



## PARISHES OF GLENDELMOTT & STRATHFOYLE

PARISH BULLETIN  
19<sup>th</sup> February 2023

### Lent

Wednesday of this week (February 22<sup>nd</sup>) marks the beginning of Lent. Lent is the 40-day period modelled after Our Lord's 40 days in the desert. After the example of Jesus, we are encouraged to commit ourselves to a time of prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

Lent is a time of preparation in two different senses. In the first it is a preparation for celebrating the Lord's resurrection on Easter Day. In the second it is a preparation for our entry into our eternal home in heaven. Lent is another opportunity to grow more into the likeness of Christ.

In the few days between now and Ash Wednesday we have an opportunity to reflect on what we can do this Lent. A few points worth considering –

**Prayer:** Can I make a commitment to daily Mass? If not can, I commit to dedicating some time every day to prayer?

**Fasting:** As well as reflecting on the usual sweets and alcohol, perhaps I can reduce the amount of time I spend on my mobile phone or watching TV.

**Almsgiving:** The Trocaire boxes are available at the church porches. Hopefully when Easter day arrives we can truly celebrate the Resurrection.

### Day of Prayer for Temperance

What is Temperance? Temperance is the moral virtue that enables us to moderate the attraction of pleasure and to be able to balance our use of created things. In the Old Testament (Book of Ecclesiasticus) we read "Do not follow your base desires, but restrain your appetites."

The New Testament calls it 'Sobriety' or 'Moderation'. St Paul warns Titus that we ought 'to live sober, upright, and godly lives in this world' (2:12).

Today we pray for all who suffer the direct or collateral damage of alcohol and drug misuse.

**Deaths:** We extend our sympathy and prayers to the families of **Tony Horner**, Summerhill, Prehen; **Sharon Wallace**, Ravenswood Park; **Louise Doherty**, Cavanreagh Road, Cullion, **Maureen Campbell**, Prehen Park

**Anniversaries:** Patricia McLean, George Caldwell, Patricia McNally, Kerry Roddy, Eileen Kelly, Jack McLucas, Paddy Conway, David & Bella Baxter, Gerry McLaughlin, Patrick Lynch, Helen McDermott, Lil McLaughlin, Anna & Seamus Mullan, Caolan McCrossan, Dessie Smith

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

**Offertory Collection: Glendermott: £,5045.00      Strathfoyle: £710.00**

**Lectio Divina – Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February** at Church of Immaculate Conception starting at 8:15pm.

**Vocations** – This weekend’s Psalm reminds us that “The Lord is compassion and love” and the readings challenge us to reflect the perfect love of God in our relationships with one another. For those called to preach this message of love as priests of the Diocese of Derry, we pray to the Lord.

**Lourdes 2023** – The Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage, led by Bishop Donal McKeown, will go direct from City of Derry Airport. **3<sup>rd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> July**, four nights full board in the Hotel Agena: £745 sharing, £35 single supplement. 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

**Churches Trust Food Collection** – appeal next weekend. Please bring non-perishable food to each of the sacristies for collection.

**Walk with Me – A Journey of prayer for Lent 2023 booklets are available.**  
**Price £1** Ideal for reflecting on the readings for Lent

**MASS TIMES FOR ASH WEDNESDAY**

<b>St Columb’s Church</b>	<b>7:15am*, 10am &amp; 7:30pm</b>
<b>Church of Immaculate Conception</b>	<b>9:15am, 6pm</b>
<b>St Mary’s Oratory</b>	<b>10:15am</b>
<b>St Oliver Plunkett’s Church</b>	<b>9:15am, 7pm</b>

**\*extra mass at 7:15am weekdays during Lent in St Columb’s Church**

**Ashes will be distributed during each of the masses on Ash Wednesday.  
TRÓCAIRE BOXES WILL BE AVAILABLE AT CHURCH DOORS**

**Worldwide Day of Prayer for Survivors and Victims of Sexual Abuse** will take place on **24 February**, the first Friday of Lent. The Day of Prayer is an initiative of Pope Francis and was first marked in Irish dioceses in 2017. Blessed candles will be lit in parishes across the country as a reminder to the faithful of the need for atonement and to symbolise repentance; light in the darkness and hope.

**Ards Friary** is hosting a residential retreat, 'Things that Matter', on the first weekend in Lent, 24th-26th February. It will be led by Philip McParland. Cost €175. To register, tel 074 91 38909 or email: [info@ardsfriary.ie](mailto:info@ardsfriary.ie)

**Trócaire Earthquake Appeal** – Tea Dance in An Grianan Hotel, Burt on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> March, 8:10pm, Admission 10 euro.

**World Day of Prayer** – A woman led Global Ecumenical Movement The service this year will be held in **First Derry Presbyterian Church** on **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March** at 7.30pm.

**The Columba Community's** next **Healing Mass** at **Columba House, 11 Queen St, Derry** will be held on **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February** at **7.30pm**. Mass celebrated by Fr Michael Sweeney followed by individual prayer for healing with blessed oil.

**Mary's Meals – Syria Earthquake Appeal.** To find out more or donate, please visit [www.marysmeals.org.uk](http://www.marysmeals.org.uk) or call us for free on 0800 6981212.

**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, 7131409

**Accord NI Catholic Marriage Care Service** is recruiting Marriage Education Facilitators to provide Sacramental Marriage Preparation for couples in the diocese. For further details and an application form, please contact Brenda at 028 9023 3002 or email [info@accordni.com](mailto:info@accordni.com)

## 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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