

Parishes of Glendermott and Strathfoyle

Fifth Sunday of Easter

18th May 2025



“As I have loved you”

“Pay attention: Love is the only thing that distinguishes the children of God from the children of the devil. It is the only difference.” (St Augustine)

The picture of God that Jesus presents us with in today’s gospel is of a God who looks on us with love and warmth. In Jesus the glory of God is made visible. The glory of God is the glory of love.

In his commandment, “Love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another” Jesus describes one of the ways he lives in the world. He is present in his word, in the Eucharist, but also in the love that unites his disciples. Followers of Jesus who live as Jesus did make him present in the world. Jesus is love; he lives on as love.

The Old Testament had the commandment, ‘You shall love your neighbour as yourself’. It is like what Jesus commands, but Jesus brings something new. What is new is the phrase ‘as I have loved you’. For his followers, the new commandment is based on what Jesus did. Love lived in his life and in his death. It is love that is generous without limits capable of transforming every situation into an opportunity to give glory to God.

Jesus met scorn, injustice and hatred. He turned all of it into an opportunity for greater love, turning wounds into compassion, and injustice into intercession (‘Father forgive them’).

Baptisms – We welcome into the family of God **Olivia Marie McNamee**, Meehans Terrace and **Aoibh Thompson**, Lisdale Park, Maydown.

Anniversaries: We are asked to remember in our prayers *Raymond McGinn, Harry Bryson, Margaret Norris, Kathleen McGrath, Margaret Walsh, Jenny Murray, John McCormick, Richard Warne, Eithne Ivey, Kevin McGinley, Mary Collins, Jimmy Kerr, Isabella Kerr,*

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

Offertory Collection: Glendermot: £3797.00

Strathfoyle: £560.00

Thank you for your generosity to the collections.

Trocaire Boxes to be returned as soon as possible

Lectio Divina: Our weekly meditation on the Sacred Scriptures will continue in the side chapel of St Columb's Church, Chapel Road. Come and join us in the ancient practice of praying the word of God which for centuries has led God's people in a deeper appreciation of the beauty of God's word. Every **Thursday** after evening Mass.

Cemetery Sunday – Sunday 8th June - The annual service of intercession for the dead will take place in Ardmore at 6.00pm. and in Altnagelvin and Ballyoan cemeteries at 3.00pm.

Vocations – We pray for the men called to serve as priests in our diocese, that they will live and preach Jesus' "new commandment" of love for all God's people and, in this way, be known as disciples of Jesus Christ.

Young Residential Retreat, Termonbacca – 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

Columban Camino - Children in Crossfire, along with **Longtower Parish**, is organising a 'Columban Camino' between **5th** and **7th June**. Participants will walk from Derry to Buncrana, from Rathmullan to Milford and from there on to Gartan; overnight stays will be in the Inishowen Gateway and Mulroy Woods. contact shauna.oneill@childrenincrossfire.org

Rosary on the Beach – Sunday 18th May at 3.00pm Benone Beach.

Altar Servers – We are trying to recruit new Altar Servers. Children from P4 upwards are welcome.

Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage 2025 to Knock Shrine, led by Bishop McKeown, will take place on ***Saturday 15th June***, commencing with Rosary at 2.00pm, followed by Anointing of Sick at 2.30pm and concluding with Mass and Eucharistic Procession at 3.00pm. Confessions available throughout the Day. Bus transport available from St Eugene's Cathedral. For further information on this, please contact Karen on 028 71262894 or by email on catherdal@derrydiocese.org

Gamblers Anonymous – Is gambling affecting your life. Perhaps we can help. Tel. 028 7135 1329.

Lough Derg Day of Friendship and Prayer – Wednesday 21st May. Guest Speaker The Very Rev. Harold Good, Director of Corrymeela Centre for Peace and Reconciliation. 10am – 11am Tea/Coffee, Scones. 12noon Keynote address followed by Prayer Service. 1.15pm – 3.30pm Light Lunch, Departure. Admission £25 includes boat fare & hospitality. Booking essential @ www.loughderg.org or 0719861518.3

Job Opportunity with Derry Diocesan Trust. Parish Catechist – Three Patrons Parish, Derry City. Permanent post - 3-year Fixed Term Contract. 35 hours per week. In addition to faith development work in the parish, the Catechist will establish and develop chaplaincy initiatives at the Derry Campus of University of Ulster. For more information and/or application pack, email recruitment@derrydiocese.org or tel: 028 71262302.

Venerable Matt Talbot, an Irishman whose journey from alcoholism to the heights of holiness, has inspired many who struggle with addiction. In 2025, we celebrate the 100th anniversary of his death. A pilgrimage to his Shrine in Dublin will take place on Sunday, 15th June. For more information contact Brid Toner 00353 87 12000242 or 00353 87 6223036.

Congratulation – To the children of our schools who received Jesus in the Eucharist for the first time over the past two week.

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 & 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)

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 at 5.30pm before evening Mass on Saturday.

St Oliver Plunkett — Every Saturday at 5.30pm before the Vigil Mass.

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Parish Office: 32 Chapel Road, Derry BT47 2BB Tel (028) 71342303.

Email: secretary@watersideparish.net **Web:** www.watersideparish.net

YouTube Channel: www.youtube.com/WatersideParish

Rev, Michael Canny PP	0271342303	secretary@watersideparish.net
Rev. Patrick Lagan CC	02871342303	secretary@watersideparish.net
Rev. Joshy Parokkaran CC	02871342303	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 PSNI101.