

PARISHES OF GLENDERMOTT & STRATHFOYLE

Sunday, 31st December 2023

Feast of the Most Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

"The shepherds went in haste and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger." (Lk 2:16)

The Feast of the Holy Family celebrates the human family unit, as well as the opening prayer at Mass states the shining example of family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. Today we find it as a model for Christian families.

Family Prayer for the New Year

Dear God, we thank you the gift of a new year, we pray that you will guide us and bless us throughout this year. We ask that you help us grow in faith, hope and love.

May we be a light to others and share your love with those around us. We pray for peace in our homes, our communities, and our world. May we be instruments of your peace and work towards justice and reconciliation. We pray for those who are suffering, that they may find comfort and healing. We pray for those who are lost, that they may find their way. Keep our family in your care today, tonight and always. Amen

Mass times for the coming week.

New Year's Eve, 31st December The usual Sunday Morning Masses in all Churches

End of year Mass, Exposition, Night Prayer & Benediction

The last Mass of the year in the parish will take place 6.00pm in St Columb's Church on Sunday (New Year's Eve). After Mass there will be a period of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. To conclude and welcome in the new year at 11.25pm, there will be Rosary, Night Prayer and Benediction leading up to Midnight. New Years' Day, Monday 1 January 2024 Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God: 10.00am & 7.30pm St Columb's Church

No Masses in any of the other churches on Monday 1 January. The full Mass schedule resumes for all Churches on Tuesday 2 January 2024.

Feast of the Epiphany, Saturday 6 January 2024 Vigil Masses (Friday night) at 6.00pm in St Oliver Plunkett, Strathfoyle and 7.30pm in St Columb's, Chapel Road (Please note, there is no 11.00am Mass on Friday morning in St Oliver Plunkett or Vigil Mass in Immaculate Conception)

> Saturday morning Masses for the Feast of the Epiphany at 10.00am in St Columb's Chapel Road, 11.00am in Church of the Immaculate Conception and 11am in St Mary's Oratory

Anniversaries: We are asked to remember in our prayers: Iris Storey, Kathleen McLaughlin, Hugh Henry, Brian McLaughlin, Eddie Crossan, Rose Moran, Maureen McGinn, Dougie & Liam Clarke, Danny Kerrigan, Eleanor McBride, Eithne Barr

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

Sunday Offertory Collection: Glendermott: £3,892.00 Strathfoyle: £555.00 Thank you for your generosity to the church collections.

Christian Unity Week 2024 To mark the week of prayer for Christian Unity Week, there will be a walk beginning at St Columb's Church, Chapel Road at 7.00pm, visiting the other churches and concluding at Ebrington Presbyterian Church on Wednesday 24th January 2024.

Vocations – Lord, bless our diocesan seminarians and those discerning their vocation with the faith, hope, and trust of Abraham, Sarah, Mary, and Joseph, and with the Spirit of wisdom that filled the boy Jesus.

Accord Ni – Marriage courses for January – March 2024. Venue Everglades Hotel. The courses are held on a Friday evening and Saturday morning. The dates are... January 19th/20th, February 23rd/24th and March 22nd/23rd. Booking online at www.accord.com

Dates for First Communion 2024:

Friday 3 May 2024: Oakgrove Primary School, 2.00pm St Columb's Church Friday 10 May 2024: Good Shepherd Primary School, 11.00am & 1.00pm At Columb's Church

Saturday 11 May 2024: St Columba's Primary School, 11:00am St Mary's Oratory, Saturday 11 May 2024: St Oliver Plunkett Primary School, 11:00am St Oliver Plunkett Church, Strathfoyle

Saturday 18 May 2024: Chapel Road Primary School, 11:30am St Columb's Church

Saturday 18 May 2024: Sacred Heart Primary School, 11:30am & 2.00pm Church of the Immaculate Conception

Saturday 25 May 2024: Lisnagelvin Primary School, 11:00am Church of the Immaculate Conception.

Dates for Confirmation 2024:

Thursday 29 February: St Oliver Plunkett Primary School, 1:00pm St Oliver Plunkett Church, Strathfoyle

Thursday 29 February: Chapel Road Primary School, 3:00pm St Columb's Church **Friday 1 March 2024:** Good Shepherd Primary School, 1.00pm & 3.00pm at Columb's Church

Friday 8 March 2024: Sacred Heart Primary School, 1:00pm & 3.00pm Church of the Immaculate Conception

Friday 8 March 2024: St Columba's Primary School & others, 5:00pm Church of the Immaculate Conception

The Epíphany

All this was a long time ago, I remember, And would do it again, but set down This Set Down This: were we led all that way for Birth or Death. There was a Birth certainly. We had evidence and no doubt, I had seen birth and death, But had thought they were different; this Birth was Hard and bitter agony for us, like Death, our Death. We returned to our places, these Kingdoms, But no longer at ease here, in the old dispensation, With an alien people clutching their gods. I should be glad of another Death.

T.S. Eliot, from The Journey of the Magi

Mass Schedule (from January 2nd onward)

Sunday

St Columb's Church Immaculate Conception St Oliver Plunkett St Mary's Oratory 10:00am, 12:30pm, 6:00pm 10:15am & 12:15pm 11:15am 09:15am

Monday - Friday

St Columb's Church10:00am, 7:30pmImmaculate Conception09:15amSt Oliver Plunkett11:00am(11am mass in St Mary's Oratory on Wednesdays)

Saturday

St Columb's Church Immaculate Conception St Oliver Plunkett 10:00am, 7:00pm (Sunday Vigil) 11:00am, 6:00pm (Sunday Vigil) 6:00pm (Sunday Vigil)

Confessions:

St Columb's – Saturday after 10:00am Mass, Friday 5-6pm during Adoration and Monday – Thursday at 7:00pm before evening Mass
Immaculate Conception – after 11:00am 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 PP028-7134 2303 secretary@watersideparish.netRev. Patrick Lagan CC028-7134 2303 secretary@watersideparish.netRev. Joshy Parokkaran CC028-7134 2303 secretary@watersideparish.net