

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

Today's powerful Gospel clearly and unequivocally instructs us in the way of truth: it is God's love, and only God's love which assures our salvation. Jesus is God's beloved, and, in turn, Jesus is our good shepherd who knows us by name and loves us to the extent of laying down his life for us. The line of love and salvation is clear: God to Jesus to us. The contrast made between the good shepherd and the hired man leads us unerringly to the heart of the truth: the good shepherd will lay down his life for his sheep because he knows them intimately and loves them unconditionally; the hired man, the false shepherd, looks after his own interests and cares little about the welfare of the sheep he is hired to protect.

Jesus, teach us to discern the false shepherds in our midst, and to cling to the pastoral ministry which imitates your mission of healing love, inclusivity and true compassion.

National Year of Prayer for Vocations to the Diocesan Priesthood – As we celebrate Good Shepherd Sunday / Vocations Sunday we ask God's blessing on our diocesan seminarians in Rome, Maynooth, and Salamanca, and for all those working in the area of priestly formation. We pray for those discerning their vocation at this time, that they will allow themselves to be guided by the Holy Spirit speaking to them through their Spiritual Director and in their personal prayer. We ask God's blessing on those applying these days to begin their studies in seminary next January. May the Lord inspire many more men to answer His call to serve the people of this diocese as priests.

There will be Holy Hour for Vocations held here at Saint Eugene's Cathedral from 5.30pm today (Sunday).

First Holy Communion - Congratulations to the boys and girls from St Eugene's Primary School and St Anne's Primary School who celebrated their First Holy Communion here in St Eugene's Cathedral during the week. May this special day be their first step in a life-long love of the Eucharist.

The Little Way Novena in honour of St Thérèse of Lisieux will be take place at St Eugene's Cathedral from Saturday 11th May until Sunday 19th May 2024. The Novena begins with a Mass with the Anointing of the sick at 7.30pm on Saturday 11th May. This will be an opportunity to pray for a special intention and to ask St Thérèse to intercede for us. All are very welcome.

St. Eugene's Cathedral Pilgrimage to Fatima – 19th -24th October 2024. Cost £770 per person sharing with a single room supplement of £150 (subject to availability). For more information, please contact Anne Marie Hickey on amhickey@derrydiocese.org or phone the Parish Office on 028 71262894.

St Eugene's Cathedral Choral Scholars scheme will be open for new applications from April 15th until April 30th for the term beginning September 2024. Entrance to the scheme is via audition. Contact the Director of Music at maghnusmonaghan@hotmail.com for an application form or more information. Scholars sing with the Cathedral Choir weekly and are paid a stipend for their participation.

Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of:
Christine (Babs) Gallagher
May she rest in peace

Anniversaries

Please pray for the repose of the soul of:
Daniel Cullen
May he rest in peace

Baptisms

We welcome as members of God's family:
Aurora-Rose Mary Doherty
Aodhán Conor McBrearty
Dáire James Colin Hutton

To book a Baptism contact the Parish Office 02871 262894

Sacrament of Marriage

We congratulate **Soraya Power and John Rice** who celebrated the Sacrament of Marriage recently in the Cathedral

Collection

Last week's collection: £5,167
Parish Development: £1,007

Thank you for your generosity

Thank you

Fr Farren acknowledges with thanks the following donations for:

Admin's Choice: £5
Trócaire: £100, £200, £15, £200, £120
SVdP: £40
Sudan: £100
Gaza: £40
Matt Talbot Society: £20
Sight Savers: £40, £50
Smile Train: £50
Mary's Meals: £100

Readers for 27th / 28th April

06.15 pm Mary Morrison
07.30 pm Caitlin Horner -McLaughlin/
Cadi McHugh
09.30 am Barry McDaid
11.00 am McGinley Readers
12.30 pm Niamh Kehoe
07.00 pm Marian Boyle

LIFE Camp 2024 – Calling all pupils currently in Primary 3 – 7. Week 1– Monday 1st – Friday 5th July and Week 2– Monday 8th July – Friday 12th July. Cost for each week is £40. To register go to www.klubfunder.com/Clubs/Life%20Summer%20Camp

Masters in Catholic School Leadership - The Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre, working in Partnership with Saint Mary's University, Twickenham, offers the Masters in Catholic School Leadership. This is a post graduate degree dedicated to the professional development and spiritual formation of Catholic school leaders. It is a great opportunity for those currently in leadership roles and those who aspire to, or have an interest in, leadership roles within the Catholic School system. If you are interested in registering for the Masters in September 2024 or require any further information, please contact the Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre on 004428 71264087 or email tferry@derrydiocese.org

A sincere thanks from Sister Ann, Gerry Deeney and Margaret Hamilton, to all who contributed in any way to the Easter Raffle/Fundraiser in aid of vulnerable children and their families in Kenya, India, Nigeria, Zambia and Haiti. Thanks also to the many people who contribute generously throughout the year to the Hunger Box in the Holy Family Church. We had a very successful event, none of which could be done without your continued support. This Easter we raised £13,315 and €520. May God reward and bless you all.

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21st April 2024*

The Deepening – A morning Retreat - Led by Fr Paschal, this retreat morning allows us to hold Easter hope and a renewed Pentecost in our lives. Retreat includes Contemplation, Input, Personal Time and Celebration of Eucharist and lunch. Date: Saturday 27th April, 10:00 am - 1:30 pm, An Grianan Hotel, Burt. For details/to register please contact Erin via 07736832458 or thornhillministries@derrydiocese.org

Priests: Fr Paul Farren, Fr Shaun Doherty

A Day Retreat in honour of Saint Peregrine will be held in the Carmelite Retreat Centre Termonbacca on Thursday 2nd May, from 10.00am – 3.00pm. Cost for the day, including light lunch £20/€25. Please bring along a bottle of olive oil to be blessed in honour of Saint Peregrine. A First Class Relic of Saint Peregrine will also be available for veneration on the day. For bookings telephone 71 262512.

Carmelite Pilgrimage to Lourdes – 22nd August for 8 nights, cost €979. For bookings/further details telephone 71 262512.

Carmelite Pilgrimage to the shrines of France - 16th September for 7 nights, cost £1,449. For bookings/further details telephone 71 262512.

Reflection Day at SMA Retreat Centre, Dromantine on Saturday 4th May from 9.30am – 5.00pm. The theme is ‘Forgiveness: the journey from hurt to healing, freedom, peace and happiness’ and will be led by Fr. Des Corrigan SMA. Cost (incl. lunch) £38/€43. For more information telephone 028 30821964 or email: admin@dromantineconference.com

You are invited to the "Following Christ as a Catholic in Ireland today" Conference and Gala dinner, Guildhall, Derry, Saturday 11th May 2024. With Dana, Mickey Harte, John Pridmore (former East London gangster), Patrick McCrystal and others. Bishop Donal McKeown will lead grace at Saturday night dinner. Book at www.humanlife.ie or call Human Life International Ireland 00353 949375993. Don't miss out! Book by 6th May deadline for dinner bookings!

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 regarding 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) 101 or Social Services: Gateway Services, Western HSC Trust, 71314090 and ask for the Duty Social Worker.