

Parishes of Glendermott & Strathfoyle

Sunday 12th October 2025
28th Sunday in Ordinary time.

'The opportunity to say thanks'



There are some things that do not come back, among them the past life, the spoken word and the neglected opportunity.

Opportunity comes in many guises. The gospel this weekend relates how ten lepers availed of the opportunity to plead with Jesus to have pity on them. All ten, we are told, were cured. Their healing brought new challenges, beginning with an appropriate response to being cured of their dreaded disease.

The Samaritan comes back and thanks, the gift of being healed reminds him of the power of the healer. He knows who to thank for the wonderful gift that he has received. Faith has saved him as he made the journey from self-pity to appreciation and a joyful prayer of praise.

Gratitude, which is remembering with appreciation, brings freedom and joy. Ingratitude on the other hand is the inability to look on the gifts of God with appreciation and wonder.

The nine who did not come back to Jesus to say thanks wanted to forget their past. Their attitude might have been that if they were cured, they “would not bother Jesus again for a long time”.

There are many reasons why the opportunity to say thanks is not grasped. Pressing matters for attention could cause us to forget. Perhaps we have grown used to God's blessings that we take them for granted. For many God has nothing to do with their blessings so there is no need to thank God.

This weekend is an opportunity to reflect on our own gratitude or ingratitude. There are many simple blessings that we take for granted so perhaps each morning we should begin our day with praise and thanksgiving for the many simple blessings that we can so easily take for granted. The opportunity to thank God today will not come our way again.

Baptisms - we welcome into the family of God **Tomas John Robertson**, Crannog Park and **Faela-Mae Hughes**, The Old Fort.

Deaths - we offer our sympathy to the family and friends of: **Joseph Callaghan**, late of Shearwater Way.

Anniversaries: We are asked to remember in our prayers Phyllis Nash, Aidan Quigley, Noreen O'Kane, William Strawbridge, Maureen Beattie, Grainne Shiels, Edward Given, Jim Irvine, Eireen Rainey, William McGowan, Eamon Houston, Sarah McGee.

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

Offertory Collection: Glendermott: £4,490.00 Strathfoyle: £595.00

Thank you for your generosity to the parish collections.

Second Collection next weekend for the Missions.

Vocations – In our second reading this weekend St Paul asks the young Timothy to keep in mind the Good News of the life, death and, most importantly, the resurrection of Jesus as Paul has handed it on to him. We pray for the future priests of our diocese that, like Timothy, their ministry will bring the people they serve to salvation.

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 11th** as part of the Jubilee of Marian Spirituality.

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.

Our Lady of Montligeon Prayer Group – praying for all the souls in Purgatory, meets in Termonbacca, Carmelite Retreat Centre on the last **Wednesday** each month at 12.30pm. Next meeting will be on **Wednesday, 29th October** and everyone is welcome to come along.

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, tomorrow **Monday 13th October** after **7.30pm Mass**. It is important that all who may have contact with children attend this training.

Lectio Divina – Our weekly meditation on the Sacred Scriptures will continue in the side chapel of St Columb's Church, Chapel Road on **Thursdays** after 7.30pm Mass.

St Vincent de Paul Derry is looking for individuals who could assist for a few hours a week as van drivers. Email: svp.derry@svpni.co.uk if you can help.

St Oliver Plunkett – To commemorate the 400th anniversary of the birth of St Oliver Plunkett on 1st November 1625, and the 50th anniversary of his canonisation in 1975, Revd Dr Thomas O'Connor, former Professor of History at St Patrick's College, Maynooth, will give a talk on the Saint in St Oliver Plunkett Church, **Clady** at 5.00pm on **Sunday, 26th October 2025**.

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

Ulster Project Derry/Londonderry2026: Applications now open. Teens who are eligible must be: 15 on or before **1st July 2026** i.e.: born between **2nd July 2010 – 1st 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 before **Sunday, 14th October 2025**.

Our Lady, Untier of Knots Novena - The Novena to Our Lady, Untier of Knots in Saint Eugene's Cathedral will continue for the following eight Thursdays after 7.30pm Mass, concluding on **27th November**.

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.

Month of the Missions – October has been traditionally the month we focus on missions. Mission Sunday, which is celebrated on the 2nd last Sunday of October each year, is the one Sunday of the year when the entire global church comes together in support of mission. It is a moment of universal solidarity when each member of the Church family, regardless of location or background, plays their part in supporting each other.

All offerings and donations made on World Mission Sunday become part of the Holy Father's Universal Solidarity Fund. This fund is a lifeline for struggling communities across Africa, Asia and Latin America, where over 1,100 dioceses are found.

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.

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

YouTube Channel: www.youtube.com/WatersideParish

Rev, Michael Canny PP 02871342303 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.