



**PRAYING FOR GOOD SHEPHERDS**

This Sunday we hear Jesus speak about himself as the Good Shepherd who looks after his flock. It's a wonderful way of explaining the tender care that God has for all his people. The Lord also promises to send us 'shepherds after his own heart' who will lead, guide and protect his Church. That's why this Sunday is the annual day of prayer for vocations to the priesthood.

At this time when the number of vocations in Ireland is falling we see more clearly the great need for priests to offer Mass for us, to celebrate baptisms, weddings and funerals and to be fathers of our parishes. The recent growth in religious vocations from this area encourages us that our prayers are heard and that God is keeping his promise to us. So let's keep up our prayers and trust in God's goodness!

**THIS WEEK**

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

<b>SUNDAY 26th</b>	9.30am Mass
<b>MONDAY 27th</b>	10am Mass
<b>WEDNESDAY 29th</b>	10am Mass 7pm Service of Light
<b>FRIDAY 1st</b>	6pm Holy Hour (with adoration & confessions) 7pm Mass
<b>SATURDAY 2nd</b>	5.30-5.50pm Confessions 6pm Vigil Mass

*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

**WE PRAY FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED**

**Anniversaries**

Emma Douglas, Edward McGothigan, Brendan Smyth

**REQUIESCAT IN PACE**



**CONGRATULATIONS**

to the family of **Keelan** and **Theóden Neill** who were baptised last 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.**

**SERVICE OF LIGHT**

On **Wednesday evening at 7pm** we will celebrate the **Service of Light and Commitment** for the Primary 7s preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on May 8th from Bishop Alan McGuckian. Please keep the young people and their families in your prayers.



**PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS**

Lord, make me a better person: more considerate towards others, more honest with myself, more faithful to you. Help me to find my true vocation in life and grant that through it I may find happiness myself and bring happiness to others.

Grant, Lord, that those whom you call to enter priesthood or religious life may have the generosity to answer your call, so that those who need your help may always find it. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**MAY - THE MONTH OF MARY**

The month of May is a time of special devotion to Mary, the Mother of Jesus. We will celebrate the month in a number of ways:



**Crowning of Our Lady's statue**

The statue of Mary in Our Lady & St Patrick's church will be crowned at the end of Mass **next Sunday at 9.30am.**

**Seven Joys of Mary**

There will be a time of prayer and reflection on the joyful moments of Mary's life as recounted in the Gospel on **Tuesday evenings at 7pm** beginning on **5th May.**

**Moneyglass Pilgrimage**

We will be making our annual pilgrimage to the national shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes in Moneyglass on **Friday 15th May** alongside our neighbours from the Causeway Family of Parishes. It begins at **7.30pm** with a rosary procession from Moneyglass church to the Lourdes shrine followed by Mass.

But don't forget that the best way to mark Mary's month is to celebrate it at home with our families. Why not make a May altar at home and pray the rosary (or at least a decade) together each day?

**UPCOMING DATES**

Confirmation (with Bishop McGuckian)	Friday 8th May 11.30am
Moneyglass Pilgrimage	Friday 15th May 7.30pm
First Holy Communion	Saturday 16th May 10.30am
Cemetery Sunday	Sunday 21st June after 9.30am Mass

**CAUSEWAY COAST PEACE GROUP**

Causeway Coast Peace Group invites Christians of various denominations to meet and learn about and appreciate each other's beliefs, traditions and cultures. They are meeting on **Tuesday 12th May at 10am** in St Patrick's Church Hall, Portrush for their AGM and a talk from Bertie Stirling of A Rocha. All welcome!

**PARISH OF BALLYMONEY & DERRYKEIGHAN**

Diocese of Down & Connor  
Causeway Family of Parishes

**Contact Details**

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**HYMNS FOR MASS**

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!	Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!	endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won;
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!	angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!	kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.
	<i>Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,</i>
	<i>endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.</i>
Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!	
Unto Christ, our heavenly king, Alleluia!	
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!	Lo, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!	lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom;
	let the Church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
	for the Lord now liveth, death hath lost its sting
But the pains which he endured, Alleluia!	<i>Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,</i>
Our salvation have procured; Alleluia!	<i>endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.</i>
Now above the sky he's king, Alleluia!	
Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!	

**OLD & NEW@No.5**

Thank you to everyone who has supported our spring sale over the last week! To keep in touch with our offers and to see pictures of our stock don't forget our Facebook page @oldandnewatno5

Call with us at 5 Gate End, Ballymoney, open **Wednesday to Saturday, 10am - 4.30pm.**

**MARY'S MEALS - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Our newly-formed group works to fundraise and raise awareness locally for the work of Mary's Meals, a charity that provides a school meal every day to three million children in the world's poorest countries, costing only £19.15 per child for an entire year. We are currently seeking new volunteers to join our group and would be delighted to welcome anybody interested in becoming involved. Please contact **William** on 07754783290 or follow us on Facebook at **North Coast Mary's Meals.**

**PARISH OFFICE OPENING HOURS**

Joanne Scally is our Parish Support Officer. The parish office is open **Mondays & Wednesdays 10am-2pm.**

**CHURCH & CEMETERY OPENING HOURS**

**Our Lady & St Patrick's** church is usually open for private prayer **until 7pm** on evenings when there is no Mass. On Fridays and Saturdays the church closes after Mass. During the spring and summer months **the cemetery closes at sunset.** Please respect this and do not enter the cemetery at night.

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL**

If you are in need and would like our help please do not hesitate to get in touch on 07860455549. Thank you to everyone who supports our collections throughout the year.