

## A short reflection on today's Gospel John: 1-5, 9-14

In today's Gospel we are established as people of eternity; we are established, each one of us, as expressions of the Word of God – as, indeed, everything which exists is an expression of the Word of God from the beginning of time. It is a powerful and beautiful Gospel which lifts us out of the ordinary and mundane into the extraordinary and glorious; it liberates us from the rags and tatters of mortal time and shows us the face of eternity, our true home. It reveals to us the face of Love which is the light of the world, the light which shines in the darkness, and which can never be extinguished. Our yearning for that light is born anew with the first breath of each and every human life entering into the world.

Opening ourselves to the full glory of God's love which is made manifest by the life, death and resurrection of His beloved son, Jesus, is to secure our entitlement to be called His sons and daughters.

Let us give thanks to our loving Father, the perpetual light which shines through the darkness and guides us towards bliss.

*Thank you, loving Father, for the gift of your Son, Jesus, full of grace and truth, our Saviour, and our way to eternal life in the glory of your presence.*

Bishop McKeown, Fr Paul, Fr Roni and Deacon Michael wish you every blessing, joy and peace this Christmas Time. We take this opportunity to thank you for being part of the faith community of St Eugene's Cathedral and for your ongoing support and prayers.

### Mass Times during the Christmas Season

**Monday 26<sup>th</sup> to Friday 30<sup>th</sup> December** – Mass at 12 noon

**Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> December** – Mass at 12 noon  
Vigil Masses at 6.15pm and 7.30pm

There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament immediately after the 7.30pm Mass concluding with Rosary and Benediction at 11.45pm to welcome in the New Year

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> January** – Masses at 7.00am 9.30am, 11.00am, 12.30pm and 7.00pm

**Normal weekday Mass times will resume on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> January** at 8.00am, 10.00am and 7.30pm

### Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of:

**Joe McLaughlin  
Helena McVeigh**

May they rest in peace

### Anniversaries

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

**Peter O'Hagan  
Mard McCourt  
Mary Brady  
Bernadette Brady  
Sadie Brady  
Jane & Hugh Brady  
Kathleen, Billy & Matt McColgan  
Mary Rose & Christopher Cox  
Molly Callan  
Danny McGeady  
Catherine Gallacher  
Peter Toland  
Dan Shields  
Matilda (Tillie) McKinney  
Rose Tucker**

May they rest in peace.

### Sacrament of Marriage

We congratulate the couples who celebrated the Sacrament of Marriage recently in the Cathedral.

**Nyeasha McCloskey & Ronan  
Farthing  
Nicole Nicell & Niall Kelly**

### Baptisms

We welcome as members of God's family:

**Raiya Rolo Simpson-Ivors  
Fiachra Brian Healey  
Olivia Mae Clifford**

To book a Baptism phone  
02871262894.

### Thank you

Fr Farren acknowledges with thanks the following donations for:  
**SVDP: £60, £80, £100, £20, £100, £50, £20**

**Trocaire: £40, £1500, £50, £100, £50**

**Parish Development: £10  
Cathedral Funds: £40, £70  
Salvation Army: £100  
St Anthony Society: £200  
Foyle Food Bank: £100  
Altar Flowers: £20**

### Collection

Last week's collection: £3,962  
Parish Development: £860

*Thank you for your generosity*

### **Readers for 31<sup>st</sup> December/ 1<sup>st</sup> January**

06.15 pm	Carmel Devenney
07.30pm	Liz McMonagle
09.30 am	Rosemary Finan
11.00 am	Helen Sweeney
12.30 pm	Kevin Finan
07.00pm	Marian Boyle

## **Friday January 6<sup>th</sup> – Feast of the Epiphany, Holy Day of Obligation**

Mass times – Thursday Vigil Masses 6.15pm and 7.30pm

Friday Masses at 7.00am, 9.30am, 11.00am, 12.30pm and 7.30pm

There will be a collection for Parish Missionaries Overseas at all the Masses on the Feast of the Epiphany. If you wish to nominate a priest or nun who has family connections in the Parish for financial support, please email their name and contact details to [cathedral@derrydiocese.org](mailto:cathedral@derrydiocese.org)

**St Vincent de Paul (St Eugene's Conference)** would like to acknowledge with thanks a contribution of £50.

**As part of the 150<sup>th</sup> Celebrations of St Eugene's Cathedral there will be a Carols at Christmas Concert** in the Cathedral on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> December at 1pm. Performers include Anne Marie Hickey, Sally Mae Comey, Roisin Rice, The McGinley School of Music and Bruno Tamiozzo. Mince pies and refreshments will be served after in the Cathedral Hall. Everyone is welcome.

**The Matt Talbot Prayer Society – Praying for those suffering from Addiction.** The next Matt Talbot Mass will be celebrated here at St Eugene's Cathedral on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January at 7.30pm. To join the Matt Talbot Prayer Society, you are invited to enrol the name of the person to be prayed for and the addiction we are praying that they will be freed from. Those enrolled will be prayed for specifically every day by members of the Matt Talbot Prayer Society. To enrol someone in the Matt Talbot Prayer Society please email [vita@matttalbotprayersociety.com](mailto:vita@matttalbotprayersociety.com) or private message St Eugene's Cathedral Facebook page or phone St Eugene's Cathedral at 028 71262894/71365712.

**Lourdes 2023 The Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> July** led by Bishop Donal McKeown. Flights direct from City of Derry Airport. Four nights full board. Cost £745 sharing, £35 single supplement. Travel insurance available - £39 up to age 79, £78 for ages 80-94. Pilgrims may use their own insurance. Further details and payment arrangements will be available in the new year via the Lourdes Pilgrimage Office, 164 Bishop Street, Derry. Email [derrypilgrim@outlook.com](mailto:derrypilgrim@outlook.com) Telephone 02871 260 293

**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](http://www.churchservices.tv), [www.watchmcnmedia](http://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 with regard to 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 the Safeguarding Office, Diocesan Pastoral Centre, 164 Bishop Street, Derry, BT48 6UJ or PSNI (Police Service of Northern Ireland) 101 or Social Services: Gateway Services, Western HSC Trust, 71314090 and ask for the Duty Social Worker.

**Priests: Fr Paul Farren, Fr Roni Zacharias, Deacon: Rev Michael McCaul**