

A short reflection on today's Gospel Mark 10:17-30

Today's Gospel testifies to the difficulty of attaining eternal life without the grace of God which makes everything possible. The young man who asks Jesus what he must do to gain eternal life is, to all intents and purposes, living an exemplary life: he keeps the commandments and lives within the law. He exudes an innocent eagerness which causes Jesus to look on him with love. Yet, he has formed an attachment which blocks his relationship with God, an attachment to his worldly possessions. When Jesus asks him to sell all he owns and journey with him, the rich young man walks sadly away, unable to let go of his riches. He fails to understand that he must let go in order to receive. And what he will receive in return for letting go is the gift of eternal life, eternal life lived in the glorious presence of God. But the young man's faith is too fragile to let go of that which he holds dearer than God.

Jesus, help us daily to hear the divine whisper of our Creator urging us to let go, to let go of our worldly attachments, to let go of our fears, our anger, our burdens – all that stands in the way of our journey to eternal bliss, to peace beyond all understanding.

Jesus, may we, in this blessed season of autumn, learn to let go and to embrace transformational change with joy. May we acquiesce with grace to the death that will give birth to new, glorious life.

Jesus, may we never forget that it is God's grace which makes everything possible. When we stumble and fall, it is God's grace which lifts us up and gently sets us on our way to Him again.

Prayer for Vocations to the Diocesan Priesthood – For those considering becoming priests of the Derry diocese, but who are anxious about giving up so many of the things they have and enjoy in order to follow the Lord in this way, we pray that they will take to heart the words of Jesus in this weekend's gospel: "For you it is impossible, but not for God: because everything is possible for God."

The St Dymphna Mass with Anointing of the Sick will be celebrated here at St Eugene's Cathedral on Tuesday 15th October at 7.30pm. This Mass is to give thanks to God for positive mental health and to pray for those who are struggling with mental health issues and those who care for them.

Our Lady, Untier of Knots Novena continues after 7.30pm Mass on Thursdays finishing on 28th November. This Novena reminds us that sin never entangled Our Lady; that Christ gave His Mother to be our Mother, the Untier of Knots. We pray and entrust our specific "knots" to Her loving hands, learning how to let go of that which binds us.

Are you enrolled in the Pope John Paul II Award in St Eugene's this year? If so, you are invited to attend an Information Session on Wednesday 16th October at 4.30pm in the Upper Sacristy. There will be a short presentation and discussion on how we can help you find suitable tasks that you will enjoy taking part in. Any questions email lauren.doherty@derrydiocese.org

Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of:

Don Boyle
Catherine Casey
Kathleen Moore

May they rest in peace

Anniversaries

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

Kathleen Bradley
Jim Bradley
John Kelly
Brian Leman
Raymond Cassidy
Rita & Paddy Nelis
Maureen Keys
Jack Knight
Margaret Knight
Patrick Condren

May they rest in peace

Baptisms

We welcome as members of God's family:

Kingsley Thomas Mark Donegan-Gill
Imogen Isabella Beacom

To book a Baptism contact the Parish Office 02871 262894

Sacrament of Marriage

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

Riane Clarke &
Adam Ferguson

May God bless you abundantly in love, joy and happiness

Collection

Last week's collection: £5,007

Parish Development: £1,027

Thank you

Fr Farren acknowledges with thanks the following donations for:

SVdP: £25, £40

Missions: £50

Hungry Children: £20

Sight Savers: £10

Mary's Meals: £25, £100

Smile Train: £100

Flowers for Altar: £40, £30

Readers 19th / 20th October

06.15 pm Michael McCaul

07.30pm Helen Sweeney

09.30 am Kay McGinn

11.00 am St Anne's PS

12.30 pm Niamh Kehoe

07.00 pm Marian Boyle

Sick Visitation

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

Tuesday: Lisfannon Park, Glenfada Park, William Street, Creggan Street, Fahan Street, Chamberlain Street, Cable Street, Lower Road, Abbey House.

Wednesday: Mulvey Park, Elmwood Terrace, Gartan Square, Clarendon Manor, Grangemore, Northland Road.

As part of the City of Derry International Choir Festival there will be a Sea-Shanty Concert in the Cathedral Hall, Wednesday 23rd October at 1pm. This will include performances by the Causeway Shanty Men and the Tuned in Collective. Refreshments will be served, and everyone is welcome.

Visit of the Relics of St Bernadette to the Diocese of Derry: The relics will visit St Eugene's Cathedral from 2.00pm on Sunday 13th October to Monday 14th October. This very special, once-in-a-lifetime event will provide an opportunity for people of all ages and backgrounds to experience the special gifts and charisms of Lourdes in their own diocese. The programme for the visit is as follows:

Sunday 13th October:

2.00pm Ceremony of Welcome
3.00pm Rosary
4.00pm Rosary
5.00pm Rosary
6.00pm Rosary and Devotions
7.00pm Mass
9.00pm Candlelight Procession
Confessions 3.00pm – 6.00pm

Monday 14th October:

8.00am Mass of our Lady of Lourdes
10.00am Mass of St Bernadette
12 noon Angelus and Rosary
2.00pm Rosary
3.00pm Divine Mercy Chaplet
4.00pm Rosary
5.00pm Stations of the Cross
6.00pm Rosary
7.30pm Mass of the Immaculate Conception with anointing of the sick
9.00pm Holy Hour
Confessions 11.00am – 7.00pm

Accessing the grounds of the Cathedral during the visit: It will not be possible to allow any vehicles into the grounds. Blue badge holders will be guided to the Gt James' Street pedestrian entrance to facilitate drop off. This entrance is on the flat and is a short distance to rear door for disabled entry. Stewards will be on hand to assist.

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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in Ordinary Time
13th October 2024*

Priests: Fr Paul Farren, Fr Shaun Doherty