



Parish of Ballymoney & Derrykeighan

4th FEBRUARY 2024
Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time

OUR NEW BISHOP

It is with great joy that we hear that Pope Francis has appointed the **Most Rev. Alan McGuckian** as the new **Bishop of Down & Connor**. Bishop Alan is a native of Cloughmills and a past pupil of St Macnissi's, Garron Tower. He joined the Jesuit order in 1972 and was ordained a priest in 1984. Over the years he has worked in education and communication ministries and from 2011 he served as director of the Down & Connor Living Church office. In 2017 he was appointed Bishop of Raphoe in County Donegal. As a parish we send Bishop Alan our prayers and best wishes at this time of change for him. We also hope that he will be able to visit us here in Ballymoney before too long! May the Lord bless him in the years ahead. *Ad multos annos!*



THIS WEEK

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

SATURDAY 3rd	5.30-5.50pm Confessions 6pm Vigil Mass
SUNDAY 4th	9.30am Mass 4.30-4.50pm Confessions 5pm Mass
MONDAY 5th	no Mass
WEDNESDAY 7th	no Mass
FRIDAY 9th	no 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
Tony O'Kane, Lavey

Anniversaries
Martin Elliott, Frank Havlin, Christopher Hurley, Jane McCluskey, Rosemary Mooney, Jim Wallace

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.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

Fr Damian will be on leave this week and our parish office will be closed. Anniversaries and bulletin notices for next weekend can be sent by email or left through the parochial house front door.

If a priest is needed urgently please contact Fr Nideesh Varghese at St Malachy's in Coleraine (028 70343156) or Fr Kevin McGuckien in Portstewart (028 7083 2534). For hospital patients please ask a member of staff to contact the priest on call.

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

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.

DEMENTIA FRIENDLY MASSES

As part of our celebration of the **2024 Year of Prayer** we will be offering special Dementia Friendly Masses on the Saturdays of Lent from **17th February to 23rd March**. These Masses will take place at **2pm**. Carers and families are invited to bring along loved ones with dementia or memory issues for a shorter (30 minute) Mass with familiar prayers and hymns. There will also be a chance to light candles, receive the sacrament of the sick or go to confession. Everyone is welcome and no one needs to feel embarrassed or awkward.

We're also looking for a few volunteers to help as stewards for the Masses to make everyone feel welcome. If you would like to help please speak to Fr Damian.

A MESSAGE FROM BISHOP ALAN MCGUCKIAN

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord it has been announced that, having accepted the appointment of Pope Francis, I will soon take up office as bishop of Down & Connor.

My faith roots are entirely in the Diocese of Down & Connor. This diocese is where I come from and I am humbled and privileged that after all my wanderings, the Bishop of Rome has chosen to send me home. It will take me some time to take my leave of Raphoe and I want to make a good retreat before arriving into the diocese. I will certainly be here for the Chrism Mass on Holy Thursday.

One of the first duties of a bishop is to pray for the people of his diocese. Please be assured of my prayers for you and I sincerely ask you to pray for me. Both in my family and my religious life the image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus has been a constant companion. I pray that we will reunited in the love of his Heart.

I gCroí Íosa.

+Alan McGuckian SJ

PARISH OF BALLYMONEY & DERRYKEIGHAN

Diocese of Down & Connor
North Connor Pastoral Community

Contact Details

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HYMNS FOR MASS

Come and take the flesh of Christ
Which he gave to be our bread.
Drink the chalice of his blood
Which upon the cross he shed.

We who are redeemed and saved,
By his body and his blood,
Hail the saving sacred Host
Which he gave to be our food.

Giver of salvation, Lord
Christ, the Son of God most high,
Sacrificed to save the world,
Raised with him, we will not die.

Praise, my soul, the King of Heaven,
to his feet your tribute bring;
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
who, like me, his praise should sing?
Praise him, praise him,
praise him, praise him
praise the everlasting king

Praise him for his grace and favour
to our fathers in distress
praise him, still the same forever,
slow to chide and swift to bless,
Praise him, praise him,
praise him, praise him
Glorious in his faithfulness.

CLERICAL APPOINTMENTS

In addition to the appointment of Bishop Alan McGuckian there were two other announcements affecting the local area this week. Fr Anthony Devlin has been appointed the new parish priest of Dunloy & Cloughmills. Fr Darren Brennan will be moving to St Paul's parish, Belfast before Easter.

The Cistercian Order has announced that Fr Aelred Magee will be the new superior of the monastery of Our Lady of Bethlehem in Portglenone, taking over responsibility from Dom Celsus Kelly.

SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY

Bishop Donal McKeown has published a pastoral letter this weekend on Safeguarding. He writes "On this particular Safeguarding Sunday, I as Apostolic Administrator, draw your attention to the publication of the National Board Report on Safeguarding Practice in the Diocese of Down and Connor.

My thoughts go to those who have experienced abuse within our Church and who carry with them the scars of their experience. I hope this Report would give you some solace. As a Diocese, Down and Connor will strive to ensure that their experience in the past will not be repeated in the future. We continue to owe victims and their families a duty of care with compassion and healing in their spiritual and personal lives.

The conclusion of the Report states that the Diocese of Down and Connor, 'has a strong Safeguarding structure, which promotes and delivers on engagement with and support for parishes and their Safeguarding personnel.' The Report goes on to say, 'None of this would be possible without the commitment and dedication the Reviewers witnessed from people at all levels.'

Here in our family of parishes the new Safeguarding Committee is doing great work to make sure we continue to look after children and vulnerable adults in our community. Thank you to the volunteers who represent our parish in this important ministry.