

24th August 2025

Twenty First Sunday of Ordinary Time



SPARE THE ROD, SPOIL THE CHILD..?

Discipline is an important part of life, especially for parents raising children. Today's readings remind us that God works the same way with us. In the Letter to the Hebrews, we hear that "the Lord trains the ones he loves" and that suffering can be "part of your training" that "bears fruit in peace and goodness."

In the Gospel, when someone asks Jesus about salvation, he doesn't give statistics but fatherly advice: "Try your best to enter by the narrow door." Jesus warns us that our choices have consequences, not to frighten us but because he cares about our eternal wellbeing. Like any loving parent, God sometimes needs to correct us when we're heading in the wrong direction. We can trust that his discipline always comes from his love and that taking his advice always leads us safely home.

THIS WEEK

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

SATURDAY 23rd 5.30pm Confessions

6pm Vigil Mass

SUNDAY 24th 9.30am Mass

MONDAY 25th 10am Mass

WEDNESDAY 27th 10am Mass

7pm Rosary

FRIDAY 29th 6pm Adoration & Confessions

7pm Mass

SATURDAY 30th 2pm Dementia Friendly Mass

Our Lady & St Patrick's church is open every day for private prayer - usually from 10am to 7pm.

Other Sunday Masses in the Causeway Family of Parishes

Saturday 4.30pm - Portstewart Sunday 10am - Portstewart

Sunday 11.30am - St Malachy's, Coleraine

Sunday 12noon - Portrush

Sunday 5pm - St Malachy's, Coleraine

WE PRAY FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Recently Deceased

Fr Francis Morgan OCSO, Portglenone Abbey

Anniversaries

Christine Carr, Tony Donaghy, Elizabeth Graham, Sèamus McCloskey, Camillus Mooney, Eileen Mooney, Hannah Morrison, Jessie Neill, Josephine Smyth

REQUIESCAT IN PACE

CONGRATULATIONS

to **Jenny Chartres** and **David Hughes** who celebrated their marriage this week.



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 purple 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**.

DAY OF PRAYER FOR GAZA

This **Sunday** (**24th**) is a day of prayer across Ireland for peace in Gaza. Everyone is asked to pray for this intention, and, if possible, to do some penance or sacrifice asking God's blessing for the Holy Land and all who are suffering there. We also pray for Ukraine and the other parts of the world affected by war and conflict at this time.

A **Holy Hour for Peace** with adoration, the rosary and Benediction will take place in **St Malachy's, Coleraine** on **Sunday** at **6pm** (after the evening Mass).

ST VINCENT DE PAUL

Our parish SVP conference is here to support our local community, and we do this in the strictest confidence. If you are in need and would like our help please do not hesitate to get in touch on **07860 455 549**.

GROUNDSKEEPER POSITION - READVERTISEMENT

The parish is looking to appoint a **Groundskeeper** to work in our premises in Ballymoney and Dervock. The responsibilities will include:

 Ensuring the churches and parish grounds and other parish properties are maintained to the highest standard, and that all who use them can do so safely and securely.

The terms are based on a permanent appointment requiring **28 hours** attendance each week over **4 days** from **9am** to **4pm** – working days to be agreed with the Parish Priest.

Availability to work flexible hours is required from the post holder from time to time. Rate of Pay - £12.21 gross per hour.

Full details relating to the vacancy can be found on the Diocesan website at: www.downandconnor.org clicking on the tab: JOB VACANCIES and on the Community NI website, where terms and conditions relating to the role can also be accessed by way of a Role Profile and Employment Application form. Application packs can also be obtained from Ballymoney Parish Office. We welcome applications from anyone who feels they meet the criteria and are interested in playing an active part in the Parish.

Closing date for applications will be 12noon on Thursday 4th September 2025.

SVP ANNUAL OUTING

The Society of St Vincent de Paul, Ballymoney, are hosting their annual outing for senior citizens and those living alone on **Sunday 21st September 2025**. This year's event will offer a shopping trip followed by an evening meal. Further details to follow. Transport is being organised for those wishing to attend with number limited to **48**. Anyone with mobility issues please speak to a member of SVP prior to the event.

If you are interested please phone the SVP answerphone **07860455549** and leave your name and contact number, or speak to an SVP representative. Final numbers required by **Sunday 14th September**.

OLD & NEW@No.5

There are lots of new things in the window and shop to hopefully attract you this week!

Check out our beautiful set of fire irons and dogs, our circular footed planter, our lovely Sam McLarnon print or the very nice inlaid elbow chair, and there are lots of other nice additions within the shop!

Open **Wednesday to Saturday 10-4.30pm** at 5 Gate End Ballymoney. You can also see pictures of our stock on our Facebook page.

JUBILEE FÊTE

Our parish jubilee fête takes place on **Saturday 20th September** from **12noon-5pm**.

How you can help?

- **1.** Support our **Parish Raffle** when tickets priced at £10 (in books of two) are available from next weekend at both masses. First prize £500 and there are five other prizes of £100 each.
- 2. We need donations of bottles and their various contents ie. perfume, cosmetics, soft drinks, alcohol, etc for our **Bottle Stall**. These can be left in the Church porches at Mass over the next two weekends.
- **3.** We are looking for volunteers to bake cakes, pastries, breads, puddings, etc for a **Cake Stall**. Please let Danny Carroll know if you can help.
- **4.** We are hoping to have a big **Tombola** stall so this is your chance to donate any unwanted presents you have at home eg. new cosmetics, candles, ornaments, new toys, etc. These can be left in the Church porches at Mass over the next two weekends.
- **5.** We also need two strong men to hold **Fr Damian in the stocks** while we throw water-soaked sponges at him!!

Finally, please help spread the word and tell your family and friends about the fete as it promises to be a great day!

PARISH OF BALLYMONEY & DERRYKEIGHAN

Diocese of Down & Connor Causeway Family of Parishes

Contact Details

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HYMNS FOR MASS

Christ be beside me, Christ be before me, Christ be behind me, King of my heart. Christ be within me, Christ be below me, Christ be above me, never to part.

Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand, Christ all around me, shield in the strife. Christ in my sleeping, Christ in my sitting, Christ in my rising, Light of my life.

Christ be in all hearts thinking about me, Christ be on all tongues telling of me. Christ be the vision in eyes that see me, In ears that hear me, Christ ever be. 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, graise him Glorious in his faithfulness