

Gospel Reflection John 18:33-37

Today's powerful Gospel comes from the Passion of Jesus in St. John's Gospel in which Jesus dialogues with Pilate on the subject of his kingship. Yes, he is king, he tells Pilate, but his kingdom 'is not of this world!' And indeed, the kingdom of Jesus is truly not of this world. It is not an earthly kingdom of power and might, of hierarchical structures, of division and disputation. The kingdom of Jesus is a kingdom of love and compassion, of healing, forgiveness, kindness and care.

The theologian and author, R. Rolheiser, writes about the crucified Jesus as having willingly absorbed within himself all the hostility, strife, division and enmity of the world, and transforming that broken world into a kingdom of love, compassion, healing and friendship. And we, too, if we are to be true citizens of the kingdom of Jesus, must embrace the concept of transformation: we, too, must absorb within ourselves all that divides, sows hatred, brings strife, and 'hold it within ourselves' long enough for it to be transformed into compassion, care, and love.

Jesus, may we rise with your grace to the challenge of today's Gospel, and embrace willingly the beautiful concept of transformation.

Prayer for Vocations to the Diocesan Priesthood – We pray That those called by the Lord to be priests of the diocese of Derry will "bear witness to the truth" as they help God's people to listen to the voice of Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, whose Kingdom "will never pass away."

Our Lady, Untier of Knots Novena concludes after 7.30pm Mass on Thursday 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 season of Advent begins next weekend. Take some time out from the pressures of getting ready for Christmas to pray and meditate on the true meaning of Advent.

Morning Prayer of the Church will be prayed in the Cathedral each morning at 7.45am, Monday to Friday beginning Monday 2nd December.

On the Way Home - In preparation for Christmas, there will be an opportunity for Confession and Adoration each Monday during Advent (2nd, 9th, 16th & 23rd) from 5.00pm to 7.00pm

Eucharistic Adoration: every Sunday from 3.00pm to 6.00pm and every Tuesday from 10.30am until 7.20pm

St Eugene's Cathedral Carol Service will take place in the Cathedral at 4.00pm on Sunday 22nd December. St Eugene's Cathedral Choir will lead the carols. We invite children to bring presents of new unwrapped toys and adults to donate sweets, biscuits, vouchers or cash. St Vincent de Paul Society will distribute the gifts.

Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of:

**Donald (George) Findlay
Philomena Melaugh**

May they rest in peace

Anniversaries

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

Seamus Bray

Agnes Ward

Mary (Molly) Boyle

Martin McGonagle

Elizabeth Canning

Desmond Gallagher

May they rest in peace

Baptisms

We welcome as members of God's family:

Bram Fiachra Kelly

Oaklyn Rian O'Kane

To book a Baptism contact the Parish Office 02871 262894

Readers 30th November/1st December

06.15 pm Helen Sweeney

07.30 pm Amuyla George

09.30 am Gerry O'Donnell/
Rebecca Sweeney

11.00 am Rosemount PS

12.30 pm Marie Canning

07.00 pm Anna Begley

Collection

Last week's collection: £5,423

Parish Development: £1,041

Thank you

Fr Farren acknowledges with thanks the following donations for:

SVdP: £100, £25

Smile Train: £20

Sight Savers: £20

Mary's Meals: £25

Hungry Children: £25

Cathedral Funds: £200, £100

Trócaire: £100

Matt Talbot: £10

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, Baldrick Crescent, Osborne Street, Lawrence Hill, Joseph Place, Beechwood Avenue

St Vincent de Paul (St Eugene's Conference) acknowledge with gratitude receipt of donation of £500.

St Eugene's Scout group are looking for any old Beaver and Cub jumpers and scarves. Please contact Maria at 07955549818.

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

Christmas Afternoon Tea - Saturday 7th 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 12th December. 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

Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2025 led by Bishop Donal McKeown, from Monday 30th June to Friday 4th July, leaving from City of Derry Airport. Price £849 plus insurance and single supplement if required. The Pilgrimage Office at 164 Bishop Street, Derry BT48 6UJ will not be open for booking until Saturday 1st February 2025, 11.00am to 1.00pm (and each following Saturday and Thursday at the same time unless notified). However, Gift Vouchers are now available from the Pastoral Centre, 164 Bishop Street, Derry. Enquiries can be made by email to derrypilgrim@outlook.com

Concern Worldwide Christmas Appeal: Concern is facing huge demands on its resources this Christmas and appeals for your help by donating at the Appeals Office, Millennium Forum, Derry on Friday 29th and Saturday 30th November only from 10.00am until 6.00pm.

St Mary's College annual Mass of Remembrance for deceased pupils, staff and governors will take place on Thursday 28th November 2024 at 7.00pm. If you would like to add a name to the list of those to be remembered, please contact Fiona at the school office on 02871362154 or email fmurray658@c2ken.net. All are welcome, refreshments will be served after the Mass.

St Eugene's Primary School – Annual Rickety Wheel takes place on Thursday 5th December at 7.00pm in the Cathedral Hall. Proceeds to St Eugene's Primary School Funds. Everyone is welcome!

Advent Retreat: Emmanuel - He meets you where you are. Join the Columba Community for their retreat on Sunday 8th December at 11.00 am in St Anthony's Retreat Centre, Dundrean, Burnfoot, Co Donegal, Eircode: F93NF76. Booking is essential telephone (00353)0749384866. A light lunch is provided, suggested donation £20.

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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Our Lord Jesus Christ,
King of the Universe
24th November 2024*

Priests: Fr Paul Farren, Fr Shaun Doherty