



**PARISHES OF GLENDELMOTT
& STRATHFOYLE**

31st March 2024

Easter Sunday

Death is not the last word!

The stories of this week are the story of the death of Jesus the Word made flesh: the story of darkness into light: the story of hatred turned to love: the story of betrayal becoming transformed: the story of pain and suffering. It follows a long line of stories that we have been learning from an early age.

Fundamentally, the story of the Resurrection is the only story we ever need to hear as Christian. Because if the story is not true, then everything else is meaningless. All preaching is worthless, in fact all that is ever said, written, proclaimed, announced about Christianity is futile if we fail to believe the story of the resurrection. This is not a myth or fable or some symbol, this is not the product of some intellectual machination, cooked up by learned man and woman to placate Christian masses and keep them coming back for more. It is worth repeating, if Christ did not rise from the dead all of this is worthless.

If we do not take this as an article of faith, then everything else has no meaning. You can't say, well I believe this and that about Christianity, but when it comes to the resurrection,

I'm not sure, then none of the rest really matters. Our faith is in vain, and we are the most pitiful of all creation. At the heart of the New Testament is the belief in Christ crucified, otherwise everything is futile. If we truly believe that Christ is risen, then he must be the centre of our lives.

Death is not now the last word. Jesus has risen from the dead and this world is not all that there is.

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The Priests of the Parish wish all our parishioners a Peaceful and Holy Easter Time.

A word of thanks and appreciation to the many people who have helped in so many ways in our churches over the Easter period.

MASS TIMES FOR COMING WEEK

Mass each day in St Columb's Church at 10:00am and 7:30pm.
There will be no Masses in other parish churches during the coming week.

Usual Mass schedule begins with the Vigil Masses on **Saturday 6th April.**

Baptisms – We welcome into the family of God **Keenan Stewart**, *Stradowen Drive.*

Deaths -*We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of* **Pearce Cassidy**, Lisnavar Court.

Anniversaries: We are asked to remember in our prayers *Joan Nash, William Ball, Anne Marie Monaghan, Samuel & Joan Frazer, Celine Deehan, John Callan, Kathleen Arbuckle, Sean Carr, Thomas McGarry, Tommy Grimes, Harry McGurk, Jim McGill, Patrick Brown, Terry McNutt, Lavina O'Doherty, Leonard Coyle, Paddy Doherty, Anne Doherty.*

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

Offertory Collection: Glendermott: £4001.00 Strathfoyle: £750.00
Thank you for your generosity to the church collections.

NEW OFFERTORY COLLECTION ENVELOPES

The new offertory collection envelopes begin next weekend **6th/7th April.**
Pink envelopes are available for collection in our church porches.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES WILL BE DELIVERED DURING THE COMING WEEK

If your Gift Aid Envelope has not been delivered by next weekend use the spare envelope in your current box.

If you are currently paying tax and not already using a Gift Aid Envelope, please consider joining the scheme. In our Parishes the returns from Gift Aid are equivalent to about 8 weekly collections. With people dropping out new members are always welcome.

Gift Aid forms and direct debit forms are available from the Parish office.

The Annual Mass for the Organisation of National Ex-Servicemen and Women will be held in Saint Eugene's Cathedral, Derry, on Easter Monday at 11.30am. All are welcome.

Vocations - May the Spirit of the Risen Christ bless and guide our seminarians and those discerning a call to serve the people and parishes of this diocese as priests and move the hearts of many more men to consider a priestly vocation.

LIFE Camp 2024 Living - In - Faith – Everywhere. **LIFE** Camp is a voluntary organisation staffed by teachers, students, and experienced volunteers. It takes place in St. Mary's College, Northland Road, Derry. We are calling all pupils currently in P3 – P7. Week 1– **Monday 1st – Friday 5th July** and Week 2 – **Monday 8th July – Friday 12th July**. Cost for each week is £40. To register go to www.klubfunder.com/Clubs/Life%20Summer%20Camp

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

Accord Derry Marriage Preparation Courses -April 19TH & 20TH, May 17th and 18th June, 14TH and 15th 2024. Courses can be booked online at www.accordni.com **(Please note that all courses are now in person and NOT virtual)**

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 also in Carmelite Retreat Centre, Termonbacca on the following dates Monday **25th April** and **20th May** at 7.30pm. Everyone welcome.

Easter Prayer

Heavenly Father and God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead,
for he is alive and has become the Lord of Life.

From the waters of death, you raise us with him and renew your gifts of life within us. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. *Amen*

Mass Schedule

(Beginning again on weekend of 6th/7th April)

Sunday

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|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| 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

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|-----------------------|-----------------|
| St Columb's Church | 10:00am, 7:30pm |
| Immaculate Conception | 09:15am |
| St Oliver Plunkett | 11:00am |

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

Saturday

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|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| 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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