



PARISHES OF GLENDELMOTT & STRATHFOYLE

24th March 2024,

PALM SUNDAY

His silence said it all !

“Salvation was bought not by Jesus’ fist, but by his nail pierced hand; not by muscle but by love; not by vengeance but by forgiveness; not by force but by sacrifice. Jesus surrendered in order that he might win; he conquered death by allowing others to conquer him.” A. W. Tozer.

The Gospel of the passion shows how Jesus responded to the injustice inflicted on him. His way was to absorb all the violence, change it, and give it back as forgiveness and love. This is the victory of love over destruction. Holy Week reminds us that we need a different way of thinking if we are to understand what Jesus did and said.

On the cross Jesus spoke few words and did not protest his innocence but his silence said it all. As we ponder the events of this special week in the church calendar we must try to get drawn into the mystery of what happened. The innocent suffering should draw us into a different space, into a new insight into the crucified one. In Jesus God’s plan triumphed; his wounds bring healing and faith.

Suffering and death are unavoidable, but we can say “yes” to them as Jesus did, dying so that God’s gift of new life may emerge.

Masters in Catholic School Leadership -The Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre, working in Partnership with Saint Mary’s University, Twickenham, offers the Masters in Catholic School Leadership. This is a post graduate degree dedicated to the professional development and spiritual formation of Catholic school leaders. It is a great opportunity for those currently in leadership roles and those who aspire to, or have an interest in, leadership roles within the Catholic School system. If you are interested in registering for the Masters in September 2024 or require any further information, please contact the Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre on 004428 71264087 or email tferry@derrydiocese.org

National Eucharistic Adoration Pilgrimage to Knock on Sunday, 14 April (weekend after Divine Mercy Sunday). To enquire or book a seat, call: 07738873492 (from Donegal, dial 004477...). Details of buses, nationwide, on www.eucharisticadoration.ie

Healing our Wounds Weekend Workshop at Ards Friary, 12-14 April. This workshop offers a way to transform our wounds. It will include input, time for personal reflection, opportunities for sharing and some social time. Cost €220 includes retreat, accommodation, and all meals. Limited to 12 people. To make a booking contact Ards on 00353 74 9138909 or by email info@ardsfriary.ie

Vocations -For our seminarians and those who are considering priesthood, that in their ministry they will do all they can to ensure that, in the words of St Paul, "...every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

The Walled City Passion returns this Easter to the historic walls of Derry-Londonderry, from Thursday 28th until Saturday 30th March. Showtimes are 12.00noon and 3.00pm, and tickets are available via the Millennium Forum Box Office 02871 264455 or online at www.millenniumforum.co.uk

Divine Mercy Conference – Saturday 6th April 2024, Knock Shrine, St John's Welcome Centre. Time 11am – 4pm. Guest speakers include Fr Pat Collins C.M. and Fr Issac John MSFS

Deaths: We extend sympathy to the families of **Anne McGilloway**, St Francis Terrace and **Maeve Carey**, Rochester Drive

Anniversaries: Ita Patton, Noreen McConomy, Martin McConomy, Gerry McIntyre, Matt Morrison, Anna Anthony, Mary Murphy, Georgina Harrison, Paddy Maguire, Michael Finnis, Mary Rose Hargan, Sean Friel, Jim Campbell, Johnny Sharkey, Michael Downs, Danny Doherty.

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

Sunday Offertory Collection:

Glendermott: £3,647.00 Strathfoyle: £640.00

The collection for the Holy Place amounted to £1,350.00

Thank you for your generosity to the church collections.

Trocaire Boxes to be returned during Holy week.

HOLY WEEK REFLECTIONS

Lent is a journey – travelling with Jesus as he returns from temptation in the wilderness to his victory over death on the cross in Jerusalem. As we journey through Lent Jesus journeys with us.

Palm Sunday Jesus begins on what he knows will be a difficult journey. This is the start of our walk with Jesus through Holy Week. **Suggestion:** Place your Palm Cross where you will see it every day of this week.

Monday – Mary ignored social distancing rules and poured an expensive perfume on the feet of Jesus. **Suggestion:** Take a flower or a scented candle and reflect on Mary’s action

Tuesday – At supper Jesus is troubled, one present will betray him. On the holy week journey Jesus walked with friends yet one was to let him down. **Suggestion:** Reflect on people who have been part of my life

Wednesday – Imagine the anxiety in the room – wondering who is the betrayer. Betrayal hurts. Jesus must have been hurt and disappointed. **Suggestion:** Reflect on times I felt let down by a friend and the times that I was the one who let a friend down.

Thursday - Today we celebrate Jesus washing the disciple’s feet and giving us the Eucharist. **Suggestion:** Come to the Mass of the Lord’s Supper and receive Jesus.

Friday – The journey is close to its end. A journey he knew would end on a cross. It was a lonely journey, betrayal, and fear. Loneliness is part of the lives of many people. **Suggestion:** Make contact with someone who might be alone or someone who we have not had contact within a long time.

Saturday – For most people present at the spectacle of the crucifixion hope was lost, gone. All was left was the practicalities of death. Holy Saturday is a strange day in the church calendar. **Suggestion:** Pray for someone who lives without hope, those who society see as worthless.

Holy Saturday Evening, if not attending the Easter Vigil, light a candle (or a few) “The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it” (John 1:5)

Mass and Ceremony Schedule for Holy Week

Monday – Wednesday

St Columb's Church 07:15, 10:00am and 07:30pm

Immaculate Conception 09:15am

St Oliver Church 11:00am

St. Mary's Oratory 11:00am Wednesday only

HOLY THURSDAY: 07:30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper in all Churches continuing with prayer at Altar of Repose until 10:00pm

GOOD FRIDAY: 10:00am St Columb's Church,
Morning Prayer of the Church
03:00pm St Columb's Church – Passion of the Lord

03:00pm St Oliver Plunkett – Passion of the Lord

07:00pm Immaculate Conception -Passion of the Lord

HOLY SATURDAY: 10:00am St Columb's Church Morning Prayer of the Church

08:00pm Easter Vigil in all Churches

EASTER SUNDAY: Usual Sunday Mass schedule

Confessions: St Columb's Church on Palm Sunday from 05:00pm until evening Mass also Mon to Thursday before evening Mass.

St Oliver Plunkett Church on Monday from 11:30am until end of Adoration
Church of Immaculate Conception – Thursday and Friday after the ceremonies.

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Web Cam: www.youtube.com/WatersideParish