

A short reflection on today's Gospel Mark 9:2-10

Today's powerful Gospel takes us to a mountain-top where we witness, with Peter, James and John, the transfiguration of Jesus. The gateway between Heaven and earth is thrown open and Jesus and his heavenly Father unite gloriously in a blaze of white radiance: "his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them." Once again God lays claim to Jesus as His Son and commands us to listen to him.

The Gospel is breath-taking in terms of the wonder and joy it instils in us. It raises us up into the light of heaven and invites us to gaze into the radiant face of God.

As people of faith we are gifted with an open invitation to climb to the mountain-top; to bathe in the light of heaven; to behold the glory of God, and to recognise the glorious presence of God in our lives. The danger is that when we come down from the mountain-top we may become submerged in the mundanities and preoccupations of the world, and allow the bright radiance of God to fade from our lives.

Jesus, may we hold fast to the mountain-top experiences with which we are gifted. May we never lose sight of the glory of God around us and within us. May we heed the command of our heavenly Father and listen to you always. Amen

St Eugene's Cathedral – Lenten Programme

Confession and Adoration on the way home – Mondays from 5.00pm to 7.20pm

Morning Prayer of the Church at 7.45am Monday to Friday

Lunch-time Mass 1.00pm each weekday (Monday to Friday)

Lenten Holy Hour of prayer led by Fr Shaun, Thursday evenings from 8.00pm with adoration, reflection and music

Lenten talk Tuesday 27th February 8.00pm - **Reconciliation: "The Whisper of God"**

How do the sacraments help us to live life to the full? We focus this week on the Sacrament of Reconciliation, the sacrament of pure reality. Using a short video as a basis for reflection, there will be an opportunity for discussion/comment on the key message of the week, followed by a brief scripture passage and concluding with a prayer.

Trócaire Lenten Appeal – Trócaire boxes are available for collection at the back of the Cathedral.

National Year of Prayer for Vocations to the Diocesan Priesthood – We pray that those aspiring to serve as priests of the diocese of Derry will, like Abraham, have the faith and trust they need to follow the Lord's call.

The annual inter-diocesan Vocations Retreat will take place in Drumalis, Larne, from 8th - 10th March. Anyone aged 18 or older, interested in attending should contact Fr Pat O'Hagan at pgoh2111@gmail.com or on (028) 79386259.

St. Eugene's Cathedral Pilgrimage to Fatima – 19th -24th October 2024. Cost £770 per person sharing with a single room supplement of £150 (subject to availability). For more information, please contact Anne Marie Hickey on amhickey@derrydiocese.org or phone the Parish Office on 028 71262894.

Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of:

**Jack Gorman
Frances Robson
Sean Coyle
Sarah McIntyre**

May they rest in peace

Anniversaries

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

**Mickey Carlin
Elizabeth Page**

May they rest in peace

Baptisms

We welcome as members of God's family:

**Aoife Brigh Kearney-Knox
James Robert Possatti
Myles Patrick Shortland**

Readers for 2nd / 3rd March

06.15 pm Claire O'Kane
07.30 pm Stephen Orr/
Caitlin Horner McLaughlin
09.30 am Kate Doherty
11.00 am St Eugene's PS
12.30 pm Eilish Friel
07.00 pm Anna Begley

Collection

Last week's collection: £4,903

Parish Development: £1,031

Thank you for your generosity

Thank you

Fr Farren acknowledges with thanks the following donations for:

Flowers for Altar: £100, £50, £20, £40

Holy Land: £60

Cathedral Funds: £10

Mary's Meals: £20

Sick Visitation

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

Tuesday: Fairman Place, Academy Terrace, Tutor Close, Northland Parade, Northland Crescent, Glenbank Road, Glenbank Gardens, Marlborough Road, Marlborough Avenue, Creggan Road, Helen Street, Oakfield Crescent

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

The Cathedral Club meets after the 10.00am Mass each Thursday in the Cathedral Hall. Everyone is welcome to this parish social group. Refreshments will be served.

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

Songs of Ireland Afternoon Tea - Saturday 16th March at 1.30pm in the Cathedral Hall. Join Anne Marie Hickey and friends for an Afternoon Tea with music and verse. Pre booking required. Call into the Parish Office or phone, 71262894 or email cathedral@derrydiocese.org

ACCORD Derry Marriage Preparation Courses. Following dates are available April 19th & 20th , May 17th & 18th and June 14th & 15th . Please note that all courses are now in person and not virtual. Courses can be booked online at www.accordni.com

ACCORD NI Catholic Marriage Care Service is currently recruiting people to train as marriage preparation programme facilitators. If you have a positive attitude towards marriage in the Catholic Church and you have the enthusiasm to be part of the Accord team in supporting couples who are preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage Accord wants to hear from you! Successful applicants will receive professional training and will be part of a team delivering marriage preparation programmes locally. Contact Brenda on 02890 233002 or by email to info@accordni.com

Lough Derg Retreat for young adults (18 – 30 years old): The Knights of Columbanus, Omagh, is organising a Retreat in Lough Derg for young adults, to take place on Saturday 27th April 2024, from 10.00am – 4.00pm. Guest Speakers, inspirational talks, reflective time and concluding with Mass. This event is FREE OF CHARGE. For further information email info@knightsofstcolumbansomagh.co.uk

First Saturday Rosary on Saturday 2nd March at 1.00pm in Market Square, Letterkenny. All are welcome.

Lent: Season of Well-Being weekend Retreat at Ards Friary, 23rd to 25th February, led by Philip McParland. To book contact Ards Friary at by telephone 074 91 38909 or email: info@ardsfriary.ie

Our Lady of Montligeon prayer meeting for the Holy Souls takes place in Carmelite Retreat Centre, Termonbacca, on the following dates, starting at 7.30pm: Monday 25th March, 15th April and 20th May. Everyone welcome.

Derry Diocesan Youth Pilgrimage to Medjugorje: We are inviting young people aged 16 + to join us on pilgrimage to Medjugorje for 9 nights from 30th July to 8th August. This will be a unique experience for young people and an opportunity to engage with peers from around the world, in a faith context. Cost is £800 and there will be a budget plan to help with this. Names and deposit of £100 are required as soon as possible to secure a place. For more information or to book in please contact lizzie.rea@derrydiocese.org 00 44 2871264087.

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.watchmenmedia 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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25th February 2024*

Priests: Fr Paul Farren, Fr Shaun Doherty