

Parishes of Glendermott & Strathfoyle

Sunday 8th February 2026

(International Day of Prayer and Awareness against Human Trafficking)

Human Trafficking

SERP – (The Sexual Exploitation Research and Policy Institute - Ireland's only independent research body dedicated to the study of commercial sexual exploitation) - in a recent report indicates more than 1,000 people are victims of this “modern day slavery “here in Ireland.

It is shocking to learn how girls and women are groomed by the traffickers. They are fooled into believing that they are coming to Ireland to get a good job, maybe in a hotel, hairdressers or a nail-bar or some other business.

Imagine, the trauma of arriving here, having your passport taken and being whisked away by strangers. You don't know the country or the language. Young women are beaten into prostitution. Without knowing the geography of the country, or even that Ireland exists, they are moved from place to place so that they have no anchor or friends.

In the case of drug trafficking, criminals can sell their product only once. But victims of human traffickers can be used repeatedly and sold on from one criminal gang to another. A woman is viewed as a commodity, and her person is diminished by reviews on escort websites.

It is incumbent on all of us to use our church networks and our congregational networks and to keep abreast of modern communication systems to further our mission of “bringing good news to the poor and liberty to captives.”

Prayer is an integral part of our commitment. It gives us courage when we feel like giving up, when we feel we're getting nowhere, when we feel powerless. The struggle against human trafficking is not easy and is deeply uncomfortable and upsetting for all. Yet, as Jesus shows us, fidelity to God's mission often means standing firm in the face of resistance, trusting that the truth spoken in love, will in time bear fruit.

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 **Baby Eve Harkin/Campbell**, Strabane Old Road, **Maureen Casey**, Shepherds Glen.

Anniversaries – We are asked to remember in our prayers – *Barbara Sherrard, Danny McNally, Margaret & Michael McGonagle, May Deane, Vera McLaughlin, John Moore, Annie Dillon, Paddy Dillon, Mary Jane Doherty, James Kelly, Rosemary & Daniel Kelly, Billy Leitch, William Leitch, Thomas Grimes, Sean Gribben, K A Augustine, Andrew Allen, James Monaghan, Anne Moore, Michael Donaghy, Margaret Hagan, George Caldwell, Catherine Callan, Peggy Walker, Frank Cassidy, Jean Foster, Nora Brolly, Ann Shiels.*

Offertory Collection: Glendermott: £4,436.00 Strathfoyle: £460.00

The stipend collection is taken up this weekend

Thank you for your generosity to the parish collections.

Cemetery Sunday – Outdoor Blessing of the graves will take place on **Sunday 31st May 2026**. 3.00pm in Ballyoan and Altnagelvin Cemeteries and 6.00pm in Ardmore cemetery.

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

Lectio Divina – Next Thursday's meeting has been cancelled.

Marriage Enrichment Weekend – Friday 20th – Sunday 22nd March 2026 at St Mary's Retreat Centre, Knock, Co Mayo. Marriage Enrichment supports 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.

Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2026: Monday 29th June – Friday 3rd July. For availability, please ring 02871 260293 and leave a message or email; derrypilgrim@outlook.com or contact JWT Dublin on 353 1 685 2244.

Job Opportunity - The Iosas Centre, Derryvane, Muff, Co Donegal, is seeking to employ a Programme Coordinator to organise and facilitate groups. If you think this job is suited to you, you are asked to send your details to info@sanctuarydonegal.com

Matt Talbot Urban Mystic – A film about venerable Matt Talbot and his journey to freedom from addiction. Showing at 7.00pm on ***23rd February*** at Brunswick Movie Bowl. Pre-booking tickets at Brunswickmoviebowl.com

Lourdes Hospitalite Collection, which helps those who wish to go to Lourdes and require care and assistance, will take place at weekend Masses this weekend the ***7th/8th February 2026***. A retiring collection will be taken up as people leave the church this weekend.

Vocations Society of St Joseph (Waterside Parish) - The next meeting will be held on ***Wednesday 11th February*** after 10.00 am Mass. We continue to pray for priests, vocations to priesthood and religious life and support seminarians. The Rosary on Thursday mornings at 9.30 am, is offered for this intention and everyone welcome. The Society also wishes to acknowledge with thanks anonymous donations of £200, £40, £10 and £10.

Jack & Jill Childcare – applications are open for the playgroup waiting list for September 2026. For more information, please send an email to jandjchildcare@outlook.com. Thank you.

DEEDS – Supporting the Carer Talk Series – The second talk in our Carers Information Sessions, funded by the western Health and Social Care Trust, will focus on the costs associated with Residential Care.

This information session will take place at the Old Library Trust Healthy Living Centre, Central Drive, Creggan on ***Thursday, 26th March 2026*** at 12.00noon. Light refreshments will be provided. For further information or to register, please contact Eilish on 02871 373870 or email eilish@olt.ie.

Feasts during the week – Wednesday 11th is the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. On this date in 1858, Our Lady first appeared to the 14-year-old Bernadette Soubirous – declaring herself as “I am the Immaculate Conception”. It is also the international day of the sick.

Saturday is the feast of SS Cyril, monk and Methodius, Patrons of Europe.

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

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

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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 07596500793 or marie.gormley@derrydiocese.org or PSNI 101.