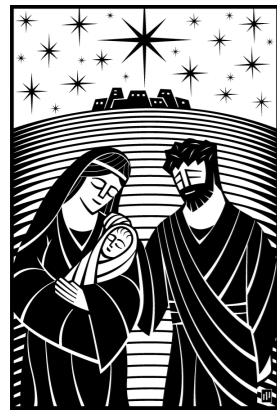




# Parish of Ballymoney & Derrykeighan

31st DECEMBER 2023  
Feast of the Holy Family



## CELEBRATING THE FAMILY OF JESUS

The Church keeps the Sunday after Christmas as the feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. It reminds us that when God came into the world, he became part of a family. When we know someone's family, we feel we know them better as a person. It's the same with Jesus - Mary and Joseph help us to know and love Jesus better.

This feast is also a chance for us to pray for our own families. Our family is usually our greatest blessing and the people we love most. But sometimes there can be strains, difficulties and breaks in family life. And not everyone has their family close to them any more. May God bless us all today and reassure us that through Jesus, Mary and Joseph we are part of his Holy Family too.

### THIS WEEK

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

<b>SATURDAY 30th</b>	5.30-5.50pm Confessions 6pm Vigil Mass
<b>SUNDAY 31st</b>	9.30am Mass 4.30-4.50pm Confessions 5pm Mass
<b>MONDAY 1st</b> New Year's Day	10am Mass
<b>WEDNESDAY 3rd</b>	no Mass
<b>FRIDAY 5th</b>	6pm Holy Hour 7pm Epiphany Vigil Mass & Novena
<b>SATURDAY 6th</b> Epiphany	10am Epiphany Mass 6pm Vigil Mass for Sunday

*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 Epiphany Masses:

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



### WE PRAY FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

#### Recently Deceased

Most Rev. Patrick Walsh  
Margaret O'Boyle  
John McClements

P J McKenna  
Michael Carlin

#### Month's Mind

Kay McLaughlin

#### Anniversaries

James & Moira Boyle, Mary Connolly, Matt Coyles,  
Victor Durkan, Elizabeth Gillan, Margaret Gillan,  
James Havlin, Sarah-Jane & Andy Hegarty, Roy McClintock,  
James McConville, Rosetta McDaid, John McEldowney,  
John McErlain, Sarah McGreevy, Mary McKillop,  
Kathleen McVicker, Josie Mooney, Lilian & James Norton,  
Ciarán O'Loan, Jeannie O'Neill, Pauline Purdon, Molly Young

### 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.**

#### FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

Saturday 6th January is the feast of the Epiphany and a **Holy Day of Obligation**. There will be a vigil Mass at 7pm on Friday (with the Sacred Heart Novena prayers included) and Mass on Saturday morning at 10am. Please note that the normal Saturday evening Mass is the vigil of Sunday and is not for the holy day!

#### DEATH OF BISHOP PATRICK WALSH

We are very sorry to hear of the death of the Most. Rev, Patrick Walsh on Thursday. Bishop Walsh served as bishop of Down & Connor from 1991 to 2008, having been auxiliary bishop from 1983. He had previously taught at Garron Tower, served as chaplain to QUB and president of St Malachy's College, Belfast. May he rest in peace.

#### ST BRIGID'S PRIMARY SCHOOL REGISTRATION

If you have a child starting school in September 2024 or know someone who is, please contact St Brigid's Primary School to register your interest.

The application process is online this year and is open from the 9th to the 26th January 2024. All of the information and guidance will be on the Education Authority website <https://www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions>

Please contact the school to if you require any assistance in completing the online application or have any questions about the school on 028 27662664.

#### LORETO COLLEGE OPEN DAY

Loreto College Coleraine invites parents and pupils transferring to Year 8 and Year 13 to attend its Open Day on Saturday 13th January, 9.30am-1pm. (See school website [www.loretocollege.org.uk](http://www.loretocollege.org.uk) for more details).

#### DOMINICAN COLLEGE OPEN DAY

Prospective students and their parents are warmly invited to Open Days on Wednesday 17th January (7pm - 9.30pm) & Friday 19th January (9am - 11.30am)

There will be an opportunity to meet students and teachers, see some of the work of the students and visit various departments. The Principal will give an introductory address to pupils and parents at 7pm on Wednesday 17th and at 9am on Friday 19th.

#### PARISH OF BALLYMONEY & DERRYKEIGHAN

Diocese of Down & Connor  
North Connor Pastoral Community

#### Contact Details

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Facebook: @ballymoneycatholic  
Youtube: Ballymoney Parish

#### HYMNS FOR MASS

O come, all ye faithful,  
joyful and triumphant!  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
Come and behold him  
Born the King of Angels:  
*O come, let us adore Him,*  
*O come, let us adore Him,*  
*O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.*

Sing, choirs of angels,  
sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of Heaven above!  
Glory to God,  
in the highest.  
O come, let us adore Him...

Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King!  
Peace on earth and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled."  
Joyful, all ye nations rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies,  
With th'angelic host proclaim:  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem."  
Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ by highest heav'n adored,  
Christ the everlasting Lord!  
Late in time behold Him come,  
Offspring of a Virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,  
Hail the incarnate Deity,  
Pleased as man with man to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel.  
Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King!"

#### CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM BISHOP McKEOWN

Jesus knew the never-ending reality of how conflict, violence and war threaten, endanger and overshadow our beautiful world. As we kneel in prayer before the crib this Christmas, we are accompanied by our brothers and sisters who continue to suffer. We ask God to listen to the cries of his children across the world.

The Christmas message of hope and joy is to be found in this abiding presence of God precisely in the reality of our lives, in spite of this reality of pain and suffering. This Christmas, we are all called to walk in the footsteps of Christ, to carry on his mission and ministry of reconciliation and healing, not only in the Holy Land of his birth but in the holiness of our daily lives.

This year, we also marked the twenty-fifth anniversary of the signing of the Good Friday Agreement. The difficult path of reconciliation and peacebuilding is ongoing. Addressing the trauma and pain of the past needs to continue. Across this land children of a new season of peace will celebrate Christmas with expectation, hope and the light of a new future- but tinged with the clouds of violence and uncertainty. We owe it to these children of the season of peace to continue the journey together towards reconciliation, learning to live, work and govern together.

May God bestow his blessing upon all of you this Christmas and into the new year, as you continue to walk in the footsteps of Christ and to be missionaries of his peace in the world.

+ Donal McKeown  
Bishop of Derry  
Apostolic Administrator of Down & Connor

#### NEW YEAR WISHES

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the beautiful celebration of Christmas in our parish this year. On a personal note, Fr Damian would like to thank all those who sent him a Christmas card or gift.

**A very happy new year to all our parishioners!**



### CONGRATULATIONS

to the family of Benjamin Johnston  
who was baptised here during the week.