

A short reflection on today's Gospel Mark 9:30-37

Today's Gospel witnesses the disciples of Jesus recoiling in fear as he outlines for them the suffering and death he will undergo at the hands of his enemies. His words strike fear and confusion in their hearts because a betrayed, suffering, vulnerable Jesus has no place in their understanding of him nor for their hopes for themselves by their association with him: they have witnessed his power over life and death and cling to him as the person who will lead them out of obscurity to greatness in this world. As yet they misunderstand his ministry. As yet they fail to understand what has been called 'the downward journey' into suffering which seems to be about failure, but instead, is about triumph.

It is important to note that while the disciples of Jesus fail to understand the full import of his mission on earth, they still remain faithful to him. There is a part in all of us which yearns to be great here and now and this part of us is in constant battle with God's call on us to be faithful to him and to keep our minds and hearts on His words delivered clearly to us by His Son.

Jesus always locates innocence, trust, openness and truth in little children, and he does this again in today's Gospel. Little children are uncorrupted by worldly lust for greatness and power; their souls are shining and pure. It is the innocence of the child that Jesus wishes for us, the trusting, pure, innocence of the child.

Jesus, take away our hearts greedy for power here on earth and give us instead the pure hearts of little children who are still 'trailing their clouds of glory' from their home with you.

Jesus, may we learn to accept suffering and what seems like failure in our lives and walk the road to Calvary with you in the knowledge that we are walking towards the glory of your heavenly Father, and ours.

Prayer for Vocations to the Diocesan Priesthood – In this weekend's Gospel Jesus says, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." We pray for those called to serve the people of God as priests of the diocese of Derry, especially our five seminarians and the three men who have applied to begin their seminary studies this year.

There will be a Holy Hour for Vocations to the Priesthood in St Columb's Church, Chapel Road, Waterside, on Wednesday 25th September from 8:00 to 9:00pm. All welcome.

The Cathedral Club will meet after the 10.00am Mass on Thursdays, in the Cathedral Hall. Everyone is welcome to this parish social group. Refreshments will be served.

Exploring Poetry with Mary Murphy continues Fridays at 11.00am in the Cathedral Hall. You are most welcome to join in person or via the online platform www.steugenescathedral.com/webcamhall.html

Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock – Saturday 28th September: Bus leaves St Eugene's Cathedral (Creggan Street) at 9.00am sharp. You are asked to be there by 8.30am. Booking essential: Tel Karen on 028 71262 894 or email cathedral@derrydiocese.org Cost £60, includes bus and evening meal.

Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of:

Desmond (Dessie) Green

May he rest in peace

Anniversaries

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

Margaret McMahon

Dolly McGill

Charlie O'Donnell

Tommy Molloy

May they rest in peace

Baptisms

We welcome as members of God's family:

Cillian Declan Lynch

Shea James Quigg

Sacrament of Marriage

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

Christine McClintock &

Ceallach Murray

May God bless you abundantly in love, joy and happiness

Readers 28th / 29th September

06.15 pm	Claire O'Kane
07.30pm	Helen Sweeney
09.30 am	Kay McGinn
11.00 am	McGinley Readers
12.30 pm	Sophia Mason
07.00 pm	Anna Begley

Collection

Last week's collection: £6,332

Parish Development: £ 961

Thank you

Fr Farren acknowledges with thanks the following donations for:

Cathedral Funds: £100, £100, £10

Admin's Choice: £10

Sight Savers: £25

Smile Train: £25

Mary's Meals: £20, £50, £50

Trócaire: £60

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, Ardglen, Nassau Crescent, Rosemount Gardens, Osborne Street, Lawrence Hill, Joseph Place, Beechwood Avenue

Singers Wanted: St Eugene's Cathedral Choir is looking for male voices (tenor and bass) to sing with the cathedral choir. The choir practise on Wednesday evenings and sing at 12.30pm Mass on Sundays and at other special events during the year. If you are interested, please contact the choir director, Maghnus Monaghan on 00353863728443 or after 12.30pm Mass.

Triduum of St Therese of the Child Jesus Retreat with Fr Dominique Faure will take place on Sunday 29th September in the Carmelite Retreat Centre, Termonbacca from 10.00am to 5.00pm. Cost for the day, including light lunch is £15. For bookings or further information telephone 028 71262512.

Catholic Mothers Ireland Retreat Day: Join us for a day of Spiritual Restoration, Inspiring Talks, Holy Mass, Prayer and Confession on Lough Derg Island, Pettigo, Co. Donegal on Saturday 5th October 2024. This all-day Retreat will run from 10am – 5pm. Email catholicmothers@outlook.ie for more information or to book your place.

Organ Donation Week – 23rd – 29th September: Organ Donation Week is a time dedicated to remembering and giving thanks to people who have enabled the “Gift of Life” to others by donating organs to those in need of life-saving transplants. This week is also an opportunity to raise awareness of organ donation. You are invited to have a conversation with your family, share your decision, register your decision. You Could Be A Life Saver! Further information: www.organdonationni.info

Ulster Project Derry/Londonderry - Applications are now open for Ulster Project 2025. Teens who are eligible must be 15years old on or before 1st July 2025 and be a regular Church attender. A written reference from a priest/minister on attendance together with a written reference from form teacher to be included with application form. Must be available for all meetings. USA dates are provisionally from 26th June to 18th July. For an application form please email: ulsterprojectderrylondonderry@outlook.com. Cost to be confirmed – deposit of £750 will required in January). Closing date is Sunday 20th October 2024. Due to the high demand for the limited number of places available we will be holding interviews. A reserve list will also be held.

St Eugene’s Beavers and Cubs have recommenced on Monday evenings in St Anne’s Primary School. Beavers (6–8-year olds) meet from 6.30pm to 7.30pm and Cubs (8-11 year olds) meet from 7.00pm to 8.30pm. New members are welcome. We are looking for new leaders (must be over 18 years old). Full training will be provided. If you are interested, please contact Maria on 07955549818.

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.

*Vol 51 No.38
Twenty-fifth Sunday
in Ordinary Time
22nd September 2024*

Priests: Fr Paul Farren, Fr Shaun Doherty