

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

***Sunday 28th September 2025***  
**26<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary time.**

## ***“God Helps”***



This Sunday's Gospel helps us understand what it means to love, and more than anything how to avoid certain risks. In the parable there is a rich man who does not notice Lazarus, a poor man who was 'at his gate' (Lk 16.20).

This rich man, in fact, does not do evil towards anyone, nothing says that he is a bad man. But he has a sickness much greater than Lazarus', who was 'full of sores. This rich man suffers from terrible blindness, because he is not able to look beyond his world, made of banquets and fine clothing. He cannot see beyond the door of his house to where Lazarus lies, because what is happening outside does not interest him. He does not see with his eyes, because he cannot feel with his heart. For into his heart a worldliness has entered which anaesthetises the soul.

The worldliness is like a 'black hole' that swallows up what is good, which extinguishes love, because it consumes everything in its very self. And so here a person sees only outward appearances, no longer noticing others because one has become indifferent to everyone. The one who suffers from grave blindness often takes on 'squinting' behaviour: he looks for adulation with famous people, of high rank, admired by the world, yet turns his gaze away from the many Lazarus's of today, from the poor, from the suffering who are the Lord's beloved.

But the Lord looks at those who are neglected and discarded by the world. Lazarus is the only one named in all of Jesus' parables. His name means 'God helps'. God does not forget him; he will welcome him to the banquet in his kingdom, together with Abram, in communion with all who suffer. The rich man in the parable, on the other hand, does not even have a name; his life passes by forgotten, because who ever lives for himself does not write history.

A Christian must write history! He or she must go out from themselves, to write history! But whoever lives for themselves cannot write history.

**Deaths** – We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of: **Isobel Barbour**, Anderson Crescent; **Anne O'Doherty**, late of Prehen Park and **Teresa Ward**, Clonmeen Drive.

**Anniversaries:** We are asked to remember in our prayers Anne Doherty, Bridie & Vincent Armstrong, Michael Rankin, Mervyn Conway, Jean O'Donnell, Eileen Whoriskey, Deborah McBride, Ann O'Brien, Annie Doherty, Jack McDowell, Tommy Doherty, John Brothers, Margaret Hegarty, Aoife Rose Johnson.

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

**Offertory Collection: Glendermott: £4,103.00      Strathfoyle: £510.00**

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

**Vocations** – Praying this weekend for our seminarians and the men discerning a vocation to the diocesan priesthood we echo the advice of St Paul to Timothy in the second reading: that they'll fight the good fight of the faith and speak up for the truth as witnesses to the presence of Jesus Christ in the world.

**Pope Leo urges Catholics to pray daily Rosary for Peace in October** – Pope Leo XIV invites the faithful to join in praying the Rosary every day during October to invoke God's gift of peace and announces a Rosary in St Peter's Square on **October 11<sup>th</sup>** as part of the Jubilee of Marian Spirituality.

**Mass and Holy Hour for Vocations:** The 7.30pm Mass on **Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> September**, in St Columb's Church, Chapel Road, Waterside will be offered for an increase in vocations to the Priesthood in the Diocese of Derry. This will be followed by a Holy Hour from 8.00pm – 9.00pm, concluding with Night Prayer and Benediction. All are welcome to come and pray.

**St Therese of Lisieux** - This year it is 100 years since St Therese of Lisieux was declared a Saint. To mark this wonderful occasion, Termonbacca Carmelites have built a new chapel which holds a first-class relic of St Therese. Every Monday we will 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.

**Accord Derry Marriage Preparation Workshops** – September to November 2025 **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.

**Ulster Project Derry/Londonderry2026:** Applications now open. Teens who are eligible must be: 15 on or before **1<sup>st</sup> July 2026** i.e.: born between 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2010 – 1<sup>st</sup> July 2011. Regular attender of chapel/church. A written reference from

priest/minister on attendance must be included with application form along with a reference from the form teacher. For an application form email [ulsterprojectderry/londonderry@outlook.com](mailto:ulsterprojectderry/londonderry@outlook.com) before **Sunday, 14<sup>th</sup> October 2025**.

**Parish Child Safeguarding** – Training for all people in our parishes who may have contact with children during their parish activity are invited to a training evening in the Parish Hall, Chapel Road, on **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2025**. It is important that all who may have contact with children attend this training.

***Our Lady, Untier of Knots Novena*** - The Novena to Our Lady, Untier of Knots will begin after the 7:30pm Mass on **Thursday, 2nd October** in Saint Eugene's Cathedral. It will continue for the following eight Thursdays, concluding on 27th November.

Do you have “knots” in your life? Knots of discord in your family, unresolved pain in relationships, or a lack of peace and joy in your home? This Novena reminds us that sin never entangled Our Lady, and that Christ gave us His Mother as Our Lady, Untier of Knots. Through this devotion, we entrust our personal “knots” to her loving care—learning to let go and allowing her to gently untie what binds us. All welcome to join in prayer and reflection during this special time of grace.

**This year is 1700th anniversary of the first council of Nicaea.** On Sunday 5 October 2025 we join with Christian Churches throughout Ireland to mark and remember Nicaea and the Nicene Creed which came from it. We hold this creed in common with Christians for the last 1700 years, around the world and across the traditions. This Sunday is an opportunity for shared witness and reflection on the core beliefs that unite us in Christ.

**Anam Cara Donegal**, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, will hold it's monthly Face to Face Parent Support Evening for bereaved parents on **Thursday 9th October** at 7.30pm in the Raddison Blu Hotel, Letterkenny F92 FK15. This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age of their child, the circumstances of their death, or how recent their death was. There is no need for registration, this is 'come-as-you-are' event.

We also offer online support group meetings. To find out more call 01 4045378 or email [info@anamcara.ie](mailto:info@anamcara.ie)

**Feasts this week – Monday** – SS Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels. **Tuesday** – St Jerome, **Wednesday** - St Therese of the Child Jesus, **Thursday** -The Guardian Angels, **Saturday** – St Francis of Assisi.

# 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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**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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<b>Rev. Joshy Parokkaran CC</b>	02871342303	<a href="mailto:secretary@watersideparish.net">secretary@watersideparish.net</a>

**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.