



PARISHES OF GLENDELMOTT & STRATHFOYLE

Sunday 7th April 2024

'Peace be with you.'

We often read today's gospel reading and focus on Thomas, the doubting disciple who needed to put his finger in the marks of the nails before he would believe.

But this story is really about all those fear-filled disciples, trembling behind that locked door, wondering what it all means. This story is really about each and every one of us: trying to live a life worthy of our Lord and Saviour; struggling with doubt, weighed down with fear, and constantly falling short of what we know that he expects from us.

And this story is also about how Jesus comes to us, amid our doubts, fears, sin, and guilt, to offer each and every one of us that simple word of grace, mercy, and forgiveness. 'Peace be with you,' says our risen Lord to us all.

This gospel reading is really about the peace which surpasses all understanding; the peace which the world cannot give; the peace that can only come from our crucified and risen Lord; and the peace that comes when we most need it.

Think back to a time in your life when you feel as though you have truly disappointed God. And now, imagine Jesus showing up at that very moment, and saying to you: 'Peace be with you.' That is what our Lord does for each and every one of us. That, too, is what the miracle of Easter means to us.

But today's gospel reading is also about the ways in which we are called to share that peace and joy, with a world so filled with doubt and fear. Jesus did not join his disciples in the upper room simply to celebrate his resurrection with them. He also joined them there to give them the gift of the Holy Spirit, and to send them to the world to continue his mission. We are sent-out people of God, with a mission that comes straight from our crucified and risen Messiah.

Anniversaries: We are asked to remember in our prayers *Willie McCauley, Mona McVeigh, Phyllis Quinn, Fr Tony Quinn, Sr Majella Sheridan, William Hegarty, Lena Quinn, William Brennan, James Hargan, Patrick Bradley.*

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

Offertory Collection: Glendermott: £4125.00 Strathfoyle: £755.00

Thank you for your generosity to the church collections.

TROCAIRE BOXES TO BE RETURNED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

NEW OFFERTORY COLLECTION ENVELOPES

The new offertory collection envelopes commence this weekend **6th/7th April.**

Pink envelopes are available for collection in our church porches.

MOST GIFT AID ENVELOPES HAVE BEEN DELIVERED DURING THE PAST 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.

Vocations – In today's second reading St John Asks: "Who can overcome the world?" and answers: "Only those who believe that Jesus is the Son of God. "We pray that our seminarians and those discerning a vocation to serve the people of this diocese will be men of faith, who doubts and fears will be relieved through an encounter with the Risen Jesus.

The Year of Prayer for Vocations to the Diocesan Priesthood comes to an official end on Good Shepherd ***Sunday, 21st April 2024.***

"God our Father, send workers into your harvest. May the Spirit we received in baptism touch the hearts of many, to offer themselves in priesthood, religious life and other forms of service. Give the parents and families of our diocese the wisdom and courage to support young people in searching for and following the call of God in their lives. Through Christ our Risen Lord. *Amen.*"

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

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.

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Thought for the Day

When we are all despairing;
When the world is full of grief;
When we see no way ahead,
And hope has gone away.

Roll back the stone.

Although we fear change;
Although we are not ready;
Although we'd rather weep and run away.

Roll back the stone.

Because we're coming with the women;
Because we hope where hope is vain;
Because you call us from the grave
And show the way.

Roll back the stone.

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	10:00am, 7:30pm
Immaculate Conception	09:15am
St Oliver Plunkett	11:00am

(11am 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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