

7th JANUARY 2024 The Baptism of the Lord

A YEAR FOR PRAYER

It may be twelve months away, but plans are already being organised for 2025 which will be a jubilee year. The Church celebrates a jubilee (also known as a holy year) every twenty five years. It's a time of celebration, pilgrimage, devotions and blessings. And 2025 will be particularly important in our parish as it will be the bicentenary of our founding in 1825.

Pope Francis has asked that we make 2024 a year of prayer to prepare our hearts for the festivities next year. Here in our parish we will make a special commitment to prayer as well. On this first weekend of the new year when we renew our baptismal promises may we set off as we mean to go on - giving God the first place in our lives, being faithful to Mass and daily prayer, and entrusting ourselves to the love and protection of Jesus and Mary.

THIS WEEK

Parish webcam can be viewed on our YouTube channel (search for Ballymoney Parish)

SATURDAY 6th 5.30-5.50pm Confessions

6pm Vigil Mass

SUNDAY 7th 9.30am Mass

Baptism of the Lord 4.30-4.50pm Confessions

5pm Mass

MONDAY 8th no Mass

WEDNESDAY 10th 10am Mass

FRIDAY 12th 6-6.40pm Confessions

7pm Mass

Our Lady & St Patrick's is open every day for private prayer - usually from 10am to 4.30pm.

Other Sunday Masses in this Family of Parishes:

Saturday 5pm - Portstewart

Saturday 6pm - St Malachy's, Coleraine

Sunday 10am - Portstewart

Sunday 11am - St Malachy's, Coleraine

Sunday 12noon - Portrush

WE PRAY FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Recently Deceased

Philomena McQuillan, Dunloy

Month's Mind

Peter McAlister

Anniversaries

Fr Seamus McAfee, Mary & James Duffy, Sammy Graham, Angela Fitzpatrick, Eva McClintock, Bridget (Bridie) Olphert, Una Smyth, Tracy Turner

REQUIESCAT IN PACE

PARISH FINANCES

Thank you to everyone who supports the parish through our collections. If you want to request a box of envelopes there is a form at the back of the church. Remember that you can also support the parish through a regular standing order or by making a one off payment through your bank or online. Our account details are:

Parish of Ballymoney & Derrykeighan Sort code: 95-06-79 Account No: 10020192.

If you want to give by cheque please make payable to: **Parish of Ballymoney & Derrykeighan**.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL

If you need our help please call us confidentially on **07860455549**. For more information about the work of our conference you can speak to any of our members. Thank you for your ongoing support.

OLD & NEW@No.5

Congratulations to the volunteers at our parish shop who had an excellent Christmas and are now getting a well earned break. But don't worry - Old&New@No.5 reopens this Wednesday (10th) for the big January sale! We are situated at 5 Gate End, Ballymoney and open 10am-4.30pm from Wednesday - Saturday. Take a look at our Facebook page for more information.

BEGINNING EXPERIENCE

The loss of a partner through death, separation or divorce is devastating. Beginning Experience is offering a programme of bereavement support in St Bride's Hall, Derryvolgie Ave., Belfast on three Saturdays (27th January, 24th February and 23rd March 2024). Booking essential. To find **o**ut more, contact Marie 07896119669 or 07519289185 or email belfastbe@yahoo.com

DO THIS IN MEMORY MASSES

Our special Masses for Primary 4 children and their families continue in the new year. The dates for this year's Masses are:

Sunday 21st January Sunday 25th February Sunday 24th March (Palm Sunday) Sunday 28th April and Sunday 2nd June (Corpus Christi)

ONLINE BIBLE COURSE

Looking for a New Year's Resolution? What about an online Bible course?

The Bible is at the heart of our faith and our relationship with God. Reading the Bible should bring us closer to Christ, but many people find it hard to know where to start.

Why not begin the new year and learn how to read the Bible and better understand the fascinating events, figures and connections between the Old and New Testament. We invite you to gather each week for a time of teaching, discussion and prayerful reflection as we journey through the Bible timeline and better understand how we are involved in the unfolding of God's plan of salvation history.

Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible includes 8 weekly sessions on Zoom. Course participants will receive a resource pack. The programme requires one hour of study per week. It begins on Wednesday 17th January at 7pm and runs for 8 weeks.

The program will conclude with a Retreat Day on Saturday 23rd March 2024 at the Holy Rosary Parish Centre, Belfast

The cost of the program is £30

To book your place use this online registration link: https://forms.office.com/e/HTLtfTXUaD

School Updates

ST BRIGID'S PRIMARY SCHOOL REGISTRATION

If you have a child starting school in September 2024 or know someone who is, please contact St Brigid's Primary School to register your interest.

The application process is online this year and is open from the **9th** to the **26th January 2024**. All of the information and guidance will be on the Education Authority website https://www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions

Please contact the school to if you require any assistance in completing the online application or have any questions about the school on **028 27662664**.

OUR LADY OF LOURDES SCHOOL OPEN NIGHT

Our Open Night takes place on Wednesday 17th January at 7pm. Principal's address 7.05pm. We look forward to seeing all the Primary 6 and 7 Pupils and Parents then.

LORETO COLLEGE OPEN DAY

Loreto College Coleraine invites parents and pupils transferring to Year 8 and Year 13 to attend its Open Day on **Saturday 13th January**, **9.30am–1pm**. (See school website www.loretocollege.org.uk for more details).

DOMINICAN COLLEGE OPEN DAY

Prospective students and their parents are warmly invited to Open Days on **Wednesday 17th January** (7pm - 9.30pm) & **Friday 19th January** (9am – 11.30am)

There will be an opportunity to meet students and teachers, see some of the work of the students and visit various departments. The Principal will give an introductory address to pupils and parents at **7pm** on Wednesday 17th and at **9am** on Friday 19th.

PARISH OF BALLYMONEY & DERRYKEIGHAN

Diocese of Down & Connor North Connor Pastoral Community

Contact Details

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HYMNS FOR MASS

On Jordan's bank, the Baptist's cry Announces that the Lord is nigh; Awake, and hearken, for he brings Glad tidings of the King of kings!

Then cleansed be every breast from sin; Make straight the way for God within; Prepare we in our hearts a home Where such a mighty Guest may come.

All praise, eternal Son, to Thee Whose advent sets Thy people free, Whom, with the Father, we adore, And Holy Ghost, forevermore. Joy to the world! the Lord is come; Let Earth receive her King; Let every heart prepare him room, And heaven and nature sing, And heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.

Joy to the world! the Saviour reigns; Let men their songs employ; While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.