

### **A short Gospel reflection    Luke 14:25-33**

Today's Gospel according to Luke is both proactive and seriously challenging, leaving us in no doubt about the difficulties of discipleship. If the life we lead isn't the life Jesus taught us to live, then we cannot call ourselves his disciples. If God does not have primacy in our lives, if we do not put God before all earthly ties and needs, then we are not his true followers. We may profess our commitment to Jesus as our Saviour but if the lives we live are steeped in selfish pursuits, if we turn a blind eye to the suffering and needs of others, and a deaf ear to the anguished weeping of children, then our professions of undying faith mean nothing.

Jesus is facing his road to Calvary. He will be reviled, goaded and humiliated. He will be betrayed and abandoned by those he loves. He will be tormented and tortured before being nailed to a cross between two criminals. This is the road we must travel with Jesus, carrying our own cross with the same never-failing love and compassion in our hearts, the same forgiveness of all others on our lips. It's a hard road but it's the only road which leads to true discipleship and to God

**Prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood:** We pray for the men called to serve as priests of the diocese, that they'll have what Jesus asks in the gospel this weekend - detachment from worldly possessions and courage to take up whatever cross or crosses come with priestly ministry.

**Canonisation Celebrations – Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2025** - To celebrate the Canonisation of Carlo Acutis, you are invited to come to St. Eugene's Cathedral, Derry, on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> September, from 3.00pm where we will have Veneration of a First Class Relic of Carlo Acutis, gifted to the Cathedral by Carlo's mother, Antonia. The Sacrament of Confession will be available from 3.00pm until Mass at 7.00pm, which will be celebrated by Bishop Donal Mc Keown. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place in the Mother Teresa Chapel during the Celebrations. A short film on Carlo's life will be shown in the Conference Room. Everyone is welcome to this special time of prayer and celebration.

**Cathedral Parking Notice** - Please be advised that parking at the Cathedral is restricted for Cathedral use only. Due to limited space, and to ensure safety, accessibility, and availability for those attending Mass, events, and pastoral appointments, we kindly ask that parking be reserved for Cathedral-related activities only.

This change also supports our efforts to accommodate:

- Elderly and disabled visitors who require closer access
- Clergy and staff during working hours
- Funerals, weddings, and other scheduled services
- Deliveries and essential maintenance access

We understand this may cause inconvenience, and we are grateful for your understanding and cooperation as we aim to serve our Parish as best we can.

### **Sympathy**

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of:

**Joseph Leppard  
Eugene McGinty**  
May they rest in peace

### **Sacrament of Marriage**

We congratulate  
**Mandy Harkin & Shaun McCafferty**  
who celebrated the Sacrament of Marriage recently in the Cathedral

### **Collection**

Weekly Collection: £5,346  
Parish Development: £1,087

***Thank you for your generosity***

### **Thank you**

Fr Farren acknowledges with thanks the following donations for:

**SVdP:** £50, £25

**Mary's Meals:** £40, £70, £60, £40, £60  
£100, £25, £20

**Gaza Appeal:** £20, £100, £20, £60,  
£100

**Trócaire:** £50

**Sight Savers:** £50, £15

**Smile Train:** £50, £15

**Cathedral Funds:** £200

**Water Aid:** £20

### **Baptisms**

We welcome as members of God's family:

**Cris Tyler Mabalot  
Dáire Gallagher  
Ruaidhrí Óg Collins**

To book a Baptism contact the  
Parish Office 02871 262894

### **Readers for 13<sup>th</sup> / 14<sup>th</sup> September**

06.15 pm Claire O'Kane  
07.30 pm Paul Gormley  
09.30 am Rosemary Finan  
11.00 am McGinley Readers  
12.30 pm Kevin Finan  
07.00 pm Marian Boyle

**Lunchtime Concert - Grúpa Ceoil Beag, a group of young traditional Irish music students will be performing in The Cathedral Hall on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September at 1.00pm.** Entry is free and everyone is welcome. With thanks to Derry City & Strabane District Council for supporting this event.

**Masters in Catholic School Leadership:** The Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre, working in Partnership with Saint Mary's University, Twickenham, offers the Masters in Catholic School Leadership. This is a post graduate degree dedicated to the professional development and spiritual formation of Catholic school leaders. It is a great opportunity for those currently in leadership roles and those who aspire to, or have an interest in, leadership roles within the Catholic School system. If you are interested in registering for the Masters in September 2025 or require any further information, please contact the Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre on 004428 71264087 or email [tferry@derrydiocese.org](mailto:tferry@derrydiocese.org)

*Vol 53 No 36  
Twenty-Third Sunday  
in Ordinary Time  
7<sup>th</sup> September 2025*

**Priests: Fr Paul Farren, Fr Shaun Doherty**

**October is officially Foyle Hospice 'Coffee Morning Month'.** We are calling on supporters to help us raise vital funds by hosting a Coffee Morning. Whether it's at home, work or in your local community, get your friends together and get the kettle on, it's a piece of cake!! To request your FREE host pack or for more info, please call Ailbhe McDaid, Community Fundraiser on 028 71359888 or email: [ailbhe@foylehospice.com](mailto:ailbhe@foylehospice.com)

**Mary's Meals reaches three million hungry children.** As we celebrate the Feast of The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary on 8<sup>th</sup> September, we are delighted to share the news that Mary's Meals is now reaching more than three million hungry children with nutritious meals every school day! Thank you for your support and prayers which have made this possible. Visit the Mary's Meals website to find out more about this milestone and how you can support the charity's work at [marysmeals.org.uk](http://marysmeals.org.uk).

**On 1 November, Professor Michael Parker and Dr Gary Wade will deliver a lecture at Homeplace, Bellaghy, on 'Remembrances: Forms of Memory in Seamus Heaney's Writing'.** As part of the evening, there will be a discussion of Gary's recently published book *Seamus Heaney and Catholicism* (Cambridge University Press, 2025). Tickets cost £10 and can be purchased at <https://seamusheaneyhome.com/upcoming-events/>

**Trócaire & Gaza Appeal Dance** on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September in the AOH, 23 Foyle Street, Derry from 3.00pm – 5.00pm. Admission £5. Music by Black 47. Help beat the famine.

**Accord Derry Marriage Preparation Workshops** – the following dates are now available: September 26<sup>th</sup>/27<sup>th</sup>, October 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup>, November 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup>. Book online at [www.accordni.com](http://www.accordni.com). Please note that these courses are in person and not virtual.

**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.watchmenmedia](http://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 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 [mariegormley@derrydiocese.org](mailto:mariegormley@derrydiocese.org) or contact 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.**