

A short reflection on today's Gospel Matthew 10: 26-33

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus speaks words of encouragement to His disciples: "Do not be afraid." He knows that following Him will bring challenges, opposition, and moments of uncertainty. Yet He reminds them that they can place their trust completely in God's loving providence.

Jesus uses the beautiful image of the sparrows, creatures of little value in the eyes of the world, yet never forgotten by God. If the Father cares for them so attentively, how much more does He care for each one of us? We are known, loved, and cherished by God in a deeply personal way. Even the hairs of our head are counted. Nothing in our lives escapes His loving gaze.

These words invite us to examine the fears that may hold us back from living our faith more fully. Fear of failure, fear of rejection, or fear of standing out can prevent us from speaking and acting as disciples of Christ. Jesus calls us instead to trust in God's care and to witness to the Gospel with confidence and hope.

As we reflect on this passage, let us remember that our true security is found not in worldly approval or success, but in our relationship with God. Knowing that we are precious in His sight gives us the courage to live faithfully and to acknowledge Christ in our daily lives. May we hear again the Lord's reassuring voice: "Do not be afraid," and respond with renewed trust, faith, and joy.

Prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood: As we pray for seminarians and those considering priesthood, we hear Jesus telling those who 'declare themselves' for Him and 'commit their cause to Him' not to 'be afraid' but, instead, to know that "God is at [their] side, a mighty hero." (Jeremiah, First Reading).

Parish Summer Day Pilgrimage on Wednesday 22nd July. Bus leaves the Cathedral at 9.15am and returns approximately 5.30pm. Morning Tea in the Clanree Hotel followed by morning prayer at Doon Well. Mass in Ards Friary and lunch in the Carrigart 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. Please note that this must be pre-booked.

Diocese of Derry Lough Derg Pilgrimage 2026: The Diocese of Derry Three-Day Pilgrimage to Lough Derg will take place from Friday 24th July to Sunday 26th July 2026. Cost: £95 / €110 including bus transport. You are welcome, of course, to use your own means of transport. Booking form and full details available at: derrydiocese/lough-derg

On this year's Day for Life, Sunday 21st June, we reflect on the wonder of human life from the moment of conception. We remember how the Lord Jesus Christ Himself sanctified and experienced the beginning of life in the world as an unborn child, hidden in the womb of Mary. Mary knew that she was carrying the Son of God – God and man – as soon as He was conceived. John the Baptist leapt in his mother Elizabeth's womb when Mary greeted her. Our Lady treasured Our Lord in her heart and womb until His birth. To read the full Council for Life of the Irish Catholic Bishops' message visit www.councilforlife.ie

Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of:

Rose Bradley

Wilf Abel

May they rest in peace

Anniversaries

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

Jimmy McFadden

George Webb

Thomas Finan

Tommy (Sonny) McCourt

Mary Rose O'Donnell

Doris Gallagher

Paddy Doherty

May they rest in peace

Baptisms

We welcome as members of God's family:

Feilim Óg John Friel

Nevaeh Rosa Lapham

Éabha Grace Campbell

Elizabeth Nala Crumlish

To book a Baptism contact the Parish Office 02871 262894

Sacrament of Marriage

We congratulate

Dáire Lamberton & Caolan McGinley

Bronagh Boyle & Philip Peoples

who celebrated the Sacrament of Marriage recently in the Cathedral

May God bless you abundantly in love, joy and happiness

Collection

Last week's collection: £5,416

Parish Development: £1,092

Thank you for your generosity

Thank you

Fr Farren acknowledges with thanks the following donations for:

UNICEF: £500

Sight Savers: £20

Flowers for the Altar: £20

Readers for 27th /28th June

06.15 pm Garth Tucker

07.30 pm Niamh Kehoe

09.30 am Rosemary Finan

11.00 am McGinley Readers

12.30 pm Jackie Tyre

07.00 pm Marian Boyle

Sick Visitation

Fr Shaun Doherty will attend the sick and housebound in his care on Tuesday and Friday.

Sick Visitation

Fr Paul Farren will attend the sick and housebound in his care during the coming week:

Tuesday: Lisfannon Park, William Street, Creggan Street, Fahan Street, Cable Street, Lower Road, Abbey House, Little Diamond

Wednesday: Mulvey Park, Laburnum Terrace, Elmwood Terrace, Westland Terrace, Gartan Square, Clarendon Manor, Grangemore, Northland Road

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2026: Tickets and pilgrim packs will be distributed after a special Mass in Our Lady of Lourdes, Steelstown Road, Derry BT48 8EU on Monday 22nd June at 7.00pm. Anyone unable to attend should ask someone to collect the pack on their behalf.

Fr Mike Schmitz Parables Tour for Young People 20th July Dublin: Derry Youth Ministry are inviting young people aged 16+ to join them for the **Fr Mike Schmitz Parables Tour** taking place on 20th July 2026 in the National Stadium Dublin. Fr Mike is an American priest and digital evangelist, who will present the message of the Gospel in a novel, energetic and engaging style that speaks into young people's lives today. There will be a special Mass for youth attending from all over Ireland to begin the evening celebrations. Cost is £45 for ticket and transport. Bus departs Derry at 12noon, with pick-ups in Strabane and Omagh. To secure your place or for more information contact bethany.doherty@derrydiocese.org or call 02871264087

Priests: Fr Paul Farren, Fr Shaun Doherty

CONCERN Derry Group – The annual Scalp Challenge in aid of Concern's worldwide development work will take place on Sunday 28th June at Henry McLaughlin's farm (from Derry, turn right at Burnfoot). The first walkers will set off at 12 noon, with the last group departing at 2pm. Please check the weather forecast and wear suitable clothing and footwear. All support is greatly appreciated.

Accord Derry – Marriage Preparation Workshops 2026 - Accord Derry is pleased to announce upcoming Marriage Preparation Workshops taking place in 2026. These courses are designed to support couples as they prepare for the Sacrament of Marriage.

The remaining available dates for 2026 are as follows:

- **September:** 25th–26th 2026
- **November:** 20th–21st 2026

All courses are now available for online booking at: www.accordni.com.

Please note that **Accord Derry will not be facilitating Marriage Preparation Courses during October or December 2026**. Couples are encouraged to book early to secure a place on their preferred date.

A Miraculous Medal and chain have been found in the Glenbank area. If you believe this item may belong to you, please contact the Parish Office.

Al-Anon – It is easy to see what alcohol is doing to the person who drinks, but can you see what it is doing to you? Are you afraid to upset someone for fear that it might trigger a drinking bout? For further information, contact the Al-Anon confidential helpline on 0800 0086 811 or email helpline@al-anonuk.org.uk. Alternatively, telephone 028 9068 2368.

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