



Parishes of Glendermott and Strathfoyle

Sunday, 13th April 2025 - Palm Sunday

Mystery of God's love for us

If we contrast man's way of achieving things with that of God's, we see a big difference. If man had his way, the plan of redemption would be many endless bloody battles and conflicts where the poor and weak in society, would lose out.

Salvation was bought, not by Jesus' fist, but by his nail pierced hands, not by muscle but by love, not by force but by sacrifice. He conquered death by allowing death to conquer him.

The way of Jesus was to absorb all the violence, transform it and give it back as forgiveness and love. This is the victory of love over all the powers of destruction.

Holy week reminds us that we need inner vision if we are to begin to understand what Jesus did and spoke.

Holy week is a sacred journey that invites us to walk with Jesus through his passion, death and Resurrection. It is a time to pause, reflect and enter the mystery of God's love for us.

But we must always remember that Holy week does not end at the cross. It culminates in the joy of Easter, the triumph of life over death. May all of us use this Holy week to deepen our relationship with Jesus and prepare our heart to celebrate the Joy of the Resurrection.

Palms will be blessed at all Masses this weekend.

Holy Land Collection - A church door collection for the Holy Land will be taken up at all Masses this weekend - Palm Sunday.

Mass of Chrism: Bishop McKeown will celebrate the annual Mass of Chrism with the priests of the diocese in St Eugene's Cathedral, Derry on ***Holy Thursday***

morning at 10.00am. During Mass the holy Oils for Baptism, Confirmation, Anointing of the Sick and Ordination are blessed. Also, the priests renew their Ordination promises. It is the only Mass celebrated in the diocese on Holy Thursday morning. Everyone is welcome to attend the Chrism Mass, or to join it via the St Eugene's parish webcam: www.steugenecathedral.com/webcam.html

Accord NI is recruiting experienced practitioners for the Derry and Enniskillen centres, to train in the specialism of couple counselling. Successful applicants will follow an 18-day (9 weekends) in-person Certificate programme, (144 hours class contact), which will provide the clinical skills essential for safe and ethical couple's work. Course fees paid and placement provided by Accord NI. For further information and to obtain an application form please email info@accord.ie

Baptisms - We welcome into the family of God **Emmy Bridget Georgia Hill**, Victoria Park

Deaths – We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of **Kathleen Gallagher**, Hayesbank Park.

Anniversaries: We are asked to remember in our prayers *Lena Quinn, Phyllis Quinn, Fr Tony Quinn, Mary Cooke, Ann Breen, Mary Strawbridge, Gerard Boyle, Noel Bradley, Daniel Brown, Peter Melarkey, John Boyle, Patsy McMenamin, Betty Hebden, May Mallett, James Ayling, William Muldoon, Margaret Muldoon, Roseleen Elliot.*,

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

Offertory Collection: Glendermott: £4331.00 Strathfoyle: £570.00

Thank you for your generosity to the Stipend collections.

Vocations – For those called to serve as priests of the diocese that they will bring their people to honour the Holy Name of Jesus, the name above all names, and” ...acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” (St Paul, 2nd reading).

New offertory envelopes – new offertory envelopes are available at the back of the churches. Please take one and use it weekly.

Assisted suicide Bill even worse than before - postcards available

Committee Stage of the assisted suicide Bill has ended. It is now weaker and less safe than it was before. 300+ amendments that sought to strengthen safeguards in the Bill and protect vulnerable groups were rejected by Bill supporters, including protection for people with disabilities and domestic abuse victims.

Please act now - collect a red and white postcard, fill out your details and return to the parish office and we will send them onwards

Way of the Cross Walk - through Derry on Good Friday, starting at 9.00pm from St Columba's Church, Long Tower. The 10km route will take us between the Peace Bridge and Foyle Bridge, returning to the Long Tower church about midnight.

It will be a solemn, prayerful walk in silence, open to all. We ask participants to dress warmly, bring water, and be visible to drivers – a flashlight or reflective gear is recommended.

Holy Souls in Purgatory Prayer Group – There will be a meeting of the Holy Souls in Purgatory Prayer Group in Termonbacca on the following Wednesdays from 12.30pm – 1.30pm – **30th April 28th May and 25th June 2025**.

'Pilgrims of Hope Pilgrimage' to Rome: Led by Thornhill Ministries. **16th October 2025** x 4 Nights £1095 stg pp sharing. Txt: 07736832458 with name and address

Sing for Joy - We invite you to join us for 'Sing for Joy!' - A Day of Music and Ministry. **Saturday 26th April 2025** at Lough Derg, Pettigo, Co. Donegal. Boat departs at 9:30am. This day is open to young people aged 18-35 and is free to attend (supported by the Knights of St Columbanus). Tel. +447759496677.

Young Residential Retreat Termonbacca – Friday 16th – Monday 19th May 2025 "Called". This retreat is for 18 -35 years old on their journey of Christian faith entitled – "How am I called to love and serve" Price 325 Euro per person sharing to book call or email marcus@loughderg.org or 353 (0)719861518

Gift Aid – The amount of money received for Gift Aid is significant. It is equivalent to approximately 10 weekly collections. If you are currently paying tax and not already using a Gift Aid Envelope, please consider doing so. It is no extra cost to the donor. ***Gift Aid*** forms and direct debit forms are available from the Parish Office.

Mass and Ceremony Schedule for Holy Week

Monday – Wednesday

St Columb's Church	7.15am, 10.00am & 7.30pm
Immaculate Conception	9.15am
St Oliver Plunkett	11.00am
St Mary's Oratory	11.00am

Holy Thursday: 7.30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper in all Churches in the parish, continuing with prayers at Altar of Repose until 10.00pm.

Good Friday: 10.00am St Columb's Church, Morning Prayer of the Church

3.00pm St Columb's Church – Passion of the Lord.

3.00pm St Oliver Plunkett -Passion of the Lord.

7.00pm Immaculate Conception – Passion of the Lord

Holy Saturday: 10.00am St Columb's Church. Morning Prayer.

9.00pm Easter Vigil in all Churches.

Easter Sunday: Usual Sunday Mass as schedule.

Confessions: St Columb's Church on Palm Sunday 5.00pm – evening Mass.
Monday – Thursday before evening Mass.

St Oliver Plunkett Church – Monday 11.30am until end of Adoration.

Church of Immaculate Conception – Thursday and Friday after the ceremonies.

Parish Office: 32 Chapel Road, Waterside, Derry BT47 2BB

Phone: 028 71342303

Web: www.watersideparish.net

Web Cam: www.youtube.com/WatersideParish

