



Parish of Ballymoney & Derrykeighan

CAUSEWAY FAMILY OF PARISHES

7th December 2025
Second Sunday of Advent



PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD

This Sunday we hear John the Baptist calling out in the wilderness: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" John uses Isaiah's imagery of making straight paths, filling valleys, and lowering mountains. He's talking about the landscape of our hearts – the rough terrain that needs smoothing before Jesus can truly make his home in us. The mountains of pride, the valleys of despair, the crooked paths of resentment – all of this blocks Jesus from entering our hearts.

This week, let's prepare the way. Think about who you need to forgive, and who you need to ask for forgiveness. Most importantly, come to confession. Extended times are available – check the bulletin. Experience God's mercy and make your heart ready for Christmas.

THIS WEEK

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

SATURDAY 6th	5.30pm Confessions 6pm Vigil Mass
SUNDAY 7th	9.30am Mass
MONDAY 8th	10am Mass Immaculate Conception
TUESDAY 9th	7pm Advent Holy Hour <i>with confessions and Benediction</i>
WEDNESDAY 10th	10am Mass 7pm Rosary
FRIDAY 12th	no Mass or confessions today

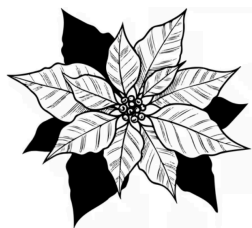
*Our Lady & St Patrick's church is open every day
for private prayer - usually from 10am to 4.30pm.*

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

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?



WE PRAY FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Recently Deceased

Sr. Patricia Doherty, Dunloy

Anniversaries

Oliver Delaney, Kathleen Donaghy, John McAleese,
Peter Michael McAlister, John McIlwaine, John McKendry,
Gerard Mooney, Joe Quigg, Alastair Stockman, Mary Taggart

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 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.

TOMMY FLEMING CONCERT

Our Tommy Fleming concert takes place on **Friday** (12th December). Doors open at **6.30pm** and the concert starts at **7.30pm**. Please note there will be no access to the church on Friday from 12noon onwards as Tommy's team will be getting set up. A very small number of tickets are still available. Please contact **Gerard** on **07860474956**.

BLESSING OF CRIB FIGURES

Next Sunday at 9.30am we have the monthly *Do This In Memory Mass*. We invite everyone to bring their Baby Jesus from home to be blessed at the end of that Mass.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL ANNUAL REPORT

The SVP is 181 years old in Ireland this year and our conference has been working on a volunteer basis for 116 years in the Ballymoney area helping those most in need in our local community. We are as busy as ever with people turning to us as they struggle to meet their basic needs of food and heating their homes.

Our activities this year:

- In 2024 our conference provided Christmas Toy & Gift vouchers to 57 children up to 16 years of age.
- Our annual outing for Senior Citizens and those living alone in September was a Shopping trip to Ballymena and then to the Wild Duck in Portglenone for a meal.
- In the last 12 months our members made **172** home visitations, including to **54** people/ families who had called SVP for the first time.
- Income received: Red Box Church Door Collections=**£25,469**; Other Donations and Fundraising = **£13,842**. This included support from St Brigid's Primary School, Alistair Coyles from the Black Santa Concert in Dec 2024 from Ballymoney Rotary Club. We also received support from deceased parishioners either via legacies from their estate or in lieu of flowers from funerals and we really appreciate that in difficult times of bereavement that SVP is considered and supported. Thanks to your generosity this year we were also able to financially support some of the other conferences in our area where demand for help outweighs what they were able to provide.

Summary of support provided from Nov '23 to Oct '24

- Heating Oil = **£10,650**
- Food & Energy Vouchers & Household Goods = **£14,610**
- Christmas Gift Support = **£2550**
- Annual Outing = **£1158**

Our conference has benefitted from several new volunteers joining us this year and we currently have 14 members. If you would like any information on joining us please speak to one of our volunteers or call our helpline.

Our final note is we want to say a great big thank you for your continued support and to wish you all a happy and holy Christmas.

PARISH OF BALLYMONEY & DERRYKEIGHAN

Diocese of Down & Connor
Causeway Family of Parishes

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Youtube: Ballymoney Parish

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.



Our Advent Calendar 2025

MONDAY 8th Immaculate Conception	10am & 7pm Mass <i>Holy Day of Obligation</i>
TUESDAY 9th 16th & 23rd	7-8pm Quiet Holy Hour <i>with Adoration & Benediction Confessions available</i>
SUNDAY 14th	9.30am <i>Do This In Memory Mass</i> <i>with the blessing of crib figures followed by Santa's Big Breakfast & St Brigid's PTA Christmas Draw</i>
SATURDAY 20th	7.30am <i>Rorate Mass</i> <i>candlelight Dawn Mass in honour of Our Lady's maternity.</i>
WEDNESDAY 24th Christmas Eve	6pm VIGIL MASS of CHRISTMAS 12 MIDNIGHT MASS
THURSDAY 25th Christmas Day	9.30am DAWN MASS of CHRISTMAS
SATURDAY 27th St John's Day	9.30am Mass in Dervock <i>for the feast of St John the Evangelist</i> <i>Other Masses & Confessions as normal on Saturday 27th and Sunday 28th.</i>