

Twenty - Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

Errigal Parish News - 13th September 2026

Weekday Masses: St. Mary's Church: - Monday, Tuesday, and Friday at 10am.

St. Joseph's Church: - Wednesday at 10am.

St. Mary's Church - (Vigil): First Anniversary Mass - For Joan Mullan, on Saturday 19th September at 6pm.

Month's Mind Mass: For Tommy Johnson on Sunday 20th September at 10am.

.....

St. Joseph's Church - (Vigil) - Anniversary Mass:

Anniversary Mass -

Saturday Vigil Mass 6pm - St. Mary's Church in September.

Eucharistic Adoration: - Adoration on Monday after morning Mass.

.....



Living Water
Season of Creation 2026

IMMERSION IN LIVING WATER
Ezekiel 47:9, 12

Triduum of Masses for Bishop Michael Router: As the diocese and parishes prepare to celebrate the joyous occasion of the Installation of Bishop Michael Router as Bishop of Derry on Sunday 20th September, a Triduum of Masses will be celebrated in parishes throughout the diocese, on Friday 18th, Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th September. In our parish, these Masses will be celebrated in:

St. Mary's Church (Friday at 10am) St. Mary's Church (Vigil) Saturday at 6pm.

Both Masses on Sunday morning.

All are welcome to attend as we come together as God's people to pray for Bishop Router and the people of the diocese, that we may walk together in faith and hope, guided by the Holy Spirit.

Season of Creation: The Season of Creation takes place from 1st September to 4th October, bringing Christians throughout the world together in prayer, reflection and action for the care of our common home.

Our symbol for 2026 - **Immersion in Living Water** - is a symbol of renewal and birth: water flowing from the Temple as a sign of God's caring and healing for us. We are called to step into the water, until we are so deep that we must depend on God's grace to sustain us. Those who receive this water are invited to become sources of life for others, allowing God's love to flow through them into the world. And thus, the water of God will become in us "a spring of water welling up to eternal life", as Jesus promised (John 4:14).

Parish Pastoral Group: The next meeting of the Parish Pastoral Group (to prepare for the Mission) will take place in the Parochial House on Tuesday 15th September at 7.30pm.

Mass Cards (pre-signed): Signed Mass cards for all occasions are available in the side porch of St. Mary's Church as requested by parishioners. A suggested donation of £5 is requested with the name of the recipient in a brown envelope included. Please put the brown envelope in the St. Vincent dePaul box, where it will be retrieved and the monies and Mass intention will be offered locally or by another priest.

Baptism Dates: The next Baptism dates are Saturday 10th October in St. Mary's Church at 4.30pm and St. Joseph's Church on Sunday 11th October at 12.30pm. The Baptismal Programme for parents/guardians will take place in the Parochial House on Wednesday 30th September at 7pm. Please register to attend the Baptismal Programme by Saturday 26th September using the parish email address, this will indicate to the Baptismal Team the numbers who will attend the Baptismal Programme.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) available after the Vigil Mass on request.

St. Mary's - September Altar Society: Carol Ann McLaughlin, Margeret Mullan, Dolores Mullan and Kate Mullan.

St. Mary's - September Collectors - (Vigil) Barney O'Kane.

(Sunday) Philip McKeown & Fergal Bradley.

St. Joseph's - September Altar Society: Fidelma O'Kane with Sheena & Aine Diane Burns.

St. Joseph's - September Counters: Seamus Conway, Anthony & Katrina McCloskey.

St. Joseph's September Collectors: (Sunday) Seamus Conway, Padhraic and Thomas Leydon.

Eucharistic Adoration: Derry Diocese is renewing and developing its Diocesan Adoration Lay Committee in order to increase the practice of Eucharistic Adoration in parishes throughout the diocese. You are welcome to attend an Information Meeting on Wednesday 30th September at 8pm, in The Drummond Hotel, Ballykelly. Registration and light refreshments from 7.30pm.

Parish Mission: Parishioners may have heard that the parish will hold a mission in September of this year. It will be delivered by the Dominican Order. As you know it has been some time since the last Mission in the parish. Whilst members of the Parish Pastoral Group continue to organise it, it would be helpful to have a few interested individuals from each end of the parish to help with the organisation. Time commitment should not be great - a few hours between now and September and some input during the week itself. This is a great opportunity to get involved in a significant event for the parish, and if you are interested, please contact Fr. Crowley.

Parish Mission - Sunday 27th September - Friday 2nd October

Errigal SVP: Could You Spare a Little Time to Help Others? As we prepare to celebrate the Feast of St Vincent de Paul (27th September), the Errigal St Vincent de Paul (SVP) Conference need a couple of volunteers to join our local team. This is a wonderful opportunity to put your faith into action, give something back to our community, and make a real difference to the lives of local individuals and families who are struggling.

No previous experience is necessary. You will be warmly welcomed and fully supported by our local SVP Volunteers, with guidance and training provided.

If you would like to find out more, please contact us on 07563595868. We'd be delighted to hear from you. For more details, please see <https://www.svp.ie/northern-ireland/>

Queen's University Catholic Chaplaincy: Reopens for the new academic year on Monday 14th September, with weekday Masses and our semester programme resuming. The first Sunday Mass will be celebrated on 20th September at the new, earlier time of 7.00pm. Please note the new time! New or returning student? Find out about what's on, ways to connect and get involved, and student accommodation at Ryan Hall at qubcatholic.org and on our socials. Staff and alumni are always welcome too. Visit our newly renewed Chaplaincy at [28 Elmwood Avenue](#) for Mass, Confessions or candle-lighting - and call into Mosaic for some of the best coffee, hot lunches and home-baked treats in South Belfast!

Could You Help Share the True Spirit of Christmas? Each year, volunteers in parishes across the north of Ireland set up a small stall after Masses to sell **Trócaire's Gifts of Change** - meaningful gifts that make a real difference to families living in poverty around the world. We provide everything you need including training and support. All we ask is a little time and a big heart. Last Christmas, 50 parishes took part - and we'd love to grow that number even more this year! If you would like to find out more about how you can help, please email Mark at mark.mcmahon@trocaire.org or call 028 9080 8030.

The Columban Young Adults: A new group for those aged 18 - 30 in the diocese, who are seeking a community of like-minded young adults who have Christ at the centre of their lives. Our September event will be a Holy Hour and meditation on Thursday 17th September, 7pm at our Lady of Lourdes Church, Steelstown, Derry, delivered by Fr Declan McGeehan. The meditation will be followed by Solemn Benediction and light refreshments. We are actively seeking new members- please come along and bring a friend!

Baby Massage & Reflexology Classes: 6-week course starting 9th September in Ballerin. For more information or to book: diane@groundedsoles.org - 07761 054666

Errigal: Through Our Eyes - Summer Youth Photography Project: Starting Monday 6th July, all young people under 18 are invited to join Errigal: Through Our Eyes, a summer photography project. The theme is "See what matters. See where God is." This will celebrate the beauty, faith, kindness, and everyday life of our parish.

Pick up an entry form, then send up to three photos taken within the parish boundaries and a short reflection to the parish email (with parent/guardian consent for under-16s). There are 1st, 2nd and 3rd place prizes in both Primary and Secondary categories, with certificates for everyone. **Update Deadline - Please note that the closing date for entries has been postponed until the end of September. We warmly encourage all our young people to take part and share their photographs and reflections. More details will follow soon.**

Marian Hall- Bingo: Takes place on Thursday 17th September at 8.30pm. Every two weeks in the Marian Hall, Kilrea. Double Books - £20. Single Books - £10. Half Books - £5. Last House - £250.

Michael English Church Concert: An evening of Faith, Hope and Inspiration. The concert takes place on Friday 2nd October at 7.15pm, in St Patrick's Church, Keenaught, Desertmartin. Tickets are £30, and available to buy at Herons Gift Shop, Draperstown, Moneyneena Post Office, Ballinascreen and Desertmartin Parish offices, or online with

Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/michael-english-band-fundraising-concert-tickets-1996641829460>

Gift Aid/Census Cards: Can we please request the return of Gift Aid and Census cards recently circulated so that parish records can be updated during the summer months.

Rosary and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Will continue the first Monday of each month. St. Joseph's Church - 7.30pm.

Monday Adoration Adorers: We request if you are available on Monday from after the morning Mass to participate in the rota for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament which takes place until 2.30pm. If interested, please leave your name/contact number in the sacristy and we will follow up.

Parish Collections - Thank you. 183 boxes of envelopes in circulation.

Returns (Pink/Yellow - 127 White - 89)

St. Mary's - Parish: £745 Renovation: £300

St. Joseph's - Parish: £325 Renovation: £360

Ballerin GAA Lotto: There was no winner of the lotto jackpot the numbers are 5, 13, 17, 22. Jackpot is £3100. Lucky Dip Winner £50 - Anne Boyle.

Glenullin GAA Lotto: There was no winner of the lotto jackpot the numbers are 8, 13, 18, 31. Jackpot £10,000. £20 winners - Rita Doyle, Lisa McLaughlin, Martin McGuigan, Liam McNicholl, Niall Toal, Bridget Cassidy, Enda Mullan, (Declan's) Gregory Biggs.

Readers & Eucharistic Ministers

St. Mary's Church - Church Readers - 18th/19th September

Saturday Vigil - Arranged.

Sunday Morning - Arranged.

If anyone is interested in becoming a Reader in St. Mary's Church, please give your name to Fr. Crowley training will be provided.

Eucharistic Ministers - 18th/19th September

Saturday Vigil - Siobhan McIntyre & Orla Doherty.

Sunday Morning - Amanda Ferris & Josephine McKeown.

.....

Readers & Eucharistic Ministers

St. Joseph's Church - Church Readers - 18th/19th September

Saturday Vigil -

Sunday Morning - Adrain Cullerton.

If anyone is interested in becoming a Reader in St. Joseph's Church, please give your name to Fr. Crowley or Mairead McNicholl (Lector Co-Ordinator), training will be provided.

Eucharistic Ministers - 18th/19th September

Saturday Vigil -

Sunday Morning - Philippa Hasson & Kieran Quigg.

Feasts during the Week: Monday - The Exaltation of the Holy Cross: The discovery of the Holy Cross is dated to the 14th September 335 the churches on Calvary were dedicated and the cross that St. Helena discovered was venerated there the next day. The annual commemoration of that event has been celebrated since, in praise of the redemption won for us by Christ. **Tuesday - Our Lady of Sorrows:** Mary, standing by the cross,

‘suffered intensely with her only begotten Son and united herself as his Mother to his sacrifice, consenting with love to the offering of the victim who was born of her’, whom she also offered to the eternal Father. (Marialis Cultus) **Wednesday - St. Cornelius:** Became pope in 251 and died in exile at Civitavecchia in 253. Patron of cattle and domestic animals. **St Cyprian (210 - 58):** Bishop of Carthage, teacher and preacher, martyred. **Thursday - St. Robert Bellarmine (1542 - 1621):** Jesuit, Cardinal Bishop of Capua, involved in theological controversies of the time. Patron of catechists. **Saturday - St. Januarius:** Bishop of Benevento, was martyred at Naples in 305 with six companions.

Diocesan Vocations: In today's gospel Jesus teaches a powerful lesson on forgiveness. We pray for the men called to priesthood that, as they celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation with their people, they will help them to know and experience the Lord who "...is compassion and love, slow to anger, and rich in mercy." (Responsorial Psalm). For further information, please contact the Diocesan Vocations Director, Fr Pat O'Hagan, at pgoh2111@gmail.com

Anniversaries: It is advisable where possible to book well in advance in the case of anniversaries. These are arranged with a sacristan as the anniversary book is kept in the sacristy. Also, please indicate in the Anniversary book that the Mass is booked for the stated intention - we would appreciate an acknowledgment of the booking by email if possible. **In the case of a booked Anniversary Mass please inquire of the sacristan before the Mass begins that the Mass is offered for the intention you request.** Names to be added to the weekend anniversary list need to be added to the anniversary book by informing the sacristan - this can be done in advance of the date requested.

Parish Readers/Eucharistic Ministers: If you are unable to attend the schedule allocated to you, it would be much appreciated if you can get a replacement to step in for you. (It may be possible to exchange a rotation with another group member - there is also the opportunity to seek cover via the Whatsapp messaging facility if available to your group). I also ask Readers please to conclude the readings with - '**The Word of the Lord**' as directed in the Missalette, and not 'This is the Word of the Lord' as stated in the Lectionary. We have previously discussed this at our reader meetings.

Look out Leaflets...Are now available for children at the back of both churches in the parish focusing on the liturgy of the word each week. Enjoy!

Teach us to Pray Booklet - It can be downloaded at:
<https://www.derrydiocese.org/news/teach-us-to-pray>.

Why Sunday Matters! The Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference have published a pastoral message titled '*Why Sunday Matters*' - an invitation to reflect on Sunday Mass. To access this resource and watch a four-part video series titled Sunday Mass - 'Digging Deeper', visit at CatholicBishops.ie

TheWay.ie: Is a new digital platform set up by the Irish Bishops Conference dedicated to sharing the 'Good News' and the witness of the Catholic Church in Ireland. It is intended to help people discover the faith, live the faith and pass on the faith. It is for both seekers and followers. Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, X and YouTube.

St. Joseph's Church - A YouTube camera link is now available for services from St. Joseph's Church, Glenullin. The link can be accessed - <https://youtube.com/@parishoferrigalderry>.

The Net: As always, it features a wide variety of news, interesting and inspiring interviews, articles, and photos from parishes across the diocese. You can read the Diocesan newspaper on-line at: www.derrydiocese.org/news/categories/the-net. or a paper copy is available at the back of the church. Donations welcome.

Prayer for Peace in the Middle East: God of mercy and compassion of grace and reconciliation, pour your presence upon all your children in the Middle East: Jews, Muslims, Christians, Palestinians, and Israelis. Let hatred be turned into love, fear to trust, despair to hope, oppression to freedom, occupation to liberation. That violent encounters may be replaced by loving embraces, and peace and justice maybe experienced by all. Amen.

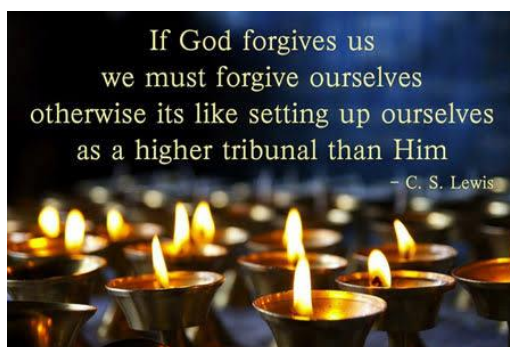
St. Joseph's Church: We present a dual gauge to initiative funds in our parish for the on-going costs associated with the renovation of St. Joseph's Church. The gauge on the left indicates the funds we require to complete the refurbishment. The gauge on the right reflects the loans we have received from other parishes. (Gauge also available on website and Facebook page). **Thanks - Donations to date** - Current figure £235,400.00.

Providing compassionate care at the end of life - To address the sensitive issue of compassionate care at the end of life, and in response to the need to inform the faithful of Catholic teaching on this important life issue that affects so many families, the Bishops of Ireland have published the pastoral letter: Freedom to Live Fully, Until Death Comes. You are invited to read this letter and view the accompanying video Through the Valley, which offers personal testimonies by carers and people with terminal illness. The key message of both letter and video asserts that every person possesses inherent, infinite dignity that remains intact regardless of their circumstances. In this context, bishops strongly oppose the Oireachtas Committee's proposal to Government to legislate for assisted suicide and call on support for healthcare workers who uphold the sanctity of life. To read Freedom to Live Fully, Until Death Comes and to watch Through the Valley, visit the following link: <https://www.catholicbishops.ie/2024/06/24/bishops-statement-on-end-of-life-care-freedom-to-live-fully-until-death-comes/>

The Catholic Communications Office of the Irish Bishops Conference: Produces a five-story weekly ezine Sharing Good News that reports on stories associated with the Bishops' Conference, activities in parishes and dioceses, and that celebrates Church life generally. If you do not currently subscribe to receiving it and you wish to subscribe to receive Sharing Good News, please register your email address on <https://catholicnews.ie/newsletter/>

Errigal Hall Volunteers: For this hospitality to continue in the community, we need new volunteers to come forward and help in this voluntary service to the parish. If you are interested, please contact Melinda Robinson. If enough volunteers come forward a rota can be put in place via a WhatsApp group, so that the same people are not required at each function.

Errigal Hall: Parishioners who borrow items from the hall need to sign for their removal from the hall and when they are returned. The signing book is in the kitchen of the hall.



St. Joseph's Church: Choir Practice will take place each Tuesday at 7pm in the church. New members from Primary 4 up are very welcome. Any queries contact Roisin McIlvar [07841407154](tel:07841407154).

St. Mary's Church Choir: If you are interested in joining the choir, you are welcome to attend the practice in the church on a Wednesday evening at 7pm. Or contact any choir member.

Derry Diocesan Society (DDS): In each of the parishes of the diocese Mass is offered alternating in each parish (list at the back of each church) for deceased and living members who are registered in the society. The deceased members registered are remembered in the anniversary list for three consecutive weekends each quarter (three months). Registration is £20 and can be given to a sacristan or Fr. Crowley - please ensure name and address of the person to be enrolled is included and whether it is for a living or deceased member.

Maternity Blessing: Expectant mothers are welcome to receive a blessing in any of the sacristies following Mass - and a prayer card for their pregnancy.

Stamps: For the missions can be left at the back of each church.

Synodal Pathway: Find attached the final versions of the National Synthesis for the Church in Ireland, which is the fruit of the recent process of listening and consultation; it is based on the syntheses produced by the 26 dioceses in Ireland, as well as those submitted by religious congregations and other interested groups. Also attach appendix document from survivors of abuse and the Irish Bishops' Conference Cover Letter, which have all been forwarded to the General Secretariat of the Synod of Bishops. Press Release also attached. We are requested to bring the Report to the attention of your parishioners and to share it on your social media outlets. It will be a useful tool as parishes move forward on the synodal journey in the autumn. **The Report is now available on the website of the Synodal Pathway of the Church in Ireland website: www.synod.ie**



Parish Envelopes: Following previous discussion with the Parish Finance Committee we encourage consideration for those who use envelopes infrequently to consider the use of a standing order, (through this medium you have full control), of the donation at your disposal. **Further information is available from the parish website.**

If you advance the standing order, (it can be processed on-line with your bank), or alternatively bring the completed mandate to your bank. We request that when you are issuing your instruction to the bank, that you do so with your personal name, in doing so we can therefore identify from whom the standing order has been authorised. It is with your authorisation that the standing order is either processed weekly or monthly. Also, you can withdraw the mandate at your own discretion. We would appreciate an acknowledgement of this transaction (via the parish email) when it is activated, so that we can have a copy for the parish records. In the information forwarded we will require your address and telephone number.

Several parishioners recently have set up a standing order, however we do not know who these parishioners are because they have not provided an address. We ask please that you follow the instructions above and email the parish to inform us who has authorised the standing order.

We request now that the boxes are delivered, if you have not previously returned or updated a parish Census card, please complete the card in the back of the box and return in the collection envelope. Also, the Gift Aid card needs to be signed and returned if you are a taxpayer.

Those who avail of Standing Orders are also asked to complete a Census card and Gift Aid card. These can be collected in each sacristy and returned at your convenience.

Details of Parish Accounts for Standing Orders:

(Errigal Ballerin: Sort Code - 950346 - Account No. 40067059 is the No 1 a/c) **Errigal Development:** Sort Code - 950346 - (Account No. 90042358 is the Renovation a/c).

(Errigal Glenullin: Sort Code - 950346 Account No. 90062596 is the No 1 a/c) **(Errigal Parish:** Sort Code 950689 - Account No. 90083712 is the Renovation a/c).

Parish Finance: If you wish to contribute to the parish by standing order - forms can be forwarded upon request by sending an email to - errigalparish@gmail.com or they are available on the parish website. At the end of each month, we shall include in the collection figures the amounts relating to the increase in standing orders, these figures are stated in brackets.

Parish Census: In the recent distribution of collection envelopes, we request that at your earliest convenience you might return the census card with your family details for parish registration. Also, the Gift Aid card needs to be updated and signed so that the parish can claim Gift Aid if you are a taxpayer, this does not affect your personal details

or taxation. If your tax circumstances change, please inform us, if you are no longer a taxpayer.

Census cards are available in each sacristy, once completed they can be returned in a sealed envelope via the collection box at the back of each church. If you have previously registered, you do not have to do so again, unless your household occupation has changed.

Church Cleaners: Cleaners are required to join the existing monthly groups who clean each church. The more that participate the less occasions that individuals will be required to cover. If interested, please leave your name/contact phone number in each sacristy or alternatively give details to a sacristan.

Mass Cards/Mass Bouquets: Are available for sale at the back of each church please put the money in the candle box.

ACCORD - Counselling: If you need to speak, to an experienced couples and relationships counsellor during this time of unprecedented stress and pressure on family life, please contact 95680151. This is a free helpline service available from 9am - 8pm. Monday to Friday. All calls charged at local rate.

ACCORD DERRY: Virtual Interactive Marriage Preparation Programme (limited to 15 couples per course). Booking now online at www.accordni.com

Radio Maria Ireland: <https://www.radiomaria.ie/radio-maria-ireland/> is an Irish-run Catholic Talk-Radio Station with commercial-free broadcasting of Prayer, Catechesis, Music, Talks, Interviews and Testimonies.

Church Safeguarding: If you have any concerns with regard to Safeguarding children or adults in need of protection within the Church please contact: Mrs Marie O'Kane (Designated Liaison Person), Diocesan Pastoral Centre, 164 Bishop Street, Derry. Tel: 02871 - 362475/07596500793. Email: dlp@derrydiocese.org - or PSNI (Police Service of Northern Ireland) 101 or Social Services Tel: 02871-314090.

Parish Representatives - Tracey McGilligan and Clare Mullan.

Errigal Privacy Notice: The Diocese of Derry complies with GDPR regulations. A privacy notice is available on the Parish Website or alternatively it is available from the Parish Office. Live stream of Mass and Services in St. Mary's Church and a Utube streaming in St. Joseph's Church are available online. Parishioners should note that the first three rows of seats are visible in St. Mary's Church.