



Parishes of Glendermott and Strathfoyle

Sunday, 26th January 2025
Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Word of God Sunday

Word of God Sunday is a celebration that invites Catholics to renew their relationship with the Bible and to listen attentively to the living Word of God that speaks to the Church and the world. It serves as a reminder of the foundational role of Scripture in Christian life and the ongoing relevance of God's message.

Although primarily a Catholic observance, its focus on the Bible resonates across the many Christian traditions. Pope Francis' intention (in introducing this new observance in 2020) was also to foster unity among Christians by promoting a sharing in the respect for the Scriptures and in encouraging participation in a deeper dialogue and reflection on God's Word across denominations.

“My life is my Message”

The Word of God serves many functions – it can be an invitation and at times a challenge to grow, a call to march on where there is the temptation to regress and take comfort in the past. Many times the Word of God calls for a change of heart. It is always a call to face reality and to take the courage to take responsibility for what is given to us. To those who accept God's Word it can be experienced as a gift, as a challenge, but also as power because God is present in His Word.

At Nazareth Jesus set out a programme for his ministry. The Word that had promised a radical renewal of hearts and minds was spoken with new power by Jesus. The saving presence of God is a presence about to set free at a new level. His compassion sees great potential for growth.

That mercy is powerfully effective in bringing about transformation. His Word is good news for the poor, for those who know their need of him. It is effective in liberating those who are captives to fear or crippled by guilt and shame. The year of God's favour does not end because the sun never sets on the days of God's mercy.

Baptism – We welcome into the family of God **Oisin Daniel Kerrigan**, Carn Manor.

Deaths – We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of **Colm McClelland**, Mimosa Court; **Robert Concannon**, Top of the Hill; **Ernie Birtles**, Kinsale Park; **Florence Simpson**, Strabane Old Road.

Anniversaries: We are asked to remember in our prayers *Desmond Wilson, Bernie Callan, Matthew Sheils, John McAtamney, Maureen & Sammy Wison, Paddy Sweeney, Bernadette O'Neill, Eileen Mellon, Danny & Evelyn Killen, Catherine Callan, Angela Doherty, Sam Browne, Louise Ayling, Ryan Bryson, Pat Barrow, Arthur & Lily Logue, Richard Sheridan, James Coyle*

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

Offertory Collection: Glendermott: £3,882.00 Strathfoyle: £635.00

Thank you for your generosity to the church collections.

Vocations – As we celebrate this Sunday of the Word of God we pray for those already called or being called to serve as priests of the diocese of Derry that, filled with the Spirit of the Lord, they will work to bring the “good news” of God’s love and mercy to God’s people.

‘Come Follow Me’ Eucharistic Procession led by the Franciscan Friars of Renewal, **Saturday, 1st February 2025**, departs from St Columba’s Church, Long Tower at 1.00pm going through Derry City. Bring your St Brigid’s cross or a simple cross to carry along the route. All Welcome.

Derry Diocese Pilgrimage to Lourdes Monday 30th June -Friday 4th July.

Fare £849(+£144 Single Supplement) We are delighted to announce that The Lourdes Pilgrimage Office will be opening on Saturday 1st February from 11am to 1pm in The Pastoral Centre 164 Bishop Street Derry BT48 6UJ. Phone 02871260293. It will continue to be open each week on Thursdays and Saturdays 11am to 1pm. Application Forms may be collected at these times and are also available by emailing derrypilgrim@outlook.com. We also have a youth pilgrimage coming with us and any young person 16 -18 years in any Parish may contact us by phone or email for more information.

We also asking any Nurses, Doctors or Care Staff who are interested in joining our Care Team to make contact with the Pilgrimage Office.

The Lourdes Hospitalité collection, which helps those who wish to go to Lourdes and require care and assistance, is due to take place as a door collection on the way out at weekend Masses on the 8th/9th of February 2025. As in previous years, we appeal to your generosity for this worthwhile cause as we take the pilgrimage forward facing many new challenges.

Derry Diocesan Youth Pilgrimage to Fatima – We are inviting young people aged 16+ to join us on pilgrimage to Fatima for 4 nights from **14th – 18th July 2025**. This will be a unique experience for young people and an opportunity to engage with their peers from around the world in a faith context. Cost £700 and there will be a budget plan to help with this Names and deposits of £100 are requested as soon as possible to secure a place. For more information, please contact lizzie.rea@derrydiocese.org

St John of the Cross Series - On Wednesday 5th, Thursday 6th and Friday 7th February Termonbacca will hold three evening talks exploring the teaching of St John of the Cross. These talks will be delivered by Fr Matt Blake O.C.D. Fr Matt is a Discalced Carmelite priest, and a renowned speaker and authority on Carmelite spirituality. Each talk will begin at 7:30pm and the following topics will be discussed: Wednesday 5th- The Spiritual Life. Thursday 6th- Prayer Friday 7th- Discernment. These talks are open to anyone who wishes to grow in their own spiritual life and learn more from the Saints. All welcome.

CALLING ALL KNITTERS: Age NI is delighted to announce that the Big Knit is back for 2025! So, grab your needles and your brightest yarn and get knitting for Age NI. For every hat knitted, Age NI receives 30p, and that money helps the Charity support older people who have no-one else to turn to. To register and find out more, call Age NI on 028 9024 5729, email bigknit@ageni.org or visit www.ageni.org/thebigknit

Saturday 1st February is the Feast of St Brigid - St Brigid's Blessing

**May Brigid bless the house wherein we dwell
Bless every fireside, every wall and door.
Bless every heart that beats beneath its roof.
Bless every hand that toils to bring its joy.
Bless every foot that walks portals through.
May Brigid bless the house that shelters us.**

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

Parish Office: 32 Chapel Road, Waterside, Derry BT47 2BB Phone: (028) 71
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Web: www.watersideparish.net

YouTube Channel: www.youtube.com/WatersideParish

Rev. Michael Canny PP 028-7134 2303 secretary@watersideparish.net

Rev. Patrick Lagan CC 028-7134 2303 secretary@watersideparish.net

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