

## A short reflection on today's Gospel Mark 6:1-6

The message in today's Gospel is clear and explicit: our often sycophantic admiration for the powerful, the prestigious and the prominent in society can blind us to the truth that God, more often than not, locates extraordinary good in 'ordinary' people. In today's Gospel Jesus is preaching in his home town. His eloquence, his wisdom and his learning are all obvious, but his listeners are perplexed and reluctant to accept his words. In fact, they openly reject him. How can the son of a mere carpenter, they mutter, a carpenter himself, manifest such wisdom, such learning! How can he be taken seriously! Their narrow vision of reality blinds them to the truth that this limited worldview is not shared by God. In God's eyes we are all of inestimable value. We are all His children. With God, style never trumps substance. And when he was on earth His beloved son always saw beyond surface appearances into the hearts of the men and women he encountered. It was always to the truth in the hearts of people that he responded.

Jesus, may we never be so blinded by false attachments to worldly power that we cannot see God at work in ordinary people doing extraordinary things.

Jesus, may we never be so blinded by snobbery and self-seeking that we fail to recognise the opportunity offered to us daily by God working in the poor and the suffering, to enrich and deepen our lives with love, generosity, humility and compassion.

Jesus may we never forget that we are all children of God, all of equal and all of inestimable value.

**Prayer for Vocations to the Diocesan Priesthood** – We pray that those being called by the Lord to be prophets as priests of our diocese in the coming years will know that His "...power is at its best in weakness..." and that, like St Paul, they can say, "... it is when I am weak that I am strong."

There will be a Vocations Day (for those considering diocesan priesthood) in Buncrana on Sunday 8 September, from 12 - 6pm. Anyone interested should please contact the diocesan Vocations Director, Fr Pat O'Hagan by email: [pgoh2111@gmail.com](mailto:pgoh2111@gmail.com)

**Providing compassionate care at the end of life** - To address the sensitive issue of compassionate care at the end of life, and in response to the need to inform the faithful of Catholic teaching on this important life issue that affects so many families, the Bishops of Ireland have published the pastoral letter: *Freedom to Live Fully, Until Death Comes*. You are invited to read this letter and view the accompanying video *Through the Valley*, which offers personal testimonies by carers and people with terminal illness. The key message of both letter and video asserts that every person possesses inherent, infinite dignity that remains intact regardless of their circumstances. In this context, bishops strongly oppose the Oireachtas Committee's proposal to Government to legislate for assisted suicide and call on support for healthcare workers who uphold the sanctity of life. To read *Freedom to Live Fully, Until Death Comes* and to watch *Through the Valley*, visit the following link :

<https://www.catholicbishops.ie/2024/06/24/bishops-statement-on-end-of-life-care-freedom-to-live-fully-until-death-comes/>

### Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of:

**Pam Kelly**

May she rest in peace

### Anniversaries

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

**Martha (Cissie) McLaughlin**

**Constantine McCaul**

**Sr Philomena Doherty**

**Rose Hegarty**

**Charles Callan**

**Emmett (ET) Tierney**

**Angela Tyre**

**Fred McKinney**

**Rosie Caldwell**

**Tony Carlin**

May they rest in peace

### Baptisms

We welcome as members of God's family:

**Ellwyn Melody Hussey**

**Denis Pearse Crumlisk**

### Readers 13<sup>th</sup> / 14<sup>th</sup> July

6.15 pm	Karen O'Brien
7.30 pm	Liz McMonagle
09.30 am	Michael McCaul
11.00 am	Piaras O Meallain
12.30 pm	Eilish Friel
7.00 pm	Anna Begley

### Collection

Last week's collection: £5,490

Parish Development: £895

### Thank you

Fr Farren acknowledges with thanks the following donations for:

**Mary's Meals:** £20, £25, £50

**Smile Train:** £20, £50

**Flowers:** £100, £40, £30, £30

**Blessed Carlo Acutis:** £30

**SVdP:** £40, £25

**Gaza Appeal:** £10

**Admin's Choice:** £5

### Sick Visitation

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

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

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

**Diocese of Derry Three Day Pilgrimage to Lough Derg 2024.** The Diocese of Derry Three Day Pilgrimage led by Bishop Donal McKeown starts on Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> and concludes on Sunday, the 28<sup>th</sup> July. Bus will depart after 10:00am Mass from St Eugene's Cathedral, Derry on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> July, going via Strabane, Lifford and Ballybofey. Cost £80 including transport. Cost without transport £70. Prebooking is required. Please contact Tony Brennan, Pastoral Coordinator on [tony.brennan@derrydiocese.org](mailto:tony.brennan@derrydiocese.org) or phone the Diocesan Office on 0044 28 7126 2302 for booking form. We look forward to welcoming you!

**Our Lady of Montligeon, monthly prayer meeting will be held in the Carmelite Retreat Centre, Termonbacca on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30pm.** There are also weekly prayer meetings on Wednesdays after 9.15am Mass at St Brigid's Church, Carnhill in the Kildare Room. All are welcome.

**The Pioneer Pilgrimage to Knock will take place on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> July.** Mass will be celebrated at 3.00pm and will be followed by Eucharistic Blessing and Procession to the Shrine. Pioneers along with friends and relations of people who are living "one day at a time" with addiction are welcome.

**ACCORD Derry - Marriage Preparation Courses.** The following dates are available online for booking at [www.accordni.com](http://www.accordni.com): September 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> 2024 and October 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> 2024. Please note that these courses are in person and not virtual.

**National Grandparents Pilgrimage Knock Shrine Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2024.** Archbishop Luis Mariano Montemayor, Papal Nuncio of Ireland will lead the pilgrimage and the celebration of the fourth World Day for Grandparents in Knock Shrine. Schedule for the day : 2.30pm Anointing of the Sick in the Basilica with Pilgrimage Mass at 3.00pm followed by the Rosary procession. Those unable to join in person can take part online at [www.knockshrine.ie/watch](http://www.knockshrine.ie/watch)

**Mary's Meals are organising a 'Two Bridges Walk' on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> August over the Foyle Bridge and Peace Bridge in Derry.** Meet in Sainsbury's car park at 11.45 am to begin the walk. The distance is approx. 5 miles. The walk is part of a series of walks taking place across Ireland in early August to raise awareness of Mary's Meals and the work they do. You can register for the walk at [Bit.ly/stepbystepwalk](https://bit.ly/stepbystepwalk). If you have any queries please contact Helen Quinn, telephone 07814441701. To find out more about Mary's Meals please visit <https://www.marysmeals.org.uk/>

**Group Pilgrimage to Medjugorje from 4<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> September, total cost €835.** Full religious programme operated by Marian Pilgrimages. Includes daily breakfast and evening meal. For more information contact Group Leader Luke McCann on 07955386288. To book contact Marian Pilgrimages on 02895680005.

**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](http://www.churchservices.tv), [www.watchmcnmedia](http://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](mailto: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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in Ordinary Time  
7<sup>th</sup> July 2024*

**Priests: Fr Paul Farren, Fr Shaun Doherty**