

A short reflection on today's Gospel Matthew 9:36-10:8

In today's Gospel, Jesus looks upon the crowds with compassion because they are "harassed and dejected, like sheep without a shepherd." He sees their struggles, fears, and needs, and His heart is moved with love for them. This image reminds us that God never looks upon us with indifference. He knows our burdens and continually reaches out to guide, strengthen, and care for us.

Jesus first tells His disciples to pray for labourers for the harvest, teaching us that every vocation and every mission in the Church begins with prayer. We are invited to pray that more people will respond generously to God's call to serve Him in priesthood, religious life, and lay ministry.

Jesus then sends His disciples out to proclaim the Good News, heal the sick, and bring hope to those in need. Having received God's gifts, they are called to share them freely with others. The same mission belongs to us today. Through our kindness, encouragement, generosity, and witness of faith, we can help bring Christ's presence into the lives of those around us.

This Gospel invites us to see others with the compassionate eyes of Christ. In a world where many people experience loneliness, anxiety, or uncertainty, even a simple act of care can make a real difference. The Lord continues to call ordinary people to be His instruments of mercy, peace, and hope. May we respond generously to Christ's call, trusting in His guidance and grace. As we have freely received God's love, may we freely share it with all whom we meet.

Prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood: In today's gospel Jesus encourages us to pray for vocations because there is a great need for workers in the abundant harvest of the Church and the world. We pray that those being called to do this work will respond generously.

Here in the diocese of Derry we pray especially for Stephen Baxter who will be ordained as a priest for service in the diocese, in St Columb's Church, Waterside, at 3pm today, Sunday 14th June. May the Lord of the harvest bless Stephen in his ministry among us.

The St Dymphna Mass with Anointing of the Sick will be celebrated at St Eugene's Cathedral on Tuesday 16th June at 7.30pm. This Mass is to give thanks to God for positive mental health and to pray for those who are struggling with mental health issues and those who care for them.

Prayer to Our Lady of Mental Peace

Mother of tranquillity, Mother of Hope, Our Lady of Mental Peace. We reach out to you for what is needful in our weakness. Teach a searching heart that God's love is unchanging, that human love begins and grows by touching God's love.

Let your gentle peace- which the world cannot give – be always with me. And help me to bring this same peace into the lives of others.

Our Lady of Mental Peace – pray for me.

Parish Summer Day Pilgrimage on Wednesday 22nd July. Bus leaves the Cathedral at 9.15am 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. Please note that this must be pre-booked.

Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of:

**Sean Gallagher
Monica McGeady
Bridie Campbell**

May they rest in peace

Anniversaries

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

**Franco Hickey
Joan McLaughlin
Eamon Duffy
Elizabeth (Betty Sherrard) Doherty**

May they rest in peace

Baptisms

We welcome as members of God's family:

**Éala Mary Harkin
Hailee Sarah Temple**

To book a Baptism contact the Parish Office 02871 262894

Sacrament of Marriage

We congratulate

Rachael Power & Shane Drummond
who celebrated the Sacrament of Marriage recently in the Cathedral
May God bless you abundantly in love, joy and happiness

Collection

Last week's collection: £5,538
Parish Development: £1,076

Thank you for your generosity

Thank you

Fr Farren acknowledges with thanks the following donations for:

Tròcaire: £100, £100

Smile Train: £20, £150, £50

Mary's Meals: £150, £80, £10

Sight Savers: £50

Hungry Children: £100

St Pio: £250

Readers for 20th /21st June

06.15 pm Roisin Rice-Cutter

07.30 pm Helen Sweeney

09.30 am Kay McGinn

11.00 am St Joseph's BS

12.30 pm Eilish Friel

07.00 pm Anna Begley

Diocese of Derry Lough Derg Pilgrimage 2026: The Diocese of Derry Three-Day Pilgrimage to Lough Derg will take place from Friday 24th July to Sunday 26th July 2026. Cost: £95 / €110 including bus transport. You are welcome, of course, to use your own means of transport. Booking form and full details available at: derrydiocese/lough-derg

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2026: Tickets and pilgrim packs will be distributed after a special Mass in Our Lady of Lourdes, Steelstown Road, Derry BT48 8EU on Monday 22 June at 7.00pm. Anyone unable to attend should ask someone to collect the pack on their behalf.

St Joseph's Boys' School will host a coffee morning on Monday 22nd June 9.00 am – 11.00 am for Olive Branch for Gaza appeal. All welcome to attend.

Marriage Enrichment Weekend, hosted by Marriage Encounter Ireland will take place at the Focolare Centre, Curryhills, Prosperous, Co. Kildare, from Friday 2nd to Sunday 4th October 2026. This Weekend is not a retreat in the traditional sense but is a positive, joy-filled experience, guided by presenting couples and a priest, in an atmosphere of warmth, prayer, and deep Christian faith. Couples are invited to register online at www.marriageencounter.ie

*Vol 54 No 23
Eleventh Sunday
in Ordinary Time
14th June 2026*

The National Pilgrimage for Life, organised by the Council for Life of the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference, will be celebrated on Saturday 20th June in Knock Shrine. Mass will be celebrated at 3.00pm in the Basilica, during which the Anointing of the Sick will take place. Main celebrant and homilist will be Bishop Niall Coll. We invite you to join us in Knock to celebrate the gift of life and to pray for the protection of all human life.

Priests: Fr Paul Farren, Fr Shaun Doherty

Our Lady of Montligeon Prayer Group - praying for all the souls in Purgatory meets in Termonbacca, on the last Wednesday each month at 12.30pm. The Group also meet in St Joseph's Church Galliagh every Monday after 11am Mass. All are welcome.

Gamblers Anonymous: Is gambling affecting your life? We would like to help. Pick up the phone and ring 028 7135 1329.

Al-Anon – It is easy to see what alcohol is doing to the person who drinks, but can you see what it is doing to you? Are you afraid to upset someone for fear that it might trigger a drinking bout? For further information, contact the Al-Anon confidential helpline on 0800 0086 811 or email helpline@al-anonuk.org.uk. Alternatively, telephone 028 9068 2368.

Good Morning North West Volunteers wanted. As a Good Morning North West volunteer, you'll help provide friendship, reassurance, and connection to older and vulnerable people in our community. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please contact Nicole or Michaela on 028 7135 3694. *Your call could make a real difference to someone's day.*

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 within the Church please contact Marie O'Kane, the Diocesan Designated Liaison Person (DLP) on +447596500793 or email: dlp@derrydiocese.org .

Northern Ireland emergency services: PSNI (Police Service of Northern Ireland): 101 Social Services: Gateway Services, Western HSC Trust: 028 7131 4090 (and ask for the Duty Social Worker), Gateway Services, Northern HSC Trust: 028 9442 4459, Regional Emergency Social Work Services: 0800 1979 995. Republic of Ireland emergency services: Garda Síochána Buncrana: 00353 749 320 540 Letterkenny: 00353 749 167 100, TUSLA (ROI) Child and Family Agency: 00353 749 102 233