



PARISHES OF GLENDELMOTT & STRATHFOYLE

Sunday, 1st October 2023
Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

It is never too late.

Most of us get annoyed when people say they will do something for us and then fail to deliver on their promise. We end up feeling let down. Yet, if we are honest with ourselves, we will recognise that we all fail in this respect, to some extent at least.

We have all said that we will do this or that and then failed to do it. In that sense, there is something of the second son in today's parable in all of us, the son who told his father he would work in the vineyard, but never did so. Our 'yes' can become a 'no' in practice.

There can be many reasons for this. We may say 'yes' just to keep someone happy, without ever really intending to follow up on what we are asked. Or some of us may find it hard to say 'no'. We may tend to say 'yes' to every request and have the intention to follow through, even though we could not possibly do all that we promise to do.

The gospels proclaim that it is never too late to change for the better. That is a message which we all need to hear. Whatever 'no's we may have said in the past need not determine our present or future responses.

Each day is a new day, a new opportunity to say 'yes' to the Lord's call as it comes to us through those among whom we live and work. 'Today' is what matters, not yesterday – in the words of Psalm 95, ***'O that today we would listen to his voice; harden not our hearts'***.

Every **'today'** is a new opportunity to think better of something and to make a more generous response to life's call, to God's call – an opportunity to put on the 'mind of Christ' that St Paul speaks about in our second reading. That mind of Christ shows itself in a willingness to put the interests of others before our own, just as Christ emptied himself for the sake of us all.

It is never too late to grow more fully into the mind and heart of Christ.

100 Mile Cycle – Fr Canny thanks sincerely the many people who sponsored his cycle, (which took place last **Friday**). Donations still gratefully accepted.

An Evening of Songs of Faith, Hope and Love at Knock Basilica -Friday
1st December - Friday, 1st Dec - 8pm, featuring Dana, John McNicholl, Margo, Philomena Begley, and Marc Roberts with Úna Nolan & Schola Cantorum Basilicae choir. A fundraising concert for Victim Assistance Charity. Tickets from Ticketmaster.ie Tickets also available at 094 9000 251/ 086 3938871.

Baptism – We welcome into the family of God **Brodie Duffy**, Moss Park; **Finbarr Joseph Carlin**, Barleyfields; **Rose Isabel McMonagle**, Birch Hill; **Arthur John Kelly**, Mountain View.

Deaths: We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of **Margaret Hegarty**, Poplar Road; **Ann McSorley**, The Old Fort, Strathfoyle and **Kieran McStravick**, late of Gortmore Place.

Anniversaries: We are asked to remember in our Prayers: **Mary O'Donnell, Mickey Feeney, Teresa Feeney, Jack McDowell, William Canning, Ann Doherty, Michael Rankin, John O'Neill, Eddie Fitzpatrick, Sean McGill, Mary O'Neill, Ann O'Brien, Samuel Frazer, John Brothers, Dolores McKinney, Joe McGinley**,
Grant them, O Lord, we pray, and all who sleep in Christ, a place of refreshment, light and peace.

Offertory Collection: Glendermott: £3,636.00 Strathfoyle: £485.00
Thanks for your continued generosity towards the parishes.

SVP Thank You – Sincere thanks to everyone who continually support SVP each week and for all other donations received during the year. Your help and support are greatly valued and appreciated.

St Columb's Church Choir would like to welcome new members. The choir sings at the 10am Mass in St Columb's Church every **Sunday** morning. If you would like to join the choir please contact the Parish Office, one of the priests or a choir member. (Practice is Sundays after Mass.)

Trench Road Folk Group have returned for practices at 7.00pm on **Wednesday**, evenings in the Parish Hall, Malvern Terrace. New and returning members, particularly singers, are welcome, from P7 up to and including adults.

Lectio Devina – Scripture meditation on **Thursday** evenings at 8.15pm in Church of the Immaculate Conception, Trench Road. All Welcome.

St Columba's Vigil of Adoration - You are invited to St Columba's Vigil of Adoration in honour of the Holy Face of Jesus with Human Life International (H.L.I.) Ireland, next **Thursday, 5th October**, following 7.30pm Mass in Long Tower Church. 8.00pm Intro. to the Holy Face devotion, prayers with relic and blessed oil from international shrine, (at Tours, France) available, followed by silent adoration until midnight (guided holy hour from 9.30pm).

Vocations - That those the Lord is calling today to go and work in His vineyard will have the courage to say, "Yes" and the grace to work faithfully in building up God's kingdom on earth – a kingdom of justice, truth, holiness, equality, love and peace.

A talk on 'The history, promises & miracles of the Holy Face devotion, takes place, Friday 6th October, St Patrick's Church, Claudy, after 7.30pm First Friday Mass. Holy Face relic & oil from international shrine (Tours, France) available. Streaming at: <https://watchmcnmedia.tv/camera/saint-patricks-claudy>

Our Lady, Untier of Knots Novena commences after 7.30pm Mass on **Thursday 5th October** at Saint Eugene's Cathedral and will continue for the following eight Thursdays finishing on 30th November. This Novena reminds us that sin never entangled Our Lady; that Christ gave His Mother to be our mother the Untier of Knots. We pray and entrust our specific "knots" to Her loving hands, learning how to let go of that which binds us.

St Therese de Lisieux - 1st October

When one loves, one does not calculate. 'God would never inspire me with desires which cannot be realized; so, in spite of my littleness, I can hope to be a saint'.

'A word a smile is often enough to put fresh life in a despondent soul.'

'When something painful or disagreeable happens to me, instead of melancholy look, I answer by a smile. At first, I did not always succeed, but now it has become a habit which I am glad to have acquired.'

'If I did not simply live from one moment to another, it would be impossible for me to be patient, but I only look at the present, I forget the past, and take good care not to forestall the future. *Story of a Soul: The Autobiography of St. Therese of Lisieux.*

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

Parish Office: 32 Chapel Road, Waterside, Derry BT47 2BB

Phone: (028) 71 342303 email: secretary@watersideparish.net

Web: www.watersideparish.net

YouTube Channel: www.youtube.com/WatersideParish

Rev. Michael Canny PP 028-7134 2303 secretary@watersideparish.net

Rev. Patrick Lagan CC 028-7134 2303 secretary@watersideparish.net

Rev. Joshy Parokkaran CC 028-7134 2303 secretary@watersideparish.net