Parishes of
Glendermott & Strathfoyle

Sunday 15th November 2026

Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today's gospel features the Parable of the Talents. It tells the story of wealthy man going on a journey who entrusts his wealth to three of his servants. To one he gives five talents, to another two, and to the third, one, 'each in proportion to his ability' (Mt 25:15. After a long time, the master returns, and asked them to account for how they have traded with what each had received

Taken literally, this story is rather disconcerting. The master comes across as merciless and even unfair. He seems to live up to his reputation 'as a hard man'. However, the parable is not meant to be taken literally. It is not about economics. Like all the parables of Jesus, it is about the kingdom or reign of God and what it means to serve and promote it.

It is concerned with properties of much greater value, properties that God, our Master, has entrusted to all of us: life, love, freedom, beauty, truth, and other individual gifts. These properties are entrusted to us by God, and we are accountable for them. The word 'entrusted' is the key to understanding this parable.

We are meant to use the gifts God has given us to build up his kingdom. The servant who buried the talent he had received was guilty of keeping it purely for himself and not risking its exposure to others who could have benefited from its use. He is blamed, not for having done a poor job, but for having done nothing at all with the talent entrusted to him. God wants us to take the risk of using the gifts he has given us, even if we may sometimes fail to achieve the results we expected. What matters is the effort we have made. There will be a day of reckoning, a final judgement. And the 'profit' we will be required to show is how well we have administered God's property, namely, his love, his justice, his mercy and compassion, especially on behalf those in need: the hungry, the naked, the stranger and the sick.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament takes place in St Columb's Church each Friday from 1:00pm until 7:20pm. From **Friday 27th November** and each Friday during Advent, Evening Prayer of the church will be celebrated at 7:00pm followed by Benediction. The text of Evening Prayer will be provided each night. Evening Mass will follow as usual at 7:30pm.

Baptisms – We welcome into God's family: **Ellara Ray Bonner**, Riverview Terrace.

Anniversaries – For those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Jim Hart, Patsy Hamilton, Christopher O'Donnell, Joe Cooke, Annie Kelly, Eiphne Logue, Christine Waller, Marie Spellman, Dorthy Gillespie, Daniel Kelly, Paddy Barr, Barney O'Kane, Bernadette O'Doherty, May Ferry, May Duffy, Jim Diamond, Lily Gourley, Joanne McCauley.

Offertory Collections: **Glendermott: £3,715.00 Strathfoyle: £550.00**
Thank you for your generosity to the parish collections taken up recently.

MASSES FOR DECEASED PARISHIONERS

The annual Mass for those who have died in the past year will be offered as follows.

St. Oliver Plunkett's Church	**6pm Saturday 21st November**
St. Columb's Church	**7 pm Saturday 21st November**
Church of Immaculate Conception	**10:15am Sunday 22nd November**

Vocations- That our seminarians, the men discerning a vocation to the diocesan priesthood, the present and future priests of our diocese will see their talents as gifts of the Holy Spirit to be used for the glory of God and the salvation of God's people.

We congratulate Markus Michel, the organist and choir master in St Columb's Church, who was awarded a Diploma in Church Music (First Class) by St Patrick's Pontifical University, Maynooth, last weekend.

Rosary on the Beach – The Holy Rosary will be prayed on **Sunday 15th November** at 3:00pm at Lisfannon Beach.

Centring Prayer Group – Join us every **Wednesday** at 8:00pm in St. Columb's Church (Parish Hall). Everyone welcome.

FREE 4-Week Dementia Education Programme for Family Carers Starting: **Thursday 21 January 2027, 7.00pm** at Health for Life Healthy Living Centre, Creggan.
Learn about dementia, communication, behaviours, coping strategies, and supports. Family members are welcome to attend together. Please note: *this course is not suitable for people living with dementia or those currently undergoing assessment/diagnosis*. Booking essential: eilish.brown@healthforlifenw.org | 028 7137 3870.

Morning of Reflection for readers and Eucharistic ministers. It will include directed prayer and a talk. Those wishing to become readers and special ministers are also welcome. This event will be held in St. Columb's Parish Hall**, Saturday 28th November** at 10:30am**.**

Forty-Hour's adoration will take place in St Columb's Church next weekend, Feast of Christ the King beginning after the 12.30 Mass.

ABIDE Women's Conference 2026 | **20–22 November**: Join hundreds of women at the Great Northern Hotel, Bundoran, Co. Donegal, in just a few weeks for our third Abide Women's Conference! Speakers include Sarah Swafford, Danielle Noonan, Kimberlee Woo Ling, Fr Oisín Martin CFR, Fr Barry Braum, the Nashville Dominican Sisters, Fr David Nugent and Fr Mark Wharton, with Holy Mass celebrated by Bishop Fintan Gavin. A beautiful weekend of faith, celebration, healing and joy! Register on Eventbrite: Abide in His Love.

DERRY DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2027, led by Bishop Michael Router:

- **Option 1**: 8 - 13 July, 5 nights, £980, from City of Derry Airport, with priority given to Assisted Pilgrims and family members, Care Team, Youth, Youth Leaders and Priests
- **Option 2**: 7 - 14 July, 7 nights, £1,095, from Belfast International Airport.

Single Supplement and Travel Insurance will be extra.
Expressions of Interest can be emailed to derrypilgrim@outlook.com. **Bookings will begin in mid-January**, with more details later. Pilgrimage Gift Vouchers of any value are available from the Pastoral Centre, Bishop Street, Derry, for anyone wishing to purchase them, particularly as a Christmas Gift. Please contact 028 7136 2475 for further information.

***JOB OPPORTUNITY - Derry Diocesan Trust - Claudy parish: Sacristan/Keyholder*.**
Hours of work: 9 Hours per week.
Place of work: St Joseph's Church, Craigbane, Claudy.
Job Purpose: To ensure effective security of the church and associated maintenance, cleaning whilst organizing all associated liturgical requirements in line with diocesan guidelines.
Rate of Pay: £12.88 per hour (under review). For application packs please email: recruitment@derrydiocese.org or Tel: 028 71262 302.
Completed applications must be returned to Personnel, Bishop's House, St Eugene's Cathedral, Francis Street, Derry, BT48 9AP or via email to recruitment@derrydiocese.org no later than **12 noon on Monday 30 November.** *Derry Diocesan Trust is an Equal Opportunities Employer. We welcome applications from all men and women and from members of all communities.*

JOB OPPORTUNITY - The Board of Governors of Thornhill College invites applications for the following post: **STUDY SUPERVISOR AND ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT OFFICER (Ref: SVV/ASO/26)** Permanent / Part-time / Term-time (18hpw/3dpw Mon-Wed**)**
Rate of Pay: NJC SCP 11-14, £29,071 - £30,515 Pro rata £15.486 - £16.256 per hour
Application packs available on our website on: www.thornhillcollege.org.uk or by contacting the College: Tel: 028-71355800
CLOSING DATE FOR RECEIPT OF APPLICATIONS: **12 NOON, THURSDAY 26th NOVEMBER 2026**. To be returned electronically to: thornhillposts144@c2kni.net
Thornhill College is committed to following Child Protection guidelines and procedures as prescribed by DENI and EA. This College is an Equal Opportunities Employer

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
Email: secretary@watersideparish.net Web: www.watersideparish.net
YouTube Channel: www.youtube.com/WatersideParish

Rev. Michael Canny PP	02871342303 secretary@watersideparish.net
Rev. Stephen Baxter 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.