



PARISHES of GLENDELMOTT & STRATHFOYLE

Sunday, 27th October 2024
Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Lord that I may see”

Jericho, the city where this weekend miracle occurs, is one of the oldest cities in the world, located on the route to Jerusalem. At the time of Jesus, beggars were often seen as marginalised and ignored by society, and physical blindness was commonly interpreted as a curse or punishment for sin.

The story of Bartimaeus is a powerful example of faith and persistence. Though physically blind, Bartimaeus "sees" who Jesus truly is—the Messiah—and calls out to Him in faith. When others try to silence him, he cries out even more. Jesus' response to Bartimaeus is one of compassion, healing him and affirming that his faith has brought about his restoration. Bartimaeus's regained sight leads him to follow Jesus along the path of discipleship.

The courage of Bartimaeus to call out to Jesus, even when faced with rebuke from the crowd, stands as an example of persistent faith. He recognises his need and the one who can fulfil it. The crowd's attempt to silence him contrasts with Jesus' willingness to listen and respond. This Gospel calls on believers to be like Bartimaeus: persistent in seeking Jesus, clear in our need, and willing to proclaim Him as Lord despite opposition or discouragement from the world.

Those around Bartimaeus told him to be quiet. The modern world dismisses going to Jesus. It 'scolds' the religious spirit. Jesus asked Bartimaeus to say what he wanted. A model for prayer: Jesus also asks us to acknowledge what we need.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, like Bartimaeus, we call upon You in our need. Open our eyes to Your presence in our lives and give us the courage to seek You with persistent faith. Heal our spiritual blindness and grant us the grace to follow You wherever You lead. Help us to see those around us who are calling out for mercy, that we may guide them to Your loving embrace. Amen.

Mass Arrangements for Feast of All Saints (Friday, 1st November)

Thursday, 31 October 6.00pm Church of Immaculate Conception
6.00pm St Oliver Plunkett
6.30pm St Columb's Church (**note change of time**)

Friday, 1st November 9.15am Church of Immaculate Conception
10.00am St Columb's Church
11.00am St Oliver Plunkett Church
11.00am St Mary's Oratory
7.30pm St Columb's Church

Solemnity of All Saints – Sainthood is for everyone, not just a privileged few: it does not consist in accomplishing extraordinary feats, but in fulfilling with love the little duties of every day.

All Souls – Saturday 2nd November is the day when we commemorate all the faithful departed. From the earliest days of the Church, it was seen as a “holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead that they may be loosed from their sins”.

Adult Safeguarding Training

We have invited Mrs Briege O'Neill, Safeguarding Co-ordinator for the Diocese of Derry to facilitate Adult Safeguarding Training.

Adult Safeguarding Training is relevant to clergy, sacristans, church secretaries, adult prayer groups, senior choir leaders, Legion of Mary volunteers, members of St Vincent de Paul and Eucharistic Ministers to those people confined to their homes/nursing homes and all those in the parish who are interested in Safeguarding Adults. Training will take place on **Monday 11th November**- 7.00 pm - 10.00 pm in Waterside Parish Hall.

Adult Safeguarding Training needs to be updated every three years. It is essential to book your place on this training course as the maximum number is twenty-five.

If you are interested in attending this training, please contact the parish office on (02871342303) or leave your name in the sacristy by (Friday 8th November).

Baptisms: We welcome into the family of God: **Paulo Cillian Da Silva**, Butlers Wharf.

Deaths: We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of **Noel McGinley**, Derryview Terrace; **Pat Conaghan**, Fountain Hill; **Jack McLaughlin**, Tirkeeran Park; **Molly Hegarty**, Dunwood, Prehen.

Anniversaries: We are asked to remember in our prayers: **Mary Gillespie, Norah Brown, Margaret Flynn, Eamon Houston, Sheila Lougheed, Joe Fegan, William Barr, Monica Gillen, Fonsy Doherty, Charlie Mullan, William McConomy.**

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

Offertory Collection: Glendermott: £3818.00 Strathfoyle: £520.00

Thank you for your generosity to the church collections.

Vocations – Our Second Reading reminds us that priests are chosen from among the People of God, to help us, their brothers and sisters, in our weakness and our uncertainty, in our relationship with the Lord. We pray for the men in our parish communities who are being called to serve the Church as priests of this diocese.

Fireside Quiz in aid of Vocations Society of St Joseph will be available after all Masses in every church next weekend 26th & 27th October. Price £1.

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

The Annual Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help takes place in St Columba's Church, Long Tower on the nine Sundays before Christmas. Beginning on **Sunday, 27th October** at 6.00pm.

Walk in the Light, Friday November 1st – to mark the Christian feast of All Hallows and All Saints, the city centre churches are inviting pilgrims to join our Walk in the Light on November 1st. We are gathering in a spirit of friendship at Carlisle Road Methodist Church at 7.00pm ending with prayers in St Columba's Church Long Tower.

Sycamore – Faith Discovery programme: Sycamore is an informal course about our Catholic faith and its relevance for life today. The course will be run by Fr Peter O'Kane, Derry Diocesan Adult Faith Formator on the following dates: **Tuesday: 5,12,19,25 November & 1 December.** Venue: Dungiven, Co Derry

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

(11:00am 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 – Friday 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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Rev. Joshy Parokkaran CC 028-7134 2303 secretary@watersideparish.net

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS - If you are concerned
about the welfare and safety of children or a vulnerable adult contact:
Designated Diocesan person Ms Marie Gormley at +44 7596500793 or
marie.gormley@derrydiocese.org or PSNI 101 or emergency 999