

A short Gospel reflection John 4:5-42

In this Gospel, Jesus meets a Samaritan woman at the well - someone whom society would normally avoid. Yet Jesus begins a conversation with her and offers her “living water,” a gift that satisfies the deepest thirst of the human heart.

This passage reveals that God seeks us first. Even when we feel unworthy, misunderstood, or burdened by our past, Jesus meets us where we are - just as He met the woman at the well. He does not approach her with condemnation but with truth, compassion, and an invitation to a new life.

The “living water” Jesus speaks about is the grace of God that renews and transforms us. When we open our hearts to Christ, He fills the emptiness within us and gives us a life that goes beyond temporary satisfaction.

The Samaritan woman’s encounter with Jesus changes her so deeply that she runs back to her town to tell others about Him. Her witness reminds us that an authentic encounter with Christ naturally leads us to share the Good News with others.

Lord Jesus, You know the deepest thirst of my heart. Help me to seek You above all things and to receive the living water of Your grace. Transform my life so that I may joyfully share Your love with others. Amen.

Prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood: Lord Jesus, you offer the living water that satisfies every heart. Call generous men to serve your people as priests, bringing your Word and Sacraments to those who thirst for you.

Lenten Programme 2026

- Monday to Friday:** 7.45am Morning Prayer of the Church
1.00pm Lunch-time Mass
- Mondays:** 5.00pm -7.00pm Confessions & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
- Tuesdays:** 7.00pm Guided Meditation in the Mother Teresa Chapel
- Wednesdays:** 7.00pm “Reasons to have Faith” - Talk by Fr Paul Farren in the Cathedral
- Thursdays:** 1.30pm Stations of the Cross led by our Parish Schools
8.00pm Fr Shaun Doherty will lead a Medjugorje style Holy Hour of prayer with music, adoration and reflection, with prayers of healing. *Come and pray with your heart.*
- Fridays:** 7.00pm Stations of the Cross

‘Fish Fridays’ - as this is the day when Jesus was crucified you are invited to give up meat on the Fridays in Lent in remembrance of His sacrifice for us.

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

The Cathedral Club meets on Thursdays after the 10am Mass. Everyone is welcome to this parish social group who meet once a week in the Cathedral Hall, Infirmary Road. Refreshments will be served.

Songs of Ireland Afternoon Tea - Saturday 14th March at 1.00pm in the Cathedral Hall. Join Anne Marie Hickey, Roisin Rice, Lauren Doherty and The Villagers for a Musical Afternoon Tea. Cost £25. Pre booking required. Call into the Parish Office or phone, 71262894 or email cathedral@derrydiocese.org

Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of:

Liam Browne

May he rest in peace

Anniversaries

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

Bill Ferry

Roger O’Kane

Sadie Feeney

Martha Harkin

Gerard Doherty

Vincent Morrison

May they rest in peace

Sacrament of Marriage

We congratulate

Lauren Smith & Connor Moore

who celebrated the Sacrament of Marriage recently in the Cathedral
May God bless you abundantly in love, joy and happiness

Readers 14th /15th March

- 06.15pm Claire O’Kane
07.30pm Stephen Orr/Karl Orr
09.30am Barry McDaid
11.00am McGinley Readers
12.30pm Eilish Friel
07.00pm Marian Boyle

Collection

Weekly Collection: £5,871
Parish Development Collection: £1,042
Thank you for your generosity

Thank you

Fr Farren acknowledges with thanks the following donations for:

- Hungry Children:** £20, £250
Holy Land Collection: £20
Cathedral Funds: £200, £100
Children in Crossfire: £50
Trócaire: £20, £20
Mary’s Meals: £250, £25
Water Aid: £500
SVdP: £25
Smile Train: £15
Sight Savers: £15, £20
Gaza: £20
Flowers for the Altar: £200

Cemetery Sunday - The Annual Service of Intercession for the Dead will take place in the City Cemetery on Sunday, 7 June 2026 at 3.00 pm.

St Eugene’s Cathedral – Monthly Draw Winners

1st Prize	£1,000	Ticket no 85	Anna Peake
2nd Prize	£500	Ticket no 200	Ursula McAlister
3rd Prize	£100	Ticket no 171	Bobbie Miller
	£100	Ticket no 37	Grainne Nugent
	£100	Ticket no 118	Karen Harkin
	£100	Ticket no 21	Thérèse Ferry
	£100	Ticket no 83	Marian Boyle

Congratulations to the winners of the final draw held on Saturday 28th February! A heartfelt thank you to everyone who continues to support our parish — your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Marriage Preparation Workshops: April 24th/25th, May 15th/16th, June 19th/20th 2026. These courses are now online for booking at www.accordni.com. Please note that Accord Derry will NOT be facilitating courses during July or August.

Job Opportunity Derry Diocesan Trust – St. Eugene’s Cathedral. Grounds & Maintenance Person. 16 hours per week (Fixed Term Contract to 31st March 2027 with possible extension). To provide an effective grounds and maintenance service to the parish to ensure the grounds are maintained in a tidy, presentable and safe state at all times. To undertake maintenance work of the Cathedral grounds and premises as designated by the Administrator. For application packs please contact: Bishop’s House, St Eugene’s Cathedral, Francis Street, Derry, BT48 9AP, telephone 028 7126 2302 or email: recruitment@derrydiocese.org.

Completed applications must be returned to Personnel, Bishop’s House, St Eugene’s Cathedral, Francis Street, Derry, BT48 9AP or via email to recruitment@derrydiocese.org no later than 12 noon Friday 13th March 2026.

Derry Diocesan Trust is an Equal Opportunities Employer. We welcome applications from all men and women and from members of all communities.

'Shepherding Talent' Online Programme - *Aspire to Serve, Inspire to Lead:* In partnership with St Mary’s University Twickenham, the Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre is offering this programme. *'Shepherding Talent'* is a pioneering programme from the university, in which teaching professionals with leadership potential are challenged to explore their vocation to lead. Aimed at all teaching professionals in Catholic schools, this programme is delivered in the context of Catholic School education. It will be delivered over five weeks, with each session taking two hours. The total cost is £250. The first session takes place on Wednesday 29 April 2026, 4.30 – 6.30pm. For further information and registration please email: tferry@derrydiocese.org.

'Children Waiting' is an online Virtual Information Event which will be hosted by HSC NI Foster Care on 12th March 2026. It is aimed at finding homes for specific children. Please join the online event if you can help or want to hear more information. Tel 0800 0720 137 or email adoptionandfostercare.hscni.net

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 with regard to the Safeguarding of children within the Church please contact Marie O’Kane, the Diocesan Designated Liaison Person (DLP) on +447596500793 or email: dlp@derrydiocese.org.

Northern Ireland emergency services: PSNI (Police Service of Northern Ireland): 101 Social Services: Gateway Services, Western HSC Trust: 028 7131 4090 (and ask for the Duty Social Worker), Gateway Services, Northern HSC Trust: 028 9442 4459,

*Vol 54 No 10
Third Sunday
of Lent
8th March 2026*

Priests: Fr Paul Farren, Fr Shaun Doherty