



## PARISHES OF GLENDELMOTT & STRATHFOYLE

Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup> January 2024  
Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

*'Christmas day is every day.'*

It is now four weeks since we celebrated Christmas. Looking back at the hype that surrounds this feast we may be tempted to ask: What was it all for? We are back to school and work again, and it seems as if Christmas never happened.

Christmas commemorates the earth-shattering event whereby God became man in the person of Jesus. We call that the incarnation (become human). But the incarnation is not just about a baby in a manger. The incarnation is the lifelong event that began in Bethlehem and took Jesus to Calvary and the Garden of Resurrection.

The *first* reading in today's Mass anticipates the Christmas event. Moses tells the people that a great prophet will rise up among them. He didn't fully realise what he was predicting that this great prophet would be Jesus. This weekend we are presented in the gospel of Mark with two significant truths about Jesus.

First, we are told that he had authority. 'His teaching made a deep impression on them because, unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority.' In our language today we might say he had the cut of a leader about him.

The *second* quality devolves from this. He had power over evil. He casts out demons and heals many beleaguered people. None of us has his power to destroy evil but we have the great gift of prayer. We can pray that evil in all its manifestations will be destroyed by the power of God.

So you see that when we look at the qualities of Jesus presented to us in the gospel on Sunday we can apply them in the most practical ways to our weekday lives. Christmas Day is every day. (Furrow Dec 2023)

**Feasts of the week.** **Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> February** is the feast of St Brigid. **Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> February** is the feast of the Presentation of the Lord (also known as Candlemas Day). Candles will be blessed at all Masses on Friday. **Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> February** is the feast of St Blaise, Bishop and Martyr (Throats will be blessed at morning Masses only on Saturday)

**Deaths**– We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of **James Stone**, Glenaden Hill; **Patricia Cummins**, Rosstown Drive; **Josephine Hutton**, Hollymount Park; **Leon O’Laifeartaigh**, Foxhill.

**Anniversaries:** We are asked to remember in our prayers **Paddy Sweeney, Lexie Killen, Mary Sullivan, Danny & Evelyn Killen, Bernadette O’Neill, Sammy & Maureen Wilson, John & Julia McCauley, Sam Browne, Ryan Brown, Mary Sheridan, Mary Sheridan, Pat McCallion, Paddy & Eileen Furey, Fr Frankie Furey, Brian Furey, Jerome McChrystal, Arthur & Lily Logue, Eileen Mellon, Maureen Hamilton, John McDaid.**

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

**Offertory Collection: Glendermott: £3,997.00 Strathfoyle: £600.00**

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

**Vocations** – In this weekend’s first reading the Lord tells Moses that He will raise up prophets for the people from among their own brothers. We pray for the men from our parish communities being called by God to serve as priests in the diocese of Derry. Anyone interested in attending a Vocations for priesthood (to priesthood weekend in Drumalis Retreat House, Larne **8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> March**, should contact Fr Pat O’Hagan at [pgoh2122@gmail.com](mailto:pgoh2122@gmail.com)

**Derry Diocesan Trust – Parishes of Banagher & Claudy. School Liaison Coordinator.** 1-year Fixed Term contract 35 Hours Per Week

The Parishes of Banagher & Claudy are seeking to recruit an individual to fulfil the role of School Liaison Coordinator. Under the guidance of the Parish Priest/Administrator the successful candidate will work in the two parishes that presently have four primary schools and one post primary school. This is a full-time role for one year.

For application packs please contact: Bishop’s House, St Eugene’s Cathedral, Francis Street, Derry BT48 9AP or via email to [recruitment@derrydiocese.org](mailto:recruitment@derrydiocese.org) no later than 4.30pm on 2.2.2024.

***Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2024 - Monday 1<sup>st</sup> – Friday 5<sup>th</sup> July*** from City of Derry Airport. Led by Bishop Donal McKeown. Full board £799, single room supplement £150. The pilgrimage office at 164 Bishop Street Derry will open to the public 11.00am – 1.00pm on Thursdays and Saturdays, starting Saturday, 10<sup>th</sup> February. Tel no. 028 71260293.

***Derry Diocesan Youth Pilgrimage to Medjugorje*** – We are inviting young people aged 16+ to join us on pilgrimage to Medjugorje for 9 nights from **30<sup>th</sup> July – 8<sup>th</sup> August 2024** For more information contact [lizzie.rea@derrydiocese.org](mailto:lizzie.rea@derrydiocese.org) or 0044 2971264087

***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... **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)

***Synodality Gatherings*** – The Diocese as part of the ongoing Synodal process is holding a session **on February 17<sup>th</sup> from 11am – 4pm**, at the **St Pio House** in grounds of St Joseph's Church, Galliagh. If you would like to be involved and represent the parishes at the meeting please leave your name at the parish office.

***Divine Mercy*** -We have established a Divine Mercy Alcove in St Mary's Church, Convoy, Co Donegal. As part of the on-going development, we would like to draw up a list of Divine Mercy Groups. Please send the details to Fr Eamonn Kelly, Parochial House, Convoy, Co Donegal, F93HX2R or [eamonnkelly1949@gmail.com](mailto:eamonnkelly1949@gmail.com)

### *Thought for the Day*

There is a winter in all of our lives,  
A chill and darkness that makes you yearn  
For days that have gone  
or put our hope in the days yet to be.

We need a winter in our lives,  
Like nature around us,  
A time of rest, a time to stand still,  
A time to reacquaint ourselves  
With the faith in which we live.

It is only then that we can draw strength  
From the one in whom we are rooted  
Take time to grow and rise through the darkness  
Into the warm glow of springtime. *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	09:15am

## Monday - Friday

St Columb's Church	10am, 7:30pm
Immaculate Conception	09.15am
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

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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)