

### A short reflection on today's Gospel John 14:23-29

'A peace the world cannot give is my gift to you.' That is the promise that Jesus makes in today's Gospel to those who follow him. If we follow Jesus and live in love, if we open ourselves fearlessly to pain and suffering as well as to joy, then we are one with him and, through him, we are one with his Heavenly Father; and if we are one with our Heavenly Father, we shall possess a peace that this world can only dream about. When we accept Jesus, when we trust Jesus whatever happens, we will have taken into our souls that peace beyond understanding which he promises. To follow Jesus is to burst out of the safe little world we have constructed for ourselves, that little world, walled about, which encourages us to live in timidity and fearfulness. It is to demolish the walls behind which we hide and to reach out with open arms to others. It is to love people and to forgive people regardless of their deserving. It is to liberate ourselves from our prejudices and our bigotry. It is to liberate ourselves from the selves which keep us timid and fearful and embrace the glorious truth of the resurrection: we are children of a loving God and our destiny is to journey towards Him under the light and guidance of his Son.

Jesus, may we know that the peace we long for, that true peace beyond understanding which alone will ease our troubled and restless souls, is only to be found when we rest in you.

Jesus, we long for peace. May we find the courage to open our troubled and fearful hearts to your beautiful consoling promise of ease and peace.

Jesus, may we know that our hearts will no longer be troubled or afraid if we walk in your footsteps, healing others rather than inflicting pain, loving and forgiving others rather than offering only hatred or vengeance.

**Prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood:** In this Sunday's Gospel Jesus prays for His disciples and for those who will come to faith through their words. We pray for the men called to preach the Word of God as priests of the Diocese of Derry and for those among whom they will minister.

**Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage 2025 to Knock Shrine, led by Bishop McKeown, will take place on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> June**, commencing with Rosary at 2.00pm, followed by Anointing of the Sick at 2.30pm and concluding with Mass and Eucharistic Procession at 3.00pm. Confessions available throughout the day. Bus departs St Eugene's Cathedral at 8.30am. Evening meal included. Cost £50 per person and places confirmed on receipt of completed form. For further information please contact the parish office, St Eugene's Cathedral on 02871262894 or email the parish office at [cathedral@derrydiocese.org](mailto:cathedral@derrydiocese.org)

**In conjunction with the pilgrimage, St Eugene's Cathedral, is running a two-night pilgrimage to Knock from 15<sup>th</sup> -17<sup>th</sup> June. Cost £280 per person sharing.** For more information and full itinerary, contact Anne Marie on [amhickey@derrydiocese.org](mailto:amhickey@derrydiocese.org), telephone 028 71262894 or call into the Cathedral Parish Office.

**Diocese of Derry Three-Day Pilgrimage to Lough Derg 2025: starts on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> July and concludes on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> July.** For those wishing to avail of transport, a bus will depart after 10:00am Mass in St Eugene's Cathedral, Derry, on the Friday; it will travel via Lifford and Ballybofey. Cost: £95/€110 (including transport). Pre-booking is required. Please contact Tony Brennan on [tony.brennan@derrydiocese.org](mailto:tony.brennan@derrydiocese.org) or phone the Diocese Office on 0044 28 7126 2302 for a booking form.

#### Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of:

**Margaret Quigg**  
**Mary Murphy**  
**Frankie O'Doherty**  
May they rest in peace

#### Anniversaries

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

**William Gillen**  
**Jim O'Donnell**  
**Mary Kelly**  
**John Ferguson**  
**Margaret (Maggie) Ferguson**  
**Frank Hegarty**  
**Oonagh O'Kane Konig**  
**Louisa Kerry Rubenstein**  
**Robert Carlin**  
May they rest in peace

#### Baptisms

We welcome as a member of God's family:

**Zac Gerald Francis**

#### Readers for 31<sup>st</sup> May/1<sup>st</sup> June

06.15 pm	Roisin Rice-Cutter
07.30 pm	Michael McCaul
09.30 am	Kay McGinn
11.00 am	McGinley Readers
12.30 pm	Sophia Mason
07.00 pm	Anna Begley

#### Collection

Last week's collection: £4,727

Parish Development: £935

**Thank you for your generosity**

#### Thank you

Fr Farren acknowledges with thanks the following donations for:

**Mary's Meals:** £100, £30  
**Gaza Appeal:** £100, £10  
**Admin's Choice:** £25  
**Medical Missions of Mary:** £10  
**Smile Train:** £30  
**Cathedral Funds:** £20  
**Trócaire:** £20  
**SVdP:** £40

#### Sick Visitation

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

**Monday:** Lisfannon Park, William Street, Creggan Street, Fahan Street, Cable Street, Lower Road, Abbey House, Little Diamond  
**Tuesday:** Mulvey Park, Laburnum Terrace, Elmwood Terrace, Gartan Square, Clarendon Manor, Grangemore, Northland Road

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

**The Annual Service of Intercession for the Dead** will take place in the City Cemetery on Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2025 at 3.00 pm.

**St Columba's Church, Long Tower:** Celebrating the Jubilee Year, 2025 as 'Pilgrims of Hope': **Sunday 8th June** Pentecost Sunday: All-Night Vigil of Adoration beginning after 12 noon Mass, until Monday 9th before 7am Mass. **Monday 9th June:** 7.00am: Mass at the Hawthorn Tree (beside Fr Lynch's Grave at the Grotto), concluding all-night Adoration. 7.30pm: Mass of St Columba celebrated by Bishop Philip Boyce, retired Bishop of Raphoe, followed by procession to St Columba's Well, led by St Colmcille's Pipe Band. Refreshments and Traditional Music Session in Lower Long Tower Primary School Hall with Parish Draw.

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Sixth Sunday of Easter  
25th May 2025*

**Priests: Fr Paul Farren, Fr Shaun Doherty**

**Job Opportunity** with Derry Diocesan Trust: **Parish Catechist - Three Patrons Parish, Derry City. Permanent post – 3-year Fixed Term Contract. 35 hours per week.** In addition to faith development work in the parish, the Catechist will establish and develop chaplaincy initiatives at the Derry Campus of University of Ulster. For more information and/or application pack, email [recruitment@derrydiocese.org](mailto:recruitment@derrydiocese.org) or telephone 028 7126 2302. Completed applications must be returned to Personnel, Bishop's House, St Eugene's Cathedral, Francis Street, Derry, BT48 9AP or via email to [recruitment@derrydiocese.org](mailto:recruitment@derrydiocese.org) no later than 12 noon on Friday 30th May 2025. *Derry Diocesan Trust is an Equal Opportunities Employer.*

**The Department of Education seeks to appoint members to the Council for Catholic Maintained Schools (CCMS) along with appointments to the Diocesan Education Committee.** For those who are interested, Information on this opportunity and an application pack is available by contacting DE as follows:

Website: Public Appointment Opportunities | Department of Education

email: [egt1@education-ni.gov.uk](mailto:egt1@education-ni.gov.uk) or telephone (028) 9127 9461 or 9127 7684. The closing date for receipt of applications is 4pm on Thursday 22 May 2025

**Meals on wheels:** prices range from £3.50 from Abbey house kitchen delivered free of charge within a three-mile radius. For more information contact Patricia on 02871262392

**All Ireland Rosary Rally at Knock Shrine on Saturday, 7th June.** Events begin at 9:30am with a Marian Conference and conclude with a Pentecost Vigil and Healing Service from 8–10pm. Rosary Rally ends with a Croagh Patrick climb and Mass on Sunday at noon. Full schedule and bus info: [www.allirelandrosaryrally.com](http://www.allirelandrosaryrally.com).

**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](http://www.churchservices.tv), [www.watchmcnmedia](http://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 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](mailto: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.