

The Little Way Novena in honour of St Thérèse of Lisieux

“When I am charitable, it is Jesus alone who acts in me.”

“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 continues today (Sunday) with the Opening Ceremony at 6.00pm with Bishop Donal McKeown. 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.

Monday 12th to Friday 16th 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 (12th): Colin Bell, father of Kevin Bell and founder of the Kevin Bell Repatriation Trust.

Tuesday (13th) Archdeacon Robert Miller, our neighbour and friend who loves speaking at the Novena!

Wednesday (14th) Sile Quinlan spokeswoman for LoveBoth, an organisation which promotes the protection of mother and baby in pregnancy.

Thursday (15th) Sr Rosa Goretti, from the Sisters for Life founded by Cardinal John O'Connor in New York in 1991.

Friday (16th) Fr John Joe Duffy a Priest from the Parish of Creeslough, County Donegal.

Saturday (17th) the 10.00am Mass will be celebrated for all those who have died.

The Novena Closing Ceremony will take place on Sunday 18th 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.

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

Prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood: As we celebrate Vocations Sunday, we pray especially for those considering a vocation to the diocesan priesthood - that they will listen to the voice of Jesus, the Good Shepherd; that they will develop a personal relationship with Him as they come to know Him and follow Him wherever He may lead them.

St Eugene's Cathedral Parish Draw – only 200 tickets available! 10 monthly draws at £20 per draw beginning 24th May 2025. 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.

Pope Leo XIV – On Thursday we welcomed the news of our new pope, Pope Leo XIV, the 268th successor of St. Peter. With hearts full of hope and faith, we pray for him as he begins his ministry to shepherd the Universal Church. May the Holy Spirit guide and strengthen him in this sacred calling.

“So I now say to you: You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church.”
— **Matthew 16:18**

A short reflection on today's Gospel John 10:11-18

Today's Gospel is a clear and powerful explication of the relationship we need to have with Jesus if we are to attain eternal life.

Jesus describes himself as The Good Shepherd who knows his sheep and whose sheep know him and follow only him. To truly know someone is to know that person with your mind, with your heart, and with your soul. This is how Jesus wants us to know him. This is how he knows us.

Jesus wants us to hear him, to listen to his words with all of our minds, all of our hearts and all of our souls. To listen to Jesus as he wants us to listen to him is to believe him, to obey him, and to follow only him. It is to follow him with trusting, fearless hearts, in the full knowledge that he is leading us into eternal life. It is to know that he will never abandon us, even when we believe we are lost. It is to know that no power on earth or anywhere else will ever be able to steal us away from his loving care.

Jesus, we thank you for the loving care you take of us. May we always listen to your words and truly hear them. May we always be faithful to you; may we always follow you, only you, in the knowledge that you are leading us safely into Paradise.

Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage 2025 to Knock Shrine, led by Bishop McKeown, will take place on Sunday 15th June, commencing with Rosary at 2.00pm, followed by Anointing of the Sick at 2.30pm and concluding with Mass and Eucharistic Procession at 3.00pm. Confessions available throughout the day. Bus transport available from St Eugene's Cathedral. For further information on this, please contact Karen on 028 71262 894 or by email on cathedral@derrydiocese.org

In conjunction with the pilgrimage, St Eugene's Cathedral, is running a two-night pilgrimage to Knock from 15th -17th June. Cost £280 per person sharing. For more information and full itinerary, contact Anne Marie on amhickey@derrydiocese.org, telephone 028 71262894 or call into the Cathedral Parish Office.

St Eugene's Cathedral Scholars: Applications are now open for the 2025-2026 Choral Scholars Scheme. The scheme is open to all full-time students over the age of 16. The choral scholars sing with the cathedral choir weekly as well as other special events as instructed by the director of music. They will receive instruction in a wide range of choral music, and they receive a stipend for their participation. Entrance is by application only. For an application form contact the director of music at maghnusmonaghan@hotmail.com. Deadline for applications is 12th May 2025.

Anniversaries

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

Molly Griffin
Seamus McCallion
Paddy Ross
Danny McDevitt

May they rest in peace

Collection

Last week's collection: £5,707
Parish Development: £1,042

Thank you for your generosity

Thank you

Fr Farren acknowledges with thanks the following donations for:

SVdP: £25, £50
Smile Train: £25, £50
Mary's Meals: £25, £100, £60
Gaza Appeal: £20, £20
Sightsavers: £25
Trócaire: £20, £80

Baptisms

We welcome as a member of God's family:

Ultán Máirtín Kennedy
Senán Eamonn Kennedy
Raina Sadie Hockley

Sacrament of Marriage

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

Lauren Baker & Seán Cush
Katie Taggart & Jack Gallagher
Eimear O'Donnell & Terence Heffernan

Readers for 17th /18th May

06.15 pm Karen O'Brien
07.30 pm Rebecca Sweeney/
Helen Sweeney
09.30 am Michael McCaul
11.00 am McGinley Reader
12.30 pm Marie Canning
07.00 pm Anna Begley

Priests: Fr Paul Farren, Fr Shaun Doherty

SVdP (St Eugene's Conference) acknowledges with gratitude a donation of £170.

Diocese of Derry Three-Day Pilgrimage to Lough Derg 2025: starts on Friday 25th July and concludes on Sunday 27th July. For those wishing to avail of transport, a bus will depart after 10:00am Mass in St Eugene's Cathedral, Derry, on the Friday; it will travel via Lifford and Ballybofey. Cost: £95/€110 (including transport). Pre-booking is required. Please contact Tony Brennan on tony.brennan@derrydiocese.org or phone the Diocese Office on 0044 28 7126 2302 for a booking form.

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.