

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time
A Short reflection on today's Gospel
Luke 15:1-13, 11-32

The Parable of the Prodigal Son is a story of compassion, forgiveness and profound understanding. It is a story of separation and reunion. It is a story of transcendent love. The father's love for his repentant son who has found his way home transcends any need he might have had for his errant boy to prostrate himself before him and humbly admit his guilt. It is sufficient that he has crawled his way home. The father's love is greater than his son's transgressions. Surely this parable gathers to itself all that is at the heart of the meaning of our existence: love itself. It has been stated that this is the most important parable in the Bible – that if there was no other, this parable would suffice to convey to us the extent of God's love for His creation.

Which son are we? Are we the son who has squandered his inheritance on excess and debauchery, and crawls home, broken and crushed? Or are we the older son who thinks that duty and obligation are legitimate substitutes for loving relationships, the son who treats love as a limited commodity? I'm sure, in honesty, we can see ourselves in both sons. But can we see ourselves in the father who has waited patiently for his son's return, his arms ready to embrace his child in compassion, forgiveness and profound understanding?

Great God, greater than our sins, may we grow in compassion, forgiveness and understanding. May we reach out with healing hands to touch those around us who are crushed and broken. May we learn to truly forgive others as you forgive us. May we learn that love is unlimited, infinite, and that, as repentant souls, we are washed daily in your love. Amen

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



Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of:

***Helen Nash
Patsy Gormley
Roderick Brady***

May they rest in peace

Anniversaries

***John & Maureen Duffy
Girlie Martin
Susie Crowley***

May they rest in peace.

Baptisms

We welcome as members of
God's family:

**Cúan Daniel Black
Arabella Armstrong
Cáit Rosemary O'Hagan
Raya Nicell**



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.

***Sarah Horner and Brian McFadden
Ruth McKeever & Jonny Hume
Sarah Gillespie & Ryan McFadden***

Thank you

Fr Farren acknowledges with
thanks the following donations for:
SDVP: £25, £20 & £20
Flood Relief Pakistan: £100
Trocaire: £100, £100
Mary's Meals: £25
Sight Savers: £100 & £20
Smile train: £20

Thank You

Collection

Last Week: £4,472
Parish Development: £930

Thank you very much

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

06.15 pm	Jackson Gallagher
07.30 pm	Liz McMonagle
09.30 am	Oran Gartland
11.00 am	Sophia Mason
12.30 pm	Eilish Friel
07.00 pm	Anna Begley

Altar Servers – The Altar Server’s Ministry is a unique one in the Catholic Church. Your participation as an Altar Server is special. If you are interested in making new friends, growing in confidence, growing in your service to others and in growing in Christ then please contact Deacon Michael on 028 71 262894/028 71 365712 or email cathedral@derrydiocese.org.

St Eugene’s Scouts are starting back next week in St Anne’s Primary School. Beavers from 6–8 years old (Monday night at 7-8pm), Cubs & Scouts (Tuesday night from 7.00pm-8.30pm). Cubs 8-11 /Scouts 11-15 years old.

Safeguarding Sunday is a chance to shine a light on what our diocese is doing to ensure our parish communities and our places of worship are safe environments. Protecting children, and adults at risk, is at the heart of the Church’s message. The National Board for Safeguarding Children in the Catholic Church in Ireland has developed comprehensive safeguarding standards which are designed to support best practice in providing safe environments and child-protection procedures. The Diocese of Derry, along with all Church bodies, is committed to complying with these standards. **This year’s Safeguarding Sunday Mass takes place next Sunday, 18th September 2022, at 3:00pm in St Columb’s Church, Waterside, Derry.** We take this opportunity to thank and pray for those who have stepped up to co-ordinate safeguarding in our church so that we can ensure the protection of children and adults at risk. We believe that safeguarding is an outworking of our faith in a loving and just God - the God who calls us to speak up on behalf of those who cannot speak for themselves and to defend the rights of the vulnerable (Proverbs 31:8).

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 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