



## PARISHES OF GLENDELMOTT & STRATHFOYLE

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2023  
Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### Constant and generous forgiveness

*"The greatest form of giving is forgiving." (G. K. Chesterton)*

The gospel this weekend is about extravagant generosity. It tells us of the man who was forgiven of 10,000 talents but who in turn refused to forgive the person who owed him 100 denarii. Accord to Google in today's money 10,000 talents would be equivalent to 3 billion euro while 100 denarii would be worth only 5 euro.

When Peter asks Jesus if he must forgive seven times, which seems generous, Jesus gives an even more extravagant reply; "Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times seven". In other words, there is no end to the number of times we must forgive. This set the scene for the parable that followed.

In the parable when the king cancelled his servant's debt, he cancelled a huge debt a debt that is so large that it most certainly could never be paid. Cancelling the debt demonstrates the overwhelming generosity of the king.

In the second part of the parable the behaviour of the person who has had much forgiven is in sharp contrast to that of the king. Even though he has experienced mercy, he refuses to help his fellow servant in any way.

For the early Christians the message concerning forgiveness is clear. The constant and generous forgiveness that God extends to us must be replicated in the way we treat others. This is not a choice: this is how we must respond to God's generosity. We must treat others the way God treats us, with unlimited forgiveness and constant generosity.

**A Charity Event** has been organised by the Kerala association on **Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup> September** in Oak Grove College in honour of Joseph and Reuven. All proceeds to Foyle Search and Rescue, Ambulance Service and St Columb's College.

**Organ Donation Week – 18<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> September:** Organ Donation Week is a time dedicated to remembering and giving thanks to people who have enabled the “Gift of Life” to others by donating organs to those in need of life saving transplants. This week is an opportunity to have a conversation with your family, share your decision, register your decision. You Could Be A Life Saver. Further information: [www.organdonationni.info](http://www.organdonationni.info)

**Enagh Seniors Group** invites you to the ‘Macmillan Cancer Big Coffee Morning’ in Strathfoyle Library on **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September** 10.30am-1.00pm.

***An Evening of Songs of Faith, Hope and Love at Knock Basilica***

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December - Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> 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 from head office - for details contact Mary McNicholas, Victim Assistance Head Office, Aiden St., Kiltimagh, Co. Mayo 094 9000 251/ 086 3938871.

**St. Therese Tridium** - Will take place in the Carmelite Retreat Centre Termonbacca on **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September - Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October**, beginning each evening at 7.30p.m.

**Day Retreats in honour of St Michael the Archangel** - Will take place in the Carmelite Retreat Centre Termonbacca on **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September**, from 10a.m. - 3.00p.m. This is a donation only event. Please bring a packed lunch.

**Day Retreat for Eucharistic Ministers** – Carmelite Retreat Centre Termonbacca **Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September** from 10am – 3pm. If interested in attending, please leave name and phone number in the parish office.

**Baptism** – We welcome into the family of God **Ethan David Holland-Maguire**, Clonmeen Drive.

**Deaths:** We offer our sympathy to the family of **Lily Gillespie**, Victoria Road.

**Anniversaries:** We are asked to remember in our prayers **Jackie Gourley, Gerard Carey, Minnie Boyle, Roisin Doran, Anne Aquino, Tony Devine, Josie Nash, Johnny Shiels, Billy Duddy, William (Tootsie) McCallion, Annie Quigley.**

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

## 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.

**Offertory Collection: Glendermott: £3,720.00      Strathfoyle: £495.00**  
**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* 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.

**Vocations** – For the three priests ordained for the diocese this year, for our three seminarians, for the four men applying to begin their formal studies this year, for all those currently discerning their vocation, and for those accompanying them, that they will know and preach the message of the response to today's psalm: "The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger, and rich in mercy."

### **Thoughts of St Pius of Pietrelinca (Padre Pio) Feast Day 23<sup>rd</sup> September**

Pray, hope and don't worry. Worry is useless. Our Merciful Lord will listen to your prayer. Do not worry over things that generate preoccupation, derangement, and anxiety. One thing only is necessary: to life up your spirit and love God. If we are calm and persevering, we shall find not only ourselves, but our souls, and with that, God Himself. Continue to be patient – it will be for your good. Even if the world were to capsize, if everything were to become dark, hazy, tumultuous, God would still be with us.

# 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)