A short reflection on today's Gospel Matthew 25: 14-30

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells the parable of the talents. A master entrusts his servants with different amounts of money before going on a journey. Two servants use what they have been given and make it grow, while the third, out of fear, buries his talent in the ground.

This parable reminds us that everything we have is a gift from God. Each of us has been blessed with different gifts, abilities and opportunities. God does not expect us all to achieve the same things, but He does invite us to use what we have been given with faith, generosity and love.

Sometimes we can be like the third servant, allowing fear, uncertainty or a lack of confidence to hold us back. We may feel that our gifts are too small to make a difference. Yet even the simplest acts of kindness, a listening ear, a helping hand or a word of encouragement can bear great fruit in the lives of others.

As members of our parish community, we are called not to hide our gifts but to share them generously in the service of God and one another. Let us ask the Lord for the courage to recognise our blessings, the confidence to put them to good use, and the generosity to allow them to grow. May we never bury the gifts God has entrusted to us, but use them joyfully to build His Kingdom.

Prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood: We pray that our seminarians, the men discerning a vocation to the diocesan priesthood, the present and future priests of our diocese will see their talents as gifts of the Holy Spirit to be used for the glory of God and the salvation of God's people.

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.

The St Dymphna Mass with Anointing of the Sick will be celebrated at St Eugene's Cathedral on Tuesday 17th November 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.

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. All are welcome to join in prayer and reflection during this special time of grace

Week of Witness for Persecuted Christians - One in ten Christians, 220 million people, live in countries where they are persecuted for their faith. The charity Aid to the Church in Need, which works to support them, is organising a Week of Witness from November 15th-22nd to highlight their plight with a special appeal for parishioners to pray for the suffering Church on 'Red Wednesday' November 18. More information is available at www.acnireland.org

Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of:

Joy Moran

May she rest in peace

Anniversaries

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

Michael McCaul
Pat McCaul
Brendan McGrellis
Elma Harkin
Brian Harkin
Neil McMahon
David Holly
Billy Patton
Maureen Gallagher
Brian Coyle
Hugh Kelly
Jean Mulhern

May they rest in peace

Baptisms

We welcome members of God's family:

Ella Kate Barbour
Kallagh Whelan
Eleanor Grace McMenamin
Méabh Sorcha Duddy

To book a Baptism contact the Parish Office 02871 262894

Sacrament of Marriage

We congratulate

Alexandra Rinder & Andrew Stanway

who celebrated the Sacrament of Marriage recently in the Cathedral

May God bless you abundantly in love, joy and happiness

Collection

Weekly Collection: £6,033
Parish Development: £1,231

Thank you for your generosity

Thank you

Fr Farren acknowledges with thanks the following donations for:

Gaza: £100 £15
Mary's Meals: £20 £20 £40 £1,000
Sightsavers: £50 £100
Save the Children: £20
Concern: £20
Hungry Children: £100
Water Aid: £100
Smile Train: £150

Readers for 21st / 22nd November

6.15pm Garth Tucker
7.30pm Helen Sweeney
9.30am Barry McDaid
11.00am McGinley Readers
12.30pm Uju A
7.00pm Marian Boyle

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

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.

Accord Derry Marriage Preparation Courses January 2027 to March 2027 are now online for booking. The courses can be booked on the website www.accordni.com. All of these courses are in person.

Catholic Marriage Encounter Weekend - St Mary's, Knock, Co Mayo: Friday 9th - Sunday 11th April 2027. This residential Weekend starts at 7.30pm on Friday and finishes at 4.30pm on Sunday, and is open to all married couples. Online booking at www.marriageencounter.ie

Free 4-Week Dementia Education Programme for Family Carers Starting Thursday 21st January 2027, 7.00pm at the Health for Life Healthy Living Centre, Creggan. Designed for those supporting a loved one with a dementia diagnosis at home. Learn about dementia, communication, behaviours, coping strategies, and available supports. Family members are welcome to attend together. *Please note: this course is not suitable for people living with dementia or those currently undergoing assessment/diagnosis.* Booking essential: eilish.brown@healthforlifenw.org | 028 7137 3870.

Discover the beautiful Celtic Prayer Garden at Muff, opposite White Oaks. Explore its winding pathways, immerse yourself in ancient monastic traditions and visit the beautiful St Canice's Oratory. While you're here, enjoy a warm welcome at the IOSAS Centre, where you can relax over delicious refreshments and browse a wonderful selection of gifts in our Gift Shop. Find us: Derryvane Road, Muff, Co. Donegal, F93 F104 (just 10 minutes from Derry). For further information, contact: 00353 74 938 4866.

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-third Sunday in Ordinary Time
15th November 2026

Priests: Fr Paul Farren, Fr Shaun Doherty