

Parishes of Glendermott & Strathfoyle

Sunday 11th October 2026

Twenty-Eight Sunday in Ordinary Time

Be clothed in

Jesus' favourite way of teaching was by telling stories or parables. In today's gospel, he tells a story about a banquet prepared by a King for his son's wedding. When everything is ready for the feast, the king sends his servants, not once but twice, to call the invited guests to come. When these refuse to come, for one reason or another, he finally asks his servants to go to the crossroads in the town and invite everyone they can find, good and bad alike, to come to the wedding. These come, and the **'wedding hall is filled'** (Mt 22:10).

Like most of the parables of Jesus, this is a story about the Kingdom of God. All are called to be part of the kingdom, but not everyone appreciates the invitation, or responds to it appropriately. Sadly, despite repeated invitations, they refuse to come. Instead, they seize the servants, mistreat and kill them. This refers to the hostile reception given to the prophets.

All are invited, good and bad alike, until the wedding hall is filled.

What Jesus is saying is that everyone is invited to the Kingdom of God. All kinds of people are called to be part of God's new world. It does not belong to an elite group of specially chosen ones. It encompasses saints and sinners.

The only requirement is a 'wedding garment' (Mt 22:11-12). But what is this wedding garment? St Paul gives us the answer: **"You should be clothed in sincere compassion, in kindness and humility, gentleness and patience.... Over all these clothes, to keep them together and complete them, put on love."** (Colossians 3: 12-15)

World Mission Sunday - 18th October 2026

Next weekend the Church celebrates World Mission Sunday, the weekend which the Pope annually invites all Catholics throughout the world to support the Churches missionary life.

The second collection next weekend is the Annual Mission collection

Baptisms – We welcome into God's family: **Zoe Catherine Barr**, Oak Country Park.

Anniversaries – For those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Robert McMenamin, Aidan Quigley, Rose & Willie McLaughlin, Grace Shiels, Samuel Fraser, Sarah Duddy, William Strawbridge, Robbie Herron, Maeve Kerr, Paula McElwee, Shiela Quigg.

Offertory Collections: Glendermott: £4,425.00 Strathfoyle: £525.00

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Thank you for your generosity to the parish collections.

What is university actually for? - Queen's Catholic Chaplaincy is delighted to welcome **Dr Paul Shrimpton**, writer, historian and scholar of St John Henry Newman, for a public lecture exploring Newman's vision of **human flourishing at university**. On **Monday 12th October, 7.00pm** Queen's Catholic Chaplaincy, 30–38 Elmwood Avenue, Belfast. Students, staff, alumni and friends are welcome.

PRAY FOR THE NATIONAL GATHERING OF THE CHURCH IN IRELAND: Bishops, priests, religious and lay people from across Ireland will gather for the National Synodal Assembly on Saturday, 17 October, to pray, listen and discern what God may be asking of the Catholic Church in Ireland at this time. Bishop Michael Router and seven delegates will represent the Diocese of Derry. Please remember Bishop Michael, our diocesan delegates and everyone taking part in your prayers. Find out more on: <https://derrydiocese.org/national-synodal-assembly>

Vocations: We pray that the men called to be priests of our diocese will know the truth of St Paul's words in our second reading, "**There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the One who gives me strength.**"

Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible Many of us want to read the Bible but can find it difficult to understand. The Parish will be running 'Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible', an eight-part course that will help us to understand the main story of the Bible and how all the different parts fit together. It gives the 'big picture' and helps us see what the Bible is really about. We will meet on Monday evenings starting on 2nd November at 8pm (after 7.30pm Mass) in the Parish Hall, St Columb's Church. Sessions will begin with prayer, followed by a video presentation and small group discussion. By the end, you'll feel more confident reading the Bible and have a better understanding of how you fit into God's plan. To register for the course, please leave your name and contact details at the Parish Office (028 71 342303 or email secretary@watersideparish.net).

Our Lady, Untier of Knots Novena - The Novena to Our Lady, Untier of Knots began after the 7.30pm Mass on Thursday, 1st October in St Eugene's Cathedral. It will continue for the following eight Thursdays, concluding on 26th November. Do you have "knots" in your life? All are welcome to join in prayer and reflection during this special time of grace.

Trench Road Folk Group have returned for practises on Wednesday evenings in Malvern Terrace Parish Hall at 7pm. New and returning singers are welcome. Ages P7 up to and including adults.'

"He who sings, prays twice." (St Augustine) – St Columb's Church resumed in September. We are constantly looking for new singers, maybe you would consider joining, just come along and give it a try or talk to Markus or any choir members

The **Columban Young Adults** are a new group for those aged 18 - 30 in the diocese, who are seeking a community of like-minded young adults who have Christ at the centre of their lives. Our October event will be a Holy Hour and meditation next Thursday 15th October, 7:00pm at our Lady of Lourdes Church, Steelstown, delivered by Fr Declan McGeehan. The meditation will be followed by Solemn Benediction and light refreshments. We are actively seeking new members-please come along and bring a friend!

Derry Diocesan Young Adult Community: Derry Youth Ministry invites everyone aged 18–35 to join their new community every Tuesday evening at 7:30pm, starting 20 October, at Claudy Pastoral Centre. Each week features a varied programme including invited speakers, scripture, prayer, food, and fellowship, alongside organised social events. Everyone is welcome to come along! For more details, please contact yvonne.rooney@derrydiocese.org.

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

Centring Prayer Group – Join us on **Wednesday** at 8:00pm in the St Columb's Church (Parish Hall)

Rise & Shine Group – DERRY GROUP 110 (formerly The Irish Pilgrimage Trust) – Do you know a young person who would benefit from a week of friendship, fun, faith and unforgettable memories in Lourdes? Rise & Shine brings children (11+) and young adults with additional needs on a week-long pilgrimage holiday to Lourdes each Easter. The trip is free for our guests as our volunteers fundraise for it. For more information, and to apply, please see www.riseandshine.ie. Applications for the 2027 Easter Pilgrimage are currently open and close on 15th October 2026.

Sunday Cycle A Weekday Cycle 2 Psalter week 4

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 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
St Oliver Plunkett's Church	11.00am Mon. Tues. Thurs.
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 Plunkett's Church	Saturday 5.30pm – 5.55pm

Parish Office 32 Chapel Road, Derry BT47 2BB. Tel. 02871 342303

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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.

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.