

### JESUS SETS US A CHALLENGE

In today's Gospel, Jesus sets a high bar for his followers. He tells them they need to be holier than the Pharisees—the religious experts of the day who knew and followed every detail of the law. But Jesus says simply avoiding serious sin isn't enough. True holiness goes deeper. It's not just about not killing, but controlling our anger. Not just avoiding adultery, but keeping a pure heart. Not just keeping promises, but being so trustworthy we don't need to make them.

That sort of holiness requires practice - and that's where Lent comes in. Through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, Lent helps us grow in self-control and generosity. Plan ahead now: when will you attend Ash Wednesday Mass? What will you give up or take on? Jesus wants us to become saints, and Lent is the perfect place to start.



### THIS WEEK

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

**SATURDAY 14th** 5-5.50pm Confessions  
6pm Vigil Mass

**SUNDAY 15th** 9.30am Mass

**MONDAY 16th** 10am Mass

**TUESDAY 17th** 7pm Holy Face Novena

**WEDNESDAY 18th**  
Ash Wednesday 10am Mass  
7pm Mass

**FRIDAY 20th** 6pm Adoration & Confessions  
7pm Mass

*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

### WE PRAY FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

#### Recently Deceased

Rosemary McGarry, Loughguile

#### Anniversaries

Fr Christopher Dallat PP, Sarah (Cissie) Cairns, May Kelly, Ethna McCloskey, Maureen Magee, Samuel O'Connor, Paddy Quigg, Lizzie Scullin, James Shiels

#### REQUIESCAT IN PACE

**15th February 2026**  
Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time  
Quinquagesima Sunday

## THE SEASON OF LENT

During the next six weeks we are invited to take up extra prayer, fasting and almsgiving so that we can grow spiritually and be ready to celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus at Easter.

### ASH WEDNESDAY

Our Masses in Ballymoney will be at 10am and 7pm.

Masses in our neighbouring parishes on Wednesday:

8am St Malachy's, Coleraine

9.30am Portstewart

10.30am Portrush

1.15pm University (E102B – Riverside Suite)

6pm St Malachy's, Coleraine

7.30pm Portstewart



Ashes will be available (without Mass) from the chapel of the Causeway Hospital from 12.30-1.15pm. Ashes will also be distributed at St Brigid's PS and Our Lady of Lourdes school.

Wednesday is a **Day of Fast and Abstinence** for all Catholics in good health aged between 14 and 60.

- We **fast** by eating just one normal meal (and also one or two small snacks if necessary).
- We **abstain** by not eating meat at all.

### TRÓCAIRE LENT APPEAL

Please pick up a Trócaire pack at Mass. The pack contains a box plus details of how give by cheque, phone or online.



### LENTEN PLEDGE

Many people choose to give up alcohol for Lent. You can offer up this penance as a prayer for those who suffer through alcoholism. If you do, why not make this daily prayer:

*I promise in honour of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and with the help of the Blessed Virgin Mary, to abstain from all alcoholic drink during Lent.*

### 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.

### NOVENA TO THE HOLY FACE OF JESUS

Our monthly novena to the Holy Face of Jesus ends on **Tuesday** which is the feast day of the Holy Face. The novena prayers take place at **7pm**. Thank you to all who have led the novena and taken part in it this year.

### DO THIS IN MEMORY

This month's Mass for children preparing for Holy Communion and their families takes place **next Sunday (22nd)** at **9.30am**.

### OLD & NEW@No.5

There are a great variety of dog figurines are on offer in our parish shop this week. Or if you prefer pigs, check out our large 'Porky' just in! There's also new stag heads, tile top tables, a choice of ceramic candleholder cottages, our ever popular boxing hares, pairs of stags and our large triple dog wall plaque.

Call with us at 5 Gate End, Ballymoney, open **Wednesday to Saturday, 10am - 4.30pm**. You can also see photos of our current stock on our Facebook page **@oldandnewatno5**

### PARISH OF BALLYMONEY & DERRYKEIGHAN

Diocese of Down & Connor  
Causeway Family of Parishes

#### Contact Details

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Youtube: Ballymoney Parish

### HYMNS FOR MASS

Be still for the presence of the Lord,  
the Holy One, is here.  
Come bow before Him now  
with reverence and fear.  
In Him in no sin is found,  
we stand on holy ground.  
Be still for the Presence of the Lord,  
the Holy One is here.

Be still for the glory of the Lord  
is shining all around.  
He burns with holy fire,  
with splendour he is crowned.  
How awesome is the sight,  
our radiant King of light.  
Be still for the glory of the Lord  
is shining all around.

Seek ye first the kingdom of God  
And His righteousness;  
And all these things  
shall be added unto you.  
Allelu, Alleluia.

*Alleluia, alleluia.  
Alleluia, Allelu, Alleluia.*

Ask, and it shall be given unto you;  
Seek, and ye shall find.  
Knock, and the door  
shall be opened unto you.  
Allelu, Alleluia.

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross and Benediction will be prayed in Our Lady & St Patrick's each Tuesday of Lent at **7pm** (except St Patrick's Day), beginning **next Tuesday (24th)**.

### LENT VESPERS & BENEDICTION

Each Sunday evening of Lent there will be Evening Prayer of the Church (Vespers) and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at **6pm** in St Malachy's, Coleraine. Begins **next Sunday (22nd)**.

### ST VINCENT DE PAUL

If you are in need and would like our help please do not hesitate to get in touch on **07860455549**.

### DISCERNMENT RETREAT FOR DIOCESAN PRIESTHOOD

This year's diocesan vocation retreat runs **6th-8th March**. It's for young men who are open to the question: "Is God calling me to be a priest?" For more information, contact **Fr Conor McGrath - [c.mcgrath@downandconnor.org](mailto:c.mcgrath@downandconnor.org)**

### DIVINE MERCY CONFERENCE 2026

The annual conference takes place in the RDS in Dublin on the **27th, 28th February and 1st March**. Friday (free) 6-9pm, Saturday 10am-8pm (€35) and Sunday 10am-5pm (€25) or Weekend Price (€45). Tickets available online at [www.divinemercyconference.com/buy-tickets](http://www.divinemercyconference.com/buy-tickets)

### POPE LEO'S PRAYER INTENTION

Each month, the Holy Father asks for Catholics around the world to pray for a specific intention. This February Pope Leo asks us to pray "that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope."