

A short reflection on today's Gospel John 20:19-23

Today's Gospel according to John witnesses the first encounter between the Risen Jesus and his disciples. He shows them the signs of his Passion, the wounds which so powerfully effect his compassionate connection with suffering humanity. He offers them his peace, a perfect peace, the peace which comes from living life fully, a life which is in harmony with God and humanity. He breathes into them the Holy Spirit with gifts of knowledge and courage to arm them for their evangelising mission. Finally he gives them the power to forgive sins, the power which is at the heart of Jesus' mission of reconciliation. Where there is forgiveness there is no division, no separation: there is only oneness with God and humanity, through the death and resurrection of His son and the healing power of the Holy Spirit.

When Thomas, having been absent from Jesus' previous appearances, expresses doubts about his Master's resurrection, and then finds himself being offered incontrovertible proof by the Man of Sorrows himself, Jesus uses the opportunity to reach down lovingly through the ages to all of us who have not seen the physical evidence of his resurrection, but who believe in its glorious truth: "Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe."

Today's Gospel is a quiet miracle of peace, love and forgiveness offered to us as an unearned gift, redolent of God's unlimited love for humanity, his presence closer to us than our breath in all that we do and in all that we suffer. Thanks be to God.

National Year of Prayer for Vocations to the Diocesan Priesthood – In today's second reading St John asks: "Who can overcome the world?" and answers: "Only those who believe that Jesus is the Son of God." We pray that our seminarians and those discerning a vocation to serve the people of this diocese will be men of faith, whose doubts and fears will be relieved through an encounter with the Risen Jesus.

LIFE Camp 2024 – Calling all pupils currently in Primary 3 – 7. Week 1– Monday 1st – Friday 5th July and Week 2– Monday 8th July – Friday 12th July. Cost for each week is £40. To register go to www.klubfunder.com/Clubs/Life%20Summer%20Camp

St. Eugene's Cathedral Pilgrimage to Fatima – 19th -24th October 2024. Cost £770 per person sharing with a single room supplement of £150 (subject to availability). For more information, please contact Anne Marie Hickey on amhickey@derrydiocese.org or phone the Parish Office on 028 71262894.

Exploring Poetry with Mary Murphy recommences on Friday 12th April at 11.00am in the Cathedral Hall. You are most welcome to join via the online platforms or in person.

Children's Liturgy - 11.00am Mass on Sunday is open to all children in Primaries 1 to 4. It involves proclaiming the Gospel in an accessible way to the Children, reflecting on its meaning and responding in prayer with an activity related to the Gospel story.

Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of:

Charlie McAdams
Hugh (Tony) Sheerin
Baby Caleb Boyle
May they rest in peace

Anniversaries

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

John Devine
Margaret McLaughlin
Michael Murphy
May they rest in peace

Readers for 13th / 14th April

06.15 pm Helen Sweeney
07.30 pm Leanne McCormack/
Caitlin Horner McLaughlin
09.30 am Kate Doherty
11.00 am McGinley Readers
12.30 pm Anne McDaid
07.00 pm Marian Boyle

Congratulations

Congratulations to
Theresa and Matt Roddy who
celebrated their 65th Wedding
Anniversary recently.

**May the Lord continue to bless you &
keep your faith and love strong**

Collection

Last week's collection: £6,222
Parish Development: £1,291

Thank you for your generosity

Thank you

Fr Farren acknowledges with thanks the following donations for:

Trócaire: £20, £100, £20, £21, £20,
£200, £200, £50, £100
Smile Train: £20, £30, £50
Sight Savers: £30, £50
Water Aid: £30
Gaza Appeal: £200
Admin's Choice: £5

Sick Visitation

Fr Shaun Doherty will attend the sick and housebound in his care during the coming week:

Tuesday: Fairman Place, Academy Terrace, Tutor Close, Northland Parade, Northland Crescent, Edenmore Street, Glenbank Road, Glenbank Gardens, Glenside Gardens, Marlborough Road, Marlborough Avenue, Creggan Road, Helen Street, Oakfield Crescent

Friday: Glenowen Park, Cashelmore Park, Hatmore Park, Turasmore Park, Ardglan, Nassau Crescent, Rosemount Gardens, Osborne Street, Joseph Place, Beechwood Avenue

Masters in Catholic School Leadership - The Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre, working in Partnership with Saint Mary's University, Twickenham, offers the Masters in Catholic School Leadership. This is a post graduate degree dedicated to the professional development and spiritual formation of Catholic school leaders. It is a great opportunity for those currently in leadership roles and those who aspire to, or have an interest in, leadership roles within the Catholic School system. If you are interested in registering for the Masters in September 2024 or require any further information, please contact the Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre on 004428 71264087 or email tferry@derrydiocese.org

Healing our Wounds Weekend Workshop at Ards Friary, 12th -14th April. This workshop offers a way to transform our wounds. It will include input, time for personal reflection, opportunities for sharing and some social time. Cost €220 includes retreat, accommodation, and all meals. Limited to 12 people. To make a booking contact Ards on 00353 74 9138909 or by email info@ardsfriary.ie

Men's Support Group are holding a free men's health workshop in the Millennium Forum Derry, every Tuesday at 7.00pm beginning on Tuesday 9th April until Tuesday 14th May 2024. Each week there will be a guest speaker covering topics such as Men's Mental Health, Addictions, and Bereavement and Loss. There will be a public exhibition from 14th May to 4th June showcasing personal stories, struggles and help available. To book Contact the Millennium Forum to book your free ticket.

All Ireland Rosary Rally - Knock Saturday 1st June. The day begins with a Marian Conference at 9.30 am in St John's Centre. Speakers include Fr Michael Donnelly, Sr Ana Margarita Lanzas SCTJM, and Fr Joseph Maria Deane CFR. There will be an opportunity to meet over 20 apostolates from around Ireland from 11.30am in St John's Centre. Mother Adela Galindo will deliver the keynote Rosary talk at 1.00 pm in the Basilica. Stations of the Cross outside at 2.00pm, followed by the Rosary Procession. Bishop Phonsie Cullinan will be the main celebrant of the 3.00pm Concelebrated Mass which will include Anointing of the Sick. Confessions are available throughout the day, and there will be rosary and scapular-making workshops in the marquee. For more information and to see a list of buses going from around Ireland please visit www.AllIrelandRosaryRally.com

The National Eucharistic Adoration Pilgrimage to Knock takes place on Sunday 14th April. To enquire or book a seat, call: 07738873492 (from Donegal, dial 00447738873492). For details of buses, nationwide, visit www.eucharisticadoration.ie

Get Together for Primary School Girls (Ages 8-12), organised by the Servant Sisters of the Home of the Mother – Sunday 21st April from 11.00am to 4.00pm at the Parochial House, Crossroads, Killygordon, Co. Donegal F93 PN0X. Come join us for a day of arts and crafts, games, learning about our faith, and a whole lot of fun! No cost, donations accepted to help cover costs of materials. Reserve your spot by sending an email to: derryshm@homeofthemoth.com

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 regarding 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) 101 or Social Services: Gateway Services, Western HSC Trust, 71314090 and ask for the Duty Social Worker.

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Second Sunday of Easter
Divine Mercy Sunday
7th April 2024*

Priests: Fr Paul Farren, Fr Shaun Doherty