

A short Gospel reflection Luke 21:5-19

In today's Gospel, Jesus warns his followers of troubling events to come—wars, famine, plagues, and earthquakes. He tells them that those who remain faithful to his name will face persecution and suffering. Yet, in the midst of these trials, Jesus assures his disciples of his unfailing presence: he will never abandon those who stand firm in faith and love, even when faced with cruelty and injustice.

Throughout the history of the Church, the apocalyptic words of Jesus have echoed in every generation. Times of hardship and upheaval have always been opportunities for his followers to bear witness to the Gospel with courage and hope. Today, our challenges may take different forms. Rampant materialism tempts us to believe that happiness can be bought, while cynicism dismisses faith as outdated or naïve. But the human heart still longs for light, for peace, and for rest—longings that can only be fulfilled in God.

Now is the time to renew our commitment to Christ and to live out our faith boldly. The message of today's Gospel is clear: following Jesus is not easy, and it can even be costly. Yet, the rewards are beyond measure. Walking with Jesus leads us to the very heart of Love itself—and ultimately, to the glory of the resurrection.

Prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood: As Jesus asks us all in today's gospel, we pray for our seminarians and the men discerning a vocation to the diocesan priesthood, that they will be strong and faithful witnesses to Christ, especially in the face of persecution, criticism, or opposition.

Remembering Our Dead: The deceased members of our families and friends will be remembered at all Masses throughout November at St. Eugene's Cathedral. Please take a Remembrance Card from the back of the Cathedral, write the names of your loved ones, and place the card in the basket on the Sanctuary.

Novena to Our Lady, Untier of Knots continues after the 7.30pm Mass on Thursday, concluding on Thursday 27th November. All are welcome to join in prayer and reflection during this special time of grace.

Parish Advent Pilgrimage on Thursday 4th December - Bus leaves Cathedral at 9.15am and returns at approx. 5.30pm. Morning Prayer in the IOSAS Centre followed by refreshments. Mass in St. Michael's Church, Urris, Co Donegal and lunch in the Ballyliffin Hotel. Price £40 Includes Transport, Morning Tea & Lunch. For more information or to book a place call into the Parish Office or call 71262894 or email cathedral@derrydiocese.org [This is a pre booking only event.](#)

Christmas Afternoon Tea - Saturday 6th December at 1.00pm in the Cathedral Hall. Join Anne Marie Hickey and friends for a Festive Afternoon Tea with music and song. Cost £25. Pre booking required. Call into the Parish Office or phone, 028 71262894 or email cathedral@derrydiocese.org

Christmas Table Centre Floral Workshop - Saturday 13th December at 12.00 noon 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

Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of:

***Danny McCloskey
William (Billy) Patton
Jim Doherty***
May they rest in peace

Anniversaries

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

***Brendan McGrellis
Elma Harkin
Peggy Fahy
Isobel Duffy
Betty Gallagher
Patsy McGowan
Sheila McGowan
Tom Canning***
May they rest in peace

Baptisms

We welcome as a member of God's family:

***Saoirse Louise Harkin
Jamie Calder
Cahir Jimmy Westerman***
To book a Baptism contact the Parish Office 02871 262894

Collection

Weekly Collection: £6,119
Parish Development: £1,272

Thank you for your generosity

Thank you

Fr Farren acknowledges with thanks the following donations for:

**Jamaica Appeal: £260
Ukraine & Palestine Appeal: £200
Cathedral Funds: £500
Trócaire: £100, £20
Smile Train: £10**

Readers for 22nd /23rd November

06.15 pm Karen O'Brien
07.30 pm Helen Sweeney
09.30 am Barry McDaid
11.00 am McGinley Readers
12.30 pm Gareth Tucker
07.00 pm Marian Boyle

Parish Pilgrimage to Assisi, Cascia & Orvieto, Italy – 18th – 23rd May 2026.

Fr Paul Farren will lead a Parish Pilgrimage to Assisi, Cascia & Orvieto, Italy from 18th – 23rd May 2026. Price is £1,135 per person sharing with a single room supplement of £225 (*subject to availability*). For more information, please contact Anne Marie Hickey, Pastoral Coordinator on amhickey@derrydiocese.org or phone the Parish Office on 028 71262894.

A missionary group from Bethlehem (The Holy Land) will be visiting the Cathedral on 22nd and 23rd November to briefly talk about the Holy Land and to sell religious articles (Crucifixes, Rosary Beads, Plaques and Nativity Cribs) which are made out of olive wood. Any help you could give would be greatly appreciated and would help to support the Christian families in Bethlehem.

St Mary's College Mass of Remembrance: Thursday 20th November, 5.15pm, for deceased Past Pupils, Staff and Governors, in the school multi-purpose hall. If you would like to add to the list of those to be remembered, please contact Mura on 028 7136 2154 or email mmckinney822@c2ken.net . All are welcome. Refreshments served afterwards.

Eucharistic Procession – Sunday, 23rd November 2025 marks the centenary of the establishment of the Solemnity of Jesus Christ, the Universal King. A Eucharistic Procession has been organised in Derry, beginning after 12 noon Mass in the Long Tower Church. Everyone is encouraged to take part. The Derry event is being replicated in a number of countries around the world.

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in Ordinary Time
16th November 2025*

The Magic of Christmas Concert – 14th December St Patrick's Church, Pennyburn, 7.30pm. Join international Chart-topping and Classical Brit winners, soprano Margaret Keys, Fr Eugene and Martin O'Hagan for a night of festive celebrations. Having all topped the UK Classical Charts, performed with Andrea Bocelli and performed for Pope Francis and the Royal Family, they will now combine their talents and perform in the beautiful ambience of St Patrick's Church, Pennyburn with String Orchestra, guests, choirs and musicians. A night not to be missed! Tickets available (eventbrite.ie or call parish office on 02871262360).

Priests: Fr Paul Farren, Fr Shaun Doherty

Caring for people with Dementia, One day retreat. Wednesday 10th December from 10.30am – 3.30pm at Ards Friary. Cost €50 which includes tea/coffee and a light lunch. For bookings contact Ards telephone: 00353 (0) 74 9138909 or email: info@ardsfriary.ie. For more information contact Caroline at carolinebrown268@gmail.com

Mary's Meals – Double the Love: Mary's Meals is keeping the promise of a daily school meal to over 3 million children in 16 countries. Our Double the Love Campaign has just launched, and all donations will be doubled by a group of generous supporters, up to £1.1million. Your little acts of love can go further thanks to Double the Love, bringing hope to hungry children this year. Please continue to keep Mary's Meals in your prayers so we can reach many more children. Further details and Christmas cards/gifts available at www.marysmeals.org.uk or freephone 0800 698 1212.

Free OCN Level 1 - Community Development Practice - Start Date: 13th January 2026
Time: 10am -12 noon (fortnightly) Duration: 8 weeks (4 sessions) Location: The Churches Trust Office, Limavady Road. For more information or to register, please email margaretbonner@thechurchestrust.org.uk

St Mary's College Christmas Craft Fair (Northland Road, Derry) - Saturday 29th November 2025 from 11.00am – 4.00pm. £1 Entry – Café - Santa – Suits all budgets.

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 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 749 102 233