

### A short Gospel reflection Matthew 5:17-37

In today's Gospel, Jesus teaches that He has come not to abolish the Law, but to fulfil it by leading us to its deepest meaning. The commandments are no longer presented as mere external rules, but as a call to interior conversion. Jesus points to the heart, showing that anger, lust, and dishonesty are not minor faults but signs of a divided life that needs healing. This Gospel challenges us to move beyond minimal obedience and toward a righteousness shaped by love and integrity. While these teachings may seem demanding, they are ultimately an invitation to freedom. Through God's grace, especially in prayer and the sacraments, our hearts are gradually transformed so that our words, actions, and desires reflect the faith we profess.

**Prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood:** Heavenly Father, You sent Your Son, Jesus Christ, to fulfil the Law in perfect love. Raise up holy and faithful men for diocesan priesthood whose steadfast "yes" will serve Your Church with pure hearts and courageous truth.

**Vocations Retreat Weekend for anyone** (18+) interested in the diocesan priesthood, in Drumalis Retreat Centre, Larne, Friday 6<sup>th</sup> - Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2026. Please register using the following link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/discernment-retreat-for-the-diocesan-priesthood-tickets-1980332502825?aff=oddtcreator>. For further information, please contact the Diocesan Vocations Director, Fr Pat O'Hagan, at [pgoh2111@gmail.com](mailto:pgoh2111@gmail.com).

**The St Dymphna Mass with Anointing of the Sick will be celebrated at St Eugene's Cathedral on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> February 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.

**Ash Wednesday (18<sup>th</sup> February)** invites us to begin the season of Lent in a spirit of prayer, reflection and renewal. It is a day of fast and abstinence, and Mass times are 8.00am, 10.00am, 1.00pm, and 7.30pm. Ashes will be distributed at each Mass. The Holy Land Collection will be taken up as we remember in prayer and generosity the people of the Holy Land.

### Lenten Programme 2026

- Monday to Friday:** 7.45am Morning Prayer of the Church  
1.00pm Lunch-time Mass beginning on Ash Wednesday (18<sup>th</sup> February)
- Mondays:** 5.00pm -7.00pm Confessions & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
- Tuesdays:** 7.00pm Guided Meditation in the Mother Teresa Chapel
- Wednesdays:** 7.00pm "Reasons to have Faith" - Talk by Fr Paul Farren in the Cathedral
- Thursdays:** 1.30pm Stations of the Cross led by our Parish Schools  
8.00pm Fr Shaun Doherty will lead a Medjugorje style Holy Hour of prayer with music, adoration and reflection, with prayers of healing. *Come and pray with your heart.*
- Fridays:** 7.00pm Stations of the Cross

'Fish Fridays' - as this is the day when Jesus was crucified you are invited to give up meat on the Fridays in Lent in remembrance of His sacrifice for us.

### Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of:

**Sheila Morrison**  
**Charles Logue**

May they rest in peace

### Anniversaries

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

**Margaret Boyce**  
**Mickey Carlin**  
**Evelyn & Jimmy Keenan**  
**Brian Higgins**  
**John Gill**

May they rest in peace

### Baptisms

We welcome as members of God's family:

**Dabhan Luca Boyle**  
**Izzy McKay**

To book a Baptism contact the Parish Office 02871 262894

### Collection

Weekly Collection: £ 5,186  
Lourdes Hospitalité Collection: £1,017

**Thank you for your generosity**

### Thank you

Fr Farren acknowledges with thanks the following donations for:

**Mary's Meals:** £200, £40  
**Smile Train:** £200, £30  
**Concern:** £20  
**Medical Missionaries of Mary:** £20  
**Save the Children:** £15  
**Gaza Appeal:** £1,000  
**SVdP:** £100  
**Water Aid:** £30  
**Hungry Children:** £5

### Readers 21<sup>st</sup> /22<sup>nd</sup> February

06.15pm Garth Tucker  
07.30pm Majella Coyle  
09.30am Kay McGinn  
11.00am St Eugene's PS  
12.30pm Marie Canning  
07.00pm Anna Begley

**The Forty Hours Adoration will begin next Sunday, 22nd February, following the 12.30pm Mass.** Parishioners are warmly invited to spend some quiet time in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. Donations of red or white flowers for the sanctuary would be gratefully received and may be left in the sacristy on Thursday and Friday.

**Pioneer Total Abstinence Association of the Sacred Heart** - parishioners who wish to take a short-term pledge for Lent are invited to visit [www.pioneers.ie](http://www.pioneers.ie) or contact the Parish office.

**Matt Talbot Urban Mystic** - A film about venerable Matt Talbot and his journey to freedom from addiction. Showing at 7.00pm on the 23rd February 2026 at Brunswick Movie Bowl. Pre-booking tickets recommended at [brunswickmoviebowl.com](http://brunswickmoviebowl.com)

**Songs of Ireland Afternoon Tea** - Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March at 1.00pm in the Cathedral Hall. Join Anne Marie Hickey, Roisin Rice, Lauren Doherty and The Villagers for a Musical Afternoon Tea. Pre booking required. Call into the Parish Office or phone, 71262894 or email [cathedral@derrydiocese.org](mailto:cathedral@derrydiocese.org)

**The Cathedral Club meets on Thursdays after the 10am Mass.** Everyone is welcome to this parish social group who meet once a week in the Cathedral Hall, Infirmary Road. Refreshments will be served.

**Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes** takes place from Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June to Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July. The Lourdes Office in the Pastoral Centre in Bishop Street, Derry, is now open Thursdays and Saturdays from 11am to 1pm. To enquire about availability please ring 02871 260293 and leave a message or email derrypilgrim@outlook.com. Alternatively contact JWT Dublin on 00 353 1 685 2244.

**Our Lady of Montligeon Prayer Group** - Fr Paul Denizot, the Rector of the Shrine of Our Lady of Montligeon, will visit Derry City on Ash Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> February. He will lead a day of prayer and reflection at St Joseph's Church in Galliagh, Derry, starting with a Rosary at 9.30am. The day will include Mass with the distribution of ashes and two talks by Fr Paul. Attendees are kindly asked to bring a packed lunch (tea and coffee will be provided). The day concludes at 3.30pm.

**DEEDS – Supporting the Carer Talk Series.** The second talk in our Carers Information Sessions, funded by the Western Health and Social Care Trust, will focus on the costs associated with Residential Care. This information session will take place at the **Old Library Trust Healthy Living Centre**, Central Drive, Creggan, on **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2026 at 12.00 noon**. Light refreshments will be provided. For further information or to register, please contact **Eilish** on **02871 373870** or email [eilish@olt.ie](mailto:eilish@olt.ie).

**Road Victim Support Northern Ireland** – Donegal Monthly Support Meeting: Road Victim Support NI-Donegal provides support and information to those bereaved through fatal road traffic collisions. Their monthly support meeting for the Northwest area will take place on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February at 7.00pm in Shantallow Community Centre, Drumleck Drive. All who have lost a loved one on the roads, and those who support them, are warmly welcome. For more information, contact 07522997079 or visit [www.rvsnid.com](http://www.rvsnid.com)

**Time for Dementia** is now running at the University of Ulster, and the Alzheimer's Society is looking for families to take part. This award-winning programme pairs undergraduate nursing students with a family affected by dementia. Students visit the family at home three times a year to learn directly about living with dementia, helping to improve their knowledge, understanding, and empathy. For more information, please contact Anouska Noble on 07860 331648 or [anouska.noble@alzheimers.org.uk](mailto:anouska.noble@alzheimers.org.uk)

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

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In Ordinary Time  
15<sup>th</sup> February 2026*

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