

Parishes of Glendermott & Strathfoyle

Sunday 3rd August 2025

18th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Check your balance

The Gospel of Luke which has, for the most part, been read on the Sundays throughout this calendar year. The Gospel has a different feel to it from the other Gospels with its vibrant parables and accounts of Jesus and his

first followers. What makes it particularly different is that Luke the Evangelist frequently turns the standards of society upside down.

A few weeks ago, we heard the parable known as *The Good Samaritan* highlighting the human measure of who and what is “good” is not the same as God’s measure. The human standard then at the time Luke put together his Gospel is as now to frequently judge another person by appearances or background. Little has changed! Yet surely the real measure should be our charity towards another human being regardless of their appearance or background.

Once again, in this Sunday’s Gospel, Luke has Jesus warning his listeners about money, which then, as now can seem to bring a certain status to oneself. The problem is not me having wealth itself but how can I balance that with a relationship with Jesus. A sense of satisfaction and contentment knowing that I am financially secure - and can afford to meet just about anything that comes my way regardless of the price tag.

Jesus in his parables is quick to bring the rich man back to earth – what about the things that come without a monetary price tag attached? What good would the hefty bank balance be when faced with loss, bereavement or tragedy? Ultimately it depends on what our treasure is - and if that treasure is always seeking in faith the right relationship with Christ and our neighbour then maybe we do have a healthy balance.

PLEASE NOTE – There will be no WEEKDAY MASSES IN CHURCH OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION or ST OLIVER PLUNKETT the week (**3rd – 9th**). Usual Mass programme begins with the Saturday Vigil Masses at 6.00pm on **9th August**.

Baptisms – We welcome into the family of God – **Riordain Padraig Coyle**, St Canice's Park; **Sylvie Ellen Quinn**, Claragh Court; **Mia Faye McCauley**, Oakfield Mews; **Leah Alice Charlotte Bambridge**, Rosstowney Avenue; **Amelia Lauren Oglivie**, Sevenoaks.

Deaths – We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of **Noleen Duddy**, Carmoney Park.

Anniversaries: We are asked to remember in our prayers *Michael Gallagher, Patsy McNulty, Jack Sweeney, William McGonagle, Cathy Conway, Elizabeth Lynch, Agnes McNaught, Stephen Smith, George Killen, Laurence Deeney.*

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

Offertory Collection: Glendermott: £3,890.00

Strathfoyle: £435.00

Thank you for your generosity to all the collections.

Vocations – Anyone considering a vocation to the diocesan priesthood is invited to an afternoon of prayer and discussion organised by the diocesan vocations team on **Sunday, 24th August**. Mass in St Columb's Church, Waterside, at 12.30pm, followed by refreshments in the parish hall. Bishop McKeown hopes to attend, along with several priests and seminarians. The afternoon will end at 6.00pm. If your attending, please let Fr Pat know – for catering purposes – on pgoh2111@gmail.com

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 26th & 27th, October 17th and 18th, November 7th and 8th 2025.** All the above courses are now online for booking at www.accordni.com Please note that these courses are in person and not virtual.

The Padre Pio Prayer Group, Holy Family Church, Ballymagroarty meeting will take place on ***Tuesday, 5th August 2025***. Starting with rosary at 6.45pm before mass, celebration of Mass at 7.15pm, then the priest will bless everyone with relic of Padre Pio, while closing prayers are recited. Everyone welcome.

Mary's Meals Walk: 'Two Bridges Walk' today ***Sunday, 3rd 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 You can register for the walk at <https://www.marysmeals.org.uk/step> .

Rosary on the Beach – Sunday, 3rd August at 3.00pm on Lisfannon Beach.

4-week Free Dementia Education Programme for Informal Carers, starting Wednesday, 3rd September at 7.00pm in the Old Library Trust, Creggan.

The course is for those looking after someone at home who has received a dementia diagnosis. It teaches what is dementia and helps carers to gain an understanding about different types of dementia, their signs and symptoms, about communication, different behaviours and coping strategies etc.

Please note - this course is not suitable for individuals who either have dementia or are currently going through a process of diagnosis. Booking is essential via eilish@olt.ie or contact 02871 373870.

SAFEST TRAVELS LIGHTEST

The parable of the rich but foolish farmer illustrates the fundamental flaw in the model of economic development at the heart of liberal capitalism. Its motto is that 'greed is good'; its catchwords are 'more', 'bigger' and 'better'. It is fuelled by the relentless pursuit of wealth, even at the cost of destroying the beautiful planet we inhabit. Sadly, the worship of the golden calf continues to thrive in our consumerist culture.

A story of some time ago helps to illustrate the point. In 1520, Cortez (the famous Spanish explorer) and his army were preparing to evacuate, the capital city of what is now Mexico, having plundered the land for gold and riches. Observing his soldiers loading themselves with their looted treasures, Cortez warned them, saying, 'Be careful not to overload yourselves. They travel safest who travel lightest'. Those who ignored his warning were unable to escape the terrible fate that awaited them. They were buried with their gold in the salt floods of the lake they had to cross.

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 Please note changes this week 3rd - 9th August

St Columb's Church	10.00am & 7.30pm
Immaculate Conception	
St Oliver Plunkett	
(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

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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.