



**PARISHES OF GLENDELMOTT  
& STRATHFOYLE**  
10<sup>th</sup> March 2024  
4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent

## **I AM GOD'S WORK OF ART**

“Ever since Jesus said that ‘it is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God’, scientists have been trying to breed smaller camels and engineers trying to make bigger needles”, (G.K. Chesteron).

For all of us there is the temptation to get to our final goal, heaven, with the least discomfort possible, even though the reality is that there is no easy way of cheap grace. Today’s gospel is a challenge to think generously and stretch to wider horizons when it turns our focus to Jesus on Calvary as inspiration for living life to the full. In the gospel this weekend the generosity of God’s love is a reason for great joy. God the Father sent his Son to bring healing, hope and meaning to life.

Love has its origin in God. Jesus is love in action. Love wants the best for others. This weekend the invitation is to look to Jesus crucified and what is behind the cross, namely the love of God. Jesus crucified offers salvation to all people and enables us to become more fully alive.

For the disciples the great icon of God’s love is Christ crucified. It is testimony to the lengths God is prepared to go to convince us of the generosity of his love. He identifies with us and asks us to identify with him. To identify with Jesus, faith is required. It is only through the eyes of faith that we can see the significance of all that he has done for us.

This weekend let us reflect on God’s love for me. We should frequently ask ourselves the question, do I really believe that God loves me, that I am unique to him? I am his work of art and that he died for me.

**Retiring Collection – next weekend 17<sup>th</sup> March, St Patrick’s weekend for Christians in the Holy Land.**

**Baptisms** – We welcome into the family of God **Evelyn O'Donnell**, Ebrington Oaks, **Daniel James George McDaid**, Violet Street.

**Deaths** -We offer our sympathy to Fr Lagan and his family on the death of his father **Gerard**.

**Anniversaries:** We are asked to remember in our **James Strain, Willie Diver, Pat McFadden, Bridget Foster, Jim McGinn, Ester McClintock, Jim Robb, Vincent Magee, Gerard Hegarty, Kieran Barr, Kathleen Stone, Maureen Armstrong, Kathleen Donaghy, Dermot Donaghy, Laurence Conaghan, Johnny McCrystal, Shea Bradley, Susan Maguire, Chrissie Lyons, Edward and Molly Donaghy, Betty Ferry, Gabrielle Bradley, Kathleen Barr, Paddy O'Kane, George McDowell, Sadie Bolster, Mary Gormley**

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

**Offertory Collection: Glendermott: £3,776.00 Strathfoyle: £535.00**

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

**Children in crossfire** – acknowledge with thanks donations amounting to **£1,190.59** towards their Advent appeal.

**Vocations** - We pray God's blessing on all those involved in a Vocations Retreat in Larne this weekend, for Fr Ryan Connors who is leading the retreat, for the Vocations Directors of the northern dioceses who helped organise it, and for the 28 men taking part in it, including 12 from our own diocese.

**St Vincent de Paul Society** – Have you ever thought of volunteering. St Vincent de Paul is an international charity and the largest voluntary charity in Ireland. If you have a spare hour and want to do some good in your local community, we would love you to come and volunteer with us. Every hour a volunteer can spare makes a difference in someone's life. To find out more please visit our website <https://www.svp.ie/ways-to-help/volunteer/>

**Living Disciples** – Franciscan Friars of the Renewal – Healing nights every **First Friday** in St Joseph's Chapel, Galliagh from 7.00pm – 10.00pm.

**Congratulations** - to the children who received the Holy Spirit in the Sacrament of Confirmation over the past two weeks. We remember them in our prayers and as adults may we be the best of role models for them to follow.

## **FORTHCOMING EVENTS AT THE CARMELITE RETREAT CENTRE TERMONBACCA**

**SLEEPING SAINT JOSEPH NOVENA: 11th - 19th March. Mass each evening at 7.30 p.m. All are welcome to attend.**

**Saint Charbel Healing Service** one day retreat in the Carmelite retreat Centre , Termonbacca led by Fr Terry O'Connell. **14th March 2024 10:00am to 3:00pm.** There will be a first-class relic for individual blessing along with Saint Charbel oil for all attending. A light lunch will be provided. Cost £20. All welcome.

**DAY RETREAT FOR MEN: Sat. 16th March. 10am. - 4 pm. Talks by Robert Nugent and Fr. Antonio Maria C.F.R. Cost for the day, including light lunch £15.**

For bookings: e-mail [termonbaccaderry@gmail.com](mailto:termonbaccaderry@gmail.com) or call 71 262512.

**WEEKEND RETREAT FOR LADIES: Fri. 22nd - Sun. 24th March. Conducted by the Apostles of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Cost £90 residential. £70 non-residential.**

For bookings: e-mail [termonbaccaderry@gmail.com](mailto:termonbaccaderry@gmail.com) or call 71 262512.

**Legion of Mary ACIES - meeting this year will be held on Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> March in St Columba's Long Tower after the 7:30pm. All legion of Mary members and auxiliaries are welcome to attend and renew their vows. Anyone wishing to join or find out what we are about contact Tom at 07521500665**

***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 in Carmelite Retreat Centre, Termonbacca on the following dates **Monday 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)

***Grand Gala Concert in St Columb's Hall*** – The Priests and soprano Margaret Keys are performing a musical extravaganza on Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm in St Columb's Hall. The concert is a fundraiser for the restoration of the 180-year-old organ in St Columb's Church, Long Tower and for restoration of Christ Church. Tickets will go on sale next week, priced £30.00.

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# 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	<b>*7:15am</b> 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	6pm (Sunday Vigil)

## Confessions:

**St Columb's** – Saturday after 10am Mass,

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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**\*Weekdays during Lent**