



PARISHES OF GLENDELMOTT & STRATHFOYLE

Sunday 3rd September 2023
Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

COST OF DISCIPLESHIP

In last Sunday's gospel we heard Peter profess his faith in Jesus as the Messiah in whom salvation is to be found. That insight of faith led to a decision to enthusiastically commit to following Jesus.

Dreams seldom become reality. To achieve our goals in life choices must be made and sacrifices are often required. The gospel this weekend is an invitation to reflect on what commitment to follow Jesus involves and, in particular what that commitment may cost.

As Jesus outlined some of the daunting challenges ahead, Peter recoiled in fear. His dream was in danger of becoming a nightmare. To be a follower of Jesus was going to cost more than he had anticipated. The price seemed high and Peter is scared.

In responding to his alarm Jesus does not promise any cutting back on the cost of following him. Peter made his decision freely so there is no reason for self-pity. The decision to follow Jesus was his own so there is no grounds' for blaming others when testing times come.

For Jesus there is the need to put the claims of God first. Each one of us is given a unique path in following Jesus. Taking up my cross means accepting and befriending my experiences in life. My story is unique, the wisdom I need to carry my cross is unique.

The gospel this weekend is an invitation to reflect on what commitment to follow Jesus involves for me.

Feast during the week – Friday we celebrate **The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary**.

Acknowledgement – Fr Canny acknowledges a generous donation of **£500.00** towards church repairs from the families of Joseph Sebastian and Reuven Jo Simon whose anniversaries of death were held during the past week.

Baptism – We welcome into the family of God: **Mason Michael McGranaghan**, Beragh Hill Road and **Rose Ellen Concannon**, Woodland Close.

Deaths: We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of **David Doherty**, St Breacan's Park; **Agnes McCool**, Crannog Park and **Robert McNutt**, Elmgrove.

Anniversaries: We are asked to remember in our prayers: **John McLaughlin, Isobel Higgins, Paddy Casey, Charlie Kelly, Nellie Ward, George McCarron, Joan & Norman Walker, Phyllis O'Neill, Patrick McGrath, Annie & John Doherty, Kathleen Green, Michael North, Joseph Sebastian, Reuven Simon, Joe Dunlop, Hugh O'Kane, Patrick McLaughlin, Paul Crossan, Danny McGeady, Stephanie Faulkner, Teresa McAtamney**

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

Offertory Collection: Glendermott: £3,900.00 Strathfoyle: £495.00
Thanks for your continued generosity towards the parishes.

The 2023 Safeguarding Mass will be celebrated by Bishop McKeown on **Friday, 15th September** at 7.30pm in St Eugene's Cathedral, Derry.

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

Fr Joseph K. Bill 5Day Silent Retreat given by Fr Anthony Saji at Knock Shrine **8th – 12th October**. Contact: 07815319710 for details.

VOCATIONS: For our seminarians and those considering a vocation to the priesthood, that, like Jeremiah in today's first reading, they will feel a fire burning in their hearts as the Holy Spirit calls them to service in the diocese of Derry.

Life in the Spirit Seminars, led by Apostles of Love Missionary Team: St Joseph's Hall, Omagh, **Saturday & Sunday, 16th & 17th September**. Registration 10am. Saturday 11am - 4pm, Sunday 10am -4.30pm with Mass. Celebrant Bishop Michael Router. Enquiries & Booking: Tel 07876411435 or 0759660904.

Annual 100-mile Charity Cycle

At the end of September, **Father Canny** will undertake a 100 - mile cycle from Derry to Ballycastle and back, in aid of the NI Children's Hospice and a Parish Project in South Sudan aided by The Good Shepherd Sisters.



Donations can be left with Fr. Canny directly or at the Parish Office at St. Columb's in Chapel Road.

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED – As we leave the summer behind all sort of groups are starting up again and many volunteers are required. If you think you could make a contribution to parish life as a volunteer your help would be very much appreciated.

We are interested in hearing from people who might like to become readers, join our choirs, be a school governor or helping to clean our churches are among some of the groups that would like new members.

If you are interested, please leave your name indicating your interest at the parish office.

“Discover God in all Things”

‘Because all creatures are connected, each must be cherished with love and respect, for all of us as living creatures are dependent on one another.’

‘Our insistence that each human being is an image of God should not make us overlook the fact that each creature has its own purpose. None is superfluous. The entire material universe speaks of God’s love, his boundless affection for us. Soil, water, mountains: everything is, as it were, a caress of God’

‘When we fail to acknowledge as part of reality the worth of a poor person, a human embryo, a person with disabilities; to offer just a few examples – it becomes difficult to hear the cry of nature itself; everything is connected.’

The universe unfolds in God, who fills it completely. Hence, there is a mystical meaning to be found in a leaf, in a mountain trail, in a dewdrop, in a poor person’s face. The ideal is not only to pass from the exterior to the action of God in the soul, but also to discover God in all things.

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

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