

A short Gospel reflection Luke 18:9-14

Today's Gospel offers a vital lesson about prayer — about how we are to stand before God when we pray. The Pharisee comes to the Temple not to encounter God, but to praise himself. Wrapped in the heavy garments of self-righteousness, he seems unaware that in describing his own virtue, he is revealing the sin of pride. In condemning the tax collector, he shows a failure of love and compassion for another human being. His prayer is not a conversation with God but a monologue before a mirror. He does not recognise the God of infinite mercy, the God who does not love us because we are good, but because *He* is goodness itself.

The tax collector, by contrast, stands bare before the gaze of God, hiding nothing, because he knows that the gaze of God is the gaze of Love itself. He knows his weakness; he knows his need for mercy, compassion, and forgiveness.

Two men went up to the Temple to pray. One stood before his own reflection, clothed in pride. The other stood before God, clothed only in humility and truth.

Prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood: For our seminarians, for the men discerning their vocation, and for the future priests of the diocese that, like St Paul, they will be able to say, "I have fought the good fight; I have run the race to the end; I have kept the faith."

Mass and Holy Hour for Vocations: On Tuesday 28th October, the 7.30pm Mass in St Columb's Church, Chapel Road, Waterside, Derry, will be offered for an increase in vocations to the Priesthood in the Diocese of Derry. This will be followed by a Holy Hour from 8.00pm to 9.00pm, concluding with Night Prayer and Benediction. All are welcome to come and pray.

Remembering Our Dead

Remembrance of the Faithful Departed: 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.

The Annual Mass for the Deceased of the Parish: A Concelebrated Mass will take place in St. Eugene's Cathedral on **Saturday, 8th November at 7.30 pm** for the deceased members of every home in the parish. Those who have lost a relative who was buried from another church during the past year are invited to leave the name of their loved one in the Sacristy or at the Parochial House, so that they may be remembered at the Mass and a candle lit in their memory.

A Message of Thanks

The family of the late Father Frank McLaughlin wish to express their heartfelt thanks to Father Paul Farren for the beautiful Funeral Mass and his inspired words in memory of Father Frank. The reception of his body into the Cathedral was a deeply moving moment, one that words cannot fully express. Special thanks are extended to the Vicar General of Nottingham—it meant so much to have his presence. Deep appreciation is also offered to the many priests who attended and sang so beautifully, contributing to the beauty and reverence of the liturgy, and to Anne Marie Hickey, whose beautiful singing added great grace and dignity to the celebration. The family are deeply grateful to the wonderful people of the Cathedral parish for their Mass cards, prayers, and kind words of comfort, which have been a great support at this sad time. God bless you all.

Father Frank's Month's Mind Mass will be celebrated in St. Eugene's Cathedral on Monday 10th November at 7.30 pm.

Sympathy

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of:

***Eric McNeill
Anne Craig
Sarath Cruse
Gerry McDaid
Deborah Ann Harkin
Malachy Campbell
Charlie O'Donnell***
May they rest in peace

Anniversaries

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

***Patsy Begley
Margaret (Maggie) McGlinchey
Sean Kelly
Meta McKendrick
Herbert Street
Donna Cassidy
Kathleen Toland***
May they rest in peace

Baptisms

We welcome as a member of God's family:

***Fayla Annie Crawford
Romeée Bea Canning
Niall John Moran***

To book a Baptism contact the Parish Office 02871 262894

Sacrament of Marriage

We congratulate
Niamh Bradley & Dolan Doherty
who celebrated the Sacrament of Marriage recently in the Cathedral

Collection

Mission Sunday Collection: £6,481
Parish Development: £997

Thank you for your generosity

Thank you

Fr Farren acknowledges with thanks the following donations for:

Children in Need: £20

Mary's Meals: £20

Readers for 1st /2nd November

06.15 pm Michael McCaul
07.30 pm Liz McMonagle
09.30 am Kay McGinn
11.00 am Paul Gormley
12.30 pm Eva Marie Mallon/
Caragh McSheffrey
07.00 pm Anna Begley

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, Gartan Square, Clarendon Manor, Grangemore, Northland Road

Sick Visitation

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

Feast of All Saints, Saturday 1st November is a Holyday of Obligation.

Mass times are as follows:

Friday 31st October: Vigil Masses at 6.15pm & 7.30pm

Saturday 1st November: 7.00am, 9.30am, 11.00am & 12.30pm

The Retired Priests Collection will be taken up at all Masses for the Holyday.

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. 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.

Annual Solemn Novena in honour of Our Lady of Perpetual Help: Nine Sundays before Christmas in Long Tower Church at 6.00pm, beginning Sunday 26th October. The theme of our Novena this Jubilee Year 2025 is 'Pilgrims of Hope' - Finding Hope and Healing In a Hurting World. Each night will comprise of the Rosary, Novena prayer and petitions with a short talk given by various guest speakers and Eucharistic Healing Ceremony with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. We encourage everybody, including those in need of healing to join us.

First Saturday Rosary, Saturday 1st November at 1.00pm in Market square, Letterkenny. All are welcome.

4 Week FREE Dementia Education Programme for Informal Carers, starting Wednesday 5th November at An Croí Community Hub, Trench Rd, Waterside. This course is for those looking after someone at home who has received a dementia diagnosis. It teaches what dementia is and helps carers to gain an understanding about different types of dementia, their signs and symptoms, about communication, different behaviours and coping strategies etc. The course is taught weekly with time for carers to talk and make connections as well as learning together. We do encourage family members to come together and support each other, so places are open for several members of the same family to come on to the programme at the same time and share the learning. Please note, this course is not suitable for individuals who either have dementia or are currently going through a process of diagnosis. Booking is essential via eilish@olt.ie or contact 02871 373870".

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 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

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Thirtieth Sunday
in Ordinary Time
26th October 2025*

Priests: Fr Paul Farren, Fr Shaun Doherty