

St Eugene's Cathedral Lenten Programme

The Seven Last Words of Christ. As we enter Holy Week, bring our sufferings to Christ. Everyone is welcome to this time of prayer and reflection. Sunday 2nd April at 8.15pm in St Eugene's Cathedral.

Morning Prayer of the Church at 7.45 am Monday to Wednesday

1.00pm Lunch time Mass (Monday – Wednesday)

Late opening on Monday – To celebrate the Sacrament of Confession and spend some quiet time in the presence of our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament from 8.00 to 10.00pm

Tuesday: Why is my presence at Mass important? Fr Paul Farren concludes his series of talks in St Eugene's Cathedral from 7.00pm to 7.20pm

Funeral Masses are not celebrated on Holy Thursday, Good Friday or Holy Saturday

CELEBRATION OF HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

The six weeks of Lent are a preparation for the last three days of this week, Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil. We celebrate the central event of our religion, the death and the resurrection of Christ, the Saviour of the world.

Holy Thursday (6th April)

10.00am Mass of Chrism

Bishop McKeown will celebrate the Mass of Chrism with priests from all over the Diocese. During the Mass the Holy Oils which will be used in Baptism, Confirmation, Anointing of the Sick and Ordination are blessed. Bishop McKeown and the priests will renew their priestly vows to serve Christ and His Church.

7.30pm Concelebrated Mass of the Lord's Supper

Celebrating the gift of the Eucharist and the ministry of service

On Thursday evening we celebrate the Mass of the Lord's Supper. We gather with Jesus and the apostles in the upper room. There it is revealed to us that to be the body of Christ we are called to serve. We are called to wash the feet of others – to be their humble servants.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at the Altar of Repose until 11.00pm

Praying at the Garden of Gethsemane

On Thursday night we wait as the Body of Christ in the Garden of Gethsemane. We share in the fear and loneliness of Jesus as he reaches the depths of despair.

Good Friday (7th April)

We meditate on the Passion and the death of Jesus. We focus on the cross-the crude instrument that took the life of our saviour- the key that opened eternal life for us all.

This is a day of fast and abstinence – there is an obligation to fast (one main meal, two light meals in the day and to abstain from meat. The Law of Fasting obliges all Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59 years (except the sick). The Law of Abstinence obliges all Catholics over the age of 14 years.

10.00am

Morning Prayer

3.00pm

Celebration of the Passion

We walk with Jesus on the path to Calvary

7.30pm

Celebration of the Passion

Holy Saturday (8th April)

On this day we wait as the body of our saviour lies dead in the tomb

10.00am

Morning Prayer

We wait at the tomb

Confessions from 11.30am to 6.00pm

10.00pm

Easter Vigil

Tonight is the high point of the Church's year as we celebrate the resurrection of our Saviour

The Easter Vigil – In the words of St Augustine “this is the mother of all vigils”. The Easter Triduum reaches its high point on this most holy night. On this night we tell our story. It is not just a distant memory; it is not only historical fact-it is living reality. It is the story of salvation. We are a saved people. Through his cross and resurrection Christ has set us free. We symbolise our salvation and freedom with fire and the single flame of the paschal candle. We have been called out of darkness into the wonderful life of Christ.

Easter Sunday

We are a resurrected people and alleluia is our song

Masses: 7.00am, 9.30am, 11.00am, 12.30pm and 7.00pm

No devotions

A short reflection on today's Gospel

Today's Gospel calls on us to walk with Jesus on his long excruciating journey to Calvary; it calls on us to witness his profound agony as he is rejected, mocked, betrayed, humiliated, and finally nailed to the cross he has been forced to carry to his death. We are called to witness the most powerful act of love the world has ever known. Jesus chooses for our sake, for our salvation, to suffer as a human being even though he could have called on his divinity to save him if he so wished. In doing so he enters into solidarity with every other human being who suffers, who is abandoned, who is humiliated, rejected, betrayed.

Jesus we know that you hear the cries of all those who are in anguish and are afraid. We know that you are reaching out in love to those living in war-torn environments, to the homeless and to the hungry. Grant us the courage to stand in solidarity with all those who are suffering and fearful.

Jesus, you were enabled by your faith in your heavenly Father to triumph over the forces of evil and death. Grant that we will always know that with this same faith, life will always triumph over all forms of death.

Jesus, may we never forget that you are walking beside us always especially when we feel most afraid.

Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of:

Bridie Ferguson

John Doran

Mary Gear

Willie Meehan

May they rest in peace

Sacrament of Marriage

We congratulate the couple who celebrated the Sacrament of Marriage recently in the Cathedral

Ruth Temple & Alex Head

Priests: Fr Paul Farren, Fr Roni Zacharias, Deacon: Rev Shaun Doherty

Anniversaries

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

Ken & Lila Crocker

Cissie Rooney

William McCarron

Isabel (McCaul) Gallagher

Myra (Bonner) Canning

Margaret McLaughlin

Sean McCaul

Benny & Phyllis Donaghey

Maureen Campbell

May they rest in peace

Thank you

Fr Farren acknowledges with thanks the following donations for:

Blessed Carlo Acutis Statue: £20, £50, £100, £20

Trocaire: £100

Save the Children: £20

Turkey & Syria Appeal: £20

SVDP: £10

Somalia: £60

Admins Choice: £30

Baptisms

We welcome as members of God's family:

Charlie Anthony Boyce

Leo Davey Duffy

Evan Sean Doherty

Caelum Brian McLaughlin

Collection

Last week's collection: £5,896

Parish Development: £1,012

Thank you for your generosity

Easter Mass Bouquets are available to buy at the Parish Office. Cost £2 each.

The monthly Matt Talbot, Freedom from addiction Mass takes place on Monday 3rd April at 7:30pm in St Eugene's Cathedral.

Dates for the diary - St Therese Novena will be held at St Eugene's Cathedral 6th May to 14th May 2023.

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.