



Parishes of Glendermott and Strathfoyle

Sunday, 12th January 2025

The Baptism of the Lord

The word “baptism” comes from the Greek word **bapto** , meaning “I dip”. When they wanted to change the colour of a garment the Greeks dipped it in dye. The dipping was repeated until the garment had taken on the new colour fully. For us Baptism is the beginning of a life-long process.

As we move through the Church year, we are reminded of what this dipping includes. At Christmas we celebrate the birthday of Jesus and dip into the joy of the event. On the first Sunday of Lent, we recall the tempting of Jesus in the wilderness and remember the temptations that cause us to struggle in following him. On Good Friday we ponder the mystery of his death and reflect on our own death. At Easter we rejoice over Jesus’s rising from the dead and reflect on eternal life that is available to all of us. The feast of the Ascension is reflecting on Jesus leaving this world and our opportunity to reflect on letting go and Pentecost is welcoming the gifts of the Holy Spirit. After Pentecost we have Ordinary Time.

Life has routine and very ordinary events, and it also has the special occasions. We are dipped into the routine and the special.

Baptism is a very special moment in our faith journey, through baptism we are marked out and pointed on a Christian direction.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity - January 18th - 25th

The service for Waterside Parish will be held on **Wednesday, 22nd January** beginning at 7.00pm in St Columb’s Church, Chapel Road, proceeding to the other churches on Clooney Terrace.

Confirmation Dates 2025

- Friday, 7th February*** Sacred Heart Primary School
- Friday, 21st March*** Strathfoyle Primary School
- Friday, 21st March*** Oakgrove Integrated Primary School and Lisnagelvin Primary School.
- Thursday, 10th April*** Chapel Road Primary School and St Columba's Primary School, Newbuildings
- Friday, 11th April*** Good Shepherd Primary School
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Catholic Schools Week 2025 begins on ***Saturday, 19th January*** and continues until ***Saturday, 25th January***. The theme for this year is '***Catholic Schools: Alive in Christ***'. During Catholic Schools Week families, parishes and schools are invited to participate in a week of celebration of Catholic schools, reflecting on their contribution to the common good of society.

To launch Catholic Schools Week in our diocese, the Eucharist will be celebrated by Bishop McKeown in St Eugene's Cathedral on ***Thursday, 16th January*** at 10.00am and everyone is welcome to attend.

Baptisms – We welcome into the family of God ***Darcy Beau McCallion***, Ardan Mews, Culmore.

Deaths – We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of ***Mary McCafferty***, Greenwood Avenue and ***Doyle O'Neill***, Clondermott Park.

Anniversaries: We are asked to remember in our prayers Patsy Kelly, Sarah O'Hagan, Joyce Harte, Liam Bradley, Catherine, Cathal, Terence, Maurice & Christopher Gallagher, Gary & Cuan Skeffington, John & Bella Callan, John Gill, Lena McLaughlin, Gabriella Porter, Eileen Costello, John Kelly, Pat Leitch, John Strawbridge, Dermoy Boyle, Patrick McGowan, Peggy Simpson, Jeanie Curran, Kevin Shearing, Jim Cassidy, Jennifer Doherty.

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

Offertory Collection: Glendermott: £3872.00 Strathfoyle: £595.00.

Thank you for your generosity to the church collections.

Vocations – As we celebrate the Baptism of Jesus which marked the beginning of His public life and ministry, we pray that each of us will respond positively to the universal call to holiness, thinking especially of those the Lord is inviting to serve His people as priests of the diocese of Derry.

Invitation to 33 Days of Family Prayer: Bishop McKeown will lead the diocese in 33 days of Family Prayer towards Consecration to Jesus Christ through Mary, as part of a diocesan programme for the Jubilee Year of 2025. It will be delivered online on the Diocese of Derry Facebook, each evening at 7.00pm, concluding on the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, **Tuesday 11th February**.

Safe Place Training – Wednesday, 15th January 2025. St Eugene’s Cathedral Hall - 1.00pm – 2.30pm. Domestic abuse, in its many forms, it is a blight on our society and a terrible experience in the place where any person should feel safest. It can be challenging to provide practical assistance to those whom we encounter. Training is now available in a simple but effective initiative, to enable us to provide practical assistance to those who experience domestic abuse.

This training initiative allows a parish to provide a ‘Safe Place’, where anyone affected by domestic abuse can confidentially access information.

The Annual Pioneer Supporters Draw for Pioneers and Friends of the PTAA will take place from **January – June 2025**. The draw will take place on the third Wednesday of each month. 1st Prize: 1000euros, 2nd Prize: 400euros, 3rd Prize: 200euros, 4th Prize: 100euros. Subscription 40euros or £37. Contact: Robert Glackin 07759586666.

St Columb’s College Open Day will take place on **Saturday, 18th January 2025**. Session 1: 9.45am – 11.30am (Surnames A-L). Session 2: 12noon – 1.30pm (Surnames M-Z)

The Baptism of the Lord. Jesus is anointed with the Spirit and his power. He is proclaimed Messiah. He now goes about doing good, working the signs that make him known as the Servant of God. He is the one who brings good news to the poor and tells of salvation. Through our Baptism each one of us is ordered to the life of Christ – Priest, Prophet and King – and the Father looks on us with favour.

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	9.15am

Monday – Friday

St Columb's Church	10.00am and 7.30pm
Immaculate Conception	9.15am
St Oliver Plunkett	11.00am

(11.00am mass in St Mary's Oratory every Wednesday)

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