

A short reflection on today's Gospel Mark 10:46-52

In today's Gospel, Bartimaeus, the blind beggar, throws off his cloak and runs, full of faith, to Jesus to be healed. His cloak is an emblem of his helplessness, of his suffering and misery; it is something to hide behind, something which offers some kind of shelter and warmth. By throwing it off, Bartimaeus demonstrates his complete faith that Jesus will heal him, and indeed it is his faith which Jesus affirms has restored his sight.

'Go; your faith has saved you.'

The cure of Bartimaeus begs the question: 'What will Bartimaeus do with his new-found sight?' Will he forever follow in the footsteps of Jesus, clear-eyed and trusting, living out his life according to the truth revealed to him?

And the cure of Bartimaeus begs the question of the rest of us: What do we do with the sight gifted to us by God? The word 'respect' means 'seeing again'; in other words, seeing more deeply than first sight. Jesus always saw deeply into people. He saw beyond the superficial, the readily available, into the truth which resided in their hearts. He saw the beautiful truth which lived in the heart of the woman who washed his feet with her tears and dried them with her hair, while the Pharisee only saw her doubtful status as a woman of ill repute.

Jesus, may we see your beautiful face in the most demoralised of human beings?

Jesus, may we see beyond the evil which men do to the brokenness, the love gone sick, of the evildoer?

Jesus, may we always 'look again'. May we seek to see beyond the superficial, the readily available, to the deeper meanings in the lives of others, just as you taught us to do.

Feast of All Saints – Friday 1st November is a Holyday of Obligation. Mass times are as follows:

Thursday 31st October: Vigil Masses At 6.15pm & 7.30pm

Friday 1st November: 7.00am, 9.30am, 11.00am, 12.30pm & 7.30pm

The Retired Priests Collection will be taken up at all Masses for the Holyday.

All Souls Day – Saturday 2nd November. Mass will take place at 10.00am. The deceased members of our families and friends will be remembered at each Mass throughout November at St Eugene's Cathedral. Please take a Remembrance Card from the back of the Cathedral, write down the names of your loved ones and place it in the basket on the Sanctuary.

Remembering Our Dead

There will be a Concelebrated Mass here at St Eugene's Cathedral on Saturday, 9th November at 7.30pm for the deceased members of each home in the parish.

Anyone who has lost a close relative who was buried from another Church during the past year, please leave the deceased's name in the Sacristy or the Parochial House so that they can be remembered in the Mass and a candle can be lit in their memory.

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.

Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of:
Elizabeth Chatham
May she rest in peace

Anniversaries

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

Patsy Begley
Kathleen Toland
Mark Kelly
Michael (Mickey) Harkin
Margaret (Maggie) McGlinchey
Herbert Street
George Gallagher
Meta McKendrick
May they rest in peace

Baptisms

We welcome as a member of God's family:
Ellora Anne Doran
To book a Baptism contact the Parish Office 02871 262894

Sacrament of Marriage

We congratulate the couple who celebrated the Sacrament of Marriage recently in the Cathedral
Shannen Deeney & James McMenamin

Collection

Last week's collection: £5,457
Parish Development: £1,142

Thank you

Fr Farren acknowledges with thanks the following donations for:

Trócaire: £100
Medical Missionaries of Mary: £20
Smile Train: £30
Save the Children: £20
Missions: £50

Readers – Holyday

06.15 pm	Mary Feeney
07.30 pm	Angela McCallion
09.30 am	Eilish Friel
11.00 am	Marian Boyle
12.30 pm	Anna Begley
07.00 pm	Barry McDaid

Readers 2nd/3rd November

06.15 pm	Karen O'Brien
07.30 pm	Michael McCaul
09.30 am	Barry McDaid
11.00 am	Piaras O Meallain
12.30 pm	Jackie Tyre
07.00 pm	Marian Boyle

Prayer for Vocations to the Diocesan Priesthood – Our Second Reading reminds us that priests are chosen from among the People of God, to help us, their brothers and sisters, in our weakness and our uncertainty, in our relationship with the Lord. We pray for the men in our parish communities who are being called to serve the Church as priests of this diocese.

Parish Advent Pilgrimage on Thursday 12th December. Bus leaves the Cathedral at 9.30am and returns at approx. 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

Walk in the Light, Friday 1st November: To mark the Christian feast of All Hallows and All Saints, the City Centre Churches are inviting pilgrims to join our Walk in the Light on 1st November. We are gathering in a spirit of friendship at Carlisle Road Methodist Church at 7pm, proceeding to First Derry Presbyterian Church and St Augustine's on the Walls. The walk ends with prayers in St Columba's Church Long Tower immediately after evening Mass, followed by tea and light refreshments in Long Tower Primary School. In our conflict-torn world, this is an important demonstration of hope and peace in our city. Everyone is welcome.

Sycamore - Faith Discovery programme: Sycamore is an informal course about our Catholic faith and its relevance for life today. It gives you space to meet other people, share ideas, explore your beliefs, and think about questions that really matter. In preparation for the Jubilee year 2025 the focus will be on the gift of prayer. Each Sycamore session involves a short film and plenty of time for quiet reflection and discussion. The course will be run by Fr Peter O'Kane, Derry Diocesan Adult Faith Formator, on the following dates:

Monday: 4, 11, 18, 25 November & 1 December Venue: Muff, Co Donegal.

Tuesday: 5, 12, 19, 26 November & 2 December Venue: Dungiven, Co Derry.

Time: 7.30pm to 9.30pm.

To help facilitate venue please, please register at derrydiocese.org/sycamore. Refreshments will be provided. Everyone is welcome.

First Saturday Rosary – Saturday 2nd November at 1.00pm, Market Square, Letterkenny. Everyone is welcome.

Retreats at Ards Friary - 'What is God's Dream for your Life'
Retreat: Wednesday 6th November 10.00am -3.30pm. Facilitated by Jim Deeds. Cost €65 (includes light refreshments & Lunch). **Advent Reflection Retreat: Preparing for the Birth of the Christ Child:** Sunday 10th November, 1pm-6pm. Facilitated by Jim Deeds. Cost €65 (includes light refreshments & lunch). **Walking with the Franciscan Mystics Retreat.** Friday 22nd November to Sunday 24th November. Facilitated by Br Richard Hendrick. Cost €240. For enquiries and bookings contact Ards telephone: 00353 74 913 8909 or email info@ardsfriary.ie. For more details visit www.ardsfriary.ie

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.

Priests: Fr Paul Farren, Fr Shaun Doherty