

A short reflection on today's Gospel

Today's Gospel witnesses another attempt by the Pharisees to trap Jesus out of his own mouth with the question, 'Master, which is the greatest commandment of the Law?' Jesus, with his customary lack of prevarication, goes straight to the heart of the matter with his response, 'You must love your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it. You must love your neighbour as yourself.'

We know that to love God is to love what God loves, and that means we must love everything: all of creation, all of humanity.

We know that God's love for us flows from His abundant grace: it is pure gift, and not remotely of our deserving. Why do we then assume the temerity to decide who deserves God's love and who does not! We are not worthy of it either. We are well advised to draw from God's abundant love and share it with others, instead of constantly looking for excuses not to love with the abundance of God, not to emulate His overflowing mercy.

Jesus, guide us into loving relationship with your heavenly Father, and through that relationship, may we enter into loving relationship with all other human beings.

Jesus, we can see today the horrific suffering which hatred, love gone sick, causes in the world. Teach us to do what you did on earth: to replace hatred with love and forgiveness, to replace vengeance with prayer and humility. Amen

National Year of Prayer for Vocations to the Diocesan Priesthood – we pray for our seminarians and all those hoping to become priests of the diocese of Derry, that they will keep the commandment of love - love for God and love for neighbour - as the inspiration for everything they say and do.

Feast of All Saints – Wednesday 1st November, a Holyday of Obligation. Masses for the Holyday are as follows:

Tuesday 31st October: Vigil Masses at 6.15pm & 7.30pm

Wednesday 1st November: 7.00am, 9.30am, 11.00am, 12.30pm & 7.30pm

The retired Priests Collection will be taken up at all Masses on the Holyday.

All Souls Day - Thursday 2nd November. Masses will take place at 8.00am, 10.00am and 7.30pm. The deceased members of our families and friends will be remembered at each Mass throughout November in Saint Eugene's Cathedral. Please take a Remembrance Card from the back of the Cathedral, write down the names of your loved ones and place it in the basket on the Sanctuary.

Remembering Our Dead

There will be a Concelebrated Mass here at Saint Eugene's Cathedral on Saturday, 11th November at 7.30pm for the deceased members of each home in the parish.

Anyone who has lost a close relative who was buried from another church during the past year, please leave the deceased's name in the Sacristy or the Parochial House so that they can be remembered in the Mass and a candle can be lit in their memory.

Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of:

*Johnny Devine
Eddie Kerr
Thomas Hughes*

May they rest in peace

Anniversaries

Please pray for the repose of the soul of:

*Sue McGeady
Kathleen Bradley
Jim Bradley
Margaret McGlinchey
Anna McLaughlin
Mark Kelly
Molly Gallagher
Meta McKendrick
Kathleen Toland
Larry Villa*

May they rest in peace

Baptisms

We welcome as a members of God's family:

*Rueben John Harkin
Noah Levi Brett
Gracie Lynne Harkin*

To book a Baptism contact the Parish Office 02871 262894

Please remember: Godparents (1 male and 1 female over the age of 16)

Sacrament of Marriage

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

Christina Colgan & Samuel Green

Collection

Last week's collection: £5,998

Parish Development: £1,155

Thank you for your generosity

Thank you

Fr Farren acknowledges with thanks the following donations for:

Cathedral Funds: £5

Hungry Children: £10, £5, £5, £5

Israel & Palestine: £40, £40

Concern: £20

Trócaire: £50

Readers Holyday – All Saints

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| 06.15 pm | Mary Feeney |
| 07.30 pm | Barry McDaid |
| 09.30 am | Marian Boyle |
| 11.00 am | Anna Begley |
| 12.30 pm | Oran Gartland |
| 07.30 pm | Claire O'Kane |

Readers 4th/5th November

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| 06.15 pm | Eilish Friel |
| 07.30 pm | Stephen Orr |
| 09.30 am | Barry McDaid |
| 11.00 am | McGinley Readers |
| 12.30 pm | Sean Hickey |
| 07.00 pm | Anna Begley |

St Vincent de Paul (St Eugene's Conference) would like to acknowledge with thanks a contribution of £100.

Our Lady, Untier of Knots Novena continues after 7.30pm Mass each Thursday until 30th November. Do you have some "knots" in your life? We pray and entrust our specific "knots" to Her loving hands, learning how to let go of that which binds us.

Parish Advent Pilgrimage on Tuesday 12th December. Bus leaves Cathedral at 9.30am and returning at approx 4.00pm. Price £40 - includes Transport, Morning Tea & Lunch. For more information or to book call into the Parish Office or call 71262894 or email cathedral@derrydiocese.org

St Joseph's Boys School Annual Mass of Remembrance for all deceased pupils, staff and governors will take place on Thursday 9th November at 7.00pm in the school's assembly hall. If you would like to add a name to the list of those to be remembered, please contact the school office on 71262923.

Annual Solemn Novena - Year of Vocations to Diocesan Priesthood, continues at St Columba's, Long Tower this Sunday 29th October at 6.00pm. Guest speakers are Martina Purdy (former BBC political correspondent) and Elaine Kelly (former Barrister in family law) who will speak on 'St Patrick and Vocations'. All are welcome.

Memory's Gifting - A Morning Retreat led by Fr Paschal McDonnell will be held on Saturday 11th November from 10.00am to 1.30pm in An Grianan Hotel, Burt, Co Donegal. For details/to register, contact Erin at thornhillministries@derrydiocese.org.

Training for new Eucharistic Ministers will take place on Sunday 12th November, from 3.30 pm to 4.45 pm in Termonbacca Retreat Centre. For details contact Erin at thornhillministries@derrydiocese.org.

Rosary on the Coast- The next Rosaries on the Coast will be on Sunday 29th October at 3.00pm on Lisfannon Strand, Buncrana, and Sunday 5th November on Benone Strand, Limavady, also 3.00pm. All Rosary Coasters welcome.

Cistercian Vocation Weekend - The Cistercian monks at Our Lady of Bethlehem Abbey, Portglenone, invite men who are between the ages of 18 and 50 and who may feel a call to the monastic life, to come and share a weekend of prayer and discernment at the Abbey, 3rd – 5th November. For further details please contact the Vocation Promotor Fr Aelred ocoo on 02825 821211, or via email frmagee@yahoo.co.uk

Anam Cara Donegal, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding its monthly Parent Evening for bereaved parents on Thursday 9th November at 7.15pm in the Radisson Blu Hotel, Letterkenny Co. Donegal. For more info call 00353 (01) 4045378.

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

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Thirtieth Sunday
in Ordinary Time
29th October 2023*

Priests: Fr Paul Farren, Fr Shaun Doherty