



**DERRY DIOCESAN
CATECHETICAL
CENTRE**

Assembly
Monday 8th March
with
Father Patrick Lagan

Welcome: In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **All: Amen**

Opening Hymn: Come back to Me Lizzie Rea

Opening Prayer: Lord, as we continue on our journey with Jesus, on the road to Calvary, we place before you all the times when we failed to be just and fair and we acknowledge that we are sinners. We express our sorrow and ask for forgiveness for the times when we have failed to live in the light of your presence. We make this prayer, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.

Scripture Reading: A Reading from the Gospel of John 2:13-25

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple, he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the moneychangers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money-changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, 'Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market.' Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said, 'What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?' Jesus answered, 'Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews replied, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said. During his stay in Jerusalem for the Passover many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he gave, but Jesus knew them all and did not trust himself to them; he never needed evidence about any man; he could tell what a man had in him.

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Reflection:

Intercessions: Lord, as we enter the third week of Lent, help us to draw near to you in humility and sorrow. We ask you, to hear and answer the prayers we make today.

Lord, may we become your eyes and ears in the world, to bring justice where injustice exists.

Lord, may we become your eyes and ears in the world, to spread the good news of salvation.

Lord, may we become your eyes and ears in the world, to bring people to God, your Father.

Lord, may we become your eyes and ears in the world, to bring hope where there is none.

We take a moment to call to mind anyone or anything we wish to pray for..

United as the children of God, we bring all our prayers together in the words Jesus, our first teacher, taught us. **Our Father.....**

Closing Prayer: Lord, we know that we are not always fair and just. We often close our eyes to those who are suffering. Be with us, and help us, on our Lenten journey We ask that your own spirit guide us in the right direction. We want to do better. At times this seems overwhelming, but with your help we know, anything is possible. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn: Come back to Me Lizzie Rea