

St Eugene's Cathedral Lenten Programme

The Seven Last Words of Christ. Everyone is welcome to this time of prayer and reflection. Sunday 24th March at 8.00pm in St Eugene's Cathedral.

Confession and Adoration on the way home – Monday from 5.00pm to 7.20pm

Morning Prayer of the Church at 7.45 am Monday to Wednesday

1.00pm Lunch time Mass (Monday – Wednesday)

Funeral Masses are not celebrated on Holy Thursday, Good Friday or Holy Saturday

CELEBRATION OF HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

The six weeks of Lent are a preparation for the last three days of this week, Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil. We celebrate the central event of our religion, the death and the resurrection of Christ, the Saviour of the world.

Holy Thursday (28th March)

10.00am Mass of Chrism

Bishop McKeown will celebrate the Mass of Chrism with priests from all over the Diocese. During the Mass the Holy Oils which will be used in Baptism, Confirmation, Anointing of the Sick and Ordination are blessed. Bishop McKeown and the priests will renew their priestly vows to serve Christ and His Church.

7.30pm Concelebrated Mass of the Lord's Supper

Celebrating the gift of the Eucharist and the ministry of service

On Thursday evening we celebrate the Mass of the Lord's Supper. We gather with Jesus and the apostles in the upper room. There it is revealed to us that to be the body of Christ we are called to serve. We are called to wash the feet of others – to be their humble servants.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at the Altar of Repose until 11.00pm

Praying at the Garden of Gethsemane

On Thursday night we wait as the Body of Christ in the Garden of Gethsemane. We share in the fear and loneliness of Jesus as he reaches the depths of despair.

Good Friday (29th March)

We meditate on the Passion and the death of Jesus. We focus on the cross-the crude instrument that took the life of our saviour- the key that opened eternal life for us all.

This is a day of fast and abstinence – there is an obligation to fast (one main meal, two light meals in the day and to abstain from meat. The Law of Fasting obliges all Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59 years (except the sick). The Law of Abstinence obliges all Catholics over the age of 14 years.

10.00am Morning Prayer

3.00pm Celebration of the Passion

We walk with Jesus on the path to Calvary

7.30pm Celebration of the Passion

Holy Saturday (30th March)

On this day we wait as the body of our saviour lies dead in the tomb

10.00am Morning Prayer

We wait at the tomb

Confessions from 11.30am to 6.00pm

10.00pm Easter Vigil

Tonight is the high point of the Church's year as we celebrate the resurrection of our Saviour

The Easter Vigil – In the words of St Augustine “this is the mother of all vigils”. The Easter Triduum reaches its high point on this most holy night. On this night we tell our story. It is not just a distant memory; it is not only historical fact-it is living reality. It is the story of salvation. We are a saved people. Through his cross and resurrection Christ has set us free. We symbolise our salvation and freedom with fire and the single flame of the paschal candle. We have been called out of darkness into the wonderful life of Christ.

Easter Sunday

We are a resurrected people and alleluia is our song

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

No devotions

A short reflection on today's Gospel

Today's Gospel calls on us to journey with Jesus to Calvary: it calls on us to walk alongside him on his long, excruciating journey through rejection, betrayal, profound agony and death. Today's Gospel calls on us to witness the Son of God's acceptance of the full forces of evil for our salvation. We are called on to witness with humility and awe the most powerful act of love the world has ever known or ever will know. Jesus could have called on his divinity to save him if he so wished but chose instead for our sake to suffer as a human being and in doing so entered into solidarity with every other human being who suffers, with every other human being who is afraid, or who feels abandoned, or who is lost. We are called on to witness Jesus living fully right up to his last breath as he offers forgiveness to those who have so cruelly used him.

Jesus, we are witnessing in today's world the evils of a bloodthirsty lust for power and control over others. We know that you hear the cries of all those who are in anguish and are afraid. Grant us the courage to stand in solidarity with all those who are suffering and fearful. Jesus, you were enabled by your faith in your heavenly Father to triumph over the forces of evil and death. Grant that we will always know that with that same faith, life will always triumph over all forms of death.

Jesus, may we call out to you when we are afraid and know that you are walking beside us always, our hand in yours.

Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of:

Edward (Eddie) O'Hare
Frank (Vincent) McCloskey
Lisa Ryan
Mary Shiels

May they rest in peace

Baptisms

We welcome as members of God's family:

Nora Jean Barrett
Jamie Daniel Harkin

Sacrament of Marriage

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

Katie Hutchison & Lewis Fullen

Collection

Last week's collection: £5,062
Parish Development: £1,075

Thank you for your generosity

Thank you

Fr Farren acknowledges with thanks the following donations for:

Cathedral Funds: £30
Admins Choice: £10
Flowers: £10
Palestine: £500
Trócaire: £500, £10

Anniversaries

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

Kathleen Friel
James Sherrard
Lily O'Connor
Freddie Boyle
Connell Harkin
Bernadette Condren
John McCauley
Jim Taylor
Celine Taylor
Martin Keaveney

May they rest in peace

The Walled City Passion returns this Easter to the historic walls of Derry-Londonderry, from Thursday 28th until Saturday 30th March. Showtimes are 12.00pm and 3.00pm, and tickets are available via the Millennium Forum Box Office 02871 264455 or online at www.millenniumforum.co.uk.

The monthly Matt Talbot, Freedom from addiction Mass takes place on Monday 1st April at 7:30pm in St Eugene's Cathedral.

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.watchmcnmedia 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 Ireland) 101 or **Social Services: Gateway Services, Western HSC Trust, 71314090 and ask for the Duty Social Worker.**

Priests: Fr Paul Farren, Fr Shaun Doherty