

Bethany Bereavement Group meeting will be held on **Wednesday, 12th December** at 8.00pm in 45 Virginia Court.

Baptisms – We welcome into the family of **Cyrus John Campbell, Dunhugh Park; Saoirse Martha-Ann O’Kane, Parkmore Drive; Lucas Alan Robinson-Devine, The Old Fort.**

+Anniversaries+

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

Mark Kelly, Brandon Moore, Aidan McLaughlin, John O’Kane, Philomena O’Hagan, Margo Gallagher, Ryan Hargan, Mary McNulty, Tommy Hone, Jack McAllister, John Kelly, Kathleen Shiels, Kathleen Sweeney, Hugh Diver, Philip McCauley, Mary Parke, Eileen & Eddie McMenamin, Helen McDermott, Hugh McKinney, James Stone, William Doherty, Seamus Healy, John McClelland, Bernard Heaney, Harry Donaghey, Henrietta Donaghey, Barbara McLaughlin, Rita McLaughlin, Fra McLaughlin, Brian Mullan, George Starrett, Gareth McMenamin, Francis McMenamin.

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

Senior Citizens Christmas Dinner-Dance in the Parish Hall, Malvern Terrace on **Friday, 14th December.** Admission £10.00. Contact Kathleen Tracey 07521147079 or Monica McNaught 07596230565.

Society of St Vincent de Paul will be taking up their Annual Christmas Collection this weekend the **8th / 9th December** at all masses. Thank you for your continued support.

JOB ADVERTISEMENT: Derry Diocesan Trust: Part Time Financial and Administrative Secretary required for Long Tower Parish (St Columba’s), Derry. Twenty-five hours per week, Mon to Fri, 9am – 2pm. For full details, please visit www.derrydiocese.org. For application pack, email office@derrydiocese.org or Tel 028 7126 2302. Completed applications must be returned to Bishop’s House, Francis Street, Derry, BT48 9AP or via email, office@derrydiocese.org, no later than 5.00pm on **10th December 2018.** *Derry Diocesan Trust is an Equal Opportunities Employer.*

Thornhill Ministries, Derry - Advent Mornings for Busy People - Monday 10th, 17th December - 10:30 am to 12:15 pm. Reflective mornings allowing a time to pray our way through Advent. Each day has prayer, meditation and reflective time, with a bowl of winter soup to finish!. Suggested Offering £10. To book, please contact 028 7135 1233 or email secretary@thornhillministries.co.uk.

New Mission Team in Derry Diocese: If you are interested in being part of a new Mission Team in the diocese to promote and foster mission awareness at home and overseas, please come to a meeting this **Tuesday, 11th December,** at 7.00pm, in Ardstraw House, 21A Buncrana Road, Derry, BT48 8LA (next to St Columba’s College). welcome. For further information please contact Fr David O’Kane on 028 7133 7727.

Eucharistic Adoration will not take place in St Columb’s Church between 11.00am and 1.00pm on **Friday, 14th December** due to a wedding taking place.

Trocaire Christmas Appeal: 'Do not let the downtrodden retreat in confusion, give the poor and needy cause to praise your name.' Psalm 74:21. Millions of people have had to flee conflict in South Sudan and Yemen. Trocaire's Christmas Appeal will help these people and many others rebuild their lives.

Offertory Collection

Glendermott: £4,474.00

Strathfoyle: £455.00

Christmas Hamper Appeal – The Parish Pope Paul 11 Award Youth Group are appealing for your generosity in support of their Annual Christmas Hamper Appeal. Any non-perishable goods can be left in any of the parish sacristies or Parochial Houses. The Group will make up the hampers and distribute them within the local parish community.

Children in Crossfire Advent boxes are now available from the door of the church, we ask if you take one to place it in your home over Christmas and return it again in January. Your donations really make a difference, thank you.

Annual Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place from **4 - 9 July 2019.** The Pilgrimage Office, 164 Bishop Street, Derry, is now taking enquiries and initial expressions of interest from anyone who might intend to participate in it. Christmas Vouchers (*which you can give as a gift to someone wishing to participate in the pilgrimage*) can now be ordered. The opening hours of the Pilgrimage Office are: **Thursday and Saturday, 11/00am – 1.00pm.**

Learning about the Mass with Kath and Qumen Arriving in the Church



HOW DOES MASS BEGIN?

Mass usually begins with a song or hymn and if we know the song, we should join in the singing. The words of the song might be on a hymn sheet or book on your seat. When this song begins, we know that it is time to stand up. We stand to greet the priest who will lead us in prayer; in this way we are also greeting Jesus who is present among us.

The Opening Procession

Mass always begins with a procession. There are different kinds of processions. Sometimes there are lots of people; sometimes it is the priest on his own. The procession might come from the front door or from the sacristy. Usually the procession includes the priest and the servers. In some places the people who are going to read and help to give out communion will also be in the procession. You might see one of the readers carry the book from which the Gospel will be read. This book is called the Book of the Gospels.



Glendermott & Strathfoyle Parish Newsletter

Second Sunday of Advent

Year C

9th December 2018

<i>Parishes of Glendermott & Strathfoyle</i>	ST COLUMB'S Chapel Road	IMMACULATE CONCEPTION Trench Road	ST OLIVER PLUNKETT'S Strathfoyle	ST MARY'S ORATORY Newbuildings
MASS TIMES:				
Vigil (Saturday)	7.30pm	6.00pm	6.00pm	--- --- ---
Sunday	10.00am 12.30pm	10.30am 12 noon	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	7.00pm	--- --- ---	--- --- ---	--- --- ---
Saturday	10.30am 7.00pm	11.30am 5.30pm	--- --- --- 5.30pm	--- --- --- --- --- ---
Eve of Holyday	as Saturday	5.30pm	5.30pm	--- --- ---
Eve of First Fri	10.30am			
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

MARRIAGES: Minimum 3 months' notice must be given. Our Marriage Preparation Booklet is available in the Resources Section on the Parish Website.

ANNIVERSARIES & NEWSLETTER ITEMS: Names of loved ones and notices for the newsletter: email or contact the Parish Office before **3pm THURSDAY**

SAFEGUARDING: Any concerns to our Parish Reps: Strathfoyle: Noel O'Donnell on 07596 500 793; Glendermott (Waterside): Mrs Mary McCafferty on (028)71342303.



**Parish Hall, Malvern Terrace
Mondays at 8.30pm.**

Parish Contact Details	<u>Telephone</u>	<u>Email</u>
Parish Office	028-7134 2303	secretary@watersideparish.net
Rev. Michael Canny	028-7134 2303	secretary@watersideparish.net
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		

PREPARING FOR THE COMING FEAST

All four Gospels testify to an important truth: that John the Baptist stands at the beginning of the Gospel. He is the one who marks the end of the time of waiting and the beginning of the new age of Jesus.

The great sequence of prophetic witness had been broken off in the history of Israel and people lamented that the spirit had been silenced. The people for many years had been without a messenger from God to challenge them with the word.

John the Baptist had an unusual address: c/o the wilderness. Yet that is the traditional place associated with the growth of Israel's religion. It was in the wilderness that the people of Israel first encountered God and the story of the people's wanderings through the wilderness became the story of their growth from crisis to settlement in the Promised Land.

So it is appropriate that the word of God should come again to the people in the wilderness. The Gospel tells us that John preached in the wilderness and that all the people made their way to him. The people came and listened to him because they believed he spoke the authentic word of God.

John calls everyone to change. John is profoundly unimpressed by people who have an impressive pedigree or come from the right address. No one can live on borrowed fidelity. Good ancestors guarantee nothing. Roots refer to the past; fruits speak of what is happening now.

The call of John is addressed to us. His challenge is addressed to each of us. There are no exceptions. Our parent's faith or our address will not be taken into consideration. The challenge is for each one of us in the here and now. John is calling all of us to the fidelity of our own Baptism. We don't have to make a trek into the wilderness to hear the word of God. Hearing it and acting on it – this is the best preparation for the feast of Christmas.