

A short reflection on today's Gospel Matthew 16:21-27

Jesus' teaching in today's Gospel is clear, cogent, and hard-hitting: the way of the world is not God's way. Glory and success in worldly terms is not glory and success in terms of eternal life. Peter is told this roundly by his beloved master, who is already looking into the terrible face of his own impending suffering and death.

'Take up your cross and follow me,' Jesus tells us. In other words, learn to give up control, get out of the driver's seat, face the pain, embrace God's way, not our own. One of the most important insights we can be gifted with is that facing our own pain and the pain in the world rather than turning away from either is to open the floodgates of true compassion as never before. Someone once said that to look on Jesus crucified is to soften our hearts towards all suffering, and, indeed, to understand more fully the compassionate heart of God.

Jesus, teach us to embrace God's way, not the way of the world. Remind us that when we stumble and fall into the pit of suffering, there lies the gift of compassion, the treasure of spiritual wisdom.

Jesus, teach us to remember the words of Bro. Charles de Foucauld: 'Father, I abandon myself into your hands; do with me what you will.'

Year of Prayer for Vocations to the Diocesan Priesthood - For our seminarians and those considering a vocation to the priesthood, that, like Jeremiah in today's first reading, they will feel a fire burning in their hearts as the Holy Spirit calls them to service in the diocese of Derry.

The Matt Talbot Mass will be celebrated here in St Eugene's Cathedral on Monday, 4th September at 7.30 pm. The Matt Talbot Prayer Society was created to pray for people who are suffering from any form of addiction, to pray for those recovering from addiction, and to pray for all those affected by addiction, especially family members. To join the Matt Talbot Prayer Society, you are invited to enrol the name of the person to be prayed for and the addiction we are praying that they will be freed from. Those enrolled will be prayed for specifically every day by members of the Matt Talbot Prayer Society. Mass will also be offered for those enrolled on the first Monday of every month here in St Eugene's Cathedral at 7.30 pm. To enrol someone in the Matt Talbot Prayer Society please email vita@mattalbotprayersociety.com or private message St Eugene's Cathedral Facebook page or phone St Eugene's Cathedral at 028 71262894/71365712.

Job opportunity - Derry Diocesan Trust HR Officer. Part-Time Permanent, two days per week (9.00 a.m. – 5.00 p.m.). The HR Officer will be responsible for providing comprehensive HR support to parishes, reporting managers and employees in line with Diocesan Trust Policies, procedures and legal requirements, contributing to procedural excellence relating to human resources, employee relations, compliance, staffing and training.

For application packs please contact: Bishop's House, St Eugene's Cathedral, Francis Street, Derry, BT48 9AP, telephone 028 7126 2302 or email: recruitment@derrydiocese.org. 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 4.30pm on 18th September 2023.

Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of:

Isabella O'Neill

Anniversaries

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

**John & Maureen Duffy
Helen Nash
Pete Rooney**

May they rest in peace

Baptisms

We welcome as members of God's family:

**Isla Karen Quinn
Freya Marian Brolly-Bradley
Conor Matthew McKenna**

To book a Baptism contact the Parish Office 02871 262894

Sacrament of Marriage

We congratulate the couples who celebrated the Sacrament of Marriage recently in the Cathedral

**Aisling Barr & Aidan Harkin
Louise Parsons & Thomas Legg
Shannon de Groot & Seán Wray**

Collection

Last week's collection: £4,403
Parish Development: £877

Thank you for your generosity

Thank you

Fr Farren acknowledges with thanks the following donations for:

**St Thérèse: £40
Sight Savers: £30
Mary's Meals: £20
Cathedral Funds: £50**

Readers for 9th/10th September

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| 06.15 pm | Oran Gartland |
| 07.30 pm | Karen Harkin |
| 09.30 am | Rosemary Finan |
| 11.00 am | Kay McGinn |
| 12.30 pm | Kevin Finan |
| 07.00 pm | Marian Boyle |

Sick Visitation

Fr Paul Farren will attend the sick and housebound in his care during the coming week:

Monday (pm): Lisfannon Park, Glenfada Park, William Street, Fahan Street, Westland Street, Cable Street, Lower Road

Wednesday (pm): Mulvey Park, Eglinton Terrace, Beechwood Street, Elmwood Road, Gartan Square, Elmwood Terrace, Little Diamond, Clarendon Manor

Exploring Poetry with Mary Murphy will begin on Friday 8th September at 11.00am in the Cathedral Hall. You are most welcome to join via the online platforms or in person.

St Vincent de Paul: One-Day Pop-up Clearance Event: Saturday 30th September, 10.00am – 4.00pm in St Pio's Centre, Fairview Road, Galliagh, Derry. Lots of pre-loved bargains, all at £1 each! The aim of this event is to promote two very important aspects of the work we do within Vincent's Shops: Affordability and Sustainability. Telephone Anne on 07921876237 with any enquiries.

Rosary on the Coast - All Rosary Coasters and friends are welcome to come together this afternoon (Sunday 3rd September) at 3.00pm on Lisfannon Beach to pray the Rosary for peace and our unborn brothers and sisters.

*Vol 50 No 35
Twenty-Second Sunday
in Ordinary Time
3rd September 2023*

The Holy Family Padre Pio Prayer Group will meet on Tuesday 5th September at Holy Family Chapel, Ballymagroarty, Derry. Starting with the holy Rosary at 6.45pm, Mass at 7.15pm, and novena to St. Pio directly afterwards. After Mass the priest will bless each person with a first-class relic of St. Pio.

Priests: Fr Paul Farren, Fr Shaun Doherty

Radio Maria Ireland launch in Northern Ireland will be held in its Belfast Studio, located in St Marys Church, Chapel Lane, BT1 1HH on Thursday 7th September, Vigil of the Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Starting with 6pm Mass in St Mary's Church followed by tea/coffee and an information evening about Radio Maria and its Mission, Vision and how it can help support the faithful in Ireland today. For more information www.radiomaria.ie or call 00353 86 838 9989.

Anam Cara Donegal, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding its monthly Parent Evening for bereaved parents on Thursday 14th September at 7.15pm in the Radisson Blu Hotel, Letterkenny Co.Donegal. This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or whether their death was recent or not. We also offer an online service. For more info call 00353 (01) 4045378

Living Disciples will return on Tuesday 5th September at 7:30 pm in St Pio House beside St Joseph's Church, Galliagh. Come and experience Praise, Worship, Friendship and a cup of tea. Everybody welcome.

'Host for Hospice' - October is Foyle Hospice Coffee Morning Month: Can you 'Host for Hospice' and organise a Coffee Morning? A 'Free Coffee Morning Pack' is available. For more information or to sign up to become a host, please call Ailbhe, Community Fundraising Officer, Foyle Hospice, on 028 71359888 or email: ailbhe@foylehospice.com

Marriage and Relationship Counselling with ACCORD NI: Help us help you support your marriage and relationship. If you feel your relationship is in crisis or you need a little guidance and help, either face to face or online, contact your local ACCORD centre. ACCORD NI counsellors are professionally trained in the specialism of couples and relationships counselling. For support, call 028 9023 3002 or visit accordni.com

St Eugene's Cathedral is monitored by CCTV cameras and by two live streaming cameras. Live streaming can be viewed online at www.churchservices.tv, www.watchmenmedia or the parish website. The Diocese of Derry Privacy Notice is displayed on the parish website and Cathedral notice board, or you may obtain a copy from the Parish Office.

Safeguarding Notice: If you have any concerns with regard to the Safeguarding of children or adults in need of protection within the Church please contact Marie Gormley, the Diocesan Designated Liaison Person (DLP) at 07596500793 or at mariegormley@derrydiocese.org or contact the Safeguarding Office, Diocesan Pastoral Centre, 164 Bishop Street, Derry, BT48 6UJ or PSNI (Police Service of Northern) 101 or Social Services: Gateway Services, Western HSC Trust, 71314090 and ask for the Duty Social Worker.