

### **A short reflection on today's Gospel**

At the heart of today's Gospel is the unequivocal truth that we can only achieve eternal life through Jesus: "I am the gate of the sheepfold."

Jesus is the Good Shepherd promised by God. He loves his sheep. He knows each one by name. He will never oppress, maltreat, or lead his sheep astray, but he will lead them out of darkness and danger into the light, into safety and green pastures. The Good Shepherd is the only door into the sheepfold, and the sheep know this; they trust the Good Shepherd and follow wherever he leads them.

Jesus cannot tolerate hypocrisy. He sees into the hearts of people, into the self-centredness and cruelty which can often lie hidden behind an outward show of morality. This was exemplified for him by the Pharisees and the Scribes: proud, self-interested, cruel and contemptuous of those less privileged than themselves. Jesus lead by example: by healing, by forgiving, by loving. Jesus threw open the door to eternal life for all humanity by sacrificing himself; the Pharisees would deny eternal life to all but themselves.

*Lord Jesus, may we learn to discern the bad shepherd from the Good and may we never be distracted by the false and the worldly. May we unerringly follow your truth knowing that you alone are the door through which we shall enter eternal life.*

### **ST EUGENE'S CATHEDRAL 150<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS**

**A Diocesan Mass** will be celebrated in Saint Eugene's Cathedral, on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> April at 3.00pm. All are very welcome.

**The blessing of a new statue of Blessed Carlo Acutis** will take place on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May. The blessing will take place during the 10.00am Mass in St Eugene's Cathedral. All are welcome to attend.

**Bishop Mc Keown will celebrate Mass on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm** to mark the day the Cathedral was opened in 1873. All are welcome.

**The Matt Talbot Mass will be celebrated in here St Eugene's Cathedral on Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> May 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.

### **The Little Way Novena in honour of St Thérèse of Lisieux**

*"At the heart of the Church, my mother, I will be love."*

The annual Little Way Novena in honour of St Thérèse of Lisieux will be take place at St Eugene's Cathedral from Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May until Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2023. This will be an opportunity to pray for a special intention and to ask St Thérèse to intercede for us. It is a time when many people find great joy and healing. All are very welcome.

**The Novena begins with a Mass with the Anointing of the sick at 7.30pm on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May.**

**The Opening Ceremony will take place at 6.00pm on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May with Bishop Donal Mc Keown.**

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> to Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May there will be Novena Masses at 6.30am and 10.00am each morning and an evening service with a guest speaker at 7.30pm.**

The speakers each evening at 7.30pm are as follows:

**Monday (8<sup>th</sup>): Marion Carroll** who was cured from Multiple Sclerosis in Knock in 1989.

**Tuesday (9<sup>th</sup>) Tim Shriver**, Chairman of the Special Olympics since 1996 and the founder of Unite.

**Wednesday (10<sup>th</sup>) Eunan McMullan** who was a barrister in Belfast and is now a Friar in Assisi.

**Thursday (11<sup>th</sup>) Alexander McLean**, founder of Justice Defenders which is based in Uganda and seeks to improve the lives of people imprisoned in Africa.

**Friday (12<sup>th</sup>) Brendan McGinn**, Principal of Mary's College in Derry.

**Saturday (13<sup>th</sup>)** the 10.00am Mass will be celebrated for all those who have died.

**The Novena Closing Ceremony will take place on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May at 3.00pm with the blessing of roses and candles.**

**St Thérèse candles will be on sale at the back of the Cathedral.**

**150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary - Knitting Jesus for Children** - Are you a knitter? Have you any spare odds and ends of wool? We would like your help with a special project! We would like children coming to Mass in St Eugene's Cathedral to receive the gift of a little Jesus to take home with them, to bring to Mass, to help them come to know Jesus better, to pray each day to him and to stay close to him. We don't mind what colour of wool used. You may have your own patterns, but we can also provide one. If you think you can help with this project, please contact [tferry@derrydiocese.org](mailto:tferry@derrydiocese.org) or telephone 02871264087.

### Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of:

**Tony Hume**  
**Column McGill**  
**Patrick Horner**

May they rest in peace

### Anniversaries

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

**William Lafferty**  
**Jim Friel**  
**Peter Kyle**

May they rest in peace

### Baptisms

We welcome as a member of God's family:

**Cole Ivor McGlinchey-Stewart**  
**Sadhbh Niamh McLaughlin**  
**Éabha Meabh Burke**

### Sacrament of Marriage

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

**Roisin Knox and Joshua Boyle**  
**Claire Meenan and Ross Doherty**

### Thank you

Fr Farren acknowledges with thanks the following donations for:

**Trocaire:** £10, £100, £50, £50  
**Carlo Acutis Statue:** £25, £25, £30  
**Earthquake Appeal:** £25  
**Sight Savers:** £25  
**Smile Train:** £25  
**Cathedral Funds:** ££100, £30  
**SVDP:** £20

### Collection

Last week's collection: £6,022  
Parish Development: £1,072

***Thank you for your generosity***

### Readers for 6th/7th May

06.15 pm	Helen Sweeney
07.30 pm	Stephen Orr
09.30 am	Kate Doherty
11.00 am	McGinley Readers
12.30 pm	Niamh Kehoe
07.00 pm	Anna Begley

**Priests: Fr Paul Farren, Fr Roni Zacharias**

**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**.