



PARISHES OF GLENDELMOTT
& STRATHFOYLE
Sunday 9th June 2024

Feast of St Columba

(Tenth week in Ordinary Time)

From the outset Jesus had to deal with misunderstanding, obstruction, rejection and opposition, even, as today's gospel reading reveals, from among his own relatives. Reacting neither with anger nor annoyance, Jesus uses this conflict to teach us an important truth about the Kingdom of God, and to clarify who are the members of his true family, namely, those who do the will of God.

Discerning and carrying out the will of God, his Father, was the dominant passion of Jesus' life. It led him to leave his home in Nazareth and assume the life of an itinerant preacher: proclaiming God's reign of truth, justice and love, healing the sick, and liberating people from the power of evil. His words and actions presented a consistent challenge to the religious authorities of his day.

In today's gospel reading Mark tells us that when Jesus and his disciples arrived back home in Nazareth, such a huge crowd of people gathered around him *'that they could not even have a meal'* (Mk 3:30). Sadly, neither his relatives nor the religious experts from Jerusalem, who had come to check him out, are among his admirers. His relatives, Mark informs us, *'set out to take charge of him, convinced he was out of his mind'* Mk 3:21). In other words, they are accusing Jesus of being in league with the forces of evil.

Mark then tells us that Jesus' mother and brothers arrived. Waiting outside the house where Jesus and his disciples are staying, they *'send in a message asking for him'* (Mk 3:32). And Jesus responds by asking: *"Who are my mother and my brothers?"* And looking round at those sitting in a circle around him, he said, *"Here are my mother and my brothers!"* (Mk 3:34) He is not disowning his mother or brothers but creating a new and larger family of relationships. *'Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother'* (Mk:35).

The new family of Jesus challenges us to cross national, cultural and social boundaries and build authentic human community on the basis of God's reign of justice, peace and love.

Please note - CHANGES TO MASS TIMES THIS WEEK
Monday 10th - Friday 14th June Inclusive.

**No Mass this coming week at 9.15am in Immaculate Conception or 11.00am
in St Oliver Plunkett Church, Strathfoyle
Normal Mass times resume on Saturday 15th**

Baptisms: We welcome into the family of God **Eden Hallie Barr**, Shepherd's Glen; **Poppy Linda Celeste Wright**, Virginia Court.

Deaths: We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of **Harry Baldrick**, Landsdowne Road; **Margaret Walsh**, Woodside Road; **Brendan McMenamain**, Cliftonville Avenue; **Mary Ann Duddy**, Anderson Crescent; **Pat Callan**, Dunfield Terrace, **Vincent Doherty**, Beechwood Park, Strathfoyle.

Anniversaries: We are asked to remember in our prayers: *Jim Healy, Rory Finnis, Tommy Conaghan, Martin O'Neill, Eddie Given, William Smyth, Noleen McFadden, Mary Callaghan, Madge Shotter, Stephen Milner, Christopher Kirk, Rose Ann Murphy, Marjorie McGarry, Mary Anthony, Rita McPhillips, Lenny Irwin, Frances Curran, Paul McCauley, Bridie Doherty, James Bradley.*

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

Offertory Collection: Glendermott: £3300.00 Strathfoyle: £465.00
Thank you for your generosity to the church collections.

Diocese of Derry Three-Day Pilgrimage to Lough Derg 2024 led by Bishop Donal McKeown starts on **Friday, 26 July, and concludes on Sunday, the 28 July**. Bus will leave St Eugene's Cathedral, Derry, on Friday 26 July at 11.00am and will travel via, Strabane, Lifford and Ballybofey. Cost £80 including transport. Cost for those making their own way to Lough Derg, £70. Please contact Tony Brennan on tony.brennan@derrydiocese.org or phone the Diocesan Office on 028 7126 2302 for booking form. We look forward to welcoming you!

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.

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

Day Retreat in Honour of St Anthony will take place in the **Carmelite Retreat Centre Termonbacca** on **Thursday 13th June**, from **10 a.m. - 3.00 p.m.** Cost for the day, including light lunch £20. For bookings, telephone 028 7126 2512.

Please bring along some lilies to have blessed in honour of St. Anthony on the day.

Catechism/YouCat Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine – 15th June 2024

Do you want to learn more about your Catholic faith?

You/Cat (Youth Catechism of the Catholic Church) is a faith training programme of the Christian faith for anyone who wants to explore the Christian Faith.

To help you learn more about YouCat and the Catechism of the Catholic Church, you are invited to the **Catechism/YouCat Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine on Saturday, 15th June. No need to book.** Details of the pilgrimage can be found at: derrydiocese.org/news/youcat-pilgrimage or contact Mairin Ni Shuilleabhain, National Co-Ordinator for Adult Catechism Studies in Ireland on 00353 (0) 877950325.

Vocations – When Jesus is told, 'Your mother and brothers and sisters are asking for you,' he replies, 'Anyone who does the will of God, that person is my brother and sister and mother.' We pray for those hoping to serve as priests of the diocese of Derry, that they will do the will of God.

The Prayer of St Columba

Be a bright flame before me, O God

a guiding star above me.

Be a smooth path below me,

a kindly shepherd behind me

Today, tonight, and for ever.

Alone with none but you,

my God I journey on my way;

What need I fear when you are near,

O Lord of night and day?

More secure am I within your hand

*than if a multitude did round me stand. **Amen***

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	10am, 7:30pm
Immaculate Conception	No Mass Monday to Friday this week
St Oliver Plunkett	No Mass Monday to Friday this week

(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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