



## PARISHES OF GLENDELMOTT & STRATHFOYLE

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2023  
Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

### *HUMAN WEAKNESS AND GOD'S MERCY*

Life is frequently described as a journey, what happens on the journey brings out the best in some people and the worst in others.

In his gospel and especially in chapter 18 – part of which we read at Mass this weekend – St Matthew offers advice to a Christian community that is divided and in need of reconciliation. It has to come to terms with the reality of scandal, be patient with sinful members who resist correction and be tolerant with those who seek to put limits on the mercy of God. Compassion is required with those who sin and have no intention of changing their ways or leaving the community.

In his assessment of the situation Matthew concludes that the basic problem is sin and the basic solution lies in God's unlimited mercy. That mercy has the capacity to heal. It gives the courage necessary to engage with current difficulties. On Calvary God forgave the inexcusable

This is the kind of ministry that every Christian is called to follow in our church struggling with the wounds of the past, the weaknesses of its members past and present. In his ministry Jesus acted out of a deep respect when he tried to correct sinners. He had strong words for some but always left an opportunity for change and repentance.

We have to learn to help and heal each other.

**ORDINATION** – Today, *Sunday* the **10<sup>th</sup> September** at 3:00pm Deacon Stephen Ward will be Ordained priest by Bishop McKeown at a ceremony in Killyclogher, Omagh.

Stephen, who served as a deacon for 8 months in this parish, will celebrate Mass in St Columb's Church on **Tuesday evening at 7.30pm**. After Mass he will impart his blessing on those who wish to receive it.

**Feasts during the week: Wednesday** – St John Chrysostom, **Thursday** - The Exaltation of the Holy Cross – in praise of the redemption won by us by Christ. **Friday** – Our Lady of Sorrows.

**Anniversaries:** We are asked to remember in our prayers: Rita McLaughlin, Jim McGowan, David Murray, Mickey McLaughlin, Maggie Mulligan, Isobel Moore, William O'Donnell, Mark O'Donnell, Susan and George Doherty, Philomena Martin, Mickey McNaught, Liam Gormley, Annette Mortimer, Eileen O'Donnell, Kathleen Crumley, Michael North, Patrick Moore, Tommy Kerrigan, Lily Gourley

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

**Offertory Collection: Glendermott: £3,700.00      Strathfoyle: £490.00**  
**Thanks for your continued generosity towards the parishes.**

*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* will return for practice at 7.00pm on **Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> September** in the Parish Hall, Malvern Terrace. New and returning members, particularly singers, are welcome, from P7 up to and including adults.

**The 2023 Safeguarding Mass** will be celebrated by Bishop McKeown on **Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> 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 **8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> October**. Contact: 07815319710 for details.

**VOCATIONS:** This weekend we pray as a diocesan family for Stephen Ward who will be ordained in Christ the King Church, Omagh at 3.00pm today (Sunday) We pray also for our two seminarians who have completed their introductory year and will begin their formal studies in Rome and Maynooth this month, and for the four men who are applying to study for the diocese this year

## **Annual 100-mile Charity Cycle**

At the end of September, **Father Canny** will undertake a 100 - mile cycle 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.



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

**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*

### ***Prayer to Our Lady of Sorrows. Memorial 15<sup>th</sup> September***

Our mother of sorrows, with strength from above you stood by the cross, sharing in the suffering of Jesus, and with tender care you bore him in your arms, mourning and weeping. We praise you for your faith, which accepted the life God planned for you. We praise you for your hope, which trusted that God would do great things in you. We praise you for your love in bearing with Jesus the sorrows of his passion. Holy Mary, may we follow your example, and stand by all your children who need comfort and love.

Mother of God, stand by us in our trials and care for us in our many needs. Pray for us now and at the hour of our death. **Amen.**

# 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](mailto:secretary@watersideparish.net)

Web: [www.watersideparish.net](http://www.watersideparish.net)

YouTube Channel: [www.youtube.com/WatersideParish](http://www.youtube.com/WatersideParish)

Rev. Michael Canny PP 028-7134 2303 [secretary@watersideparish.net](mailto:secretary@watersideparish.net)

Rev. Patrick Lagan CC 028-7134 2303 [secretary@watersideparish.net](mailto:secretary@watersideparish.net)

Rev. Joshy Parokkaran CC 028-7134 2303 [secretary@watersideparish.net](mailto:secretary@watersideparish.net)