33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time A Short reflection on today's Gospel Lk 21:5-19

Take care not to be deceived

Today's Gospel witnesses Jesus' warning to his followers of the apocalyptic events which are to come in their lifetime: wars, famine, plagues, and earthquakes. And those who are his true disciples will face terrible consequences for bearing witness to his name. Jesus urges them to be steadfast in their adherence to his ministry of love; he will never abandon, he promises, those whose faith is animated all the more by the cruel injustices perpetrated against them by unbelievers.

The apocalyptic events described by Jesus have continued throughout Church history. And they have provided true disciples of Jesus with countless opportunities to proclaim and defend our faith. When we look around our world today it can seem that faith in God is obscured behind a miasma of gross materialism and destructive cynicism. Gross materialism proclaims that to achieve happiness all one needs is to have more of everything; cynics sneer at what they describe as the absurdity of belief in anything other than man, who, they preach, is the only instigator of happiness and fulfilment.

And yet we know that the human spirit yearns for the light, yearns for the peace and rest which reside only in God. Now is the time to uphold and defend our faith. The message of today's Gospel is that it is both difficult and even dangerous to follow Christ, but the promised rewards are great. Walking with Jesus leads us to the very heart of Love itself: to the glory of resurrection.

There will be a Concelebrated Mass here in St Eugene's Cathedral on Saturday 19th November 2022 at 7.30pm for the deceased members of the parish who died in 2021. As we were unable to gather as a Parish Community due to Covid restrictions there will be a further Concelebrated Mass held for those who died during 2020 on Saturday 26th November at 7.30pm. 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 Parochial House so that they can be remembered in the Mass and nominate someone to receive a candle in their memory.

Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of:

Mark (Mackles) McClafferty
May he rest in peace

Anniversaries

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

David Holly Lily McCafferty Tom Canning

May they rest in peace.

Readers for 19th/20th November

06.15 pm Rachael Harrigan
07.30 pm Stephen Orr
09.30 am Barry McDaid
11.00 am McGinley Readers
12.30 pm Kevin Finan
07.00 pm Marian Boyle

Thank you

Fr Farren acknowledges with thanks the following donations for:

SVDP: £10, £25

Mary's Meals: £25, £40 Foyle Food Bank: £80 Cathedral Funds: £20, £10

Trocaire: £100 Sight Savers: £5 Smile Train: £60

Collection

Last week's collection: £5,604 Parish Development: £962 Retired Priests: £3,175

Thank you for your generosity

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

Wednesday: Mulvey Park, Eglinton Terrace, Beechwood Street, Limewood Street, Elmwood Terrace, Little Diamond, Clarendon Manor

Fr Roni Zacharias will attend the sick and housebound in his care during the coming week:

Tuesday: Fairman Place, Academy Terrace, Tudor Court, Tutor Close, Argyle Street, Northland Parade, Northland Drive

Friday: Forest Park, Rosemount Gardens, Rosemount Avenue, Osborne Street, Montrose Gardens

If you have family away from home this Christmas and would like them to receive a Christmas Card from the parish, please write their names and full postal address on a card available at the back of the Cathedral and place it in the box at the altar before 27th November 2022.

THE IOSAS CENTRE CAFÉ- Adjacent to White Oaks, is now serving meals on a Sunday from 12.30pm to 3pm. Delicious starters, mains and desserts, using our own organic vegetables. Booking is recommended and take away is available. Phone 0749384866. Why not finish your afternoon with a walk in our beautiful Celtic Prayer Garden. (1 course €12.50/2 courses €15.50/3 courses €19.50).

Adoration Chapel, Pump Street will be open Monday- Friday from 9am-5pm. Everyone welcome.

Christmas Floral Arrangement making workshops. Join Cathedral Florist for a workshop to create your own Christmas Floral Arrangement for your home. On either Tuesday 6th of December at 7pm or Wednesday 7th December at 11.00am. Watch the florist demonstrate the design, then you will get the opportunity to make your own with the help of the florist, to take home. This is a free workshop, all flowers, foliage, sundries and tools will be supplied. Wreath workshop places are available on a 'first come, first served' basis and are frequently booked out, so book early to avoid disappointment. If you are interested, please call the parochial house on 02871262894 or email emmet.thompson@derrydiocese.org.

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 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.

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Priests: Fr Paul Farren, Fr Roni Zacharias, Deacon: Rev Michael McCaul