# The stars will fall from haven and the powers in the heavens will be shaken - Mark 13:24-32

Today's Gospel invites us to reflect on the impermanence of all things in this world: everything passes away; nothing remains the same. Only perhaps as children are we protected from painful awareness of our own mortality. As we live our lives the different worlds we inhabit through time change, dissolve and die. Our youth dies, and always long before we are ready to relinquish it; our loved ones die; our circumstances change and die. Worlds we thought were permanently fixed, embedded in rock, melt and disappear before our eyes. Our eyes are too often fixed on the ground, but it is towards the heavens they should be directed if we are to see the truth, the truth that God alone is permanent, that God alone is eternal, and that God alone, Love itself, is forever offering to share eternity with us if we but reach out to Him in corresponding love. It is said that if this life were to last forever we would take it for granted. We would undervalue it and become blind to its wonders and miracles, It is because of its impermanence that we glory in its beauty, in its generosity, in its purity of heart, its kindness. It is because of life's impermanence that we realise that all life is a gift, and that with every breath we take God is choosing us to live fully; He is choosing us to fully embrace our mortality so that we can fully embrace His gift of eternity. Thanks be to God.

**Prayer for Vocations to the Diocesan Priesthood** – That our seminarians and those discerning a vocation as priests of this diocese will "shine as brightly as the stars of heaven" and be zealous in the instruction and example they give to Christian living to God's people.

**The St Dymphna Mass with Anointing of the Sick** will be celebrated here at St Eugene's Cathedral on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November 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.

The Month's Mind Mass for Father Liam Donnelly will be celebrated in St Mary's Church, Lavey on Friday 22 November at 7.30pm. Priests are asked to bring an alb and a purple stole.

Calling all Men to St Joseph's Church, Galliagh, Derry: Saturday 23 November from 2.30 - 5.30pm. Three hours of Adoration, talk on Christ the King and the father's role in the family. Ending with vigil Mass of Christ the King at 7.15pm. Confessions during adoration and St Padre Pio Relic will be available.

### Anniversaries

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

Jim Beattie
Maureen Gallagher
Tom Canning
Sarah McCauley
May they rest in peace

### **Baptisms**

We welcome as members of God's family:

Fiadh Aoife Greenwood Jacob James Logue Khai Brian Nash

To book a Baptism contact the Parish Office 02871 262894

Please remember: Godparents (1 male and 1 female over the age of 16)

### **Sacrament of Marriage**

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

Ceara Ferguson & Joshua Quigley

May God bless you abundantly in love, joy and happiness

## Readers 23<sup>rd</sup>/24th November

06.15 pm Claire O'Kane

07.30pm Cara Elliott/John McNamee

09.30 am Eva Maria Mallon/Rua Sweeney

11.00 am McGinley Readers

12.30 pm Eilish Friel 07.00 pm Marian Boyle

### Collection

Last week's collection: £5,521 Parish Development: £1,092

### Thank you

Fr Farren acknowledges with thanks the following donations for:

SVdP: €20

Hungry Children: £20 Sight Savers: £30, £100 Mary's Meals: £1,000 Smile Train: £30, £100 Save the Children: £30, £10 Flowers for Altar: £30, £100

### **Sick Visitation**

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

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

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

The Dominicans Advent Retreat for parishioners: Speaker is Fr Stephen Cummins OP. The title is: 'Keeping Vigil for the Vulnerable God'. The link for parishioners to sign up for the Retreat is www.prioryinstitute.com/events/2024-online-advent-retreat

SPARK: 22<sup>nd</sup> - 24th November, Termonbacca Carmelite Retreat Centre, Derry - A weekend of fun, faith and friendship for 12-16 year olds. Do you know a young person who would like to build their faith and make new friends? SPARK is a weekend experience which follows core themes from YouCat as well as stores of role models such as Blessed Carlo Acutis and Sr Clare Crockett, to help young people learn about their faith, while making friends and hopefully having a bit of craic in the process! - To book a place or find out more information - text or WhatsApp Brendan on +353 86 8043065 - Cost £70/€80 per person (to cover food and board).

St Mary's College Christmas Craft Fair, Northland Road, Derry - Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2024 from 11.00am - 4.00pm. £1 Entry - Over 70 stalls - Café - Santa - Great Family day out!

**Thornhill Ministries' Crib Festival:** The Festival is being held this year in 'The Den' 37 Melmount Road, Strabane on Saturday 30th November and Sunday 1st December from 11.00am - 5.30pm. A unique event inviting us into the Story of Christmas through a truly inspirational display. Children will love it! And so will the adults!!

Christmas Afternoon Tea - Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December at 1.00pm in the Cathedral Hall - Join Anne Marie Hickey and friends for a Festive Afternoon Tea with music and verse. Cost £25. Pre booking required. Call into the Parish Office or phone 028 71262894 or email cathedral@derrydiocese.org

Parish Advent Pilgrimage on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December. Bus leaves the Cathedral at 9.30am and returns approximately 4.45pm. Morning Prayer in the IOSAS Centre followed by refreshments, Mass in the Chapel of Ease in Fahan and lunch in the Inishowen Gateway Hotel. Price £40 includes - Transport, Morning Tea & Lunch. For more information or to book a place call into the Parish Office or call 71262894 or email cathedral@derrydiocese.org

Christmas Mass Bouquets are now available to buy at the Parish Office. Cost £2.

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