

PARISHES OF GLENDERMOTT & STRATHFOYLE

Sunday 5th May 2024 Sixth Sunday of Easter

LOVE ONE ANOTHER

We are asked to love those who persecute us, to love those who hate us. And, because Christ gave this to us as his only commandment, we know two things: 1. That it is possible to attain even if difficult, and 2. That it should be at the forefront of all of our life, all of the time.

We expend a great deal of energy on disliking people. We use excuses to dislike people just in the same way as Christ used excuses to forgive and love people.

Yet, just as Christ forgave us, the people who persecuted him, and calls us friends, those whom we don't always like. The street beggars, the people who have a different religion or as different skin colour or spoken language or culture, even those who have different ideas to ours. Much of the media – which is now the shop frontage of life - tells us to seek blame. Any news story is first and foremost an exercise in blame. Yet, this is not the Christian way. Christ tells us: 'I have told you this so that my own joy may be in you and your joy be complete.'

This is our vocation, then, that our joy may be complete by loving him, by allowing him to love us through everyone around us. Let us with our whole hearts enter into Christ's single commandment to love one another and ask the Holy Spirit who convinces us of the meaning and the value of the Christian way, to lead us to fullness in him.

Please note change to Mass schedule this week – There will be no Masses in Immaculate Conception, St Oliver Plunkett and St Mary's Oratory on **Tuesday** and **Wednesday.** The Priests of the Diocese are attending a conference in Dromintine, Co. Armagh. Mass at usual times in St Columb's Church. Usual Mass schedule from Thursday onwards.

Volunteers needed – We are looking for people to volunteer to be Eucharistic Ministers, bringing Communion to the Hospitals. Please leave your name at office if willing to be of help. Baptisms: We welcome into the family of God Ondra Kathryn Fionnuala Green, Ardanlee, Ballynagard; Nell Alice Bradley, Huddersfield, England; Flynn Shawn Anthony Barron, Birch Hill; Cillian Daniel Sam Moore, Pennyburn Court.

Deaths: We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of **Audrey Devlin**, Prehen Park, Tony McColgan, Strabane Old Road

Anniversaries: We are asked to remember in our prayers: Thomas Parke, Terry Ward, Shawn Quinn, Marie Coyle, Bronagh McMenamin, John Monaghan, Kathleen McFeely, Alex Doherty, Liam McColgan, John Mc Gillian, Sean McHugh, Margaret Sanzo, Thomas & Teresa Nicholas, Maryann Duddy, Mary & Don Sharkey, Louise Casey, John Logue, Anna Canning, John Dillon, Kathleen Sweeney.

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

Offertory Collection: Glendermott: £4,347.00 Strathfoyle: £515.00 Second collection next weekend for the administration of the Diocese Thank you for your generosity to the church collections.

Gift- Aid - 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 are available from the Parish office.

Lectio Divina – Our weekly meditation on the Sunday readings will continue each Thursday at 8.00pm in the side chapel of St Columb's Church, Chapel Road. Come along and join in the ancient practice of the Church of praying God's word.

'Fan the Flame' Annual Open-Air Mass for all the children in the diocese who celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation this year. It will take place in Celtic Park, Lone Moor Road, Derry on **Thursday, 6**th **June 2024** beginning at 11.30am and finishing around 1.00pm. Schools need to be seated by 11.00am.

Services of Intercession for the Dead - Blessing of the Graves will take place on **Sunday, 2nd June** at 3.00pm in Altnagelvin and Ballyoan cemeteries and at 6.00pm in Ardmore cemeteries.

The Annual Service of Intercession for the Dead will take place in the City Cemetery on *Sunday, 30th June 2024* at 3.00pm.

Lough Derg One Day Retreats will take place on 12th, 14th, 18th 25th and 27th May. More details can be found at www.loughderg.ie. The Lough Derg Three-Day Pilgrimage begins on **Friday**, **31**st **May** and continues until **15th August**.

The Little Way Novena in St Eugene's Cathedral – 11th May to 19th May: The theme is **'I choose your will only**". The Novena will begin at the 7.30 pm Mass with the Sacrament of the Sick on Saturday, 11th May. Devotions and talk on Sunday, 12th May at 6.00 pm. Monday to Friday (13th to 17th May) Novena Masses at 6.30 am and 10.00 am each morning and an evening service with a guest speaker at 7.30 pm. Saturday, 18th May 10.00 am Mass for those who have died. The Novena will close on Sunday, 19th May at 3.00pm

Legion of Mary... Rosary at Home

The Legion of Mary in the Waterside have begun a campaign in promoting the Rosary at Home. If you would like us to help you get started on your own, with your family or with a prayer group please feel free to call Tom from the Legion of Mary on 07521500665 and one of our groups will get back to you. It would be our privilege to help you.

Mary's Meals - Pray in May - Mary's Meals, provides school meals to over 2.4 million children every day. During the month of May, dedicated to Our Lady, we invite you to join us in praying for the hungry children who rely on our life-changing school meals We are praying for families facing hunger in Ethiopia. Further details on our Ethiopia appeal and prayer resources for adults and children can be found at www.marysmeals.org.uk/prayinmay

Vocations – For those considering a vocation to the priesthood of this diocese, that they will look to Jesus as "the true vine," their inspiration and guide, the one who will nourish and sustain them in their desire to serve Him and His people.'

Masters in Catholic School Leadership Information Session 20th May 2024 - 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. An information session via ZOOM will be held on Monday 20th May 2024 at 3.30pm. If you require any further information, or wish to register for the information session, please contact the Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre on 004428 71264087 or email tferry@derrydiocese.org

Mass Schedule

Sunday

St Columb's Church Immaculate Conception St Oliver Plunkett St Mary's Oratory 10:00am, 12:30pm, 6:00pm 10:15am & 12:15pm 11:15am 09:15am

Monday - Friday

St Columb's Church10:00am, 7:30pmImmaculate Conception09.15amSt Oliver Plunkett11:00am(11am mass in St Mary's Oratory on Wednesdays)

Saturday

St Columb's Church Immaculate Conception St Oliver Plunkett 10:00am, 7:00pm (Sunday Vigil) 11:00am, 6:00pm (Sunday Vigil) 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 Parish Office: 32 Chapel Road, Waterside, Derry BT47 2BB Phone: (028) 71 342303 email: secretary@watersideparish.net Web: <u>www.watersideparish.net</u> YouTube Channel: www.youtube.com/WatersideParish Rev. Michael Canny PP 028-7134 2303 secretary@watersideparish.net

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