

A short reflection on today's Gospel Matthew: 11- 25

You have hidden these things from the wise and revealed them to little children.

In today's Gospel, Jesus thanks his heavenly Father for entrusting the truth to little children instead of to an adult world which may be a world of great learning, a world which considers itself to be the repository of irrefutable wisdom. Why should this be so? What is it about little children which explains God's choice of them to reveal his truth?

Trust lies at the heart of a child. Until the adult world convinces her/him otherwise, a child is filled with wonder and awe at the miracles of the created world she/he witnesses with every sunrise, and is tender beyond words in caring for that world. Someone once advised going for a walk in the company of a child if you need a tonic for your soul.

A child knows only love before the adult world gets the opportunity to teach hatred. Belief in a loving God comes easily to a child. Lacking the sophistication to speak anything but the plain truth, a child's prayer must touch God's loving heart like nothing else.

Today's Gospel ends with a beautiful promise from Jesus, a promise overflowing with love and compassion from the one who shared in every aspect of our humanity: joys and sorrows, love, grief, pain and suffering:

'Come to me you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest.'

Jesus, restore our hearts and minds to the love, trust, and truth of a child, so that we experience the joy of true spirituality.

Jesus, may we remember that pain and joy do not wipe each other out: they belong together and allow each other meaning. Amen.

The Matt Talbot Prayer Society: This Prayer Society has been created to pray for people who are suffering from any form of addiction, to pray for those recovering from addiction, and to pray for all those affected by addiction, especially family members. As we know addiction takes many forms from alcohol, drugs, gambling, pornography, to other less acknowledged addictions. Those enrolled will be prayed for specifically every day by members of the Matt Talbot Prayer Society. Mass will be offered for those enrolled on the first Monday of every month here in St Eugene's Cathedral at 7.30 pm. To join the Matt Talbot Prayer Society phone St Eugene's Cathedral at 028 71262894 or email steugenese@btconnect.com or private message St Eugene's Cathedral Facebook page.

The Annual Pioneer Pilgrimage to Knock will take place next Sunday, 16th July. Mass at 3.00 pm with Anointing of the Sick beforehand at 2.30 pm. Newsletters and Emblems available at PTAA stand in St John's Rest and Care Centre or via www.pioneers.ie.

Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of:

Rachel (Connie) Martyr
Cathy McGonigle
Angela Liston
Roisin Barton

May they rest in peace

Sacrament of Marriage

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

Rachael McCarron &
Adam Lawrence;
Ciara Campbell & Rory Mooney.

Anniversaries

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

Emmett Tierney
Majella Quigley
Fred McKinney
Angela Tyre
Liam McGeehan
Rose Hegarty
Rosie Caldwell
Sister Philomena Doherty

May they rest in peace

Collection

Last week's collection: £4,844
Parish Development: £812

Thank you for your generosity.

Thank you

Fr Farren acknowledges with thanks the following donations for:

Smile Train: £5, £25, £10
St Vincent de Paul: £25, £60
Hungry Children: £50, £10
Turkey & Syria: £200
Ukraine: £25
Mary's Meals: £25
Carlo Acutis Statue: £40

Baptisms

We welcome as members of God's family:

Lily Doherty
Donncha Carlos McDaid
Polly Stevenson

To book a Baptism contact the
Parish Office 02871 262894

Please remember: Godparents (1 male
and 1 female over the age of 16)

Readers for 15th /16th July

06.15 pm	Roisin Rice-Cutter
07.30 pm	Anna Begley
09.30 am	Kate Doherty
11.00 am	Piaras O Meallain
12.30 pm	Sophia Mason
07.00 pm	Marian Boyle

Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine for Grandparents will take place on *World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly*, Sunday, 23rd July. Rosary at 2.00 pm, Anointing of the Sick at 2.30 pm, Mass at 3.00 pm, followed by Benediction and Rosary Procession. Dana will sing the pilgrimage favourite, *Lady of Knock*, as well as her new hymn, *Light the Flame*. Children's Prayer Appeal: Inviting all children to write a prayer for their grandparents and send it to Knock Shrine Museum. If you are unable to join the pilgrimage in person you can participate online at www.knockshrine.ie/watch.

Concert Of Sacred Music: As part of the BBC Proms 2023, a concert of the music of William Byrd is taking place in Derry, in the Guildhall, at 2.00 pm on Saturday, 15th July.

Urgently required: volunteers for St Vincent de Paul Shop William Street, Derry. They will do their best to facilitate you with a job you might like, at a day and time that suits you. If you can help, call 028 7126 8325. St Vincent de Paul can't do what they do without your help and support. Please do a trial day (no commitment) to see if you like it.

The Net June 2023: Sharing the fruits of the faith in the Derry Diocese, the June 2023 edition of 'The Net' is now available on the Diocesan website - <https://www.derrydiocese.org/publications/the-net/the-net-june-2023.pdf>.

Gamblers Anonymous: Is Gambling affecting your life? Perhaps Gamblers Anonymous can help. Tel 028 7135 1329.

Legion of Mary Young Adult Catholic Conference - Saturday August 19th & Sunday 20th 2023: 'Under Mary's Mantle' is a conference on faith and culture for young adults (18-35) with talks, prayer, Mass, Confession, workshops, food and social in the historic All Hallows campus, DCU, Dublin. A chance to build your faith in friendship with young men and women from across the country. Keynote speakers include poet and convert Sally Read, a one-time radical feminist who embraced the Faith, Bishop Alphonsus Cullinan, Cistercian Fr Aelred McGee, Marian theologian Professor William A Thomas and many more. Mass and Confessions take place both days. Two-day ticket (Saturday & Sunday) – €60. Day rates – Saturday €40; Sunday €30. Students get a 10% discount – contact deusetpatria@gmail.com for discount code. There is a limited amount of accommodation available in DCU, contact deusetpatria@gmail.com or call 085 144 2423 for rates and more 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.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 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.

Priests: Fr Paul Farren, Fr Roni Zacharias