



Parish of Ballymoney & Derrykeighan

26th FEBRUARY 2023
First Sunday of Lent



SPEAK OF THE DEVIL

In the first reading today we are reminded of the story of the *fall* - how humanity committed its first sin by listening to the Devil and turning away from God. In the Gospel, Jesus comes face to face with the Devil himself who wants to tempt the Lord away from his mission. Jesus stands firm and ultimately defeats the Devil through his death and resurrection.

But while the Devil may be defeated, he would love us to share in his misery. He continues to tempt us to sin and to turn away from God. We need to be aware that there is great evil in the world and that without God's grace we will fall into sin very easily. Lent helps us to grow in holiness and virtue so that we can resist temptation and, with Jesus, confidently say "be off Satan!"

THIS WEEK

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

SATURDAY 25th	5.30-5.50pm Confessions 6pm Vigil Mass
SUNDAY 26th	10am Mass 4.30-4.50pm Confessions 5pm Mass
MONDAY 27th	10am Mass
TUESDAY 28th	7pm Stations of the Cross & Benediction
WEDNESDAY 1st	10am Mass
FRIDAY 3rd First Friday	6pm Holy Hour 7pm Mass & Novena Prayers

Our Lady & St Patrick's is open every day from 10am to 4.30pm.

Other Sunday Masses in this area

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

Mary Doherty, Donegal
Isabella Doherty, Scotland

Anniversaries

Winifred Connor, Ann Gilmore, Winifred Lagan,
Marie McColgan, Elizabeth McCloy,
James and Mary McCluskey, Hugh McKay, Anne Martin,
Bridget O'Hare

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 cheques 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. We would like to thank parishioners for your very generous ongoing support.



MASS ATTENDANCE

We recently ran a count of how many people attend Sunday Mass in our parish. The count ran over the first three weeks of February. Average Sunday Mass attendance was 403 (out of a Catholic population of 2000 in Ballymoney according to the census).

Last weekend attendance was 398 and the breakdown was 140 at the Saturday vigil, 153 on Sunday morning and 105 on Sunday evening.

OLD & NEW@NO.5

Our parish shop is open Wednesday- Saturday 10.00am-4.30pm and you'll find it at 5 Gate End, Ballymoney. Check them out on Facebook too @oldandnewatno5

LENT DEVOTIONS

Beginning this week we have **Stations of the Cross** and **Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament** each Tuesday of Lent at 7pm.

FIRST FRIDAY NOVENA

We continue our novena to the Sacred Heart this Friday (3rd March). As usual there will be a **Holy Hour** of Adoration from 6pm with confessions available and Benediction at 6.45pm. At 7pm there will be **Mass** and the Sacred Heart novena prayer.



DO THIS IN MEMORY

Our next Mass for the P4 children receiving First Holy Communion in May will be next week at the 10am Mass on Sunday (5th March).

EARLY MORNING MASS IN COLERAINE

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

SCRIPTURE PRAYER IN PORTSTEWART

Portstewart parish are offering a time of prayer with the scriptures (Lectio Divina) on **Thursday** evenings at 8pm in the Marian Hall behind the Star of the Sea church (access through side door of the church).

A second prayer session takes place on **Friday** mornings at 10am (after 9.30am) Mass using music, images and prayer to help us reflect on the Word of God for each of the Sundays in Lent.

PARISH OF BALLYMONEY & DERRYKEIGHAN

Diocese of Down & Connor
North Connor Pastoral Community

Contact Details

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HYMNS FOR MASS

Forty days and forty nights
Thou was fasting in the wild;
Forty days and forty nights
Tempted, and yet undefiled.

Shall not we thy sorrow share
And from earthly joys abstain,
Fasting with unceasing prayer,
glad with thee to suffer pain?

And with satan vexing sore
Flesh or spirit should assail,
Thou his vanquisher before
Grant we may not faint or fail!

So shall we have peace divine;
Holier gladness ours shall be;
Round us, too, shall angels shine,
Such as ministered to thee

God of mercy and compassion,
Look with pity upon me,
Father let me call Thee Father,
'Tis thy child returns to Thee. R.

*R. Jesus Lord, I ask for mercy;
Let me not implore in vain;
All my sins, I now detest them,
Never will I sin again.*

By my sins I have deserved
Death and endless misery,
Hell with all its pains and torments,
And for all eternity. R.

ONLINE COURSE FOR LENT

Down & Connor Living Church are offering a five week course on Zoom called No Greater Love which takes a deeper look at the passion and death of Jesus in the Gospels.

The programme will be facilitated by Fr Paul Byrne & Aishling Steen and includes videos filmed in the Holy Land. There are 5 online sessions – one for each week of Lent up to Holy week. It begins on Monday (27th) at 7pm. To book your place on our online program please click on the registration link:
<https://forms.office.com/e/BR9APwPyRL>

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.

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.

PRAYER TO ST MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

Saint Michael the Archangel,
defend us in battle.
Be our protection against the wickedness
and snares of the devil.
May God rebuke him, we humbly pray;
and do Thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host -
by the Power of God -
cast into hell, Satan and all the evil spirits,
who wander through the world
seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

