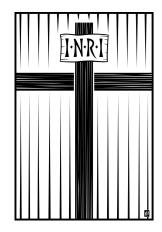


**14th September 2025** Exaltation of the Cross



# THE CROSS OF CHRIST

The first Christians found the cross too shocking to look at; their earliest images showed Jesus as the Good Shepherd. It took centuries before the Church understood why the cross was worth celebrating.

Today's readings help us understand this mystery. In the first reading, God transforms the bronze serpent from a symbol of death into an instrument of healing. Jesus makes the connection explicit: "As Moses lifted up the serpent, so must the Son of man be lifted up." God took the cross that killed Jesus and transformed it into our sign of salvation. This gives us hope - God can take our sufferings and transform them into something good. Through his cross, Jesus has turned all our sorrows into crosses of hope.

## THIS WEEK

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

SATURDAY 13th 5.30pm Confessions

6pm Vigil Mass

SUNDAY 14th 9.30am Mass

MONDAY 15th 10am Mass

Our Lady of Sorrows 7pm Rosary of the Seven Sorrows

WEDNESDAY 17th 10am Mass

7pm Rosary

FRIDAY 19th no Mass or Confessions today

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

# **CONGRATULATIONS**

to Jeannette McGill and Neiko Altenburg who celebrated their marriage

and to the family of **Frankie McGothigan** who was baptised here 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**.

## 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.

## WE PRAY FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

## Anniversaries

Ann Carroll, Michael Coyles, Cahal Kelly, Danny Hendrie, Florence Kirgan, John Kirgan, George McMillan, Feeny Moore, Michael Mullaghan

## **REQUIESCAT IN PACE**



# OLD & NEW@No.5

There are lots of new things in the window and shop to hopefully attract you this week! Open **Wednesday to Saturday 10-4.30pm** at 5 Gate End Ballymoney. You can also see pictures of our stock on our Facebook page.

#### **SVP ANNUAL OUTING**

This year's event for senior citizens and those living alone takes place **next Sunday (21st)**. It offers a shopping trip to Ballymena followed by an evening meal at the Wild Duck in Portglenone.

The bus will leave the car park opposite the church at **12.40pm sharp**. Please arrive in good time to get away on time. Anyone with mobility issues please speak to a member of SVP prior to attending the event.

Anyone still interested in attending should call the SVP number **07860455549** and leave their name and contact number, or speak to an SVP representative. Final numbers required by Sunday 14th September.

## NI AIR AMBULANCE

Our parishioner Sean Kerr will be participating in charity abseil at O'Cahan's Rock, Roe Valley Country Park on 20th September to raise funds for the Northern Ireland Air Ambulance. To contribute to this worthy cause, please visit www.justgiving.com/page/sean-kerr-1

## FEAST OF OUR LADY OF SORROWS

Sunday's feast of the Holy Cross is followed by the feast of Our Lady of Sorrows on Monday. In addition to morning Mass, the Legion of Mary will be praying the special Rosary of the Seven Sorrows in the church on **Monday** at **7pm**. All welcome.

## RNLI BALLYMONEY BRANCH

The Ballymoney branch of RNLI are having an evening of music and fun on **Friday 19th** to raise funds for the lifeboats. The Causeway Shantymen and Ukes At the Port will be performing. It takes place at Ballymoney Rugby Club and doors open at 7.30pm for 8pm. Minimum donation is £12.50 per person, payable at the door.

#### PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK

There will be a day trip to Our Lady's shrine in Knock on **Saturday 4th October**. Bus leaving St Patrick's Church Loughguile at 6am. Contact Patricia Campbell on **02827641120** or **07871626940**. Price approx. £25-30 depending on numbers.



Our Parish Fete takes place **next Saturday** (20th), from 12 **noon** to 5pm. There is something for everyone and it promises to be a great afternoon! Make sure your family takes an invite as you leave today for full details of everything that is happening!

The **Parish Draw** will take place on the day at **4.30pm** and if you haven't got a ticket yet, there are a few left at the back of the Church today.

Please note parking for the fete will be in **St Brigid's car park** and playground with access **via Westgate**. For health and safety reasons, there will be NO vehicle access to the Church car park but there will be pedestrian access via

Parishioners going to **6pm Mass** are also asked to use the school playground for parking with access via Westgate.

Anyone able to help with baking and donations of cakes, pastries, breads, puddings, etc for the **Cake Stall** should contact Danny Carroll on **07749042878** to finalise arrangements.



the Church drive.

A few more helpers are required on the morning of the fete around 10am to set out chairs, etc and after 5pm to tidy up if anyone can help.

PS. The stocks are now ready!

# PARISH OF BALLYMONEY & DERRYKEIGHAN

Diocese of Down & Connor Causeway Family of Parishes

Contact Details

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# **HYMNS FOR MASS**

When I behold the wondrous cross On which the Prince of glory died, My richest gain I count but loss, And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, Save in the death of Christ my God! The vain things that attract me most, I sacrifice them to His blood.

Were the whole realm of nature mine, That were an offering far too small; Love so amazing, so divine, Demands my soul, my life, my all. Hail Redeemer, King divine! Priest and Lamb, the throne is thine; King, whose reign shall never cease, Prince of everlasting peace.

Angels, saints and nations sing: "Praise be Jesus Christ our King; Lord of life, earth, sky and sea, King of love on Calvary!"

King, whose name creation thrills, rule our hearts, our minds, our wills; till in peace, each nation rings with thy praises, King of kings.

Angels, saints and nations sing: "Praise be Jesus Christ our King; Lord of life, earth, sky and sea, King of love on Calvary!"