

# Parishes of Glendermott and Strathfoyle

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2025



## “Go and do the same yourself”

Where would we be without the Gospel according to Saint Luke? This Gospel contains many unique accounts of Jesus’ teaching that we do not hear anywhere else. More importantly, some of these parables that we hear in Luke’s Gospel are so well planted in our imaginations. Think of the

Annunciation, the shepherds coming to the manger and the Prodigal Son – all accounts we will only read in Luke’s Gospel. Today’s Gospel, of *The Good Samaritan* is again one of those accounts which only appears in the Gospel of Saint Luke.

Indeed, it is one of those accounts that we have heard so often since childhood: we know the problem, we know the solution but often fail to put the instruction into practice. In fact, while we call it *The Good Samaritan*, there is no evidence to suggest that the Samaritan in the story was “good” at all. What Luke does frequently is to question the normal boundaries which, for those who observed it, was probably at the time doing just enough to stay on the right side of the expectations of the Law. The *Samaritan* was *good* in that he went above and beyond what anyone or any Law would have expected of him - and here the normal expectations and boundaries are questioned – and exceeded!

Many recent Popes used the parable as an opportunity to give thanks to those who work in so many capacities in medicine and healthcare – those who will never deny help to their brother or sister in need. Not long after his election as Pope, Leo XIV in a General Audience on 28 May 2025 further reflected upon this parable. He stated that when we want to help someone in any need, we cannot think of keeping our distance from them. The demand, the Holy Father continues, is to “get involved, get dirty, perhaps be contaminated...taking on the burden because one who truly helps if one is willing to feel the weight of the other’s pain.”

Maybe this is an opportunity not to leave the *Good Samaritan* as a pleasant story from childhood or mere words on the page, but putting into practice of acknowledging, appreciating and going beyond the boundaries of expectations and truly realising the need of my neighbour.

**Baptisms** – We welcome into the family of God - **Aoibhi Grace McIntyre**, Butlers Wharf; **William Og George Coulter**, Castlereagh Road, Belfast; **Faila Noelle Kelly**, Hollymount Park.

**Deaths** – We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of **Pat Mullin**, Summerhill, Prehen and **John Anderson**, Fern Park.

**Anniversaries:** We are asked to remember in our prayers *Dan Boyle, Margaret Neely, Hugh Murray, Mary Quigley, Colman Logue, Dolores McGuinness, Margaret Murray, Joseph Murray, Kathleen Murray, Cahir & Mamie Fitzpatrick, Myra Simpson, Mary Muldoon, Robert Brown, Benny McChrystal, Mollie Lees.*

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

**Offertory Collection: Glendermott: £3,919.00      Strathfoyle: £610.00**

**Thank you for your generosity to all the collections.**

**Vocations** – We pray for our seminarians and the men who are considering a vocation to the diocesan priesthood, that they will be the Good Samaritans of our time = compassionate, taking pity on the weak, comforting the afflicted, soothing the wounds of those who are hurting, giving without counting the cost.

**Vocations Society of St Joseph** – The mission of the Society is to pray for Vocations, Priesthood and Religious Life. The Rosary in St Columb's Church at 9.30am on **Thursdays** will be offered for this intention. All welcome.

“Vocations are born in prayer and from prayer and only in prayer, can they persevere and bear fruit.” (Pope Francis)

**Accord Derry Marriage Preparation Workshops** – September to November 2025. **September 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>, October 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, November 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> 2025.** All the above courses are now online for booking at [www.accordni.com](http://www.accordni.com) Please note that these courses are in person and not virtual.

**Derry Diocesan Three-Day Pilgrimage to Lough Derg 2025 - Friday 25<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> July.** For those who wish to avail of bus transport, a bus will depart from St Eugene's Cathedral, Derry after 10.00am Mass, and will travel via Strabane, Lifford, Ballybofey. Cost £95, including transport if you are availing of the bus transport contact Tony Brennan on [tony.brennan@derrydiocese.org](mailto:tony.brennan@derrydiocese.org)

**Church of the Immaculate Conception**, Trench Road are looking for a volunteer sacristan to cover weekdays (every second week).

**Mary's Meals Walk:** 'Two Bridges Walk' on **Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> August**, over the Foyle Bridge and Peace Bridge. We will meet in Sainsbury's car park at 11.45am to begin the walk at noon. The distance is approximately 5 miles. The walk is part of a series of walks taking place across Ireland in early August to raise awareness of Mary's Meals and the work they do. You can register for the walk at <https://www.marysmeals.org.uk/step> . If you have any questions please contact Helen Quinn, telephone 07814441701.

## **Prayer for going on Holiday**

Heavenly Father,

Please bless our holiday time.

Help our family to have patience and understanding.

Guide us to be mindful of this gift of time together.

Help us to make compromises when necessary and handle any chaos that comes our way with Your love and grace.

Open our eyes to truly see the beauty of the memories we are creating.

Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## ***The Good Samaritan***

It's not often, thank God, that we encounter anyone lying on the road after being beaten, but we regularly pass people who look careworn and weary, people for whom the sun is just not shining.

The expression on their face might seem to be saying: 'Keep away from me.' But their hearts may be saying something quite different: 'Please interrupt me; ask me how I am; take the chance.' Long faces can mask aching hearts. They might be inviting us, and giving us the opportunity, to be a good Samaritan, to tend to someone in need.

What Jesus does in the parable of the Good Shepherd is take the question 'Who is my neighbour?' and turn it into the question: 'Which of these people acted like a neighbour?' Even if we're not always very good at acting like neighbours, we know what it looks like; we recognise good Samaritans when we see them. And Jesus tells us that our neighbour is identified not by boundaries, or garden fences, or personalities we find it easy to relate to. Jesus insists that my neighbour is whoever is in need.

# 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.**

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**YouTube Channel:** [www.youtube.com/WatersideParish](http://www.youtube.com/WatersideParish)

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**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](mailto:marie.gormley@derrydiocese.org) or PSNI101.