

A short Gospel reflection Matthew 4:12-23

In this Gospel, Jesus begins His public ministry with a simple yet demanding message: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” His words are not spoken from a place of comfort or safety, but in Galilee—an ordinary and even overlooked region. This reminds us that God often enters our lives not in dramatic moments, but in the everyday places where we live and work.

Jesus calls the first disciples while they are busy with their nets. He does not wait for them to be fully prepared or spiritually accomplished. Instead, He invites them as they are, promising to transform their ordinary work into a mission of eternal significance: “I will make you fishers of men.” Their immediate response—leaving nets, boats, and even family—challenges us to examine what we cling to that prevents us from fully following Christ.

Finally, Jesus goes about teaching, proclaiming the Kingdom, and healing every disease. The coming of the Kingdom is not just an idea; it is a living reality that brings light, hope, and healing. This passage invites us to repent, to follow, and to trust that when we place our lives in Christ’s hands, He can use even our simplest offerings to bring His light to others.

Prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood: We pray for the men who will be sent out as priests of our diocese "... to preach the Good News..." to God's people in a way that they can understand and that will bring them to a deeper commitment to Jesus as The Word of God.

Holy Hour for Vocations in St Mary's Church, Bellaghy, on Thursday 29 January, at 7pm.

Anyone who cannot attend in person can join the prayers and devotions at:

<https://bellaghyparish.com/webcam/>

Vocations Retreat Weekend for anyone (18+) interested in the diocesan priesthood, in Drumalis Retreat Centre, Larne, Friday 6th - Sunday 8th 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.

Saint Brigid’s Cross Workshop will be held in the Cathedral Hall on Friday 30th January after the 10am Mass. Refreshments will be served, and everyone is welcome.

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 29th June to Friday 3rd July. The Lourdes Office in the Pastoral Centre in Bishop Street, Derry, is now open Thursdays and Saturdays from 11am to 1pm. Tel 028 71260293 or email derrypilgrim@outlook.com for more information. All applications welcome. We are also appealing to those who could volunteer to join our Medical Team as a Nurse or Carer to please contact the office, as soon as possible. Thank you.

St Eugene’s Scouts are seeking new adult leaders aged 18 and over (male or female). Full training will be provided. Anyone interested is invited to contact Maria on 07955549818 or Elisha on 07724400081 for further information. New members are also very welcome to join Beavers (ages 6–8) and Cubs (ages 9–12). Meetings are held at St Anne’s Primary School on Monday evenings.

Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of:

Jeanette Doherty

Joseph McCourt

Baby George McLaughlin

May they rest in peace

Anniversaries

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

John Doherty

Dan & Mary Doherty

Phonsie Kelly

Martin Concannon

May they rest in peace

Readers 31st January /1st February

06.15pm Roisin Rice Cutter

07.30pm Helen Sweeney

09.30am Kate Doherty

11.00am McGinley Readers

12.30pm Michael Wilson

7.00pm Marian Boyle

Sick Visitation

Fr Shaun Doherty will attend the sick and housebound in his care on Tuesday and Friday.

Collection

Weekly Collection: £ 5,738

Parish Development: £1,137

Thank you for your generosity

Thank you

Fr Farren acknowledges with thanks the following donations for:

Trócaire: £100

Gaza Appeal: £20

Mary’s Meals: £100

Sight Savers: £60

Smile Train: £60

Cancer Research: £80

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

Sincere thanks from Sister Ann and Gerry Deeney to all who contributed in any way to the Christmas Missions Appeal in aid of the poor in Kenya, India, Nigeria, and Haiti.

The total amount raised was £23,773.00 and €472. This is magnificent! May God reward and bless you all for your generosity.

Day of Prayer and Reflection: You are warmly invited to a Day of Prayer and Reflection in St Anthony’s Retreat Centre, Dundrean, Burnfoot, Co Donegal, on Sunday 1st February, Feast of St Brigid, starting at 11.00am. Inspired by the spirituality of St Brigid – woman of faith, prayer and compassion - the day will include guided prayer, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, reflections on St Brigid and a St Brigid’s Cross-making workshop. A light lunch will be provided and the day will finish with the Celebration of the Eucharist. To book, telephone St Anthony’s on 0035374 936 8074. Suggested donation €25.

The Padre Pio Prayer Group, Holy Family Church, Ballymagroarty will be celebrating their 20th year anniversary on Tuesday 3rd February 2026. We will begin at 6.45pm with the Rosary, followed by Mass. There will be an opportunity to be blessed with a first-class relic of St. Pio. Everyone is welcome

*Vol 54 No 4
Third Sunday
in Ordinary Time
25th January 2026*

Job Opportunity – Derry Diocesan Trust: Housekeeper for priest in Buncrana area: 15 hours per week. Days and times to be arranged with priest. For application pack please telephone 02871262302 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 Friday 30th January 2026. *Derry Diocesan Trust is an Equal Opportunities Employer.*

Job Opportunity - Derry Diocesan Trust - Ardmore Parish: Sacristan – St Mary's Church, Ardmore, Derry. Part-time – 16 hours per week. The Sacristan will ensure effective security of the church and associated maintenance and cleaning whilst organising all associated liturgical requirements in line with diocesan guidelines. For application packs please telephone 028 7126 2302 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 9th February 2026. *Derry Diocesan Trust is an Equal Opportunities Employer.*

Job Opportunity - The Iosas Centre, Derryvane, Muff, Co Donegal, is seeking to employ a Programme Coordinator to organise and facilitate groups. The role involves welcoming and leading prayer experiences for schools and parishes, and tailored programmes for community groups in the natural beauty of the Celtic Prayer Garden. If you think this job is suited to you, you are asked to send your details to info@sanctuarydonegal.com

Direct Payments Information Session Thursday 26th February from 12.00pm to 2.00pm at the Old Library Trust Healthy Living Centre, Creggan - To support carers in gaining a better understanding of using Direct Payments to arrange and pay for your own care. Light refreshments will be provided. For further information or to register, please contact Eilish on 02871 373870 or email eilish@olt.ie.

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

Priests: Fr Paul Farren, Fr Shaun Doherty