A short reflection on today's Gospel John 18:33-37

In today's Gospel, Jesus stands before Pontius Pilate, who questions Him about being a king. Jesus explains that His kingdom is not of this world. He is not a king who rules through power, wealth or authority, but one who leads through love, truth, mercy and sacrifice.

As we celebrate the Solemnity of Christ the King, we are invited to reflect on who truly reigns in our hearts. To recognise Jesus as our King means following His example: showing kindness, offering forgiveness, standing up for what is right and caring for those in need.

Jesus says, "Everyone who is on the side of truth listens to my voice." In a world full of distractions, we are reminded to listen to His voice and allow His teachings to guide our daily lives.

As we bring the Church's liturgical year to a close, may we welcome Christ more fully into our hearts and help build His kingdom of peace, justice and love in our homes, our parish and our wider community.

Prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood: Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, is the Good Shepherd. We pray that the future priests of our diocese will "...look for the lost one, bring back the stray, bandage the wounded, and make the weak strong." (Ezekiel). As the late Pope Francis said, "Priests should have on them the smell of the sheep."

Our Lady, Untier of Knots Novena - The Novena to Our Lady, Untier of Knots concludes after the 7.30pm Mass on Thursday 26th November. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who joined us for the Novena to Our Lady, Untier of Knots at St Eugene's Cathedral. We are grateful to all who came together in prayer, reflection and faith, entrusting their worries, challenges and intentions to Our Lady's loving intercession. May Mary continue to guide us closer to her Son, Jesus, and may the graces received during these days of prayer bring hope, peace and strength to us all. *Our Lady, Untier of Knots, pray for us.*

The season of Advent begins next weekend. Take some time out from the pressures of getting ready for Christmas to pray and meditate on the true meaning of Advent.

Morning Prayer of the Church will be prayed in the Cathedral each morning at 7.45am, Monday to Friday beginning Monday 30th November.

On the Way Home - In preparation for Christmas, there will be an opportunity for Confession and Adoration each Monday during Advent (30th November, 7th 14th and 21st December) from 5.00pm to 7.00pm

Medjugorje Advent Holy Hour by candlelight with music – Join us every Thursday evening, after the 7.30pm Mass, beginning on 3rd December, for a special Advent Holy Hour of prayer, reflection and Eucharistic Adoration. Together, we will place a particular focus on praying for peace in our hearts, in our families and in the world.

Eucharistic Adoration: every Sunday from 3.00pm to 6.00pm and every Tuesday from 10.30am until 7.20pm.

Pope John Paul II Award Commissioning & Diocesan World Youth Day - This Sunday 22nd November, in celebration of the Feast of Christ the King and Diocesan World Youth Day, we pray for our young people commissioned to begin the Pope John Paul II Award. Centered on Pope Leo XIV's theme *"Take courage! I have overcome the world"* (John 16:33), the message encourages youth to set aside perfectionism and rest in God's love. We commend the young people who have said yes to the invitation to partake in this award, please keep these participants in your prayers as they step forward in service in our parish.

Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of:

Fergus McCarthy
Nancy Meenan
Johnny Casey
Marie Duffy

May they rest in peace

Anniversaries

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

Frank Nugent
Patrick McCool

May they rest in peace

Baptisms

We welcome members of God's family:

Cara Norah Quinn
Ruaidhri Alasdair Gerry Weir
James Stephen McCauley
Jaéden John Barr

To book a Baptism contact the Parish Office 02871 262894

Sacrament of Marriage

We congratulate

Shairashree Kumaran & Paul Mullin

who celebrated the Sacrament of Marriage recently in the Cathedral

May God bless you abundantly in love, joy and happiness

Collection

Weekly Collection: £5,657
Parish Development: £1,111

Thank you for your generosity

Thank you

Fr Farren acknowledges with thanks the following donations for:

SVdP: £100
Mary's Meals: £40
Sightsavers: £20 £100 £50 £500
Smile Train: £20 £50 £500 £100
Concern: £20
Cathedral Funds: £10
Gaza Appeal: £50
Hungry Children: £5

Readers for 22nd / 29th November

6.15pm Mary Morrison
7.30pm Niamh Kehoe
9.30am Rosemary Finan
11.00am St Mary's College
12.30pm Kevin Finan
7.00pm Anna Begley

Sick Visitation

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

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

Tuesday afternoon: Mulvey Park, Laburnum Terrace, Elmwood Terrace, Westland Street, Westland Terrace, Gartan Square, Clarendon Manor, Northland Road

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 return to the Parish Office before 4th December.

St Eugene's Cathedral Christmas Mass Bouquets are available to buy after the weekend and during the week at the Parish Office. Cost £2.

Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2027, **led by Bishop Michael Router.** There are two options available as follows: **Option 1**: 8 - 13 July, 5 nights, £980, from City of Derry Airport, with priority given to Assisted Pilgrims and family members, Care Team, Youth, Youth Leaders and Priests. **Option 2**: 7 - 14 July, 7 nights, £1,095, from Belfast International Airport. Single Supplement and Travel Insurance will be extra. Expressions of Interest can be emailed to derrypilgrim@outlook.com. Bookings will begin in mid-January, with more details later. Pilgrimage Gift Vouchers of any value are available from the Pastoral Centre, Bishop Street, Derry, for anyone wishing to purchase them, particularly as a Christmas Gift. Please contact 028 7136 2475 for further information.

The Columban Young Adults is a group for those aged 18 - 35 in the diocese, who are seeking a community of like-minded young adults who have Christ at the centre of their lives. Our December event will be a Holy Hour and meditation on Thursday 3rd December, 7.00pm at our Lady of Lourdes Church, Steelstown, delivered by guest Fr Brendan O'Connor, a priest of Opus Dei. Please note the earlier date, due to Christmas. The meditation will be followed by Solemn Benediction, with refreshments afterwards.

Accord Derry Marriage Preparation Courses January 2027 to March 2027 are now online for booking. The courses can be booked on the website www.accordni.com. All of these courses are in person.

Free 4-Week Dementia Education Programme for Family Carers Starting Thursday 21st January 2027, 7.00pm at the Health for Life Healthy Living Centre, Creggan. Designed for those supporting a loved one with a dementia diagnosis at home. Learn about dementia, communication, behaviours, coping strategies, and available supports. Family members are welcome to attend together. *Please note: this course is not suitable for people living with dementia or those currently undergoing assessment/diagnosis.* Booking essential: eilish.brown@healthforlifenw.org | 028 7137 3870.

St Mary's College Christmas Craft Fair (Northland Road, Derry) Saturday 28th November 2026 from 11am – 4pm. £1 Entry – Café - Santa – Suits all budgets

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 23

Vol 54 No 46
Solemnity of
Our Lord Jesus Christ
King of the Universe
22nd November 2026

Priests: Fr Paul Farren, Fr Shaun Doherty