



# Parish of Ballymoney & Derrykeighan

19th MARCH 2023  
Fourth Sunday of Lent  
*Laetare Sunday*



## OPEN YOUR EYES!

In today's Gospel Jesus carries out a wonderful miracle of healing, giving the gift of sight to a man born blind. But at the same time, many people who can see rightly decide to close their eyes to the Lord. The man's neighbours aren't sure if it's the same man at all. His parents keep quiet about what happened. The pharisees regard it as another reason to have Jesus killed. Despite the miracle they have no faith.

Lent is the time for us to grow in faith and open our eyes to the glory of God. So as we reach the halfway point of Lent this year, let's make even more effort to love God and our neighbour, and to use this time well.

### THIS WEEK

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

<b>SATURDAY 18th</b>	5.30-5.50pm Confessions 6pm Vigil Mass
<b>SUNDAY 19th</b>	10am Mass 4.30-4.50pm Confessions 5pm Mass
<b>MONDAY 20th</b> St Joseph's Day	10am Mass
<b>TUESDAY 21st</b>	7pm Stations of the Cross & Benediction
<b>WEDNESDAY 22nd</b>	10am Mass
<b>FRIDAY 24th</b>	6-6.40pm Confessions 7pm Mass
<b>SATURDAY 25th</b> The Annunciation	10am Mass in Dervock

*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

### BROADCAST MASS

BBC Radio Ulster are returning to Our Lady & St Patrick's to broadcast our Mass next Sunday (26th). The broadcast will be live from 10.15-11am but the congregation are asked to be in the church for 10am. The broadcast can be heard on Radio Ulster and online around the world through the BBC website.



### WE PRAY FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

#### Recently Deceased

Donald Thompson

#### Anniversaries

Jeannie Marie Darragh, Brigid McNamee, Mavis McVeigh, Shaun McVeigh, Bernadette Muldoon, Archie Osborne, Eric 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 cheques payable to: **Parish of Ballymoney & Derrykeighan.**

#### FIRST CONFESSION

We look forward to celebrating the Sacrament of confession with the children from St Brigid's Primary School, Ballymoney Model Integrated Primary School and other schools on Thursday (23rd) at 11am. Please keep the children and their families in your prayers at this special time.

#### 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.

#### LENT DEVOTIONS

Stations of the Cross and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament each Tuesday of Lent at 7pm.

#### MASS IN DERVOCK

Next Saturday (25th) there will be a special Mass at 10am in Our Lady & St John the Evangelist's church in Dervock for the feast of the Annunciation (which is a day off Lent). Dervock church is now being used as a retreat centre for primary school children and the retreat team will be there on Saturday to talk about their work and show how they are using the church space. Refreshments will be served after Mass.

#### EARLY MORNING MASS IN COLERAINE

On the weekdays of Lent an early morning Mass is celebrated at 7am in St Malachy's, Coleraine. Fr Damian will be celebrating the Mass on Tuesday this week. 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.

#### 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

#### PARISH OF BALLYMONEY & DERRYKEIGHAN

Diocese of Down & Connor  
North Connor Pastoral Community

#### Contact Details

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#### TRÓCAIRE LENT APPEAL

A very happy Mother's Day from all in Trócaire! Today we celebrate mothers and those in a mothering role who tirelessly work to create a positive environment in which their children can thrive. In Somalia and other countries around the world, Trócaire provides maternal care for expectant and new mothers. Your support this Lent will provide healthcare to mothers and babies and train new midwives in one of the most fragile countries in the world.

#### VOCATIONS RETREAT

Could God be calling you to become a priest? Our Diocese is teaming up with the other northern dioceses to host a Diocesan Vocations retreat for men from 21st to 23rd April. The retreat will be directed by Fr Stephen Langridge. For more details please contact our Vocations Director, Fr Conor McGrath by email: c.mcgrath@downandconnor.org

#### FOSTERING CHILDREN

On Monday we celebrate the feast of St Joseph, foster father of Jesus. As we celebrate the day we remember that there are children in crisis today in our local communities – children of all ages and all abilities. Can you spare a weekend, a few days or more to make a difference in a child's life. If you can, then contact the Regional Fostering Team at adoptionandfostercare.hscni.net or by phone on 0800 0720 137. Remember every child is just one caring adult away from success!

#### A PRAYER FOR MOTHERING SUNDAY

Loving God, as a mother gives life and nourishment to her children, so you give life and care for your Church.

Bless all mothers, as we celebrate this day in their honour. Guide and protect them in challenging times and help them and their families to continue to trust in you all the days of their life. Amen.

#### 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 shall not die.

Now thank we all our God  
with heart and hands and voices,  
who wondrous things has done,  
in whom his world rejoices;  
who from our mothers' arms  
has blessed us on our way  
with countless gifts of love,  
and still is ours today.

All praise and thanks to God  
the Father now be given,  
the Son and Spirit blest,  
who reign in highest heaven  
the one eternal God,  
whom heaven and earth adore;  
for thus it was, is now,  
and shall be evermore.