A short reflection on today's Gospel Matthew 25: 1-13

In today's Gospel, Jesus reminds us of the importance of being ready for His coming. While five of the bridesmaids are prepared with enough oil for their lamps, the other five are caught unprepared when the bridegroom arrives.

The message is simple but profound: we are called to keep our faith alive and our hearts ready for the Lord. This readiness is not about fear or worrying about the future, but about living each day with faith, love and trust in God.

The oil in our lamps can be seen as the everyday acts of kindness, prayer, forgiveness and generosity that nourish our relationship with Christ. These are the things that help our faith shine, especially when life becomes difficult or uncertain.

As members of our parish community, let us encourage one another to keep our lamps burning brightly. May we never become so distracted by the busyness of life that we forget to make room for God.

Lord, help us to remain watchful, faithful and ready to welcome You, keeping the light of Your love shining in our hearts and in the lives of those around us. Amen.

Prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood: During this month of November let us pray for the deceased priests who served our diocese and our parishes as we pray for the men who will take up their mantle in the years to come.

Remembrance of the Faithful Departed: The deceased members of our families and friends will be remembered at all Masses throughout November at St Eugene's Cathedral. Remembrance Cards are available at the back of the Cathedral. Please take a card, write the names of your loved ones, and place it in the basket on the Sanctuary.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Our Lady, Untier of Knots Novena - The Novena to Our Lady, Untier of Knots continues after the 7.30pm Mass on Thursdays, in St Eugene's Cathedral, concluding on Thursday 26th November. This Novena reminds us that sin never entangled Our Lady, and that Christ gave us His Mother as Our Lady, Untier of Knots. Through this devotion, we entrust our personal "knots" to her loving care - learning to let go and allowing her to gently untie what binds us. All are welcome to join in prayer and reflection during this special time of grace

Safeguarding Information Evening - Fr Paul Farren kindly invites all Parish staff, Sacristans, Readers, Eucharistic Ministers, Collectors, Children's Liturgy Facilitators, Pope John Paul II Award Leaders, SVDP members, Choir/ music Leaders, Cleaners, Ground Workers and all those interested in Safeguarding in our Parish, to a Safeguarding Information Evening in the Cathedral Hall on Thursday 19th November at 6.00 to 7.00 pm. Please RSVP to Parochial House on 02871262894 or email cathedral@derrydiocese.org by Tuesday 17th November. As safeguarding is a high priority in both our Parish and diocese, your attendance would be greatly appreciated.

Parish Advent Pilgrimage on Thursday 3rd December. Bus leaves Cathedral at 9.15am and returns at approx. 5.30pm. Morning Prayer in the IOSAS Centre followed by refreshments. Mass in St. Michael's Church, Urris, Clonmany and lunch in the Ballyliffin 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 This is a pre booking only event.

Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of:

Bernadette McGowan
John Corcoran
Paul McCallion
Tom McBrearty
Philip Walker

May they rest in peace

Anniversaries

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

Margaret McConomy
Séan & Myra McCaul
Elizabeth (Lily) McCafferty
Gilllian Keaveney
Eddie McKinney
George Holmes
Michael Gallacher

May they rest in peace

Baptisms

We welcome as a member of God's family:

Darragh Charlie Thomas Balfour

To book a Baptism contact the Parish Office 02871 262894

Collection

Weekly Collection: £5,791
Parish Development: £1,067

Thank you for your generosity

Thank you

Fr Farren acknowledges with thanks the following donations for:

Mary's Meals: £20, £40
Gaza Appeal: £50
Water Aid: £100, £50
Sight Savers: £100, £40
Smile Train: £50, £40
Hungry Children: £100
Matt Talbot: £10
Viatores Christi: €200

Readers for 14th / 15th November

6.15pm Claire O'Kane
7.30pm Mary Morrison
9.30am Kate Doherty
11.00am St Joseph's BS
12.30pm Michael Wilson
7.00pm Anna Begley

Christmas Wreath Floral Workshop - Saturday 5th December at 12.00noon in the Cathedral Hall. Cost £20 which includes all flowers, sundries & refreshments. Pre booking required. Call into the Parish Office or phone, 028 71262894 or email cathedral@derrydiocese.org

Christmas Table Centre Workshop - Saturday 12th December at 12.00noon in the Cathedral Hall. Cost £20 which includes all flowers, sundries & refreshments. Pre booking required. Call into the Parish Office or phone, 028 71262894 or email cathedral@derrydiocese.org

Would you like to become an Altar Server in St Eugene's Cathedral? We are recruiting for anyone who is in Primary 5 and upwards, to come and serve at our weekend Masses. If you are interested in becoming an altar server, please email Lauren at lauren.doherty@derrydiocese.org or phone the parish office on 02871 262894 for more information.

St Eugene's Cathedral – Monthly Draw Winners

1st Prize	**£1,000**	**Ticket no 28**	**Sarena Hickey**
2nd Prize	**£500**	**Ticket no 39**	**Celine Duffy**
3rd Prize	**£100**	**Ticket no 41**	**Richard McKinney**
	£100	**Ticket no 60**	**Moira O'Kane**
	£100	**Ticket no 127**	**Carmel Dunne**
	£100	**Ticket no 191**	**Michael McGuinness**
	£100	**Ticket no 139**	**Aileen McDevitt**

Congratulations to the winners of the sixth draw held on Saturday 31st October! A heartfelt thank you to everyone who continues to support our parish — your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Job Opportunity - Choir Director: St Eugene's Cathedral, Francis Street, Derry, 10 hours per week. St Eugene's Cathedral is recruiting for an experienced choir director to lead and manage all aspects of the cathedral choir. They will ensure that the music enhances worship services and aligns with the church's liturgical themes. For a job description and application pack, tel (028) 7126 2302 or email: recruitment@derrydiocese.org. Submit completed applications to Personnel, Bishop's House, St Eugene's Cathedral, Francis Street, Derry, BT48 9AP, or email them to recruitment@derrydiocese.org. Applications must be received by noon on Thursday 12th November 2026. Derry Diocesan Trust is an Equal Opportunities Employer. We welcome applications from all men and women and from members of all communities.

Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2027, **led by Bishop Michael Router.** There are two options available as follows:
Option 1: 8 - 13 July, 5 nights, £980, from City of Derry Airport, with priority given to Assisted Pilgrims and family members, Care Team, Youth, Youth Leaders and Priests
Option 2: 7 - 14 July, 7 nights, £1,095, from Belfast International Airport.
Single Supplement and Travel Insurance will be extra. Expressions of Interest can be emailed to derrypilgrim@outlook.com. Bookings will begin in mid-January, with more details later. Pilgrimage Gift Vouchers of any value are available from the Pastoral Centre, Bishop Street, Derry, for anyone wishing to purchase them, particularly as a Christmas Gift. Please contact 028 7136 2475 for further information.

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, Regional Emergency Social Work Services: 0800 1979 995. Republic of Ireland emergency services: Garda Síochána Buncrana: 00353 749 320 540 Letterkenny: 00353 749 167 100, TUSLA (ROI) Child and Family Agency: 00353 749 102 23

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Thirty-second Sunday
In Ordinary Time
8th November 2026

Priests: Fr Paul Farren, Fr Shaun Doherty