



PARISHES OF GLENDELMOTT AND STRATHFOYLE

Sunday 30th June 2024

'Do not be afraid: only have faith'

Today's gospel reading from Mark reports two miracles performed by Jesus. The first is the raising to life of the daughter of Jairus. The second is the healing of a woman with a haemorrhage she had endured for twelve years. In each case, the miracle performed by Jesus is in response to a courageous act of faith.

As Jesus accompanies Jairus to his house, followed by a large crowd, we are told that a woman with a twelve-years' bleeding complaint approaches Jesus timidly. She touches his cloak and is immediately cured. In response, Jesus turns and asks who touched him. The woman could have remained anonymous; yet, in response to Jesus' question, she steps forward and acknowledges what she has done. She comes clean *'with the whole truth'* of her *'shame-inducing'* condition. And Jesus responds by acknowledging her faith.

At this point, we can imagine Jairus' mounting anxiety. His daughter is seriously ill and may be dying, and now Jesus' arrival is being delayed. As if to heighten the tension Mark tells us that messengers suddenly arrive from the house of Jairus and confirm his worst fear: his daughter is dead. No point in troubling Jesus any longer! Jesus ignores their message and reassures Jairus with words that echo the message of last Sunday's gospel: *'Do not be afraid; only have faith'* (Mk 5: 37).

Jairus' faith in Jesus has not been in vain. His daughter is restored to life. And Jesus is revealed not only as having power over nature but also over death, reversing the work of the devil, as the first reading from Wisdom indicates (*Wisdom 2:23-24*).

The faith of Jairus and of the woman with the haemorrhage invites us to reflect on our own faith in Jesus and take steps to nurture and develop it, confident that Jesus' response will be gentle, loving and healing.

Baptisms: We welcome into the family of God: **Kaleb Patrick Brennan, Coneyburrow, Strathfoyle.**

Deaths: We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of **Jim Fitzpatrick** who has died in New York, USA.

Anniversaries: We are asked to remember in our prayers: Rosemary & Dan Kelly, Sheila Coyle, William McGrath, John Carlin, Leonard & Bridie Callan, Maura Callan, Ann Deehan, Bridie McKinney, Leo Doherty, Mary Given, Celine Boyle, Philomena Barrow, Mary Muldoon, Brian Owen, Rose Walker, Mary Mullan, Paula doherty, John & Sadie McConomy, Bernard Hannaway, Benny McChrystal, George Walker.

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

Offertory Collection: Glendermott: £3217 Strathfoyle: £640

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.

Vocations – That the men called to serve the diocese of Derry as priests will hear the Lord say in this weekend's gospel, "Do not be afraid. Only have faith."

World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly – This significant event will take place on **28th July 2024** at Knock Shrine, with His Excellency Archbishop Luis Mariano Montemayor, Apostolic Nuncio of Ireland, as the principal celebrant.

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

The Holy Family Padre Pio Prayer Group will meet on Tuesday 2 July at Holy Family Chapel, Ballymagroarty. Starting with the Rosary at 18.45, Mass at 19.15, and Novena to St Pio directly afterwards. The priest will bless each person, directly after Mass, with a first-class relic of St Pio. All are welcome.

Mary's Meals -Fr Eamonn Kelly, priest of Raphoe diocese, is involved with Mary's Meals, a charity that presently feeds 2,429,182 children in their place of education each school day. For the past eleven years walks to Knock Shrine have taken place, to raise awareness of, and funds for Mary's Meals. "We are now launching Step by Step to Feed the Next Child 2024. We have walks originating in many counties, north and south. All walks go from 7 August to 15 August. We are seeking people to help us create new walks, join us for a day or half day or a few hours, collect, take a sponsor card or promote the walk. It costs €22 to give a child a meal each day in school for a school year and every eleven cents raised provides a meal. If you would like more information or to get involved, I would love to hear from you. My contact details are: Eamonn Kelly (Rev), Parochial House, Convoy, Co Donegal, F93HX2R, eamonnkelly1949@gmail.com or 087 9077985."

The precious gift of time

According to the old story, all the animals gathered for a meeting. In turn they complained that people were constantly depriving them of what was precious. "They steal my milk," lamented the cow. "They steal my eggs," moaned the hen. "They make off with my wool," said the sheep. "They hunt me for my oil," uttered the whale. And so, the animals went on.

Finally, the snail took the opportunity to tell of his experience. "I have a gift they would love to have, a treasure greater than any other. It is a gift they would gladly relieve me of if they could". Said the snail. "And what is that gift?" the other animals asked with great expectation. The snail's answer was very concise. "**I have time.**"

Like the snail we all have the gift of time, but the question is: How wisely do we use this precious gift?

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 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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