

A short Gospel reflection John 3:13-17

In this powerful passage, Jesus speaks of His mission and the depth of the Father's love for humanity. He refers to the story of Moses lifting up the bronze serpent in the wilderness—a symbol that brought healing to the Israelites. In the same way, Jesus says that He too must be “lifted up,” pointing to His crucifixion, where healing and salvation would be offered not just to one people, but to the entire world.

This Gospel reminds us that at the heart of our faith is not judgment, but love. God did not send His Son to condemn the world, but to save it. The Cross, though a sign of suffering, becomes the ultimate symbol of hope and mercy. Jesus embraced it not out of obligation, but out of love for all.

As we reflect on this passage, we are invited to renew our trust in that love. Whatever burdens or wounds we carry, we are called to look to Christ lifted up—to find healing in His sacrifice and new life in His resurrection. May the Cross always lead us not to fear, but to faith.

Prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood: Lord Jesus, you were lifted high on the Cross to bring us life. Inspire young men to follow your example in the priesthood – to serve with humility, love and courage. May they respond generously to your call and lead others to your saving grace.

The St Dymphna Mass with Anointing of the Sick will be celebrated at St Eugene's Cathedral on Tuesday 16th September 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.

Mass Bouquets for the Canonisation of St Carlo Acutis. To mark the canonisation of St Carlo Acutis, Mass bouquets are available in thanksgiving. A Triduum of Masses will be offered on his feast day, 12th October. Mass bouquets can be purchased for £2 each, and are available to buy after weekend Masses and from the parish office during the week. St Carlo, known for his deep love of the Eucharist and his inspiring witness of faith in the digital age, will be a powerful intercessor for young people, families, and all those seeking to grow in holiness. This is a beautiful way to celebrate this joyful occasion and share a spiritual gift with others.

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.

Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of:

**Siobhan Harkin
Ding Doherty
Danny Doherty
Mary Gorman**

May they rest in peace

Anniversaries

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

**Nora Griffin
Lily Gillespie
Martin Crowley
Susie Crowley
Thomas McDowell
Sean McElholm
Joseph McVeigh
Isobel Higgins
Eddie Higgins
Brian McKeever**

May they rest in peace

Baptisms

We welcome as members of God's family:

**Finn Kevin James Blackwell
Róise Méabh McCoy**

To book a Baptism contact the Parish Office 02871 262894

Collection

Weekly Collection: £5,657
Parish Development: £1,182

Thank you for your generosity

Thank you

Fr Farren acknowledges with thanks the following donations for:

**Cathedral Funds: £20
Hungry Children: £10
Trócaire: £20
Gaza Appeal: £200, £20
Sight Savers: £100
Smile Train: £100**

Readers for 20th / 21st September

06.15 pm Mary Morrison
07.30 pm Liz McMonagle
09.30 am Kay McGinn
11.00 am St Eugene's PS
12.30 pm Eilish Friel
07.00 pm Anna Begley

Lunchtime Concert - Grúpa Ceoil Beag, a group of young traditional Irish music students will be performing in The Cathedral Hall on Saturday 20th September at 1.00pm. Entry is free and everyone is welcome. With thanks to Derry City & Strabane District Council for supporting this event.

St Eugene's Scouts are starting back at St Anne's PS on Monday 15th September. Beavers (ages 6-8 years old) meet from 6.30pm to 7.30pm, Cubs (ages 8-12 years old) meet from 7.00pm to 8.00pm. For more information, please contact Celine at 07873176346.

Current Vacancies - Derry Diocesan Trust: Sacristan, Three Patrons Parish, Derry - 12 Hours per week in St Joseph's Galliagh; Choir Director & Organist - 2.5 hours per week in St Columba's Church, Long Tower, Derry; Housekeeper - 15 hours per week in Clonmany Parish. For application packs please contact: Bishop's House, St Eugene's Cathedral, Francis Street, Derry, BT48 9AP, telephone 028 71262302 or email: recruitment@derrydiocese.org. Completed applications must be returned to Personnel, Bishop's House, St Eugene's Cathedral, Francis Street, Derry, BT48 9AP or via email to recruitment@derrydiocese.org no later than 12 noon on Monday 29th September 2025. Derry Diocesan Trust is an Equal Opportunities Employer. We welcome applications from all men and women and from members of all communities.

The Churches Trust are currently recruiting for the Personal Assistants Service based in the city. This service provides much needed befriending for elderly living independently at home. Flexible, part-time hours. No experience required, as training and support will be provided. Apply today and start helping those in need. Call 028 71311322 for more info.

Organ Donation Week – 22nd-29th September: Organ Donation Week is a time dedicated to remembering and giving thanks to people who have enabled the "Gift of Life" to others by donating organs to those in need of life changing transplants. This week is an opportunity to have a conversation with your family, share your thoughts and decisions. You Could Be A Life Saver. Further information: www.organdonationni.info

Masters in Catholic School Leadership: The Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre, working in Partnership with Saint Mary's University, Twickenham, offers the Masters in Catholic School Leadership. This is a post graduate degree dedicated to the professional development and spiritual formation of Catholic school leaders. It is a great opportunity for those currently in leadership roles and those who aspire to, or have an interest in, leadership roles within the Catholic School system. If you are interested in registering for the Masters in September 2025 or require any further information, please contact the Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre on 004428 71264087 or email tferry@derrydiocese.org

October is officially Foyle Hospice 'Coffee Morning Month'. We are calling on supporters to help us raise vital funds by hosting a Coffee Morning. Whether it's at home, work or in your local community, get your friends together and get the kettle on, it's a piece of cake!! To request your FREE host pack or for more info, please call Ailbhe McDaid, Community Fundraiser on 028 71359888 or email: ailbhe@foylehospice.com

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 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.

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The Exaltation of the
Holy Cross
14th September 2025*

Priests: Fr Paul Farren, Fr Shaun Doherty