# Parishes of Glendermott & Strathfoyle

**Sunday 14th June 2026**

# *Admiration or Imitation?*

If you were employing twelve people to mind your business for you after you had gone, knowing what you know after hearing the full story would you have picked the twelve you got? Thomas doubted him, Peter denied him and Judas betrayed him, in fact one of the few things the followers all did in unison was desert Jesus when he was facing arrest by the authorities!

But God's ways are not our ways the scriptures often tell us. We mark the feast days of the apostles and many other worthy men and women throughout the church's year. These days during the year we remember the saints, not because they lived lives without fault and fully dedicated to God. When it comes to a life dedicated to God, they got it wrong - and often spectacularly wrong. What we remember is the way that they acknowledged their difficulties in relationship with God and turned their complicated lives around.

God understands that we won't always get it right. Even if we don't always get things right, we always can put things right. We can forgive. We can ask for forgiveness. We can attend Mass, bringing our worries, prayers and thanksgiving before the altar. We can come with contrition to the Sacrament of Confession and receive the grace of the Holy Spirit.

We reflect at the apostles or the saints now and admire their contribution to the Church we are part of today. While it is important we do admire, it is also an opportunity to imitate their daily acts of conversion of our own hearts, which is a life-long journey no matter how far we think we have turned away from God.

*Ordination to priesthood* **–** Rev Stephen Baxter, a native of our parish will be ordained to the priesthood by Bishop McKeown today ***Sunday, 14th June*** at 3.00pm in St Columb's Church. Stephen will celebrate his First Mass on ***Monday evening 15th June*** at **7.30pm**. All welcome and keep him in your prayers.

***Baptisms –*** We welcome into the family of God ***Cole Patrick O'Hagan,*** Victoria Gate.

***Deaths*** – We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of ***Bridie Gourley,*** Hollymount Park.

***Anniversaries –*** We are asked to remember in our prayers – Pat McAloone, Frances Kerr, Jimmy Kerr, Patrick Rowan, Susan Kelly, Mary Quinn, Olive Grimes, Jennifer McCorkell, Peter Melarkey, Ellen Monaghan, Pat Slade, Detta Smith, Myra Simpson, Willie Gillespie, Noeleen McFadden, Ann Flanagan, George Crumley, Joseph McConomy, Phyllis Conaghan.

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**Offertory Collection**: **Glendermott: £4,499.00 Strathfoyle: £545.00**
**Thank you for your generosity to the parish collections.**

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***Vocations –*** in today's gospel Jesus encourages us to pray for vocations because there is a great need for workers in the abundant harvest of the Church and the world. We pray that those being called to do this work will respond generously.
Here in the diocese of Derry, we pray especially for Stephen Baxter who will be ordained as a priest today for service in the diocese, May the Lord of the harvest bless Stephen in his ministry among us.

***Vocations Society of St Joseph*** **(Waterside Parish)** We continue to pray for priests, vocations to priesthood and religious life and support seminarians. The Rosary on Thursday mornings at 9.30am offered for this intention and everyone welcome. Please remember in prayer Deacon Stephen Baxter who will be ordained to the priesthood in St Columb's Church on today ***Sunday 14th June***.
The Society also wishes to acknowledge with thanks anonymous donations of £70, £40, £40, £20, £10 and £5.

***Lectio Divina*** – Join us on **Thursday** evenings at 8:00 in St Columb's Church for our weekly praying of the Sacred Scriptures.

***Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2026:*** Tickets and pilgrim packs will be distributed after a special Mass in Our Lady of Lourdes, Steelstown Road, Derry BT48 8EU on ***Monday 22nd June*** at 7.00pm. Anyone unable to attend should ask someone to collect the pack on their behalf.

***Sr Joseph's Boys' School, Westway, Derry*** will host a coffee morning on ***Monday, 22nd June*** 9.00am – 11.00am for Olive Branch for Gaza appeal. All welcome to attend.

**Diocese of Derry – Lough Derg Pilgrimage 2026:** The Diocese of Derry Three-Day Pilgrimage to Lough Derg will take place from ***Friday 24th July*** to ***Sunday 26th July 2026.*** A bus will travel from St Eugene's Cathedral, via Strabane and Lifford. Cost: £95 / €110 including bus transport. You are welcome, of course, to use your own means of transport. Booking form and full details available at: derrydiocese/lough-derg.

***Day for Life*** - This year's Day for Life, next ***Sunday 21st June***, we reflect on the wonder of human life from the moment of conception. We remember how the LORD Jesus Christ Himself sanctified and experienced the beginning of life in the world as an unborn child, hidden in the womb of Mary. Mary knew that she was carrying the Son of God – God and man – as soon as He was conceived. John the Baptist leapt in his mother Elizabeth's womb when Mary greeted her. Our Lady treasured Our Lord in her heart and womb until His birth. To read the full bishops' message visit **www.councilforlife.ie**

***National Pilgrimage for Life –***The National Pilgrimage for Life, organised by the Council for Life of the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference, will be celebrated on ***Saturday 20th June*** in Knock Shrine. Mass will be celebrated at 3.00pm in the Basilica, during which the Anointing of the Sick will take place. Main celebrant and homilist will be Bishop Niall Coll. We invite you to join us in Knock to celebrate the gift of life and to pray for the protection of all human life.

***Man and Woman, He Created Them*** **-** The Priory Institute is running an online summer school in August again this year. The course will examine a selection of Pope John Paul's writings on the human body, man and woman, love and sexuality and marriage. The Summer School is reflective, informative and interactive and will run from ***10th August 2026***. The course includes four recorded presentations and one online zoom discussion and is very flexible as it is delivered entirely online prioryinstitute.com

## *Prayer for Day of Life – 21st June*

Father and maker of all, you adorn all creation with splendour and beauty,
And fashion human lives in your image and likeness.
Awaken in every heart reverence for the work of your hands and renew among your people a readiness to nurture and sustain your precious gift of life.
Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Sin, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. *Amen.*

# Mass & Confession Times

## Sunday

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| **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

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| **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)** |
| **St Mary's Oratory** | **11.00am (Wednesday only)** |

**Saturday**

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| **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**

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| **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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**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.

**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.