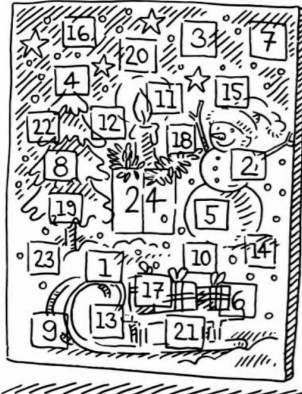




# Parish of Ballymoney & Derrykeighan

3rd DECEMBER 2023  
First Sunday of Advent



## LIVING A CHRISTIAN ADVENT

This weekend the new Church year begins with the Season of Advent. Over the next few weeks we will countdown to the coming of Jesus Christ at Christmas, and to his coming again at the end of time.

This period before Christmas is a busy time for many of us with plenty of temptations to eat, drink and be merry! But we should remember that this is also a time to prepare our hearts to welcome the Lord. Our personal Advent Calendars should include some self-denial and penance, times of prayer and reflection, a trip to confession, and a commitment to help others in need. In this way we will have a truly Christian Advent and be well prepared for the coming of Christ, the King of Kings!

### THIS WEEK

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

<b>SATURDAY 2nd</b>	5.30-5.50pm Confessions 6pm Vigil Mass
<b>SUNDAY 3rd</b>	10am Mass 4.30-4.50pm Confessions 5pm Mass
<b>MONDAY 4th</b>	10am Mass
<b>TUESDAY 5th</b>	7-8.30pm Adoration for Advent
<b>WEDNESDAY 6th</b>	10am Mass
<b>FRIDAY 8th</b>	<b>10am Mass</b> Immaculate Conception 6-6.40pm Confessions <b>7pm Mass</b>

*Our Lady & St Patrick's is open every day for private prayer - usually from 10am to 4.30pm.*

### Other Sunday Masses in this Family of Parishes

Saturday 5pm - Portstewart  
Saturday 6pm - St Malachy's, Coleraine  
Sunday 10am - Portstewart  
Sunday 11am - St Malachy's, Coleraine  
Sunday 12noon - Portrush

### Other Holy Day Masses in this Family of Parishes

Thursday 7pm - Portstewart  
Thursday 7pm - St Malachy's, Coleraine  
Friday 9.30am - Portstewart  
Friday 10am - St Malachy's, Coleraine  
Friday 10.30am - Portrush

### CONGRATULATIONS

to the family of **Katie McKay** who was baptised here last week and to **Aimee Doherty** and **Eoghan Mullan** who were married on Saturday.

### WE PRAY FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

#### Recently Deceased

Kay McLaughlin

#### Month's Mind

Bertie Rodgers

#### Anniversaries

Annie Blaney, John Boyle, Oliver Delaney, Lester Durkan, Catherine Kelly, Gerry McAfee, John McAleese, Rose McKay, Gerard Mooney, Jimmy Neill, Alastair Stockman

### 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 payable to:

**Parish of Ballymoney & Derrykeighan.**

#### BIBLE PRAYER GROUP

Our *Lectio Divina* scripture prayer group will be meeting on **Sunday** evening at **6pm** in the old canon's house. All welcome to attend.

#### HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

Friday is 8th December, the feast of the **Immaculate Conception of Our Lady**. It is a holy day of obligation and Masses in Ballymoney are at **10am** and **7pm**. See the panel on the left for Mass times across our family of parishes.



#### COMMUNITY CAROL SERVICE

The annual Ballymoney Community Carol Service takes place on **Monday (4th)**. It begins at **7pm** at St Patrick's, CoI, moving on to First Presbyterian, Ballymoney Methodist, and finishing here at Our Lady & St Patrick's. Refreshments will be served in our parish hall afterwards. Come and join us and invite your friends!

#### ST BRIGID'S PS SANTA SUNDAY

After 9.30am Mass next Sunday (10th), St Brigid's PS invite all parishioners to come over for their **Santa Sunday** event, with entertainment, refreshments and a **Grand Christmas Draw** with lots of prizes. The tickets for the draw will be on sale up to Friday 8th December from the school and on the day. To reflect the great prizes, tickets are priced at £1 each or a book of 6 for £5. Top prizes include:

1st Prize: £300 Cash Prize  
2nd Prize: £150 Glebe Spar Voucher  
3rd Prize: £100 Tesco Voucher

#### ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2023

You can still contribute to our appeal

- Via the **Red Box collection** at the church door
- By telephone on **028 9075 0161**: (please specify that your donation is for Ballymoney, Co. Antrim).
- Online at <http://svp.ie/ballymoneysvpappeal23> via the "Donate Now" link.

There are also Gift Aid Envelopes available at the back of the Chapel which allow us to claim back the tax at no cost to you.

Aside from the Christmas gift appeal we continue to support our local community. If you need our help please call us confidentially on **07860455549**.

#### CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

If you would like to contribute to decorating the church for Christmas, why not buy a **poinsettia** (red or white) and leave it in the church over the next couple of weeks?

#### 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](mailto:office@ballymoneyparish.com)

Website: [www.ballymoneyparish.com](http://www.ballymoneyparish.com)

Facebook: [@ballymoneycatholic](https://www.facebook.com/ballymoneycatholic)

Youtube: Ballymoney Parish



## Our Advent Calendar 2023

**MONDAY 4th** 7pm Community Carol Service

Each **TUESDAY** of **ADVENT** 7-8.30pm Adoration for Advent  
*A quiet time of prayer and reflection*

**FRIDAY 8th** 10am Mass  
Immaculate Conception 7pm Mass

**SUNDAY 10th** St Brigid's PS Santa Sunday  
*after 9.30am Mass.*

**SUNDAY 17th** 9.30am Do This In Memory Mass  
*with the blessing of crib figures followed by children's crafts and refreshments in the parish hall*

7pm Parish Carol Service

**SATURDAY 23rd** 7.30am Rorate Mass  
*candlelight Dawn Mass in honour of Our Lady's maternity.*

5-5.50pm Confessions

**SUNDAY 24th** 9.30am Mass for the Fourth Sunday of Advent  
Christmas Eve followed by **Confessions until 11.30am**

6pm VIGIL MASS of CHRISTMAS

12 MIDNIGHT MASS



**MONDAY 25th** 9.30am DAWN MASS of CHRISTMAS  
Christmas Day

**WEDNESDAY 27th** 9.30am Mass in Dervock  
St John's Day *for the feast of St John the Evangelist*

#### HYMNS FOR MASS

O come, O come, Emmanuel  
and ransom captive Israel  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear.

*R. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

\* \* \*

O come Thou Wisdom from on high,  
who orderest all things mightily;  
to us the path of knowledge show  
and teach us in her ways to go. R.

O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free  
Thine own from Satan's tyranny;  
From depths of hell Thy people save,  
And give them victory over the grave. R.

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.  
Longing for truth, we turn to you.  
Make us your own, your holy people,  
light for the world to see. R.

*R. Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts.  
Shine through the darkness.  
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church  
gathered today.*

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.  
Longing for hope, many despair.  
Your word alone has power to save us.  
Make us your living voice. R.