

# PARISHES OF GLENDERMOTT AND STRATHFOYLE

**Sunday, 25th February 2024**  
**Second Sunday of Lent**

## TIME APART IS IMPORTANT

Now that spring is here and the days are getting longer and brighter some people might like to take a walk in the countryside. We should be grateful that just a few minutes' drive can take us to our neighbouring parish of Ardmore from where we can park and walk in the fresh air of the countryside. If we are so inclined we can also climb to the top of some of the high areas there. The two things that are immediately noticeable in the countryside or a mountain, apart from a few sheep, are the silence and the panoramic view.

In the Gospel this weekend we are told that Jesus took the disciples up a high mountain. They did not have a car to get there, so it could have taken them some hours to get there. They probably spent the night on the mountain. It was a real and special experience for them to be apart by themselves. In fact Jesus took the disciples on a real retreat. The purpose of the retreat was to prepare them for what lay ahead. They were heading for Jerusalem where Jesus would be arrested and put to death.

The Transfiguration is a very real privileged experience for the disciples. Jesus gives them an insight into his relationship with God his father.

The disciples, Peter, James and John felt closer to Jesus after their experience together on the mountain. They would have liked to stay there, but they had to come back down and continue the journey to Jerusalem. Jesus still had a task ahead of him. The experience on the mountain helped to prepare the disciples for what lay ahead.

Our Sunday Mass, or indeed any Mass is like climbing the mountain. It is time apart, a special time in the presence of Jesus and receiving him into our lives. It prepares us to meet the challenges of the days ahead, knowing that we are not alone, Jesus is with us.

## 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    | * <b>07:15am</b> 10:00am, 7:30pm |
| Immaculate Conception | 09:15am                          |
| 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 10:00am Mass,

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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Rev. Joshy Parokkaran CC

**Sacrament of Confirmation** – please remember in your prayers the children of our primary schools who will receive confirmation over the coming two weeks.

The sacrament will be celebrated by Bishop Donal McKeown as per below

**Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> February:** St Oliver Plunkett Primary School and Oakgrove Primary School at **1:00pm in St Oliver Plunkett Church, Strathfoyle.**

**Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> February:** Chapel Road Primary School, **3:00pm St Columb's Church.**

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2024:** Good Shepherd Primary School, **11.30pm and 1.00pm at Columb's Church.**

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024:** Sacred Heart Primary School at **1:00pm and 3.00pm Church of the Immaculate Conception.**

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024:** St Columba's Primary School & Lisnagelvin Primary School, at **5:00pm Church of the Immaculate Conception**

**LOUGH DERG RETREAT FOR YOUNG ADULTS (18 – 30-year olds):** The Knights of Columbanus, Omagh, is organising a Retreat in Lough Derg for young adults, to take place on Saturday 27 April 2024, from 10.00am – 4.00pm. This event is **FREE OF CHARGE.** For further information email [info@knightsofstcolumbansomagh.co.uk](mailto:info@knightsofstcolumbansomagh.co.uk)

**Accord NI Catholic Marriage Care Service seeking Marriage Preparation Facilitators** - If you have a positive attitude towards marriage in the Catholic Church. If you have the enthusiasm to be part of the Accord team in supporting couples who are preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage. Accord wants to hear from you! Successful applicants will receive professional training and will be part of a team delivering marriage preparation programmes locally. Contact Brenda on 02890 233002 or by email to [info@accordni.com](mailto:info@accordni.com) [www.accordni.com](http://www.accordni.com)

**Baptisms** – We welcome into the family of God **Eve Eimear Harkin**, Strabane Old Road, **Rohan Raj Finlay**, Caw Park, **Ellin Hume**, Primrose Street, **Danann Rua James Doran**, Rossdale.

**Deaths** – In our prayers we remember – **Thomas Grimes**, Clooney Terrace and **Billy McLaughlin**, Cross Street and **Teresa Williams**, Mimosa Court.

**Anniversaries:** We are asked to remember Kathleen Deeney, Pauline Nicell, Jack Logue, James Boyle, Mary K Doherty, Dermot (Dee Dee) Kelly, Josephine Tracey,

James Doherty, Marie Devlin, Margaret Harkin, Elizabeth Diamond, Anne Ferguson, Jack McLucas

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

**Offertory Collection: Glendermott: £3,786 Strathfoyle: £610**

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

**Lectio Divina** – Come and encounter Christ in the word. Our weekly Lectio Divina continues each **Thursday** at 8.00pm in the side chapel in St Columb's Church, Chapel Road. All are welcome to attend as we gather to pray and reflect on the Gospel.

**Eucharistic Adoration:** There will be Adoration in St Oliver Plunkett Church, Strathfoyle on **Wednesday** evenings from 7.00pm – 9.00pm in addition to Monday mornings. All welcome.

**Vocations** – “Lord make me know your ways. Lord teach me your path. Make me walk in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Saviour.” These lines from today's Psalm are our prayer for our diocesan seminarians and for those currently discerning a vocation to serve as priests of the diocese of Derry.

The annual inter-diocesan Vocations Retreat will take place in Drumalis, Larne from **8<sup>th</sup> -10<sup>th</sup> March**. Anyone **aged 18 or older**, interested in attending should contact Fr Pat O'Hagan at [pgoh2111@gmail.com](mailto:pgoh2111@gmail.com) or on (028) 79386259.

**Meeting in the Carmelite Retreat Centre**, Termonbacca, every **Sunday** at 3.00pm for adult children of alcoholic and dysfunctional families. This is an anonymous programme for those 18 years and over who grew up in an alcoholic or otherwise dysfunctional home.

**Our Lady of Montligeon** prayer meeting for the Holy Souls takes place in St Brigid's, Carnhill (Kildare Room, adjacent to Parochial House) every **Monday** morning after 9.15am Mass in St Brigid's Church and also in Carmelite Retreat Centre, Termonbacca on the following dates **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February, 25<sup>th</sup> March, 25<sup>th</sup> April and 20<sup>th</sup> May** at 7.30pm. Everyone welcome.

**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)

**Please note – No Adoration next Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March - Confirmation taking place**