

# ***Parishes of Glendermott & Strathfoyle***

***Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2025***  
**22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary time.**



## ***HUMILITY***

***According to the poet, T.S. Eliot, ‘humility is the most difficult of all virtues to achieve’.***

True humility is not playing small out of fear of the gifts God has given us; it is, rather, the honest acceptance of who and what we are as children of God, created in his image and likeness. As St Paul reminds us, ‘We are God’s work of art’ (Eph 2:10). And how could God create anything that was not awesome?

Yes, we are awesome creatures of a loving God who formed us with infinite love and care. True humility is recognising and accepting the wonder of our being, and of our giftedness. As the famous spiritual writer, **C.S. Lewis stated: ‘Humility is not thinking less of yourself. It is thinking of yourself less’.**

What then are we to make of Jesus’ challenge to the Pharisees about their behaviour when invited to a feast? He had noticed how they chose ‘the places of honour’ (Lk 14:7).

What Jesus is challenging is the Pharisees’ selfishness and small-mindedness. They are ‘full of themselves’ and want to appear important because they do not have a true sense of their own worth as creatures of a loving God. Therefore, they look for, and need, the approval of others.

Jesus calls us to a higher standard of behaviour than that shown by the Pharisees in today’s gospel, the kind of behaviour that only truly free persons with a healthy self-image can practice.

**Baptisms** – We welcome into the family of God – **Kian Jason Campbell-Doherty**, Beech Hill View; **Cameron Sean-Paul Enda Lindsay**, Rosses Gate.

**Deaths** - We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of **Jim Hamilton**, Woodside Heights.

**Anniversaries:** We are asked to remember in our prayers – Kaye Gillespie, Teresa McAtamney, Brigid Killen, Molly Moran, Eileen Quinn, Joan Walker, Norman Walker, George McCarron, Maureen O'Neill, Harry McClay, John & Anne Doherty, Ann Frazer, Paul Crossan, Martin McGeadey, James McConnell, Angela Hampsey, Desmond McLaughlin, Patrick McGrath.

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

**Offertory Collection: Glendermott: £3701.00     Strathfoyle: £615.00**  
**Thank you for your generosity to all the collections.**

**Vocations** – We pray that those called to serve the Church as priests of this diocese will be the gentle, humble, sensible and attentive servants mentioned in our first reading this weekend.

**Caring for People Living with Dementia:** On **Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> September** Ards Friary is holding a day of emotional support and sharing for those caring for people living with dementia. This day will be led by Caroline Brown, facilitator, trainer and ex-carer. Beginning at 10.30am and finishing at 4.00pm, it will include tea/coffee and a light lunch. Cost 50euro. For bookings contact Ards Friary, Tel. (00353) 74 913 8989 or E: [info@ardsfriary.ie](mailto:info@ardsfriary.ie). For more information contact Caroline at [carolinebrown268@gmail.com](mailto:carolinebrown268@gmail.com).

**Mass of Thanksgiving for the Lourdes Youth Group 2025** will be offered in St Mary's Coolcalm, on **Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> September** at 7.00pm This Mass is open to all, especially those youth who may be considering going on pilgrimage to Lourdes in 2026. Refreshments afterwards in Knocknagin Hall.

**St Therese of Lisieux** - This year it is 100years since St Therese of Lisieux was declared a Saint. In order to mark this wonderful occasion, Termonbacca Carmelites have built a new chapel which holds a first class relic of St Therese. From Monday 1st September we will also hold a weekly prayer hour, praying for her intercession, particularly praying for world peace. Prayer will be from 7:30-8:30pm and everyone is welcome to come and join.

**Supper Dance** to be held in the Drummond Hotel, Ballykelly on **Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> September** in aid of the Foyle Hospice. Tickets £25. Contact Pat 00353 863088451 or the Foyle Hospice. Doors open at 8.00pm.

**Ardmore Cemetery** to all those interested in the upkeep of the Cemetery at Ardmore. A meeting will be held in Ardmore Parish Hall on **Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> September** at 8.00pm. Hoping to see you there.

**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.

**SPARK:** A weekend of fun, faith and friendship for 12–16-year-olds. Do you know a young person who would like to build their faith and make new friends? When? **September 12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> 2025.** Where? Termonbacca Carmelite Retreat Centre, Derry. How to book or find out more?

Text or WhatsApp Brendan on 00 353 86 8067973 or Vivienne on 07935 007351. Cost £70 per person (to cover food and board)

## *Season of Creation*

In proclaiming the Kingdom of God, Jesus often used the image of the seed. As the time of his Passion drew near, he applied that image to himself, comparing himself to the grain of wheat that must die to bear fruit (cf. Jn 12:24).

Seeds are buried in the earth, and there, to our wonder, life springs up, even in the most unexpected places, pointing to the promise of new beginnings. We can think, for example, of flowers springing up on our roadside from seeds that landed up there almost by chance. As those flowers grow, they brighten the grey tarmac and even manage to break through its hard surface.

In Christ, we too are seeds, and indeed, “seeds of peace and hope.” The prophet Isaiah tells us that the Spirit of God can make an arid and parched desert into a garden, a place of rest and serenity. In his words, “a spirit from on high will be poured out on us, and the wilderness will become a fruitful field, and the fruitful field a forest. My people will abide in a peaceful habitation, in secure dwellings, and in quiet resting places” (Is 32:15-18).

These words of the prophet will accompany the “Season of Creation,” an ecumenical initiative to be celebrated from 1<sup>st</sup> September to 4<sup>th</sup> October 2025.

# 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	9.15 am
St Oliver Plunkett	11.00 am
(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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**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.