

# Parishes of Glendermott & Strathfoyle

*Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2026 - Third Sunday of Easter*

## *Points to Ponder*

We see the two disciples on the road to Emmaus, walking away from Jerusalem and the place of their pain.

In the face of their crushing disappointments, their words to the stranger they met, 'We had hoped...' express how their hopes had been dashed by the crucifixion. They are downcast and devastated and we can all identify with times when we had experienced overwhelming disappointments. In this bleak scenario, they do not recognise Jesus and that he is walking with them.

However he invites them to articulate what is burdening them . He does not bypass the pain they are experiencing but listens as they share it. As they open up and share with him, they begin a journey and an encounter that ultimately brings healing and true hope. As our former bishop Martin Drennan wrote:

'The impact is very noticeable in how the disciples allow the past to bless them. Their 'hopes' had been crucified by being brought in under the shadow of the Cross and they are now reshaped in the light of new wisdom. Their illusions yielded to reality and hope that was authentic emerged. Forgiving themselves for their blindness to God's ways and their unrealistic expectations of him became reality. Jesus has turned their wounds into wisdom.

When a story ends in reconciliation and peace then it can be told with joy. Re-energised by their meeting with the risen Lord, renewed by his word and by the bread of life, the joy-filled disciples returned to Jerusalem as convinced and convincing witnesses.'

*(From 'Turning wounds into wisdom')*

**Deaths** – We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of **Roseleen McElhinney**, Stradowen Drive; **Kathleen Quinn**, Hinton Park; **Phyllis Leonard**, Cawhill Park; **Joanne Ferry**, Prehen Park; **Louise Kelly**, Pelham Road, **Clare Bradley**, Eskaheen View.

**Anniversaries** – We are asked to remember in our prayers – *Gerard Boyle, William Muldoon, Margaret Muldoon, Geraldine McCarron, Ellen & William Boyle, Brian Coyle, Noel McLaughlin, Ronnie Nichol, Plunkett Devine, Andrea McCorkell, Arnold Doherty, Kathleen McGurk, Chris Devlin, Mary Strawbridge, Lucy Traynor, Gerard & Kathleen Fleming.*

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**Offertory Collection: Glendermott: £3,713.00      Strathfoyle: £620.00**

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

**Trocaire Boxes to be returned as soon as possible**

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**Silver Anniversary of the Episcopal Ordination of Bishop McKeown** - A Mass of thanksgiving will be celebrated on **Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> April** at 3.00pm in St Eugene's Cathedral to celebrate the occasion. Anyone wishing to attend would be most welcome.

**Vocations** – “We pray for an increase in vocations to the diocesan priesthood, that the men called to be priests will preach and live by the gospel, the Good News of Jesus, our Lord and Saviour, risen from the dead, our hope of resurrection and everlasting life”.

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

**Lectio Divina** – Praying with the Scriptures takes place on Thursday evenings after 7.30pm Mass inside Chapel of Columb's Church.

**Derry Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage: Mon 29th June to Friday 3rd July:** All places on the pilgrimage are now filled. However, if places become available through cancellation these will be offered to those on the waiting list. All pilgrims are asked to complete final payment as soon as possible.

**Rosary on the Beach** – Sunday at 3.00pm on Benone Beach. All welcome.

**Gift Aid** – A significant amount of our income comes from Gift Aid. This comes at no extra cost to those who are contributing. If you are paying tax on your income all that is required is that you complete the Gift Aid Form and use a Gift Aid envelope when making your offertory contribution at Mass.

**Encounter Weekend Donegal** - Radisson Blu Hotel, Letterkenny. 6.00pm - 10.30pm **Friday 5th June.** 9.00am - 10.30pm. **Saturday 6th June.** Expect to experience the presence of God through the celebration of the Sacraments, Spirit-led worship, inspiring talks, healing service, and fellowship. Come and be refreshed and empowered by the Holy Spirit and learn from the Saints how to live the lifestyle God intended you to live. Keynote Speakers: Patrick Reis: co-founder and Executive Director of Encounter Ministries USA & Fr. Patrick Gonyeau who serves with the U.S. Province of the Missionaries

**Prostrate Ourselves before the Lord** Hosted by Patrick McCrystal, Executive Director of Human Life International (Ireland), **Saturday 25th April 7.00pm** at the Drummond Hotel, Limavady, Co Derry BT49 9HP, **an** evening of encouragement, proclamation, repentance, seeking God's mercy for our nation and prayer for healing. ALL WELCOME!

**An Evening of Peace, Encouragement & Faith** - For *Women and Mothers*-Join **Catherine DiNuzzio** for a gentle, faith-filled evening offering hope and practical guidance for navigating anxiety with the peace of Christ. **Wednesday 22nd April 7.30pm** St Peter's Lurgan. Co. Armagh

**Pope Francis – 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary** - Tuesday **21<sup>st</sup>** marks the first anniversary of the death of Pope Francis. One year on our world seems to be in a more fragile place, yet his message was always one of hope, Christian hope knowing that the Risen Lord Jesus is always with us. Pope Francis had a great love for the environment, perhaps, in his memory – when the weather hopefully improves – we can plant some flowers or sow some seeds in his memory and enhance the world that we find ourselves living in.

*Why Sunday Matters* – ‘Sunday has always been the day of the Lord: the day of resurrection, the day of rest, the day of Eucharist. From the very beginning of our Christian faith, Sunday has been central to the life of the Church and remains the heart of Christian practice. It is on this day that we gather as a community, united in our love for Christ, to encounter the risen Lord and be nourished in body and soul.’

# 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 – Friday

St Columb's Church	10.00am & 7.30pm
Church of Immaculate Conception	9.15am (Monday – Friday)
St Oliver Plunkett's Church	11.00am (Mon, Tue and Thursday until Fr. Joshi returns)
St Mary's Oratory	11.00am (Wednesday only)

## 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 – Friday 7.00pm – 7.25pm Saturday after 10.00 Mass
Church of Immaculate Conception	Saturday 5.30pm – 5.55pm
St Oliver Plumkett's Church	Saturday 5.30pm – 5.55pm

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Rev Joshy Parokkaran CC 02871342303 [secretary@watersideparish.net](mailto: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](mailto:marie.gormley@derrydiocese.org) or PSNI 101.

**Our Churches** are monitored by CCTV cameras and by live streaming. 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.