



## PARISHES OF GLENDELMOTT & STRATHFOYLE

Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> November  
Thirty-First Week in Ordinary time

### **The truth Jesus provides!**

*"O terrible human blindness! So great a light about you and you do not see."  
(St John of the Cross).*

Jesus describes the Scribes and Pharisees as 'blind guides' who have failed to see the light. Over time they have become trapped in seeking notice and seeing privilege as an entitlement. Jesus offers them a model of how humble leadership can bring people to a place where they have never been before.

Because there are obvious contradictions between what they say and what they do, their witness is sending out a double message. When they arrogate titles to themselves or seek attention and notice, their behaviour is self-serving.

The problems are compounded by the fact that they don't seem at all aware of the defective leadership they are providing. As can easily happen, the truth that they see blinds them to the truth they don't see. The truth that Jesus presents is not just for them; it is for all.

What is disturbing about today's gospel message is how sincerely religious people can delude themselves.

No generation can afford to be presumptuous that it has got it right because sin has a capacity to blind and any and all to its presence. It resists discovery and it blinds as it spreads.

Motives can be mixed. Good deeds can be done to give honour to God or done for selfish reasons. They could be done to win praise or popularity.

Like the Pharisees we all have a need to be liked, to be noticed, to avoid criticism, to avoid suffering. Those needs don't go away, but we can recognise them, work with them, and choose to serve God in all we undertake. *'Know yourself'*- that wisdom from ancient Greece is still sound advice.

## ***Masses for the those who have died in the past year.***

***Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> November*** at 6.00pm in St Oliver Plunkett Church, Strathfoyle.

***Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> November*** at 7.00pm in St Columb's Church, Chapel Road.

***Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> November*** at 10.15am in Church of the Immaculate Conception.

***Baptism*** – We welcome into the family of God: ***Jude Cain Sean Withington***, *Staffordshire, England*; ***Vayda Sarah Chambers***, *Tamneymore Park*; ***Canice Liam Coyle***, *Foxhill*.

***Deaths*** – We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of ***Nora Adair***, *Glendon Park* and ***Monica Gillen***, *Moymore Place*.

***Anniversaries***: We are asked to remember in our prayers: ***Kathleen Miller, Etta Smith, Margaret Flynn, Anne Friel, Kitty McFadden, Paddy Dillon, Patsy Crossan, Rosemary McGeady, Richard & Ann Freaney, Jim Diamond, Daniel Doherty, Laurence & Susie Mullan, Stella Thomas, Margaret Doran, Olive Parkhouse, Margaret Hillen, John McLaughlin, Kevin & Fiona Webb, Rebecca Collins***.

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

**Offertory Collection: Glendermott: £3,558.00 Strathfoyle: £ 560.00.**

**Foreign Mission Collection: Glendermott: £3,170.00 Strathfoyle: £365.00**

**Thank you for your generosity to the church collections.**

***The Liturgy Team*** has organised a morning of prayer and reflection for Readers and Eucharistic Ministers on ***Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> November*** in the Parish Hall, Malvern Terrace after 10.00am Mass. Guest speaker Fr Peter O'Kane.

***Lectio Devina*** – Scripture Meditation on ***Thursday*** evenings at 8.15pm in St Columb's Church, Chapel Road. All welcome. (Please not change of venue).

***Mass*** in St Joseph's Boys School for deceased Pupils, Teachers and Staff in Assembly Hall on ***Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> November*** at 7.00pm.

***Feasts during the coming week*** – ***Monday 6<sup>th</sup>*** is the feast of All the Saints of Ireland, ***Friday*** is the feast of St Leo the Great and ***Saturday*** is the feast of St Martin of Tours.

**Long Tower Annual Solemn Novena** - in honour of Our Lady of Perpetual Help continues in St Columba's, Long Tower, Derry. This year's theme: '**Year of Vocations to Diocesan Priesthood**'.

**Mass for Deceased Young People and Children** will take place in St Eugene's Cathedral at 7.00pm on **Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> November**.

**Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help** in St Joseph's Church, Galliagh continues for 9 Mondays ending with a Penitential Service on **18<sup>th</sup> December**. Theme: "**Our Lady's Fiat**" with reflections on the Seven Sorrows, Candlelit, Rosary, Adoration, Benediction, and speakers. Everyone welcome.

**Vocations** – For those discerning their vocation at this time, and particularly for those who hope to begin seminary training in the next few months, that they will take to heart the Lord's words in this weekend's gospel and hear Him calling them to serve their brothers and sisters in Christ in a spirit of humility.

### ***Holiness is a beautiful path!***

Holiness is a vocation for everyone. We are all called to walk on the path of holiness, and this path has a name and a face: the face of Jesus Christ.

He teaches us to become saints. In the Gospel, he shows us the way, the way of the Beatitudes.

In fact, the Kingdom of Heaven is for those who do not place their security in material things but in love for God, for those who have a simple, humble heart that does not presume to be just and does not judge others, for those who know how to suffer with those who suffer and how to rejoice when others rejoice.

They are not violent but merciful and strive to be instruments for reconciliation and peace.

Saints are instruments for reconciliation and peace; they are always helping people to become reconciled and helping to bring about peace.

*Thus, holiness is beautiful, it is a beautiful path!*

**Pope Francis**  
**Angelus, 1<sup>st</sup> November 2013.**

# 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	6:00pm (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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