

Excerpt from Statement by the Catholic Bishops of Northern Ireland:

“As many people as possible *stay at home* for the sake of health, life and the Common Good”

“Faith and prayer can be a tremendous support to individuals and society during these difficult times”

In light of our ongoing consultations and of the current serious and worsening situation, and in line with clear public health guidance that people should *stay at home*, we have decided that for a limited period (from midnight on Thursday, 7th January until Saturday, 6th February 2021, subject to review in late January), the celebration of the Eucharist and other liturgies should take place without the physical presence of the faithful - with the exception of marriage, funeral, baptismal liturgies and drive-in services (subject to regulations). Arrangements for recording and/or livestreaming, and making individual visits for private prayer are also permissible in accordance with regulations. We encourage parishes, where possible, to continue to broadcast the celebration of Mass - and other devotions and prayer services - online and on other media, knowing that faith and prayer can be a tremendous support to individuals and society during these difficult times.

We make this decision reluctantly, conscious that not being able to gather for public worship can cause pain for all the faithful, but in the hope that this limited period of sacrifice will be for the protection of life and health and for the greater good of all. We once more ask for prayers for the sick, the bereaved and all those whose livelihoods have been particularly impacted by the pandemic. We keep in our prayers all health workers, carers, chaplains and other essential workers. We welcome the announcement that a similar position is being taken by the leaders of the Church of Ireland, the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, the Methodist Church in Ireland and many other denominations and faith communities in response to the unequivocal message from public health authorities that as many people as possible stay at home at this time.

A Prayer in the time of the Corona Virus

By Fr Brian Grogan S.J

Dear God, in 1879 the Apparition at Knock gave hope and courage to the people of Ireland in difficult times.

We ask that Our Lady may now protect your beloved people from the Coronavirus.

May its victims be strengthened by the spiritual support of the Christian community and restored soon to full health.

We also pray for the medical personnel who deal with the virus.

This we ask in confidence through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Our Lady of Knock pray for us.

St. Joseph pray for us.

St John the Evangelist pray for us. Amen

Please join us via the Webcam:

We invite you 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-eugenescathedral or the parish website at www.steugenescathedral.com.

Sunday (10th January)

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

Please note: Local Radio Station Drive 105 will broadcast the 12.30 pm Sunday Mass live.

6.00 pm **Benediction**

Monday to Friday (11th – 15th January)

Mass via Webcam at 8.00 am, 10.00 am and 7.30 pm

12.00 noon **The Angelus & Rosary**

3.00 pm **Divine Mercy Chaplet**

8.00 pm **Eucharistic Adoration, Rosary followed by Night Prayer**

Saturday (16th January)

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

St Eugene's Cathedral will open after Mass for individual prayer.

Face Coverings: We ask all adults and children aged 14 and over to please wear a face covering (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.



Reflection on today's Gospel: *Mark 1: 7-11*

'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.'

John has insisted to his followers that his sole purpose is to prepare the way for the coming of the One whose sandal strap he is unfit to tie. And now Jesus, the One, has come to John, humbly willing to be baptised. 'Baptism' means 'to be dipped into' and Jesus, the Son of God, here at the start of his ministry, shows his willingness to immerse himself in every aspect of our humanity.

'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.' The voice of God comes from the heavens bathing Jesus in love and approval. For Jesus, as fully human as well as fully divine, these words must have been wonderful to hear. A child will flourish in the light of parental love and approval; a child will shrink in the face of parental coldness and disapproval. Jesus must have felt himself being strengthened and uplifted by his Father's words; he must have experienced courage flooding through his being at this beautiful expression of his Father's love and belief in him.

Because of the saving grace of Jesus, we too are the beloved children of God. We too can hear in the silence of our hearts the voice of God declaring His love for us. We too can experience that flourishing of our spirits as we bathe in the light of our Father's approval. His love and approval can urge us to strive to live as Jesus lived; His belief in us can fill us with the courage to walk hand in hand with Jesus, our minds pure and our souls brimming over with compassionate love.

Jesus, may we listen to the voice of our Father in the silence of our hearts calling us 'His Beloved', and may we strive to honour all the children in our care with the same love and approval, knowing that in the light of our love for them they will flourish, grow tall and straight, and face life with courage and compassion, their hand warmly clasped in yours.

Readers for next weekend - 16th/17th January

06.15 pm	Mary Feeney
07.30 pm	Oran Gartland
09.30 am	Rosemary Finan
11.00 am	Kay McGinn
12.30 pm	Liz McMonagle
07.00 pm	Anna Begley



Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of

Mark McDaid

Patsy Brady

Mary McCarron

Willie Curran

Eileen McGuigan

Rose Butler

Collette Kelly



May they rest in peace.

Anniversaries

Charlie Gallagher and Ronnie Kennedy. May they rest in peace.

Exploring Poetry with Mary Murphy via the Cathedral Hall webcam at 11.00 am on Friday, 15th January 2021. Mary will explore *'Walking Away'* by C Day-Lewis, *'Do not go gentle into that good night'* by Dylan Thomas and *'Thou art indeed just, Lord, if I contend'* by Gerard Manley Hopkins.



The St Dymphna Mass will be celebrated via webcam at 7.30 pm on Tuesday (19th January) and a candle will be lit for everyone who has intentions for the St Dymphna Mass. This Mass is to give thanks to God for positive mental health and to pray for those who are struggling with mental health issues and those who care for them.



Let's Get Generations Connected Campaign

Greater Shantallow Area Partnership and local Churches have come together, to appeal for new or used ipads, to be given to older members of our communities.

If you would like to make a small donation instead to your local church towards the Campaign, it would be greatly appreciated.

Please help ease the isolation and loneliness of so many in our city.

All iPads or donations are to be left with your church.

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 or email steugenes@btconnect.com or private message St Eugene's Cathedral Facebook page.



Blessed of Carlos Acutis



Carlo Acutis, an Italian Catholic teenager, was beatified in Assisi, Italy on Saturday, 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 Carlo and prayer cards which you are welcome to take.

Thank you

Fr Farren acknowledges with thanks donations for: **Trócaire: £100. Children in Crossfire: £40. In Thanksgiving to St Anthony: £5,**

Last Week’s Collection amounted to £3,996.

Parish Development Collection amounted to £580.

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 Eugenes 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 understanding and your continued support to the parish.

ACCORD Virtual Interactive Marriage Preparation Programme - 2021 Course Dates: 12th/13th January, 9th/10th February and 9th/10th March. Booking now online at www.accordni.com.

The Net is now available online, on www.derrydiocese.org. As always, it features a wide variety of news, interesting and inspiring interviews, articles and photos from parishes across the diocese. You are invited to read The Net, on the Diocesan Website, at your convenience.

The Messenger: Messenger Publications are offering a free online copy. Please visit: https://issuu.com/messengerpublications/docs/messenger_june_v11.3_low_res. If you have any difficulty accessing the link or if you have any further queries, please email c.henry@messenger.ie.

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.watchmenmedia 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: Noel O'Donnell, Diocesan Pastoral Centre, 164 Bishop Street, 71362475, mobile 07596500793 or Celine McKenna, Diocesan Pastoral Centre, 164 Bishop Street, 71362475, mobile 07707311358 or PSNI (Police Service of Northern Ireland) 101 or Social Services: Gateway Services, Western HSC Trust, 71314090 and ask for the Duty Social Worker.