



## PARISHES OF GLENDELMOTT & STRATHFOYLE

Sunday, 14<sup>th</sup> January 2024  
Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

### *“Come and See”*

There are so many things competing for our attention nowadays. We are exposed to a cacophony of voices, each proposing its own agenda and promising us fulfilment and happiness. All that is fine, provided we also have a listening ear for the voice of the Lord which speaks to us in a myriad of ways, in prayer, from the scriptures, in the sacraments, and through other people, especially those most in need, spiritually and materially.

In our first reading today from the Old Testament the young boy Samuel heard a voice and he presumed it was that of the prophet Eli. But it was the Lord who was calling him. Once he realised that, he followed the advice of Eli and responded as follows: ‘Speak Lord, your servant is listening’. So, this is the first message from the word of God in today’s Mass: God is calling us to listen to him. But the question arises; what God says to us. Well, we find the answer in the gospel we have just heard proclaimed. Jesus invites two curious followers to ‘come and see’.

The two disciples set off immediately to follow Jesus. Now it’s Jesus’ turn to ‘see’: he sees the disciples following him and he initiates a conversation. He finds out that they want to know where he lives. Jesus utters the immortal words, ‘Come and see’. We notice immediately that Jesus doesn’t enter a dialogue with his two followers. He invites them to experience his presence, to come with him.

Andrew and his brother Simon Peter were privileged to share the day-to-day experiences of being with Jesus. They saw his miracles and his long nights spent in prayer to his Father but they also saw him struggle with the human condition: hunger and thirst, rejection, pain and suffering and eventually a cruel death.

*From Furrow December 2023.*

**Baptisms:** We welcome into the family of **Clíodhna Grace McCleave**, Birch Hill and **Eve Veronica Bailey**, Knutsford Road, Wilmslow.

**Deaths**– We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of **Don Duffy**, Butlers Wharf; **Davy McAdams**, Robert Street; **Mickey McLaughlin**, Iveagh Park; **Gertie O’Doherty**, Glenmore Park; **Rosaleen Conway**, Aughabrack.

**Anniversaries:** We are asked to remember in our prayers *Kathleen O’Neill, Damien O’Neill, Gary Skeffington, Johnny Kelly, Pat Leitch, Lena McLaughlin, Gabrielle Porter, Helena McDermott, Bernie Willis, Kevin Shearing, Brenda Murray, Catherine Gallagher, Cathal Gallagher, Terence Gallagher, Maurice Gallagher, George Kelly, Harry McCarron, Fr. Adrian Porter, Patsy Frazer, John Gill, Joyce Hart.*

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

**Offertory Collection: Glendermott: £3,806.00 Strathfoyle: £545.00**

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

**Vocations** – Jesus invites the curious disciples in today’s gospel to “Come and See” The Vocations Directors of the northern dioceses offer the same invitation to anyone interested in serving the Church as a diocesan priest, to attend a retreat at the Drumalis Retreat Centre, Larne from **8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> March**. Anyone aged 18 or over wishing to attend should contact the diocesan Vocations Director, Fr Pat O’Hagan at [pgoh2111@gmail.com](mailto:pgoh2111@gmail.com) with their name, date of birth, and telephone details.

**The HSC NI Foster Team** - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph no doubt experienced many of the same joys and struggles as any other family. Indeed, Mary and Joseph struggled to find somewhere safe and warm to have their child. Although there was no room for them, our traditional narrative tells us of a kindly innkeeper, who pointed them to the stable where Jesus was born.

Unfortunately, there are times when there are no available spaces for foster care placements. The HSC NI Foster Team is urgently seeking more people to think seriously about fostering. On this Feast of the Holy Family, do you think you can make that extraordinary difference to a child’s life? If you think you can help or if you have any questions at all in relation to fostering, please contact the Team: Tel.0800 0720137 or email [info@fostering.hscni.net](mailto:info@fostering.hscni.net)

**St Vincent de Paul Society** is appealing for suites and bedroom furniture in good condition. All donations would be greatly appreciated. Please ring 028 7126 5489 to arrange collection.

**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, 24<sup>th</sup> January 2024**. The theme for 2024 is based on a text from the gospel of St Luke, “You shall love the Lord your God ... and your neighbour as yourself” with material prepared by the ecumenical team from Burkina Faso

**Catholic Schools Week** – Due to the teacher’s industrial action on the **18<sup>th</sup> January 2024** the date of the Mass to launch Catholic Schools Week has been changed to the **16<sup>th</sup> January 2024** at 10.00am in St Eugene’s Cathedral.

**Melodies & Memories** will recommence this **Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> January** in The Acorn Centre, (in the grounds of St. Peter’s Church, Culmore Road, near Foyle Bridge), 2.30 - 4.30. **Melodies & Memories** is a music group for people living with dementia, their family members/ friends and it is also for older members of the community who like to sing, enjoy a cuppa and a bit of craic. Please Tel 07561706815 for further information or email [melandmem@icloud.com](mailto:melandmem@icloud.com)

**Annual Pioneer Draw** takes place on third Monday of every month from **January** to **June**. Contact Robert Glackin before **10<sup>th</sup> January** if interested on 077595866. Tickets £7 per month or £40 for six months.

**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 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup>**, **February 23<sup>rd</sup>/24<sup>th</sup>** and **March 22<sup>nd</sup>/23<sup>rd</sup>**. Booking online at [www.accord.com](http://www.accord.com)

**Thought for the Day** – If you put too much pressure on any one part of your life, there is a risk of collapse. If you put too much pressure on any one part of your being there may be a collapse too.

The body, soul, mind, and emotions are given to you to spread the load.

The same is true of your family and friends and of support services and those things that help you to discover your beliefs and values.

When you are in good form, you are aware of all these ‘arches’ in your life. The load is spread quite evenly. When you are in bad form, you put too much pressure on one ‘arch’ that single arch just can’t carry the load!

# Mass Schedule

## Sunday

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

## Monday - Friday

St Columb's Church	10:00am, 7:30pm
Immaculate Conception	9:15am
St Oliver Plunkett	11:00am

(11:00am mass in St Mary's Oratory on Wednesdays)

## Saturday

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

## Confessions:

**St Columb's** – Saturday after 10am Mass, Friday 5:00-6:00pm 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

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