

### ***Reflection for the 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C***

To be a Christian is to take our own death seriously—to face the reality that each of us will one day die. That may sound sombre, but it's a fact. Our death will come, sooner or later. Abraham, the father of faith, understood this truth. He knew his life would end, but he didn't spend his days hiding or waiting for death. Instead, he set out on a journey with his elderly wife, Sarah, trusting completely in the God who created him and had already done great things for him. Even though Sarah was far beyond childbearing age, God promised them a son. Sarah was 90, and Abraham was 100 when their son Isaac was born. God rewarded Abraham because he was the first to believe the promise made to him and his descendants. He heard, he believed, and he acted on that belief. He showed true faith. Abraham never lived to see the Messiah, the Son of God. But we, as Christians, are blessed to live in a time when Jesus is present to us—body, blood, soul, and divinity—at every Eucharist. We can kneel before Him in the monstrance during adoration. The only requirement is faith.

**In today's Gospel, we are reminded:** *“Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.”* So we must ask ourselves: What is in our treasure box? Is it filled with the pleasures and gadgets of this world—things that will one day pass away? Or is it filled with the gifts that come from truly following Christ—gifts that will last into eternity?

**Anyone considering a vocation to the diocesan priesthood is invited to an afternoon of prayer and discussion organised by the diocesan vocations team on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> August.** Mass in St Columb's Church, Waterside, at 12.30pm, followed by refreshments in the parish hall. Bishop McKeown hopes to attend, along with a number of priests and seminarians. The afternoon will end at 6pm.

#### **Jubilee Year Opportunities at Lough Derg this August & September:**

**One Day Retreats** – Guided Days of Prayer and Reflection - places available on August 19, 23, 24, 25, 30; September 3, 6, 7, 9, 13, 20, 21.

**National Sacred Heart Crusade** – a Sacred Heart Statue blessed by Pope Francis will be present for the Day Retreats on 23, 24 & 25 August.

**Canonisation of Blessed Carlo Acutis** on Sunday 7 September – special devotions and blessing with Carlo Acutis Relic. Admission €50. Group discounts available. Advance Booking Essential.

**Thursday 21 August to mark National Heritage Week 2025** Lough Derg offers a day to immerse yourself in the story and heritage of the ancient Sanctuary. Guided Tour of Station Island and Boat Trip at 11am & 2:30pm. Admission €15. Concessions for students, children & families. Advance Booking Essential.

**Pilgrim Path Lake Shore Pilgrimage** - In the footsteps of pilgrims through the centuries: Sunday 31 August. Guided 8km & 12km walk options available. Admission €25. Advance Booking Essential.

**Quiet Day Retreat** – Come apart by yourself, and rest for a while – Friday 12 September. Admission €40 includes refreshments and lunch. Advance booking essential. Contact by email: [info@loughderg.org](mailto:info@loughderg.org) / Tel. 0(0353) 719861518  
There is still time to collect your Lough Derg Pilgrim Passport Stamp [www.pilgrimpassport.ie](http://www.pilgrimpassport.ie)

#### **Sympathy**

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of:

***Fred Cullen  
Margaret Anne Friel  
Maureen Doherty***  
May they rest in peace

#### **Anniversaries**

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

***Seamus Mullan  
Richard (Dick) Gillespie  
Bro. Gabriel Mc Kinney S.J.  
Cissie Mc Laughlin  
Peggy and Raymond Carlin***

May they rest in peace

#### **Baptisms**

We welcome as members of God's family:

***Bonnie Mae Devine  
Lottie Marie McFeely  
Arlo James Cusack Davidson***

To book a Baptism contact the Parish Office 02871 262894

#### **Readers for 14th/15<sup>th</sup> August**

06.15 pm	Mary Feeney
07.30 pm	Anna Begley
09.30 am	Marie Canning
11.00 am	Piaras O Meallain
12.30 pm	Anna Peake
7.30 pm	Angela McCallion

#### **Collection**

Priests' Collection: £5,128

Parish Development: £1,060

***Thank you for your generosity***

#### **Thank you**

Fr Farren acknowledges with thanks the following donations for:

**Water Aid:** £20  
**Mary's Meals:** £20  
**Smile Train:** £40  
**Sight Savers:** £40, £100  
**Gaza Appeal:** £20, £20  
**Trócaire:** €25

#### **Readers for 9<sup>th</sup> /10<sup>th</sup> August**

06.15 pm	Helen Sweeney
07.30 pm	John Og McNamee
09.30 am	Kevin Finan
11.00 am	Piaras O Meallain
12.30 pm	Paul Gormley/Claire O'Kane
7.00 pm	Marian Boyle

***“Bishop Daly - A Man for all Seasons”*** – 2025 - Exhibition celebrates the life, influence, work and legacy of Bishop Edward Daly opens on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> August after 10am Mass. Exhibition times are Monday - Saturday from 10.30am to 4.00pm in the Conference Room above the Sacristy. The Exhibition will run until 28 August. Everyone is welcome.

**Parish Summer Day Pilgrimage on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> August 2025** – Bus leaves the Cathedral at 9.30am and returns approximately 5.30pm. Morning Tea in the Clanree Hotel followed by morning prayer at Doon Well. Mass in Ards Friary and lunch in the Carrigart Hotel. Price £40 includes – Transport, Morning Tea & Lunch. For more information or to book a place call into the Parish Office or call 71262894 or email [cathedral@derrydiocese.org](mailto:cathedral@derrydiocese.org) *Please note that this must be pre-booked.*

**Priests: Fr Paul Farren, Fr Shaun Doherty**

**The Iosas Centre and Celtic Prayer Garden, Muff, (next to white oaks),** offers something special happening every day of the week. We have Fish & Chip Friday, and our hearty all-day breakfast on Saturdays, Sunday lunch made with our own organic produce. Our farm shop, open Monday to Friday until 4.30pm, offers fresh organic fruit and vegetables, homemade jams, chutneys, free-range eggs, and other tasty treats. Take time to explore the Celtic Prayer Garden – a peaceful and magical space where children can explore and adults can reconnect with nature and enjoy a moment of calm. It's a little haven of joy, nourishment, and tranquillity, right on your doorstep: Eircode F93F104 will bring you straight to your door in Co. Donegal. Tel 0(0353)74 91 848 66.

**Cathedral Parking Notice** - Please be advised that parking at the Cathedral is restricted for Cathedral use only. Due to limited space, and to ensure safety, accessibility, and availability for those attending Mass, events, and pastoral appointments, we kindly ask that parking be reserved for Cathedral-related activities only.

This change also supports our efforts to accommodate:

- Elderly and disabled visitors who require closer access
- Clergy and staff during working hours
- Funerals, weddings, and other scheduled services
- Deliveries and essential maintenance access

We understand this may cause inconvenience, and we are grateful for your understanding and cooperation as we aim to serve our Parish as best we can.

**15 August - Feast of the Assumption - Holy Day of Obligation** - Mass times – **14 August** – Vigil 6.15pm and 7.30pm – **15 August Mass times** – 7.00am, 9.30am, 11.00am, 12.30pm and 7.30 pm.

**Accord Derry Marriage Preparation Workshops** – the following dates are now available: September 26<sup>th</sup>/27<sup>th</sup>, October 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup>, November 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup>. Book online at [www.accordni.com](http://www.accordni.com). Please note that these courses are in person and not virtual.

**4 Week free Dementia Education Programme for Informal Carers, starting Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September at 7.00pm in the Old Library Trust, Creggan.** This course is for those looking after someone at home who has received a dementia diagnosis. It teaches what dementia is and helps carers to gain an understanding about different types of dementia, their signs and symptoms, about communication, different behaviours and coping strategies etc. ***Please note, this course is not suitable for individuals who either have dementia or are currently going through a process of diagnosis.*** Booking is essential via [eilish@olt.ie](mailto:eilish@olt.ie) or contact 02871 373870.

**Is gambling affecting your life?** Perhaps we can help. Telephone 028 7135 1329.

**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.