

A short Gospel reflection Luke 16: 1-13

Today's Gospel—the Parable of the Dishonest Steward—is one that many find disconcerting. In it, a steward, having been exposed for squandering his master's property, faces dismissal and an uncertain future. In response, he devises a cunning plan: he summons his master's debtors and reduces their debts, securing their gratitude and, with it, the promise of future support. When the master hears of this, rather than condemning him, he praises the steward for his shrewdness.

At first glance, this seems troubling. Is Jesus suggesting that dishonesty is praiseworthy? No. Jesus is not endorsing the steward's actions but pointing to his urgency, creativity, and resourcefulness—qualities that the “children of light,” his followers, often lack when it comes to matters of the Kingdom. Jesus challenges his disciples to approach the spiritual life with the same intentionality—not for selfish gain, but for the sake of the Gospel. The steward acted decisively to secure his future. We are called to do likewise: to use wisely what has been entrusted to us—our time, our talents, our possessions—for the good of others and the glory of God.

Jesus' final words in this passage are striking: “*You cannot serve both God and Mammon.*” This is the heart of the matter. Wealth, power, and possessions are not evil in themselves, but when they become our master, they displace God. The call is to generosity, integrity, and faithfulness. Share what you have. Give to the poor. Live according to the truth of Christ's teaching. Be shrewd—not in the ways of the world, but in your pursuit of the Kingdom of God.

Prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood: We pray that our seminarians and the men discerning a vocation to the diocesan priesthood will be found worthy of the great things entrusted to them by the Lord.

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.

St Eugene's Cathedral Choir – New Members Welcome. Do you enjoy singing and want to serve the Church through music ministry? St Eugene's Cathedral Choir is welcoming new members. All voice parts are invited, but we are especially looking for new male singers. The choir rehearses on Wednesday evenings and sings at the 12:30pm Mass on Sundays, as well as at special liturgies throughout the year. If you're interested or would like more information, please contact the director, Maghnus Monaghan, at maghnusmonaghan@hotmail.com, or speak with him after the 12.30pm Mass.

Pope John Paul II Award – Information Session. Are you taking part in the Pope John Paul II Award at St Eugene's this year? If so, you are warmly invited to an Information Session on Wednesday 8th October at 4.30pm in the Upper Sacristy. There will be a short presentation and discussion on how we can support you in finding meaningful and enjoyable activities to complete your award. If you have any questions, please email lauren.doherty@derrydiocese.org.

Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of:

***Hugh Hegarty
Sharon Doherty
Victor Barr
Gerard Green
Liam Moore
Colm Keenan***

May they rest in peace

Anniversaries

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

***Fr John Downey
Margaret McMahon
Dolly McGill
James Ross
Jim Callan
Bernard Callan
William Cullen***

May they rest in peace

Baptisms

We welcome as members of God's family:

***Raya Mikeala Bradley
Tiarnán John Doherty
Chimdiebere Nathan Ofora***

To book a Baptism contact the Parish Office 02871 262894

Readers for 27th / 28th September

06.15 pm Roisin Rice Cutter
07.30 pm John Og McNamee
09.30 am Cara Elliot
11.00 am McGinley Readers
12.30 pm Ursula Doherty
07.00 pm Marian Boyle

Collection

Weekly Collection: £5,097
Parish Development: £1,052

Thank you for your generosity

Thank you

Fr Farren acknowledges with thanks the following donations for:

**SVdP: £10
Cathedral Funds: £40
Gaza Appeal: £10
Medical Missionaries of Mary: £10
Mary's Meals: £300
Smile Train: £300, £200**

Sick Visitation

Fr Paul Farren will attend the sick and housebound in his care during the coming week:

Monday: Lisfannon Park,
William Street, Creggan Street,
Fahan Street, Cable Street, Lower Road,
Abbey House, Little Diamond

Tuesday: Mulvey Park,
Laburnum Terrace, Elmwood Terrace,
Gartan Square, Clarendon Manor,
Grangemore, Northland Road

Sacrament of Marriage

We congratulate
Óisín Forde & Miceál Kelly
who celebrated the Sacrament of
Marriage recently in the Cathedral

May God bless you abundantly in love,
joy and happiness

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. 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.

*Vol 53 No 38
Twenty-fifth Sunday
In Ordinary Time
21st September 2025*

Priests: Fr Paul Farren, Fr Shaun Doherty

Saint Pio Feast Day. Saint Pio of Pietrelcina passed away on the night of 23rd September 1968, at the age of 81. He was canonised by Pope John Paul II on 16th June 2002. To mark his feast day, a special blessing with a first-class relic of St. Pio will be offered to all in attendance following the 7.15pm Mass on Monday, 23rd September at Holy Family Church, Ballymagroarty. All are warmly welcome.

Ulster Project Derry/Londonderry 2026. Applications are now open for the Ulster Project 2026. Teens must be 15 on or before 1st July 2026, and be regular Church attenders. A written reference from a priest confirming attendance, along with a reference from the form teacher, must be submitted with the application. Applicants must attend all meetings prior to travel. Provisional USA dates are 25th June to 18th /19th July 2026. The full cost is the responsibility of each family and will depend on airline prices. As a guide, last year's cost included a £750 deposit at orientation (£50 non-refundable) and at least £800 to be raised over five months. Group fundraising events will also be held. Due to high demand, interviews will take place, and priority will be given to teens living in the Derry area. To request an application form, email: ulsterprojectderrylondonderry@outlook.com. Closing date is Sunday 14th October 2025.

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.

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.