the world You are invited to spend time with scripture, reflection and prayer. A Christmas prayer resource is available to download on the Diocese of Derry website for private prayer at the church or home, to share with a neighbour who may have no online access or for a time to gather each day with your family. The booklet can be downloaded at: <https://www.derrydiocese.org/news/12-days-of-christmas-2022>

**Children in Crossfire** – Advent Appeal 2022. This year the theme is “Clean Water saves lives”. Donation Packs are available in the porches of the churches this weekend.

**REFLECTION;** *“To walk in the Lord’s way is to accept God’s will in our life  
To understand the lord’s ways is a lifelong project  
It is not wrong to question God’s ways but we are not God  
Blessed be God forever!”*

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