



Parish of Ballymoney & Derrykeighan

23rd February 2025
Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time

TURN THE OTHER CHEEK

Jesus's command to "turn the other cheek" isn't about weakness, but about a different kind of strength. When we're hurt, our instinct is to flee or fight back. Jesus offers a third way: standing firm without stooping to others' level. Indeed, he goes even further by commanding us to love our enemies.

This doesn't mean we must become best friends with those who hurt us. As St Thomas Aquinas suggested, sometimes loving our enemies means simply praying for them. On the cross, Jesus himself lived his teaching when he said, "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do." Let us pray for the grace to forgive others, to let go of resentment, to stand firm against evil, and to love as God loves.

LOVE YOUR ENEMIES FORGIVE AND YOU WILL BE FORGIVEN

THIS WEEK

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

SATURDAY 22nd	5.30-5.50pm Confessions 6pm Vigil Mass
SUNDAY 23rd	9.30am Mass 4.30-4.50pm Confessions 5pm Mass
MONDAY 24th	10am Mass
WEDNESDAY 26th	10am Mass 6pm Rosary
FRIDAY 28th	no Mass or Confessions today
SATURDAY 1st	9.30am Mass in Dervock

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

Other Sunday Masses in the Causeway Family of Parishes:

Saturday 5pm	-	Portstewart
Saturday 6.30pm	-	St Malachy's, Coleraine
Sunday 10am	-	Portstewart
Sunday 11am	-	St Malachy's, Coleraine
Sunday 12noon	-	Portrush

WE PRAY FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Month's Mind
May Hanna

Anniversaries

Winifred Connor, Ann Gilmore, Charlie McAuley, Elizabeth McCloy, Brigid McErlain, John McErlain, Hugh McKay, Josephine McKenna, James Mooney, Maude Muldoon, Bridget O'Hara

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.

DO THIS IN MEMORY

We welcome the First Holy Communion children and their families at **9.30** on Sunday for our monthly *Do This In Memory* Mass. After Mass the children and their families are invited over to the parish hall for arts and crafts activities and refreshments. The next *Do This In Memory* Mass will be on **Sunday 16th March at 9.30am.**

MASS IN DERVOCK

Our monthly First Saturday Mass at Our Lady & St John the Evangelist church in Dervock takes place this **Saturday (1st March) at 9.30am.**

OLD & NEW@No.5

There are lots of new and popular items in this week and lots of nice pre-loved items too! Our Parish Shop is open **Wednesday to Saturday 10am-4.30pm** at 5 Gate End Ballymoney. You can also keep in touch with us and see photos of our current stock on our Facebook page [@oldandnewatno5](#).

ST VINCENT DE PAUL

Our parish SVP conference continues to support our local community, and we do this in the strictest confidence. If you are in need and would like our help please do not hesitate to get in touch on **07860 455 549**.

MENS' VOCATION RETREAT

Are you considering the call to the priesthood? Join us for a Vocation to the Priesthood Retreat from **7th-9th March** at **Drumalis Retreat Centre, Larne**. This year's theme, "Priests as Men of Hope," invites us to reflect on the joy and strength that come from trusting in God's plan.

To book a place or for more information, contact the Vocations Director: Fr Conor McGrath at c.mcgrath@downandconnor.org

DOWN & CONNOR LOURDES PILGRIMAGE

Celebrating the Jubilee Year and our 40th Annual Diocesan Pilgrimage: **9/10 - 15th/16th July**. 5 & 7 Night options available.

Please visit www.downandconnor.org/lourdes for more information or call the Pilgrimage Office on **028 9077 0162** or email lourdes@downandconnor.org **Youth Team** (9-16th July): applications now open too (see website for details).

ONLINE BIBLE COURSE

The Book of Genesis is a fascinating book, with some of the most memorable characters and stories in the Bible. This Lent **Kieran Hill** invites you to join him in looking at these stories and characters to help us understand God and His relationship to Humanity. We will be using the new book *Reading Genesis* by Marilynne Robinson as our guide.

The course runs on **Thursdays** during Lent beginning **6th March**. It will take place **online** from **7-8.30pm**. To register for the course and order the book please contact Kieran Hill kc.hill@btinternet.com or **07964 287 839**.

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.

Holy God, we praise thy Name!
Lord of all, we bow before thee;
All on earth thy sceptre claim,
All in heav'n above adore thee;
Infinite thy vast domain,
Everlasting is thy reign.

Hark! the loud celestial hymn
Angel choirs above are raising;
Cherubim and Seraphim
In unceasing chorus praising,
Fill the heav'ns with sweet accord:
Holy, holy, holy Lord!

'SING FOR JOY!' - A DAY OF MUSIC AND MINISTRY

Are you a young person involved, or keen to become involved in church music? We invite you to join us for a day of music and ministry. **Saturday 26th April** at Lough Derg, Pettigo, Co. Donegal. Boat departs at **9.30am**.

In the prayerful setting of Lough Derg, this day will provide space for the power of music to nourish our spirit and allow us to give praise to God through the beauty of sound, song and silence. There will be various inputs as well as time to pray, connect with others and explore this Sacred place. The day will conclude with Mass at **5pm** (open to the public).

This day is open to young people aged **18-35** and is free to attend (supported by the Knights of St Columbanus). Registration is essential via <https://bit.ly/SingforJoy>.

For further information please contact info@knightsofstcolumbanusomagh.co.uk or 07759496677.

DUNLOY MISSION

Dunloy & Cloughmills Parish are hosting a Healing Mission with the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal next month. The mission runs **Monday 10th - Thursday 13th March**. Each day there will be Mass at **6.15am** and **10am** with a mission session each evening at **7pm**. All services take place at St Joseph's church in Dunloy.

OUR LADY OF LOURDES SCHOOL

Congratulations to **Mr Simon Smyth** who took over as principal of Our Lady of Lourdes school this week in succession to Ms Eilish Gillan. Mr Smyth has a wealth of experience and is dedicated to fostering a supportive and innovative learning environment for all students. We thank Ms Gillan for her years of service and we wish Mr Smyth all God's blessings for his new role.