

11th FEBRUARY 2024

Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time

LENT BEGINS THIS WEEK

This is the last weekend before Lent, the Church's annual time of prayer, repentance and conversion. It begins on Ash Wednesday which falls this week. Together we will start Lent by receiving blessed ashes at Mass and observing the day of fast and abstinence.

This is also a good time to think about what personal commitment we can make for Lent. This season comes round each year so that we can focus on our spiritual lives. Extra prayer, fasting and almsgiving are the best ways to grow spiritually and give God more space in our hearts. Whatever you do for Lent do something and be ready to receive the blessings God wants to give you at this time.



THIS WEEK

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

SATURDAY 10th 5.30-5.50pm Confessions

6pm Vigil Mass

SUNDAY 11th 9.30am Mass

4.30-4.50pm Confessions

5pm Mass

MONDAY 12th 10am Mass

WEDNESDAY 14th 10am Mass

Ash Wednesday 7pm Mass

FRIDAY 16th 6-6.40pm Confessions

7pm Mass

SATURDAY 17th 2pm Dementia Friendly 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

Anniversaries

Fr Christopher Dallat PP, Sarah (Cissie) Cairns, Jim Darragh, Marie Dunlop, Thomas Doherty, Tony Kelly, Ethna McCloskey, Jane McCluskey, Rosaleen McKenna, Samuel O'Connor, James O'Reilly, Willie Quinn

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.

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.

THE SEASON OF LENT

During these six weeks we are invited to take up extra prayer, fasting and almsgiving so that we can grow spiritually and be ready to celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus at Easter.

ASH WEDNESDAY

Ashes will be distributed at the Masses at **10am** and **7pm**. Wednesday is a **Day of Fast and Abstinence** for all Catholics in good health aged between 14 and 60.

- We **fast** by eating just one normal meal (and also one or two small snacks if necessary).
- We abstain by not eating meat at all.

TRÓCAIRE LENT APPEAL

Please pick up a Trócaire pack at Mass. The pack contains a box plus details of how give by cheque, phone or online.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The Stations of the Cross will be prayed in Our Lady & St Patrick's each Tuesday of Lent at 7pm, beginning next Tuesday (February 20th).

LENTEN PLEDGE

Many people choose to give up alcohol for Lent. You can offer up this sacrifice as a prayer for those who suffer through alcoholism. If you do, why not make this daily prayer:

I promise in honour of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and with the help of the Blessed Virgin Mary, to abstain from all alcoholic drink during Lent.

EARLY MORNING MASS IN COLERAINE

On the **weekdays of Lent** (beginning this Wednesday) an early morning Mass will be celebrated at **7am** in **St Malachy's** in **Coleraine**. This Mass is being organised jointly by the priests of Ballymoney, Portstewart, Portrush and Coleraine. Why not come regularly as part of your Lenten commitment?

ASH WEDNESDAY

Masses in our neighbouring parishes on Wednesday:

7am St Malachy's, Coleraine

8.30am Portrush 9.30am Portstewart

10am St Malachy's, Coleraine 1.15pm University (Octagon) 7pm St Malachy's, Coleraine

7pm Portstewart

Ashes will be available (without Mass) from the chapel of the Causeway Hospital from 12.30-1.15pm

COURSE FOR MINISTERS OF THE WORD

The Living Church Office is offering an enrichment programme for Ministers of the Word in our parish and anyone who might be interested in reading at Mass in the future. The first part of the program will take place online via zoom on **Tuesday 27th February 7-8:30pm**.

This will be followed by an in-person enrichment day will on **Saturday 2nd March 10am-3:45pm** at Dunloy Parish Centre, 17 Bridge Road, Dunloy BT44 9AN.

To book your place on the program, please contact the parish office or Aishling Steen or click on the booking link https://forms.office.com/e/K1kyN1NnUD e-mail: a.steen@downandconnor.org or telephone 028 90690920

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.

CONGRATULATIONS

to our neighbour, the **Rev. Richard Murray** of **Drumreagh Presbyterian Church** who has been appointed Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland for the next year.

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 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, Glorious in his faithfulness.