



Parish of Ballymoney & Derrykeighan

23rd JULY 2023
Sixteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

GOD ANSWERS HIS CRITICS

Very often the question comes up “why does God allow bad things to happen? Why do bad people seem to get away with their deeds and so many innocent people suffer? “ For some people this is so much of a problem that it causes them to doubt or even to reject God.

In today’s Gospel, Jesus gives God’s answer - and he admits the charge! Yes, the Lord does allow both wheat and darnel to grow; he gives us our freedom to choose good and evil during our lives because he is patient with us. Whatever we have done in the past God still gives us time to come good and to return to him. But this parable also reassures us that God is just and that one day the good will be rewarded, the innocent will be consoled and the evil will receive their punishment.



THIS WEEK

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

SATURDAY 22nd	5.30-5.50pm Confessions 6pm Vigil Mass
SUNDAY 23rd	9.30am Mass 4.30-4.50pm Confessions 5pm Mass
MONDAY 24th	10am Mass
WEDNESDAY 26th	10am Mass
FRIDAY 28th	6-6.40pm Confessions 7pm Mass

Our Lady & St Patrick’s is open every day for prayer, usually from 10am to 6pm.

Other Sunday Masses in this area:

Saturday 5pm -	Portstewart
Saturday 6.30pm -	St Malachy’s, Coleraine
Saturday 7pm -	Portrush
Sunday 8am -	Portstewart
Sunday 10am -	Portstewart
Sunday 11am -	St Malachy’s, Coleraine
Sunday 12noon -	Portrush

WE PRAY FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Anniversaries

Daniel Brown, Patrick Connolly, Margaret Diver, Jeannie Bernadette Donnelly, Joe Gilmore, Hugh Hegarty, Billy Kerr, Anne McCaffrey, Willie McConville, Louisa (Cissy) McConville, Mary McKay, Patrick McKenna, Gretta McMillan, Margaret McNinch, Desmond Roche, Ursula Wright

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. Thank you for your ongoing support.



SUMMER MASSES

During July and August there are two extra weekend Masses in this area - a **7pm Saturday vigil** in St Patrick’s, Portrush and an **8am Sunday morning Mass** in Star of the Sea, Portstewart.

DIOCESAN APPOINTMENTS

Our apostolic administrator, Bishop Donal McKeown, has made a number of new clerical appointments this weekend. Full details are available on the diocesan website www.downandconnor.org. There are no changes in the north coast area of the diocese this year.

DAY OF PRAYER FOR GRANDPARENTS & THE ELDERLY

Sunday 23rd July is the Church’s annual day of prayer for grandparents and the elderly. In a message for the day Pope Francis writes “Dear grandparents, dear elderly brothers and sisters, may the Gospel blessing of the embrace between Mary and Elizabeth come upon you and fill your hearts with peace. With great affection, I give you my blessing. And I ask you, please, to pray for me.” May God bless all our elderly parishioners and friends and the grandparents of our families.

MENS’ ROSARY

There will be a men’s rosary rally at the seafront in Ballycastle opposite the Marine hotel on **Saturday 5th August at 1pm**. The intentions are for a return to the faith in Ireland, the conversion of sinners, and reparations for offences against God’s love. All men of any age are welcome to come along and be part of this rally.

OLD & NEW@No.5

Our parish shop has lots of collectibles and interesting things in this week, and our clothes and accessories sale continues for another week!

Check out our new table lamps, our Tiffany glass style lamp shade and ceramics; including jugs and pieces of Masons Ironstone. A limited number of bicycle planters, garden benches, garden mirrors still remain... so be sure to come and get yours!

Our parish shop is open Wednesday- Saturday 10.00am-4.30pm and you’ll find it at 5 Gate End, Ballymoney. Check us out on Facebook too [@oldandnewatno5](https://www.facebook.com/oldandnewatno5)

PARISH OF BALLYMONEY & DERRYKEIGHAN

Diocese of Down & Connor
North Connor Pastoral Community

Contact Details

Very Rev. Damian McCaughan PP

81 Castle Street
BALLYMONEY
Co. Antrim
BT53 6JT

Tel: 028 2766 2003
Email: office@ballymoneyparish.com

Website: www.ballymoneyparish.com
Facebook: [@ballymoneycatholic](https://www.facebook.com/ballymoneycatholic)
Youtube: Ballymoney Parish

HYMNS FOR MASS

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
Whose trust, ever childlike,
no cares could destroy,
Be there at our waking, and give us we pray,
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord,
At the break of the day.

Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
Whose strong hands were skilled
at the plane and the lathe,
Be there at our labours and give us we pray,
Your strength in our hearts, Lord,
At the noon of the day.

Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,
Your hands swift to welcome,
Your arms to embrace.
Be there at our homing, and give us we pray,
Your love in our hearts, Lord,
At the eve of the day.

O God beyond all praising,
We worship you today
And sing the love amazing
That songs cannot repay;
For we can only wonder at every gift you send,
At blessings without number
And mercies without end:
We lift our hearts before you
And wait upon your word,
We honour and adore you,
Our great and mighty Lord.

Then hear, O gracious Saviour,
Accept the love we bring,
That we who know your favour
May serve you as our king;
And whether our tomorrows be filled with good or ill,
We’ll triumph through our sorrows
And rise to bless you still:
To marvel at your beauty
And glory in your ways, Lord,
And make a joyful duty
Our sacrifice of praise

BECOMING A CATHOLIC

From time to time our parish is approached by people who were not brought up Catholic who wish to enter the Church. If you or someone you know is interested you are most welcome to come along and speak to Fr Damian.

Before being received into the Church a time of preparation and instruction is needed. One option for this is RCIA (the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) which is carried out in our diocese in Belfast.

Invitation to RCIA

The Down & Connor RCIA course returns this year in November. RCIA (the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) is a course for non-Catholic adults who want to find out more about Catholicism, who want to become Catholic, or for Catholics who want to learn more about their faith.

Each session begins with prayer, followed by a teaching on an aspect of the Catholic faith, questions and answers and discussion. Non-Catholics are welcome to bring a Catholic friend with them.

The RCIA course meets Thursday nights from 6.30-8pm at St Mary’s Hall, Chapel Lane, Belfast BT1 1HH from October to May. The start date for the programme is Thursday 5th October 2023.

The sessions begin with prayer, followed by teaching, question and answer and small group discussion.

If you’re someone who is interested in becoming a Catholic, RCIA is one of the best ways of preparing yourself and it is highly recommended. But, of course, a course in Belfast may not suit everyone, so we can tailor the instruction and preparation here in the north coast area if that works better.