



PARISHES OF GLENDELMOTT & STRATHFOYLE

Parish Bulletin

8th January 2023

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

In the cycle of the Churches year we have now quickly moved on from the birth of the Divine Child to Jesus as an adult and presenting

himself to John the Baptist for Baptism at the river Jordan.

This is a very special and significant event in the life of Jesus. He now leaves the obscurity of Nazareth to begin a new life in the public gaze.

In today's Gospel we have St Matthew's account of Jesus's baptism. In this Gospel, John is seen to recognise Jesus as one who is greater than himself – yet Matthew tells us later that John, whilst in prison, wonders if Jesus is the promised Messiah. For St Matthew writing to the young church is making an important declaration of faith in Jesus: in him all prophecy is complete and a new age begins. The beginning of the public ministry of Jesus is also the end of a long time of waiting – Jesus' baptism fulfils the saving plan of God.

Jesus did not need to be baptised but in doing so he gives us the sacrament of Baptism. In Baptism we are called by name and brought into a personal relationship with Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Baptism is the first step on a long road of living the gospel.

Congratulations – This week end we extend our congratulations to Stephen Ward on receiving Ordination to Diaconate. We remember him in prayer and wish him well in the many years ahead.

Deaths: We extend our sympathy and prayers to the families of *Iris Storey*, Chapel Road; *Jackie Dalton*, Carnhill; *Joyce Walker*, Alderbrook, Eglinton

Anniversaries: *Maudie McCay, Eddie Phillips, Bernadette Begley, Liam Bradley, Patsy Kelly, John & Bella Callan, George Flynn, Mary McCrystal, Eugene Canning, Sheila McLaughlin, Elizabeth Bradley, Celine Faulkner, Lettie McGinn, Gary Strawbridge, Patrick McGowan, Helena McDermott, James & Marjorie Coyle, George O'Brien.*

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

Offertory Collection: Glendermott: £3,265.00

Strathfoyle: £555.00

Pioneer Annual Draw – takes place on Wednesday of every month from January to June 2023. 1st Prize: 1000 euros, 2nd Prize: 400euro, 3rd Prize: 200euro, 4th Prize: 100euro. £7 per month or £40 for 6 months. Contact: **Robert Glackin** 07759586666 **by 13th January** if interested.

Vocations – As we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord we pray for the grace to be faithful, each one of us, to the vocation we received at our own baptism: to live as God’s beloved children, bringing the Light and Peace of Christ into the lives of our brothers and sisters. We pray in particular for those called to the priesthood and religious life, that they will serve God and His people faithfully. Anyone interested in serving the Church as a priest in the diocese of Derry should contact the Diocesan Vocations Director, **Fr Pat O’Hagan**, PP Bellaghy and Greenlough, at **(028) 7938 6452** or at pgoh2111@gmail.com The next **Holy Hour for Vocations** will take place in **St Eugene’s Cathedral, Derry, at 8pm on Friday 13 January**, and will be led by Deacon Michael McCaul. If you cannot attend in person, you are invited to join in the prayers via the Cathedral webcam at www.steugenescathedral.com

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, tel 02871 260 293

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 18-25 January 2023 – The theme this year is “Be-Longing: Praying for Unity amidst injustice”. Materials for the 2023 Week of Prayer have been prepared by the Churches in Minneapolis and can be accessed here: <https://www.irishchurches.org/news-blog/5478/week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity>

St Vincent de Paul – We would like to thank everyone for their kind and generous donations to this year’s SVP Appeal. We also wish to acknowledge the many anonymous donations received and our gratitude also extends to the many people who contribute on a weekly basis. Without your support we would not be able to help those experiencing difficulties in our community. We wish all of you a very happy and peaceful 2023

Communion Dates 2023

Saturday 6th May

11.00am St Columba's PS in St Mary's Oratory. Newbuildings

Friday 12th May

4.00pm Oakgrove PS in St Columb's Church, Chapel Road

Saturday 13th May

11.00am Good Shepherd PS in St Columb's Church, Chapel Road (1)

12:30pm St Oliver Plunkett PS in St Oliver Plunkett's, Strathfoyle

1.00pm Good Shepherd PS in St Columb's Church, Chapel Road (2)

Saturday 20th May

11:30am Chapel Road PS in St Columb's Church, Chapel Road

11:30am Sacred Heart PS in Church of Immaculate Conception

Confirmation Dates 2023

Friday 24th March

1.00pm St Oliver Plunkett PS in St Oliver Plunkett's, Strathfoyle

3.00pm Oakgrove PS in St Oliver Plunkett's, Strathfoyle

Saturday 25th March

11:30am Chapel Road PS in St Columb's, Chapel Road

Friday 31st March

1.00pm Sacred Heart PS in Church of Immaculate Conception (1)

3.00pm Sacred Heart PS in Church of Immaculate Conception (2)

5.00pm St Columbas PS and Others in Church of Immaculate Conception

Saturday 1st April

11.00am Good Shepherd PS in St Columb's Church, (1)

1.00pm Good Shepherd PS in St Columb's Church, (2)

Mass Schedule

Sunday

St Columb's Church	10am, 12:30pm, 6pm
Immaculate Conception	10:15am & 12:15pm
St Oliver Plunkett	11:15am
St Mary's Oratory	9:15am

Monday - Friday

St Columb's Church	10am, 7:30pm
Immaculate Conception	9.15am
St Oliver Plunkett	11am

(11am mass in St Mary's Oratory on Wednesdays)

Saturday

St Columb's Church	10am, 7pm (Sunday Vigil)
Immaculate Conception	11am, 6pm (Sunday Vigil)
St Oliver Plunkett	6pm (Sunday Vigil)

Confessions:

St Columb's – Saturday after 10am Mass, Friday 5-6pm during Adoration and Monday – Thursday at 7pm before evening Mass

Immaculate Conception – after 11am Mass every Saturday and at 5.30pm before evening Mass on a Saturday

St Oliver Plunkett – Every Saturday 5.30 before the Vigil Mass

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