

Sunday (5th December)

Masses at 7.00 am, 9.30 am, 11.00 am, 12.30 pm and 7.00 pm

6.00 pm Benediction

Monday and Tuesday (6th and 7th December)

Mass at 8.00 am, 10.00 am and 7.30 pm

12.00 noon The Angelus & Rosary

3.00 pm Divine Mercy Chaplet

5.15 pm Mass for Advent

8.00 pm Eucharistic Adoration, Rosary followed by Night Prayer

Wednesday, 8th December

Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Our Lady is the Immaculate Conception. As she was chosen to be the Mother of God, Mary was conceived without original sin in the womb of her mother, Anne.

Tuesday: Vigil Masses 6.15 pm and 7.30 pm

Wednesday: 7.00 am, 9.30 am, 11.00 am, 12.30 pm and 7.30 pm

Collection will be taken up at all Masses on the Holy Day for Parish Youth Ministry

Thursday and Friday (9th and 10th December)

Mass at 8.00 am, 10.00 am and 7.30 pm

12.00 noon The Angelus & Rosary

3.00 pm Divine Mercy Chaplet

5.15 pm Rotate Mass on Thursday and 5.15 pm Mass for Advent on Thursday

8.00 pm Eucharistic Adoration, Rosary followed by Night Prayer

Saturday (11th December)

Mass at 10.00 am, Vigil Masses at 6.15 pm and 7.30 pm.

Face Coverings: St Eugene's Cathedral ask all adults and children aged 14 and over to please wear a face covering at Masses and other liturgical celebrations ie Funerals, Baptisms, First Communion, Weddings (unless they are exempt from wearing mandatory face coverings). Medical advice is that wearing face coverings is first and foremost about protecting others.

Please continue to observe social distancing, to use the hand sanitiser on entering and leaving the Cathedral.

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:
Sundays from 3.00 pm to 6.00 pm and
Tuesdays from 10.30 am to 7.30 pm.**



Season of Advent: 28th November to 24th December St Eugene's Cathedral - Advent Programme:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday: Morning Prayer of the Church will be prayed at 7.45 am.

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday: Mass will be celebrated at 5.15 pm.

The 5.15 pm Mass each Thursday during Advent will be a Rorate Mass. The Rorate Mass has a long tradition in the Church. The name comes from the opening words of the Entrance Antiphon, *Rorate cali desuper*, Latin for "Drop down dew, ye heavens". This is a Votive Mass in honour of Our Lady for the season of Advent, celebrated by candlelight early in the morning or in the evening. Our Lady shows herself in a special way as our leader through Advent to Christmas. The Mass begins in darkness – candles will be provided. The Cathedral lights will be switched on when the Glory is sung.

Late Opening on Mondays continues on 6th, 13th and 20th December: To celebrate the sacrament of Confession and spend some quiet time in the presence of the Eucharist from 8.30 pm to 10.00 pm.

Lectio Divina every Tuesday during Advent: – Fr Ignacy invites you to join him for reflections of scripture readings from 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm on Tuesday in the Cathedral Hall.

Conversations on Wednesdays with Bishop McKeown during Advent at 7.00 pm livestreamed from the Cathedral Hall. Bishop McKeown will be in conversation with Jim McCallion at 7.00 pm on Wednesday, 8th December.

On Thursdays during Advent the Rosary will be prayed for all families.

Friday at 11.00 am: Exploring a selection of poems with Mary Murphy livestreamed from the Cathedral Hall. Join via the parish website at www.steugenescathedral.com and choose the link

CATHEDRAL HALL WEBCAM.

"How Fit Is Your Soul?" Programme: The 'How Fit Is Your Soul' Programme is an online programme from St Eugene's Cathedral taking place during Advent. This is for anyone who is interested in reflecting on and developing their prayer life, whether you would like to start praying, pray more or experience new ways to pray. For more information, please email emmett.mullan@derrydiocese.org or phone St Eugene's Parish office on 028 71262894/71365712.

To join us via webcam in St Eugene's Cathedral by watching our live streaming which can be viewed online at www.churchservices.tv, churchmedia.tv/camera/st-eugenes-cathedral or the parish website at www.steugenescathedral.com.

Family Prayer Service for your home during Advent has been created by the Diocese, in conjunction with the Northern Pastoral Network, for family prayer at home during the season of Advent as we prepare for the coming of Jesus at Christmas.



The word 'Advent' means 'coming' or 'arrival'. The season of Advent marks the time we prepare for the birth of Jesus at Christmas. Advent starts today (Sunday, 28th November) and spans four Sundays and four weeks of preparation for Christmas.

Family Prayer Service for your home during Advent

In this booklet you will find a Family Prayer Service and activity suggestions for the Sundays of Advent as we journey towards Christmas and the arrival of the Son of God to a stable in Bethlehem.

The booklet can be viewed on a computer, tablet or mobile. It can also be printed at home.

It is our sincere hope that this resource will be a spiritual support to everyone during the season of Advent.

<https://www.derrydiocese.org/publications/advent/advent-prayer-family-book-2021.pdf>

Based on the Advent theme, 'Blessed are the pure in heart, they shall see God.' the Diocesan Catechetical Centre has created a variety of creative resources to help home, school and parish enter into this time of preparation before Christmas. The resources can be found at <https://catecheticalcentre.org/primary-school-resources/advent-2021-blessed-are-the-pure-in-heart-they-shall-see-god/>

Christmas Mass Bouquets are now available from the Parish Office. Cost £2.00 each. You and your loved ones will be remembered at a Triduum of Masses offered over the Christmas season at St Eugene's Cathedral.

If you have family away from home this Christmas and would like them to receive a Christmas card from the parish, please put their names and full postal address in the box at the back of the Cathedral or email steugenes@btconnect.com before 8th December.



A short reflection on today's Gospel: *Luke 3:1-6*

The call of John the Baptist

Today's Gospel is powerful in its significance: the long-awaited prophet, John the Baptist, has begun the work ordained for him by God and prophesied way back in the much-distant past by Isaiah. John's is the voice crying in the wilderness; he is the one preparing the way for the Lord, making his paths straight, filling in every valley and laying low every hill, straightening the winding ways and smoothing the rough ways. Through John's passionate ministry of repentance and forgiveness leading to reconciliation with God, the curtains of ambiguity are drawn back to reveal the arrival of the Son of God, Jesus, whose ministry focuses on tenderness, healing, forgiveness and love. Jesus, who always sees beyond the surface appearance of the sinner to the heart which reveals the remorse and anguished suffering often hiding there, fulfils Isaiah's prophesy that 'all mankind shall see the salvation of God.' John brings The Old Testament to its close. The New Testament begins with Jesus.

Jesus, as the season of Advent begins, as we prepare for the birth of our Saviour, help us to be the voice crying in the wilderness of a world which often seems lost and desolate. Help us to be heard as the voice of passionate belief in a loving God who holds in His cupped hand every tear we have ever shed; who has heard every sigh we have ever breathed, and who waits with infinite patience for us to reach out to Him, trusting in His wisdom and accepting that whatever befalls us is part of His perfect, loving plan for our salvation and eternal bliss.

It is time for us to begin our preparations for the beating heart of Christmas.

Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of

Joseph (Joe) Thompson

Kathleen Gallagher

May they rest in peace



Anniversaries

Corney Moore, Eilish Lafferty, Patsy Bradley, Manus (Nassie) McCaul,
Paschal Keys, Lily Cassidy, Betty McDevitt and Rosemary McDaid

May they rest in peace.

Baptisms

We welcome as members of God's family

Sienna Claire-Louise Starrs

Séamus John Crockett

Lorcan John Russell Lees

Oisín Eamon Doherty



Sacrament of Marriage

We congratulate

Rachel Phillips and Ryan McPhilomey

who recently celebrated the Sacrament of
Marriage here in St Eugene's Cathedral.



Readers for next weekend – 4th/5th December

06.15 pm	Anna Begley
07.30 pm	Marian Boyle
09.30 am	Barry Mc Daid
11.00 am	McGinley Readers
12.30 pm	Roisin McGarrigle
07.00 pm	Liz McMonagle

Cathedral Voices is for people living with dementia and their families, friends and carers. This is a pilot programme which we are delivering here in St Eugene's Cathedral led by Margarette McNamee. It is a time to come and listen to music, have a cup of tea and a chat.

Dates:

Thursday, 9th December @1.30 pm-2.30 pm

Thursday, 16th December @1.30 pm-2.30 pm

Booking is essential as places are limited. Call 02871262894 or email: emmet.thompson@derrydiocese.org

The Matt Talbot Prayer Society – Praying for those suffering from Addiction: This Prayer Society has been 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. As we know addiction takes many forms from alcohol, drugs, gambling, pornography, to other less acknowledged addictions.

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 be offered for those enrolled on the first Monday of every month here in St Eugene's Cathedral at 7.30 pm. You will also receive an enrolment card to enable you to join in the prayer.

To enrol someone in the Matt Talbot Prayer Society please phone St Eugene's Cathedral at 028 71262894/71365712 or email steugenes@btconnect.com or private message St Eugene's Cathedral.



The Matt Talbot Mass will be celebrated here in St Eugene's Cathedral at 7.30 pm on Monday, 6th December

Blessed Carlos Acutis

Blessed Carlo Acutis, an Italian Catholic teenager, was beatified in Assisi, Italy on 10th October 2020. He documented Eucharistic miracles around the world and catalogued them all onto a website that he created himself in the months before his death from leukaemia. Carlo was known for his cheerfulness, his care for others, his computer skills and his deep devotion to the Eucharist, saying it was his "highway to heaven". There is a display in the Cathedral dedicated to Blessed Carlo Acutis and prayer cards which you are welcome to take.



The Prayer Garden, which is located behind the Grotto, has now been completed. The Prayer Garden names all the parishes of the Derry Diocese and includes prayers for those who died during the pandemic. Fifty-one rose plants have been planted to remember those who died from each parish in the diocese since March 2020 when there were restrictions on wakes and funerals. The Garden will not be officially dedicated until a later date, however, everyone is welcome to come and pray or reflect.

St Eugene's Conference of St Vincent de Paul will take up their Annual Collection at all Masses next weekend (11th/12th December). During the past year the total dispensed by St Eugene's Conference was £36,200 as follows: financial assistance £21,700; heating £4,000; beds and household items £10,500. Your generosity throughout the year and to the Christmas Collection is very much appreciated. St Eugene's Conference of St Vincent de Paul sincerely thank you for your continuing support.

St Vincent de Paul - Christmas Appeal 2021: If you are looking for help St Vincent de Paul are here to help you in whatever way they can. Please ring us on 028 71265489 or online <https://svp.ie/get-help/request-help-online.aspx>

Christmas time is the busiest time for the SVP giving out lots of toys and food parcels kindly donated by the public. However, this Christmas is going to be different with COVID-19 and government restrictions. The safety of the public and their members is paramount. Therefore, St Vincent De Paul are asking that instead of buying a physical toy or items of food, please buy a voucher or make a donation.

The Annual Church Collection will take place on Saturday, 11th and Sunday, 12th December 2021. Derry Area also have a fundraising page for donations on our SVP website; [Current fundraisers - St Vincent De Paul \(svp.ie\)](#)

Novena in honour of The Divine Child will take place in the Carmelite Retreat Centre, Termonbacca from Wednesday, 8th December until Thursday, 16th December. Mass each evening at 7.30 pm. Booking necessary. Contact the Carmelite Retreat Centre at 71262512.

Advent Day Retreat will take place in the Carmelite Retreat Centre, Termonbacca on Monday, 13th December from 10.00 am to 3.00 pm. Cost for the day, including meals £25. Booking necessary. Contact the Carmelite Retreat Centre 71 262512.

Starting conversations in our parishes



"We have to look at where the Lord is leading us in order for us to be effective in making new disciples for the Lord"

Pope Francis is inviting the faithful all over the world to come with him “on a journey” as a “Synodal Church”. The word ‘synod’ means “walking together” and “indicates a way of being together as Church and ‘discerning’ how best to spread the Gospel amidst the challenges of life in the 21st century.”

This Synodal Process entitled, *For a synodal Church: communion, participation and mission* coincides with the start of the two-year Synodal Pathway for the Catholic Church in Ireland which will lead, in time, to a National Synodal Assembly in Ireland.

We pray that the next two years will be a time of prayer, listening and discernment, involving a consultative conversation. This will allow all people - both within the Church and in society at large, to share their insights into the Catholic Church in Ireland – past, present and future – so that we can prepare for a National Synodal Assembly in the coming years.

Bishop Donal explains this is the start of our Synodal Journey: *"We have set ourselves in Ireland a five year period, to look together in a prayerful context where God is leading His Church"*

In this video, <https://youtu.be/Lhky65OFfEQ>, Bishop Donal McKeown reminds us of the purpose of the Church and outlines the prayerful consultation process of Synodality, of walking together, of listening, of being led by the Holy Spirit to understand where the Lord is leading us.

St Eugene’s Cathedral Choir is looking for new members to join. The Choir practices at 8.00 pm on Wednesdays and sings at the 12.30 pm Mass each Sunday. There are many ways which you can serve the church. Singing is one of them. If you would be interested in singing with the Choir please get in touch with the Choir Director, Maghnus Monaghan, through the parish office or speak to him after Mass at 12.30 pm.



Fr Farren acknowledges with thanks a donation for **Trócaire**: £45, £50, £20, £50. **St Vincent de Paul**: £300, £50. **Mary's Meals**: £80. **Afghanistan**: £80.

The priests of the parish thank you for your generosity to the stipend collection taken up last weekend.

Parish Development Collection amounted to £812.

There is a box at the back of the Cathedral for weekly parish envelopes and contributions for the upkeep of the Cathedral. **Please note cheques should be made payable to St Eugene's Cathedral.**

If you would like to make your weekly envelope contributions by online banking or standing order, please find St Eugene's Cathedral's bank details below:

Account Name:	St Eugene's Church No 1 A/C
Account Number:	55192935
Sorting Code Number:	90-49-74
IBAN:	GB45 BOFI 9049 7455 1929 35
Branch:	Bank of Ireland, 15 Strand Rd, Derry, BT48 7BT

Thank you for your continued support to the parish.

St Vincent de Paul (St Eugene's Conference) wish to acknowledge with thanks 5 x £20 fuel vouchers.

Service of Light: The '*North West Bereaved by Suicide*' **Support Group** is holding its annual Service of Light at 5.30 pm this afternoon (Sunday, 5th December) in the Foyle Search & Rescue HQ, Prehen, Derry.

Padre Pio Prayer Group will take place on Thursday, 9th December at Holy Family Chapel, Ballymagroarty starting at 6.45pm with the Rosary then celebration of Mass at 7.15 pm and continuing with closing prayers at 7.45 pm. A first class relic will be available for Veneration.

The Mystery Unfolds: Advent Oasis mornings offered by Thornhill Ministries (Saturday 11th December: 11.00 am – 12.00 noon). Led by Fr Paschal, each gentle hour helps us touch into the mystery of life and God-with-Us. To register and for zoom link contact 07736832458 email thornhillministries@derrydiocese.org.

Viatores Christi invite you to their Free Online Conference: Sharing of Key Learnings on Inclusive Volunteering; ensuring the inclusion of Persons with Disabilities. You are invited to attend the Free Online Conference of the VIVID: T EU AVI Funded Project on Disability-inclusive Development on Wednesday, 1st December starting at 10.00 am. This project was focused on ensuring Inclusion of persons with Disabilities in volunteering. The conference will include a roundtable discussion about the role of leadership in disability inclusion, a showcase of free accessible training resources that anyone can use in their day-to-day work to ensure the inclusion of persons with disabilities. You can register for the event through <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/vivid-t-project-sharing-of-key-learnings-at-accessible-online-conference-tickets-205641498257>

Anam Cara Donegal, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding its monthly Parent Evening for bereaved parents on Thursday, 9th December at 7.20 pm in the Raddison Blu, Letterkenny. 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. **Subject to change in accordance with government advise**

Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes, 2022: Although mindful of all the uncertainties we face at this time, the Pilgrimage Director and staff have begun planning for a return to Lourdes in early summer 2022. While it is still too early to provide details, it is intended that the date and duration will be as in recent years and hopefully these will be confirmed and announced by the end of 2021. We ask for the prayers of the people of the diocese so that, by the grace of God and intercession of Our Lady of Lourdes, we may return to Lourdes once more.

Mary's Meals- Double the Love campaign runs until 31st January 2022, all donations up to a total of £1.6 million will be matched by a generous group of private donors. Every little act of love will go that little bit further during this period to help us reach the next child waiting, so please consider supporting this campaign and praying for its success. There are many ways to get involved including choosing one of their Mary's Meals gift cards or setting a place at our Big Family Christmas table- find out more at www.marysmeals.org.uk.



ACCORD DERRY Virtual Interactive Marriage Preparation Programme
(limited to 15 couples per course). Booking now online at www.accordni.com.

Gamblers Anonymous: Is gambling affecting your life? Perhaps Gamblers Anonymous can help: call them on 028 7135 1329.

Lough Derg online shop offers unique Christmas Cards, featuring scenes of the Island from across the centuries and bespoke Gifts including a limited edition Lough Derg Christmas Candle. Christmas Mass Bouquet Cards are also available – Fr La, Prior, will offer a triduum of Masses beginning on Christmas Eve for all those who are enrolled. Visit www.loughderg.live/shop Telephone 0(0353) 71 9861518 *Delivery nationwide and Click & Collect Service available.*

The Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre Confirmation Preparation Programme will take place from the 10th -14th January 2022, to support parents, schools and parishes as they prepare the children in this very important stage of their faith journey. Linking with *Filled With Joy*, pupil workbook and *Disciples of Jesus*, parent booklet (available from the Diocesan Catechetical Centre) the programme will consist of,

- Four sessions, 10.00 am -12.00 am on the catecheticalcentre.org/webcam/. Each day the sessions will include catechesis on different aspects of the Sacrament of Confirmation, prayer, creative activities and music.
- A support pack for the four sessions which will be emailed to schools and available on the Catechetical Centre Website
- Short Video reflections on the gift of the Holy Spirit and the impact Confirmation has made on different people

QUB Catholic Chaplaincy: The Catholic Chaplaincy at Queen's University has reopened for the new academic year. They are a vibrant community of faith and friendship at the heart of campus where students feel welcome, listened-to, valued and supported. For more on their liturgy schedule, events, facilities and amazing Café, visit qubcatholic.org.

Radio Maria Ireland <https://www.radiomaria.ie/radio-maria-ireland/> is an Irish-run Catholic Talk-Radio Station with commercial-free broadcasting of Prayer, Catechesis, Music, Talks, Interviews and Testimonies.

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.

If you have any concerns with regard to Safeguarding children or adults in need of protection within the Church please contact Marie Gormley, the Diocesan Designated Liaison Person (DLP) at 07596 500 793 or email marie.gormley@derrydiocese.org or contact Briege O'Neill, the Safeguarding Coordinator at the Safeguarding Office, Diocesan Pastoral Centre, 164 Bishop Street, Derry, BT48 6UJ, tele (028) 71362475 or email safeguarding@derrydiocese.org or PSNI (Police Service of Northern Ireland) 101 or Social Services: Gateway Services, Western HSC Trust, 71314090 and ask for the Duty Social Worker.