

STAY SAFE OR TAKE RISKS

Today's gospel tells us how Jesus responded with compassion to the leper who pleaded with him. Leprosy was regarded as an impurity rather than an illness. In today's Gospel what the leper asks Jesus to do is to purify him.

Because contact with a leper would spread impurity people with leprosy were isolated and ostracised. That segregation from their community was one of the painful consequences of their illness.

To the leper's plea for help Jesus responds with compassion that reaches out and touches him. In so doing Jesus did what was absolutely forbidden by the Law - to touch a leper.

Jesus came to abolish the boundaries between clean and unclean, the boundaries between the people of God and those on the outside, between the lepers of society and those who regard them as unworthy of God's presence. St. Mark leaves his readers with an uncomfortable question.

He asks whether, in our meeting with Jesus, are we willing to take risks, that keep us safe within but keep others out.

The Season of Lent

Wednesday 14th February of this week marks the beginning of the Season of Lent with the traditional blessing and distribution of ashes.

Mass Times for Ash Wednesday

St Columb's Church	7.30am, 10.00am & 7.30pm
Church of Immaculate Conception	9.15 & 6.00pm
St Mary's Oratory	10.15am (note later time)
St Oliver Plunkett's Church	9.15am & 7.00pm

Trocaire Boxes available at the back of our churches

"Walk with Me" – A Daily Prayer Book for Lenten Reflection. Cost £1

Diocesan Vocations Information Evening - Tuesday, 22nd February 2018, 6.00pm – 9.00pm, in the Parochial House, St Eugene's Cathedral, Francis Street, Derry, BT48 9AP. Enquiries can be made via the Diocesan Vocations Director: Fr Paul Farren Telephone 028 71 264087 or email ddcc@derrydiocese.org

Thinking of giving up something for Lent? Anyone giving up alcohol for Lent is invited to take a short-term Pioneer pledge from ***Ash Wednesday, 14th February*** until ***Easter Sunday, 1st April***. If interested ring Bert: 71341647 – 07759586666 or Harry: 71342973 – 07811350821.

+Rest in Peace+

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of **John 'Thor' Connolly**, Gelvin Gardens; **Mary Burgess**, Tamworth Crescent; **Maureen Doherty**, Daleview House and **Joe Cooke**, Glenmore Park, late Knockdara Park.

We pray for the following on the Anniversary of their deaths:

John Deehan, Jeannie Flowers, Lizzie McGee, Brendan Johnston, Edmund Dolan, Robbie Kennelly, Maggie Given, Pat Simms, Catherine Callan, Billy Leitch, William Leitch, Seamus Hasson, Jean Foster, Peggy Waller, Nora Brolly, Andrew Allen, George Caldwell, Martin McCrossan, Maisie Hone, Samuel Simpson, Rosena Kelly, Pat McCallion, James Kelly, Mary & Alex Arbuckle, Jim Casey, Michael Casey, Kathleen & John Doherty, James Monaghan, John Crumley, Michael & Margaret McConnell, Patrick McPhillips, Molly McGilloway, Majella Donaghey, Joseph & Catherine Wilson, Johnny Crumley.

May they and all who sleep in Christ find in God's presence light, happiness & peace.

Cursillo will hold two "3-Day Weekends" at the Carmelite Retreat Centre in Termonbacca, Derry: **Men's weekend** from **Thursday 22nd - Sunday 25th February**. **Women's weekend** from **Thursday 8th - Sunday 11th March**. These are residential Weekends. For further information please contact **07708066939** or **07841100174**.

Offertory Collection

Glendermott: £5,577.00

Strathfoyle: £620.00

Collection on Ash Wednesday for the struggling Christian Churches in Holy Land

Fostering in the WHSCT area - Information Evenings as follows: Monday 19th February, Fir Trees Hotel, Strabane at 7.30pm Wednesday 21st February, Da Vinci's Hotel, Derry at 7.30pm, Thursday 22nd October, Silverbirch Hotel, Omagh at 7.30pm. WHSCT urgently needs people to come forward and offer up their homes to foster children. During the Information Evenings there will be an opportunity to ask questions from staff and experienced foster carers. Contact details: 028 82 835264 or 028 7131 4240, or email Vanessa.Nelis@westerntrust.hscni.net

**Join us for 1 hour for 6 Monday's 7.30pm -8.30pm
Lent Retreat Talks - A Lenten Journey with Mary...**

7.30pm Mass; 8pm Talk with Adoration ending with Benediction at 8.30pm

19th Feb	Examining:	Fr John Farren
26th Feb	Discerning:	Fr Dermott Harkin
5th March	Repenting	Fr Eugene O'Hagan
12th March	Converting	Fr Eamon McDevitt
19th March	Forgiving	Fr Chris McDermott
26th March	Dying	Fr Donncha O'hAodha
26th March	Confessions	from 8.30pm for as long as required

Parishes of Glendermott & Strathfoyle	ST COLUMB'S Chapel Road	IMMACULATE CONCEPTION Trench Road	ST OLIVER PLUNKETT'S Strathfoyle	ST MARY'S ORATORY Newbuildings
MASS TIMES: Vigil (Saturday) Sunday	7.30pm 10.00am 12.30pm	6.00pm 10.30am 12 noon	6.00pm 11.15am --- --- ---	--- --- --- 9.30am --- --- ---
Monday	10am & 7.30pm	9.15am	9.15am	10.00am
Tuesday	10am & 7.30pm	9.15am	9.15am	--- --- ---
Wednesday	10am & 7.30pm	9.15am	--- --- ---	10.00am
Thursday	10am & 7.30pm	9.15am	9.15am	--- --- ---
Friday	10am & 7.30pm	9.15am	--- --- ---	--- --- ---
Saturday	10.00am	11.00am	--- --- ---	--- --- ---
CONFESSIONS: Mon-Fri Saturday	7.00pm 10.30am	--- --- --- 11.30am	--- --- --- --- --- ---	--- --- --- --- --- ---
Eve of Holyday Eve of First Fri	7.00pm As Saturday 10.30am	5.30pm 5.30pm	5.30pm 5.30pm	--- --- --- --- --- ---
BAPTISMS:	Saturdays 4.00pm	Sundays 12.45pm	Saturdays 5.00pm	arrangement with Priest
EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:	Fridays 10am-10pm	Thursdays 10am-8pm	Mondays 10am-10pm	Wednesdays 10- 11.30am



in the Parish Hall, Malvern Terrace
every Monday night at 8.30pm.

MARRIAGES: Three months notice must be given before the date of marriage. Details for marriage preparation can be obtained from www.gettingmarried.ie.

ANNIVERSARIES & NEWSLETTER ITEMS: Names of loved ones and notices for the newsletter: email or contact the Parish Office before **3.00pm THURSDAY**

Parish Contact Details	Telephone	Email
Parish Office	028-7134 2303	secretary@watersideparish.net
Rev. Michael Canny	028-7134 2303	secretary@watersideparish.net
Rev. Christopher Ferguson	028-7134 2263	chris_j_ferguson@hotmail.com
Rev. Sean O'Donnell	028-7134 2303	sean.odonnell@derrydiocese.org
Rev. Malachy Gallagher	028-7134 2303	malachy.gallagher@derrydiocese.org

Parish website: www.watersideparish.net



Glendermott & Strathfoyle Parishes Newsletter

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B 11th February 2018

Lent 2018

*Join us in prayer and commitment
to one or more of our initiatives for Lent...*

1) Mass each day during Lent...

- Daily Mass Times listed on back of this Newsletter
- **EARLY MORNING MASS** Mon-Fri 7.30am St Columb's
- **EXTRA EVENING MASS** Friday 7.00pm in St Oliver Plunkett's

2) 1 Hour for 6 Monday's - Retreat Talks

- A Lenten Journey with Mary – List of Talks and Speakers inside
- 7.30pm Mass then 8pm Talk with Adoration ending at 8.30pm

3) Go to Confession: God's Gift of Mercy & Reconciliation

- Times on the back page of this Newsletter

4) A Parish Conversation on the Family

- Wednesday 8-9pm Parish House Conference Room
- Facilitated by a parishioner each week

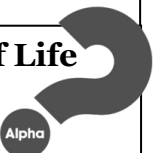


5) A Social Media & Technology Free Day!

- Be free to really connect with God and other people

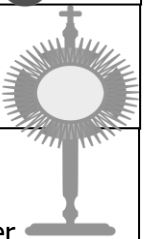
6) Alpha Course – Explore the Questions of Life

- Hosted @ 3 Clooney Park East Thursdays at 7-9pm
- A meal, a conversation and a chat...



7) Spend an Hour with Jesus in Adoration

- Spend some quality time in prayer with Jesus
- Adoration times on the back page of this Newsletter



8) Pledge to take no Alcohol until Easter

- Ring Bert 71341647 or 07759586666; Harry 71342973 or 07811350821 or any Priest to get your Pin and Prayer

9) Donate to **TRÓCAIRE**

- Money goes **directly and immediately** to where most needed.
- Trócaire Boxes are available from Parish Office and Churches.