

**The Little Way Novena in honour of St Thérèse of Lisieux**  
*“My peace consists in remaining little.”*

“It is not the greatness of our actions that matters, but the love with which we do them.”

*(Extract from a Story of a Soul: The Autobiography of St Thérèse)*

The annual Little Way Novena in honour of St Thérèse of Lisieux will take place at St Eugene’s Cathedral and continues until Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2026. This will be an opportunity to pray for a special intention and to ask St Thérèse to intercede for us. It is a time when many people find great joy and healing. All are very welcome.

**The Opening Ceremony will take place today (Sunday) at 6.00pm with Bishop Donal McKeown.**

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> to Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May there will be Novena Masses at 6.30am and 10.00am each morning and an evening service with a guest speaker at 7.30pm.**

The speakers each evening at 7.30pm are as follows:

**Monday (11<sup>th</sup>): Fr Bryan Shorthall** is a Capuchin. He is Parish Priest in St Francis of Assisi parish, Priorswood, Dublin. He is a custodian of Padre Pio’s mit. Fr Shorthall will bring the mit to the Novena and it will be available for veneration after the service.

**Tuesday (12<sup>th</sup>) Sr Orla Tracey (IBVM)**, is a Loreto Sister. She is the Director of a girl’s boarding school, a primary school for boys and girls and a child centre health clinic in South Sudan.

**Wednesday (13<sup>th</sup>) Tommy Canning** is the manager of the Northlands Centre and is the assistant manager of Finn Harps.

**Thursday (14<sup>th</sup>) Kevin Hyland** was the head of the Human Trafficking Unit in London. He was appointed the first Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner in 2014. At the request of Pope Francis he helped establish the Santa Marta Group in the Vatican – an anti-trafficking alliance.

**Friday (15<sup>th</sup>) Eilís Mulroy** is the Chief Executive Officer of the Pro Life Campaign. Her mother is from Clonmany!

**Saturday (16<sup>th</sup>)** the 10.00am Mass will be celebrated for all those who have died.

**The Novena Closing Ceremony will take place on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May at 3.00pm with the blessing of roses and candles.**

**St Thérèse candles and Mass Bouquets will be on sale at the back of the Cathedral and from the Parish Office during the week.**

**At the statue of St Thérèse there is a petition box to place your petitions for this Novena.**

**St. Eugene’s Cathedral 3 Day Pilgrimage to Knock & Co Mayo 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> September 2026.** Cost £300 per person sharing. For more information and full itinerary contact Anne Marie Hickey, Pastoral Coordinator on amhickey@derrydiocese.org, phone the Parish Office on 028 71262894 or call into the Parish Office.



**A short reflection on today’s Gospel John 14:15-21**

In today’s Gospel, Jesus connects love with action: “If you love me, you will keep my commandments.” Love, in the Christian sense, is not just a feeling - it is a faithful response, lived out in obedience and trust.

Yet Jesus does not leave His disciples to do this alone. He promises the gift of the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, who will remain with them always. This Spirit strengthens, guides, and reminds us that we are never abandoned, even when Christ is no longer visible to our eyes. “I will not leave you orphaned,” Jesus says. These words speak directly to our own moments of loneliness or uncertainty. Through the Spirit, Christ continues to dwell within us, drawing us into the love He shares with the Father.

As we reflect on this Gospel, we are invited to live our faith with sincerity - loving Christ not only in words, but in the choices we make each day. In doing so, we come to know His presence more deeply, and to share His love with the world.

**Prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood:** In our first reading this weekend we hear about the people of Samaria receiving the Holy Spirit. As we approach Pentecost we pray for a fresh and powerful outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Church, on the world, on our country, on our parish communities, and on each one of us. May the Spirit fill the hearts and minds of deacons, seminarians, and all those discerning a vocation to the diocesan priesthood, and may many more hear and follow the call to serve the Church as priests.

**St Eugene’s Cathedral Parish Draw – only 200 tickets available!** 10 monthly draws at £20 per draw beginning May 2026. Entry fee for all draws can be paid in full or monthly. Entries paid in full will be entered into a draw for £500. Prizes per month £1,000, £500 and 5 x £100. The draw will raise funds for necessary repair, maintenance and upkeep of our beautiful Cathedral. For more information, please contact the Parish Office at 02871 262894 or email cathedral@derrydiocese.org.

**Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine will take place on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2026.** In conjunction with the All-Ireland Rosary Rally, we will join those gathered to celebrate at our National Eucharistic and Marian Shrine. For those for whom it is convenient, buses will leave St Eugene’s Cathedral, Derry, at 8.00am: cost £50, which includes dinner in Knock House Hotel following the conclusion of the Mass in the Basilica. For further information, please contact Karen in the parish office at St Eugene’s on 028 7126 2894 or by email at cathedral@derrydiocese.org. Full schedule to follow.

**Diocese of Derry Lough Derg Pilgrimage 2026:** The Diocese of Derry Three-Day Pilgrimage to Lough Derg will take place from Friday 24<sup>th</sup> July to Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2026. Cost: £95 / €110 including bus transport. You are welcome, of course, to use your own means of transport. Booking form and full details available at: derrydiocese/lough-derg

**A Marian Evening of Prayer will be held in St Mary’s Church, Creggan, on Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> May (Feast of Our Lady of Fatima).** The event is hosted by Derry Youth Ministry. Rosary Procession at 7.00pm followed by a short talk on Our Lady and the Eucharist, Adoration, and Benediction. Music will be provided by the Diocesan Youth music group, with refreshments following in the community room. All ages welcome! Contact Bethany at bethany.doherty@derrydiocese.org for more details.

**Sympathy**

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of:

***Ann Simpson  
Maura Herron***

May they rest in peace

**Anniversaries**

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

***Seamus McCallion  
Paddy Ross  
Celine Cassidy  
Helen Lawns  
Jean Martin  
Molly Griffin***

May they rest in peace

**Sacrament of Marriage**

We congratulate

***Rebecca Harkin &  
Aaron McCormack***

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

**Collection**

Last week's collection: £6,012  
Parish Development: £1,036

***Thank you for your generosity***

**Thank you**

Fr Farren acknowledges with thanks the following donations for:

**Cathedral Funds: £40  
Hungry Children: £5  
Mary's Meals: £150, £10, £100, £10  
Smile Train: £150  
Sight Savers: £50  
Gaza Appeal: £50  
Medical Missions of Mary: £20**

**Baptisms**

We welcome as members of God's family:

***Fiadh-Grace Reijs  
Ruadhán Mahon***

**Readers for 16<sup>th</sup> /17<sup>th</sup> May**

06.15 pm Claire O'Kane  
07.30 pm Helen Sweeney  
09.30 am Kate Doherty  
11.00 am McGinley Readers  
12.30 pm Marie Canning  
07.00 pm Philip Wilson

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

**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.watchmcnmedia](http://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](mailto: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 749 102 233