

### A short reflection on today's Gospel

Like last Sunday's Gospel, the Gospel today is multi-layered in terms of its powerful meanings, revealed over many and careful readings. It teaches us that although humans alone have knowledge of the finiteness of their earthly existence and are plagued with anxiety and fear resulting from that knowledge, death does not have the final word. Jesus, himself the resurrection and the life, through the raising of Lazarus conquers death and shows us that our fear of death is, in fact, the real stone that must be moved away if we are to be liberated into the glorious light of resurrection and eternal life. Jesus instructs us to fear neither darkness nor death: "Are there not twelve hours in a day? If one walks during the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. But if one walks at night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him."

Today's Gospel also points to the paradox of death: while it releases us to be where we have always longed to be, with God, our physical absence leaves a legacy of grief to those we have loved and who have loved us. Jesus, as fully human as he was fully divine, shares in the heartbreak and tears of the grieving: 'And Jesus wept.'

Jesus loved that little family in Bethany: Mary, Martha, and Lazarus. The death of Lazarus has plunged Mary and Martha into terrible grief, and Jesus is moved beyond words by their tears. His own tears merge with theirs in a beautiful and touching manifestation of his humanity.

***Dear God, move us into the glorious light you have created, a light so beautiful and so bright it absorbs the darkness and reveals to us the wonder of resurrection and eternal life.***

It was with great sadness this week that we learnt of the death of Fr Roni Zacharias' father. Our deepest sympathy goes out to Fr Roni and his family during this difficult time. We pray that God gives you all the comfort and peace that you seek and may the soul of your father rest in peace.

***Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen***

### St Eugene's Cathedral Lenten Programme

**Morning Prayer of the Church** at 7.45 am Monday to Friday

**1.00pm Lunch time Mass (Monday – Friday)**

**Late openings on Mondays** – To celebrate the Sacrament of Confession and spend some quiet time in the presence of our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament from 8.00 to 10.00 pm

**Tuesdays: Why is my presence at Mass important?** Fr Paul Farren continues a series of talks in St Eugene's Cathedral from 7.00pm to 7.20pm

**Palms will be blessed at all Masses next weekend**

### Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of:

***Maliackal Sachariah  
Frances Walsh  
Emmet McCourt  
Joseph Johnston  
Pauline Begley  
Margaret Fox  
Frances Lynch  
John Allen  
Caina Healey  
Gregory Sharkey  
Patricia (Patti) Duffy***  
May they rest in peace

### Anniversaries

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

***Lily O'Connor  
Jim Taylor  
Celine Taylor  
Nellie Strawbridge  
James Sherrard  
Sean Carr  
Josie Cullen  
William Cullen***  
May they rest in peace

### Baptisms

We welcome as members of God's family:

***Cían Gerard Crawford  
Layla Duddy-McCreadie  
Myles James John Crocker***

### Thank you

Fr Farren acknowledges with thanks the following donations for:

**Blessed Carlo Acutis Statue:** £40, £50, £100  
**Cathedral Funds:** £10  
**Sightsavers:** £100  
**Trocaire:** £20, £50  
**Turkey & Syria Appeal:** £300, £50, £10, £100, £90, €60

### Collection

Last week's collection: £4,506  
Parish Development: £937.00

***Thank you for your generosity***

### **Readers for Palm Sunday 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> April**

06.15 pm Carmel McConnelogue  
07.30 pm Helen Sweeney  
09.30 am Kate Doherty  
11.00 am St Mary's College  
12.30 pm Eilish Friel  
07.00 pm Liz McMonagle

### **Sick Visitation**

**Fr Paul Farren** will attend the sick and housebound in his care during the coming week:

**Monday:** Lisfannon Park, Glenfada Park, William Street, Fahan Street, Westland Street, Cable Street, Lower Road

**Tuesday:** Mulvey Park, Eglinton Terrace, Beechwood Street, Elmwood Road, Gartan Square, Elmwood Terrace, Little Diamond, Clarendon Manor

**Easter Mass Bouquets** are available to buy at the Parish Office. Cost £2.

**The Matt Talbot Mass will be celebrated in here St Eugene's Cathedral on Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> April at 7.30 pm.** The Matt Talbot Prayer Society was 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. 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 also be offered for those enrolled on the first Monday of every month here in St Eugene's Cathedral at 7.30 pm. To enrol someone in the Matt Talbot Prayer Society please email [vita@matttalbotprayersociety.com](mailto:vita@matttalbotprayersociety.com) or private message St Eugene's Cathedral Facebook page or phone St Eugene's Cathedral at 028 71262894/71365712.

**World Youth Day - Derry Diocesan Youth** is taking a group on Pilgrimage to World Youth Day in Lisbon, from 25<sup>th</sup> July to 7<sup>th</sup> August 2023. This pilgrimage is for over 18s. Limited places available: if you would be interested in travelling on the pilgrimage, or finding out more, please contact Lizzie Rea on [lizzie.rea@derrydiocese.org](mailto:lizzie.rea@derrydiocese.org).

**The Sister Clare Retreat** will take place in St Columba's Church, Long Tower, Derry, 17<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> April. There will be Mass at 7.00am & 10.00am (Monday to Friday). Each evening at 7.30pm there will be Benediction, with a guest Speaker (Monday-Friday). On Saturday there will be Benediction at 3.00pm, followed by a guest speaker. The closing ceremony will be led by Bishop McKeown and takes place on the Sunday at 3.00pm.

**The Sorrowful Mysteries:** A dramatic presentation for Holy Week: St Mary's Church, Creggan, on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April at 8.30pm and the Holy Family Church, Ballymagroarty on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April at 8.30pm.

**First Anniversary Mass for Fr Paddy O'Kane** will take place in Holy Family Church, Ballymagroarty on Tuesday 28th March at 7.15pm. All welcome.

**Foster Carers** needed in the Western Trust area – a range of opportunities available that can work in with different lifestyles, including respite, emergency and long-term: Upcoming Information Events at the Guildhall, Derry on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> April, 2.00pm to 4.00pm. To register, email [info@fostering.hscni.net](mailto:info@fostering.hscni.net) or call 0800 0720 137

**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](http://www.churchservices.tv), [www.watchmcnmedia](http://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](mailto: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 Roni Zacharias**