

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
A Short reflection on today's Gospel Luke 14:25-33

Anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.

Today's Gospel witnesses Jesus warning his followers that the cost of discipleship is great. Jesus' ministry is one of love, of forgiveness, of healing and reconciliation. It is a ministry of inclusion, and equality, which loves the humble and condemns the proud. His teaching had an appeal for many, particularly the dispossessed and the humiliated who flocked to his side in the expectation that justice and fair play would soon be theirs.

How often do we flinch from telling the truth either because it is unpalatable, or it may hurt the receiver, or we may incur dislike as a result of telling the truth! But Jesus never flinched from telling the truth, and he does not flinch now. Jesus is truth itself. He knows that he is on his way to Jerusalem and the cross, not the earthly crown many believe is ahead of him. Here and now he makes it clear that being comfortable and complacent is not the way of true discipleship. True discipleship means putting God first, and that means God before all earthly attachments: family, possessions, ambitions, preoccupations. True discipleship means full focus on the things of God, and a lifting of focus on the self. And that is hard. Jesus knows it is hard, and he warns us to count the cost before we blithely swear our allegiance to God. We need to know exactly what allegiance to God truly means: the ending of preoccupation with the self and the embracing with humility whatever cross is placed on our lives. Our identity, the meaning of our lives, must come from Jesus. Not family, not possessions, not earthly achievements, but Jesus alone.

Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine: Saturday 24th September 2022, led by Bishop Donal McKeown.

Bus departs St Eugene's Cathedral at 8.30 am. Stations of the Cross at 2:00pm followed by Mass at 3:00pm, with Sacrament of the Sick. Evening meal included. Cost £50 per person and places confirmed on receipt of completed form. For further information please contact Fr Patrick Lagan at St Eugene's Cathedral on 02871262894 or email the parish office at cathedral@derrydiocese.org

Volunteers needed to help with cleaning the Cathedral and Cathedral Hall. If you are interested, please leave your name, and contact details at the Parish Office.



Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of:

Fr Paddy McIntyre
Sarah Curley
Frances Gillespie
Mary Henry
Daniel McGee

May they rest in peace

Anniversaries

Berna Boyle, Martin Crowley,
George McCafferty, Pete Rooney,
May and Paddy Doherty, Sean &
Ruby McGrory

May they rest in peace.

Baptisms

We welcome as members of
God's family:

Alaya Sorcha McCole
Daithí McGinley
Saoirse Houston
Conor Gough.



To book a Baptism phone
02871262894.

*Please remember:
Godparents: (1 male and 1
female over the age of 16).*

Sacrament of Marriage

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

*Nicola Walker and Gary
Callaghan
Sarah Horner and Brian*

Thank you

Fr Farren acknowledges with thanks
the following donations for:
Trocaire: £100
Yemen: £100

Thank You

Collection

Last Week: £4657
Parish Development: £817

Thank you very much

**Readers for next weekend
10th/11th September**

06.15 pm Carmel Devenney
07.30 pm Oran Gartland
09.30 am Rosemary Finan
11.00 am McGinley Readers
12.30 pm Niamh Kehoe
07.00 pm Marian Boyle

Lough Derg – One Day Retreats have resumed. Dates for September: 7, 10, 13, 17, 18, 24 & 25. Booking is essential. Admission €45pp includes all refreshments, lunch, return boat service, full retreat programme, free car & coach parking. Boats available from 9.15am on the day. For booking and further information: Tel +353 (0)71 9861518 or online: www.loughderg.org.

Vocations Holy Hour – Jesus tells those who want to follow him that they must be able to give up their attachment to their possessions and to take up their cross. We pray for those who feel called to follow Jesus as a priest, deacon or religious, that they will have the strength to detach themselves in order to give their lives in service to him. The next monthly Holy Hour for Vocations will take place in Holy Family Church, Ballymagroarty, Derry, on Friday 9 September, from 8-9pm, and will be broadcast live via the parish webcam which can be accessed at www.holyfamily-parish.com

The Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre, working in Partnership with Saint Mary's University, Twickenham, offers the **Masters in Catholic School Leadership**. This is a post-graduate degree dedicated to the professional development and spiritual formation of Catholic school leaders. **Applications for the Autumn intake close 30th September 2022**. If you require any further information, please contact the Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre on 004428 71264087 or email tferry@derrydiocese.org

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 or www.watchmcnmedia or the parish website at www.steugenescathedral.com. 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 07596500793/07707311358 or at the Safeguarding Office, Diocesan Pastoral Centre, 164 Bishop Street, Derry, BT48 6UJ or PSNI (Police Service of Northern Ireland) 101 or Social Services: Gateway Services, Western HSC Trust, 71314090 and ask for the Duty Social Worker.

Priests: Fr Paul Farren | Fr Roni Zacharias Deacon: Rev Michael McCaul