



PARISHES OF GLENDELMOTT & STRATHFOYLE

PARISH BULLETIN

4th Sunday in the Church's year
29th January 2023

True Happiness

It is generally agreed that everyone wants to be happy. The whole advertising industry is based on it, "Buy this product and you will be happy." "This car will make you happy." This holiday, this drink, this chocolate....whatever it is the person is trying to sell, is presented as something that will give happiness. It will give happiness, but the happiness these products give is short-lived and superficial. They make us feel good for a while, but then we have to find something else.

The happiness that Jesus promises in today's Gospel is of a different kind. It is something deep and lasting.

Jesus gives us a list of qualities in the Beatitudes. He says that the people who possess these qualities are happy or blessed. First of all, he tells us that the poor in spirit are blessed. Being poor in spirit means humble. It is about our relationship with God. We recognise that everything we have and are comes as a gift from God. So we live in a spirit of thanksgiving.

St Francis de Sales says that humility perfects our relationship with God and gentleness perfects our relationship with our neighbour. Gentleness, mercy and making peace are the qualities that Jesus puts forward as leading to happiness. What a better place the world would be if more people put his teaching into practice! We can begin with ourselves. Happiness is not to be found in what we have or in what people think of us, but in the kind of people we become.

Upcoming feasts this week

Wednesday 1st February – Feast of St Brigid, Secondary Patron of Ireland

Thursday 2nd February – Feast of The Presentation of the Lord

(Also known as Candlemas Day. Candles will be blessed at all masses on Thursday)

Friday 3rd February – Feast of St Blaise, Bishop and Martyr

(Throats will be blessed at all masses on Friday)

Deaths: We extend our sympathy and prayers to the families of **Martin Kelly** – Lisnavar Court; **Maureen Hamilton** – Beechway House; **Sandra Broadbent** – Stradowen Drive

Anniversaries: Bernadette O'Neill, Arthur & Lily Logue, Susan Doherty, Patrick Sweeney, Fr Frank Furey, Eileen Furey, Brian Furey, Charlie Ward, Mary Ellen McDaid, Owen McDaid, Gerry McDaid, Sam Brown, Ryan Bryson, Annie Dillon, Paddy Dillon

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

Offertory Collection: Glendermott: £3,487.00 Strathfoyle: £585.00

Lectio Divina – Thursday 2nd February at Church of Immaculate Conception starting at 8:15pm.

Vocations – Michael McCaul will be ordained priest in **St Eugene's Cathedral, Derry, at 3pm on Sunday 29th January.** We ask the Lord to bless Michael in his priestly ministry in the diocese of Derry as we pray that many more will answer God's call to them to serve the Church and the diocese as priests.

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

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

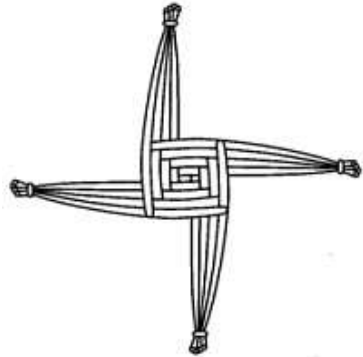
TOTUS TUUS EUCHARISTIC CONFERENCE 2023 – IS LIVE ON RADIO MARIA IRELAND FROM 2PM ON SATURDAY 4TH FEBRUARY. Speakers include FR. COLUMBA MARY TOMAN OP, FR. PATRICK CAHILL O.J.S.S, FR. PATRICK LAGAN (DERRY DIOCESE), MAURA MURPHY (HOLY FAMILY MISSION). **Radio Maria Ireland can be listened to by downloading the Radio Maria Ireland APP, Saorview Channel 210 or listen live at (01)4373277**

Catholic Schools Week 2023 – Walking together in Faith and Love. 29th January – 4th February. Monday – Walking together in Faith, Tuesday – Walking together in Love, Wednesday – Walking together to Celebrate (Grandparents Day), Thursday – Walking together to Transform our World, Friday – Walking together in Hope.

PILGRIMAGES – MEDEJUGORJE 7th June 2023, 7 nights £635, Full religious programme. LOURDES 7th July -13th 2023 £799, FATIMA 12th Sept- 19th 2023 £899. Savings scheme available contact Margaret 07732468511

Blessing of Saint Brigid's Crosses

Father of all creation and Lord of light,
you have given us life and entrusted
your creation to us to use it and to care for
it. We ask you to bless these crosses made
Of green rushes in memory of holy Brigid,
who used the cross to recall and to teach
your Son's life, death and resurrection.
May these crosses be a sign of our sharing
In the Paschal Mystery of your Son and a
sign of your protection of our lives, our land and its creatures through Brigid's
intercession during the coming year and always. We ask this through Christ
our Lord. Amen



Postscript to Christmas

When the song of the angels is stilled, when the star in the sky is gone
when the kings and princes are home when the shepherds are back with
their flocks the work of Christmas begins: to find the lost, to heal the
broken, to feed the hungry, to release the prisoner, to rebuild the nations to
bring peace among the people to make music in the heart
(Howard Thurman)

Safeguarding - If you have any concerns with regard to Safeguarding children or adults in need of protection within the Church please contact Marie Gormley, the Diocesan Designated Liaison Person (DLP) at 07596 500 793 or at the Safeguarding Office, Diocesan Pastoral Centre, 164 Bishop Street, Derry, BT48 6UJ or PSNI (Police Service of Northern Ireland) 101 or Social Services: Duty Social Worker, Gateway Services, Western HSC Trust, 71314090

Mass Schedule

Sunday

St Columb's Church	10am, 12:30pm, 06pm
Immaculate Conception	10:15am & 12:15pm
St Oliver Plunkett	11:15am
St Mary's Oratory	09:15am

Monday - Friday

St Columb's Church	10am, 7:30pm
Immaculate Conception	09:15am
St Oliver Plunkett	11:00am

(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	06pm (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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