

St Eugene's Cathedral Lenten Programme

The Seven Last Words of Christ. Everyone is welcome to this time of prayer and reflection. Sunday 13th April at 8.00pm in St Eugene's Cathedral.

Confession and Adoration on the way home – Monday from 5.00pm to 7.20pm

Morning Prayer of the Church at 7.45 am Monday to Wednesday

Daily Mass at 8.00am, 10.00am, 1.00pm & 7.30pm (Monday – Wednesday)

Funeral Masses are not celebrated on Holy Thursday, Good Friday or Holy Saturday

CELEBRATION OF HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

The six weeks of Lent are a preparation for the last three days of this week, Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil. We celebrate the central event of our religion, the death and the resurrection of Christ, the Saviour of the world.

Holy Thursday (17th April)

10.00am Mass of Chrism

Bishop McKeown will celebrate the Mass of Chrism with priests from all over the Diocese. During the Mass the Holy Oils which will be used in Baptism, Confirmation, Anointing of the Sick and Ordination are blessed. Bishop McKeown and the priests will renew their priestly vows to serve Christ and His Church.

7.30pm Concelebrated Mass of the Lord's Supper

Celebrating the gift of the Eucharist and the ministry of service

On Thursday evening we celebrate the Mass of the Lord's Supper. We gather with Jesus and the apostles in the upper room. There it is revealed to us that to be the body of Christ we are called to serve. We are called to wash the feet of others – to be their humble servants.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at the Altar of Repose until 11.00pm

Praying at the Garden of Gethsemane

On Thursday night we wait as the Body of Christ in the Garden of Gethsemane. We share in the fear and loneliness of Jesus as he reaches the depths of despair.

Good Friday (18th April)

We meditate on the Passion and the death of Jesus. We focus on the cross-the crude instrument that took the life of our saviour- the key that opened eternal life for us all.

This is a day of fast and abstinence – there is an obligation to fast (one main meal, two light meals in the day) and to abstain from meat. The Law of Fasting obliges all Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59 years (except the sick). The Law of Abstinence obliges all Catholics over the age of 14 years.

10.00am Morning Prayer

3.00pm Celebration of the Passion

We walk with Jesus on the path to Calvary

7.30pm Celebration of the Passion

Holy Saturday (19th April)

On this day we wait as the body of our saviour lies dead in the tomb

10.00am Morning Prayer

We wait at the tomb

Confessions from 11.30am to 6.00pm

10.00pm Easter Vigil

Tonight is the high point of the Church's year as we celebrate the resurrection of our Saviour

The Easter Vigil – In the words of St Augustine “this is the mother of all vigils”. The Easter Triduum reaches its high point on this most holy night. On this night we tell our story. It is not just a distant memory; it is not only historical fact-it is living reality. It is the story of salvation. We are a saved people. Through his cross and resurrection Christ has set us free. We symbolise our salvation and freedom with fire and the single flame of the paschal candle. We have been called out of darkness into the wonderful life of Christ.

Easter Sunday

We are a resurrected people and alleluia is our song

Masses: 7.00am, 9.30am, 11.00am, 12.30pm and 7.00pm

No devotions

A short reflection on today's Gospel Luke 22:14-23:56

Today's Gospel calls on us to journey with Jesus to Calvary: it calls on us to walk alongside him on his long, excruciating journey through rejection, betrayal, profound agony and death. Today's Gospel calls on us to witness the Son of God's acceptance of the full forces of evil for our salvation. We are called on to witness with humility and awe the most powerful act of love the world has ever known or ever will know. Jesus could have called on his divinity to save him if he so wished but chose instead for our sake to suffer as a human being and in doing so entered solidarity with every other human being who suffers, with every other human being who is afraid, or who feels abandoned, or who is lost. We are called on to witness Jesus living fully right up to his last breath as he offers forgiveness to those who have so cruelly used him.

Jesus, we are witnessing in today's world the evils of a bloodthirsty lust for power and control over others. We know that you hear the cries of all those who are in anguish and are afraid. Grant us the courage to stand in solidarity with all those who are suffering and fearful.

Jesus, may we call out to you when we are afraid and know that you are walking beside us always, our hand in yours.

The St Dymphna Mass with Anointing of the Sick will be celebrated at St Eugene's Cathedral on Tuesday 15th April at 7.30pm. This Mass is to give thanks to God for positive mental health and to pray for those who are struggling with mental health issues and those who care for them.

Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of:

**Dean Dillon
Eileen Clarke**

May they rest in peace

Baptisms

We welcome as members of God's family:

**Curadh Danann Coyle
Paudí Tomás McGinley
Fauna Fae Sharkey
Freya Rose Donnelly**

Collection

Last week's collection: £5,502

Parish Development: £1,077

Thank you for your generosity

Anniversaries

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

**John Spangler
Eddie Doherty
Peggy Doherty
Tommy Bonner
Mary Carlin
Patricia McCallion
Paddy Cullen
Frank Sweeney
Margaret McLaughlin**

May they rest in peace

Thank you

Fr Farren acknowledges with thanks the following donations for:

**Save the Children: £10
Earthquake Appeal: £50
Smile Train: £100
Mary's Meals: £25
St Vincent de Paul: £25
Hungry Children: £5**

Priests: Fr Paul Farren, Fr Shaun Doherty

Prayer for Vocations to the Diocesan Priesthood - For those called to serve as priests of the diocese that they will bring their people to honour the Holy Name of Jesus, the name above all names, and "...acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father." (St Paul, 2nd reading).

The Annual Mass for the Deceased Members of the Organisation of National Ex-Servicemen and Women will be held here in Saint Eugene's Cathedral on Easter Monday (21st April) at 11.30am. All are welcome.

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 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.