

A short Gospel reflection Luke 18:1-8

In this weekend's Gospel, Jesus shares the parable of the unjust judge—a man who neither fears God nor respects others—and a persistent widow who keeps coming to him, seeking justice. Though the judge is indifferent, he eventually grants her request, simply because she refuses to give up.

This is a teaching parable, and one that invites close reflection. The widow's unwavering persistence is a model for our own relationship with God. She does not falter; she pleads tirelessly. In contrast to the unjust judge, God is merciful and compassionate, always ready to listen and to give us what we need for our growth in love, faith, and wisdom.

But we have a part to play: to place God at the centre of our lives, and to live in the light of our faith in Him. Jesus calls us to pray continually and never lose heart—not only in times of hardship, but in all aspects of daily life.

Prayer takes many forms. It might arise in a quiet moment—walking through nature, pausing at a traffic light, or sitting with a cup of tea—when we suddenly become aware of God's presence and offer a silent word of thanks or petition. Prayer can also be communal, lifting us in hope, deepening our love, and renewing our strength together.

To pray continually is to live with hearts open to God at all times. It means allowing Him to shape our thoughts, guide our actions, and fill our days with meaning. And when we persevere in this way—when we continue to pray without losing heart—we help ensure that, when the Son of Man comes, He will find not emptiness, but faith: rooted, growing, and alive in the world.

Prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood: On Mission Sunday we pray for those working to spread the Gospel to the furthest ends of the world. Let's pray also for those who are and will be called to proclaim the Good News of God's love as diocesan priests.

The St Dymphna Mass with Anointing of the Sick will be celebrated at St Eugene's Cathedral on Tuesday 21st October 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.

As the pilgrims of St Eugene's Parish begin their pilgrimage to Fatima this weekend, we ask that they keep us in their prayers. We pray that God remains with them on this holy pilgrimage, and may He guide their way in accord with His will. We ask that He shelters them with His protection by day, give them the light of His grace by night, and, as their companion on the journey, bring them to their destination in safety.

O Most Holy Virgin Mary, Queen of the most holy Rosary, you were pleased to appear to the children of Fatima and reveal a glorious message. We implore you, inspire in our hearts a fervent love for the recitation of the Rosary. By meditating on the mysteries of the redemption that are recalled therein may we obtain the graces and virtues that we ask, through the merits of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Redeemer. Amen.

Our Lady, Untier of Knots Novena - The Novena to Our Lady, Untier of Knots continues after the 7.30pm Mass on Thursday, concluding on Thursday 27th November. This Novena reminds us that sin never entangled Our Lady, and that Christ gave us His Mother as Our Lady, Untier of Knots. Through this devotion, we entrust our personal "knots" to her loving care—learning to let go and allowing her to gently untie what binds us. All are welcome to join in prayer and reflection during this special time of grace.

Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of:

**Kathleen Moore
Helen Simpson**

May they rest in peace

Anniversaries

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

**Bridget O'Neill
Kathleen Bradley
Jim Bradley
Margo McCallion
Raymond Cassidy**

May they rest in peace

Baptisms

We welcome as a member of God's family:

Niamh Anna Duffy

To book a Baptism contact the Parish Office 02871 262894

Collection

Weekly Collection: £5,646
Parish Development: £1,202

Thank you for your generosity

Thank you

Fr Farren acknowledges with thanks the following donations for:

Mary's Meals: £10, £25

Hungry Children: £5

SVdP: £25

Water Aid: £20

Smile Train: £15

Sightsavers: £15

Unicef: £20

Gaza Appeal: £20

Admin's choice: £10

Readers for 25th /26th October

06.15 pm Claire O'Kane

07.30 pm Paul Gormley

09.30 am Cara Elliot

11.00 am McGinley Readers

12.30 pm Megan Dallat

07.00 pm Marian Boyle

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.

St Eugene's Cathedral Choir – New Members Welcome. Do you enjoy singing and want to serve the Church through music ministry? The choir rehearses on Wednesday evenings and sings at the 12.30pm Mass on Sundays, as well as at special liturgies throughout the year. If you're interested or would like more information, please contact the director, Maghnus Monaghan, at maghnusmonaghan@hotmail.com, or speak with him after the 12.30pm Mass.

Cathedral Cleaning – Volunteers Needed. We are looking for volunteers to help clean the Cathedral on Wednesday afternoons. Your time and effort will help keep our sacred space welcoming and beautiful for all. If you're available and willing to lend a hand, please contact the parish office or simply come along at 2.00pm. All are welcome—many hands make light work!

Calling pilgrims to Walk in the Light, 7pm on Saturday, November 1st: To mark the Christian feast of All Hallows with prayers for peace, the city centre Churches are inviting you to join our annual inter-denominational Walk in the Light. We are gathering in a spirit of friendship at Salvation Army Church on Carlisle Road, proceeding to St Columb's Cathedral, London Street, on to First Derry Presbyterian Church and ending at St Columba's Church Long Tower - followed by tea and light refreshments in Long Tower Primary School. The walk will take no more than one hour. As we approach the final quarter of this Jubilee Year, we urge you to honour the Christian call to unity, fellowship and peace, by joining us as Pilgrims of Hope for Walk in the Light, 2025. Everyone is welcome!

*Vol 53 No 42
Twenty-ninth Sunday
in Ordinary Time
19th October 2025*

Priests: Fr Paul Farren, Fr Shaun Doherty

Women Without Fear – A cross community walking and wellbeing programme for women in the Derry area. Starts in October and runs for 10 weeks. Come together with goals to build confidence, connect across communities, improve physical and mental wellbeing, develop practical skills to feel safer in everyday life. Free of Charge. To register to attend call 02871262894 or email cathedral@derrydiocese.org

Ulster Project Derry – Calling all past teens: We are recruiting 3 leaders for Ulster Project 2026. Candidates must have a faith-based background, must be from within the city, 21 years minimum age and available for regular meetings. Safeguarding trust training will be completed and successful candidates will be Access NI checked. Dates of travel: outward 25th June 2026, returning 19th July 2026. Leaders will be expected to fundraise towards their own fares and, although this is a non-salaried position, this should be far outweighed by the experience of Ulster Project. Fact sheet and application form can be obtained by emailing ulsterprojectderrylondonderry@outlook.com. Interviews will be held.

Silent Retreat: Fr Stephen Quinn will lead a silent retreat for men and women in Termonbacca Carmelite Retreat Centre, Derry, from Friday 5th - Sunday 7th December. This is a great opportunity to take some time this Advent, to grow in contemplative prayer and friendship with Christ. The weekend costs £90. For further info/booking call 02871262512 or email termonbaccaderry@ocd.ie

Our Lady of Montligeon prayer group- praying for all the souls in purgatory meets in Termonbacca Carmelite Retreat Centre, Derry, on the last Wednesday each month at 12.30pm. Next meeting will be Wednesday 29th October and everyone is welcome to come along.

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.