

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

***Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2026***

## ***Reflecting the Light***

In our gospel reading for today, Jesus tells us that the kingdom of heaven has come near, and then he shows us what that means, by proclaiming and teaching healing throughout Galilee. But that's not all that he does in today's gospel reading. He also invites us to come into the light: to repent, and to follow him.

And all who follow Jesus are told something incredible by Jesus – that they are the light of the world. We are the light of the world.

If the people who walk in darkness are going to see a great light, it is going to be through us, through followers of Jesus. Jesus is asking us to let our light shine, by proclaiming the good news, by learning and teaching what Jesus first taught, and by participating in the healing of our world. Let our light so shine before others that they see our good works and give glory to our Father in Heaven.

There are still too many people in our world dwelling in darkness. Too many consumed by the bad news constantly being proclaimed. And it is up to us to show them the light. To be the light of the world. To let our good works – our lives, our love for Jesus – so shine that they may see the light that came into the world through Jesus.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. We have seen a great light. At Christmas, we gave thanks for this light, who was laid in a manger because there was no place for him in the inn. Today, we give thanks for this light who went around Galilee, teaching, proclaiming and healing, and inviting others to follow. We give thanks for all those who have let their light shine before us, who brought us into the light of Christ, and who helped us to put our hope in the light of Christ. And today, we resolve once again to let our light so shine before others that they, too, may join us in giving glory to God.

**Our Churches** are monitored by CCTV cameras and by live streaming cameras. Live streaming can be viewed online at the parish website. The Diocese of Derry Privacy Notice is displayed on the parish website and Church notice board, or you may obtain a copy from the Parish Office.

**Deaths** – We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of **Sonny Kelly**, Strabane Old Road; **Johnny Diver**, Coneyburrow; **James McCarron**, Sandowne Drive; **Kathleen McMenamin**, Cliftonville Avenue; **Cathal O'Donnell**, Bards Hill; **Patricia Murray**, Collon Lane.

**Anniversaries** – We are asked to remember in our prayers - Dessie McGinley, John Quinn, Sr Teresa Nicholas, Neil Harkin, Eileen Mellon, Robert Concannon, John & Julia McCauley, Louise Ayling, Desmond Wilson, Madge O'Donnell, Lexie Killen, John McAtamney, Bernadette O'Neill, John Whoriskey, Katherine Callan, Maureen & Sammy Wilson, Michael Owens, Dr Jim Stone, Brenda Murray, Robert Irwin, Sam Browne, Arthur & Lily Logue, George Kelly, Ryan Bryson, Evelyn & Danny Killen.

**Offertory Collection: Glendermott: £ 4290.00      Strathfoyle: £605.00**

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

**Fr Canny** wishes to acknowledge an anonymous donation of £1,000.

**Vocations** – We pray for the men who will be sent out as priests of the diocese” ... to preach the Good News...” to God’s people in a way that they can understand and that will bring them to a deeper commitment to Jesus as The Word of God.

**Vocations Retreat Weekend** for anyone (18+) interested in the diocesan priesthood, in Drumalis Retreat Centre, Larne, **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2026**. For further information, please contact the Diocesan Vocations Director, Fr Pat O’Hagan at pgoh2111@gmail.com

**Lectio Divina** – Praying with the Scriptures takes place on Thursdays in the side Chapel of St Columb’s Church after the 7:30pm Mass.

**Marriage Enrichment Weekend** – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2026 at St Mary’s Retreat Centre, Knock, Co Mayo. Marriage Enrichment has for many years supported married couples in their Sacrament of Matrimony by offering them a sacred space to deepen their relationship, renew their commitment, and grow together through reflection, prayer and dialogue.

**Holy Hour for Vocations** in St Mary's Church, Bellaghy, on **Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January** at 7.00pm. Anyone who cannot attend in person can join the prayers and devotions at <https://Bellaghy.com/webcam/>

**Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2026: Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July** (4 nights) ex City of Derry Airport. Cost £895 inclusive of local taxes but exclusive of single supplements and insurance. The Pilgrimage office is open for bookings on Saturdays at 11.00am. However, Gift Vouchers to any value are now available from the Diocesan Pastoral Centre, 164 Bishop Street, Derry. We are also appealing to those who could volunteer to join our Medical Team as a Nurse or Carer to please contact the office, as soon as possible.

**Christmas Missions Appeal** – Sincere thanks from Sister Ann and Gerry Deeney to all who contributed in any way to the Christmas Missions Appeal in aid of the poor in Kenya, India, Nigeria and Haiti. The total amount raised was £23,773.00 and 472euro. This is magnificent! May God reward and bless you all for your generosity.

**Lourdes Hospitalite Collection**, which helps those who wish to go to Lourdes and require care and assistance, is due to take place at weekend Masses on the **7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> February 2026**. As in previous years, we appeal to your generosity for this worthwhile cause as we continue to provide the opportunity for people who need assistance to travel to Lourdes.

**Children in Crossfire Appeal – As Our Advent Appeal Draws to a Close**  
Children in Crossfire sincerely thank parishioners for their generous support of our Advent Appeal. For anyone still wishing to donate, Advent Boxes may be returned here next weekend.

### *Feasts of the Week*

**Monday** is the feast of Saints Timothy and Titus, Bishops.

**Tuesday** is the feast of St Angela Merici founder of the Ursulines, devoted herself to Christian education based on love, kindness and firmness, and concern for the individual

**Wednesday** feast of St Thomas Aquinas was born in Italy in 1224. Thomas taught that Christian revelation and human knowledge are aspects of a single truth and cannot conflict with one another. One of the greatest theologians, he is patron of schools, universities and booksellers.

# *Parish Mass & Confession Times*

## **Sunday**

St Columb's Church	10:00am, 12:30pm & 6.00pm
Church of Immaculate Conception	10:15am & 12:15pm
St Oliver Plunkett's Church	11:15am
St Mary's Oratory	9:15am

## **Monday to Friday**

St Columb's Church	10:00am & 7.30pm
Church of Immaculate Conception	9:15am (Monday – Friday)
St Oliver Plunkett's Church	11:00am
St Mary's Oratory (Wednesday only)	11:00am

## **Saturday**

St Columb's Church	10:00am & 7.00pm (Vigil of Sunday)
Church of Immaculate Conception	6:00pm (Vigil of Sunday)
St Oliver Plunkett's Church	6:00pm (Vigil of Sunday)

## **Confessions**

St Columb's Church	Monday to Friday 7:00pm-7:25pm Saturday after 10:00 Mass
Church of Immaculate Conception	Saturday 5:30pm-5:55pm
St Oliver Plunkett's Church	Saturday 5:30pm-5:55pm

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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 **07596500793** or [marie.gormley@derrydiocese.org](mailto:marie.gormley@derrydiocese.org) or PSNI 101.**