



Parish of Ballymoney & Derrykeighan

28th April 2024
Fifth Sunday of Easter



THE VINE AND THE BRANCHES

In the readings, we see St Paul facing rejection after his conversion, perhaps as a way for God to "prune" him of his former pride and zeal. Jesus teaches that he is the vine and we are the branches - we receive life from him but we also need to be pruned back at times. Just as a gardener prunes plants to help them flourish, God allows difficulties to prune us of sin so we can bear greater fruit.

Are there times when God is pruning us of our sins? Perhaps the Church itself is being pruned right now by facing rejection in order to rid itself of worldliness? These times are painful now but fruitful in the long run. We should embrace them with patience, letting God cut away our deadwood so we can grow anew in humility, virtue, and closeness to Christ, the true vine.

THIS WEEK

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

SATURDAY 27th	5.30-5.50pm Confessions 6pm Vigil Mass
SUNDAY 28th	9.30am Mass 4.30-4.50pm Confessions 5pm Mass
MONDAY 29th	10am Mass
WEDNESDAY 1st	10am Mass
FRIDAY 3rd First Friday	6pm Holy Hour & Confessions 7pm Mass with Novena Prayers
SATURDAY 4th First Saturday	9.30am Mass in Dervock

Our Lady & St Patrick's is open every day for private prayer - usually from 10am to 6pm.

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

CONGRATULATIONS

to the young people from St Brigid's Primary School, Ballymoney Model and Damhead schools who received the sacrament of confirmation on Friday



and to the family of **Pauric Worsford** who was baptised during the week.

WE PRAY FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Recently Deceased
Rosemary O'Kane

Month's Mind
Daniel O'Connor

Anniversaries
Mary Kelly, Jack McCloskey, Dan McErlain, Susan McGilligan, Bernard McGilligan, Edward McGothigan, John McKenna, Alex Magowan, Pearl Magowan, Alan Millar

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.

BROADCAST MASS

BBC Radio Ulster are broadcasting our morning Mass on Sunday **April 28th**. Please note that Mass will be at the later time of 10am and finishing at 10.45am. Those attending are asked to be in the church for **9.45am**. You can listen to the Mass next Sunday morning on BBC Radio Ulster and online through BBC iPlayer for 28 days.

DO THIS IN MEMORY

Our next *Do This In Memory* Mass for children preparing for First Holy Communion is next **Sunday 5th May**.

MASS ATTENDANCE CENSUS

This weekend a count will be taken of Mass attendance across the Diocese of Down & Connor, including at our Masses here. We have already done our own annual count during February which showed a significant increase in attendance of 5% from 2023. Information about Mass attendance helps the future planning that is taking place at the moment so it really does make a difference to our parish if we can show how well our community is growing at this time!

WOMEN OF THE BIBLE COURSE

On **Tuesday evening at 7pm** in the Canon's house we have the first of a short course on *Women of the Bible*. These women may have lived thousands of years ago, but when we take a moment to consider their stories, we discover just how relevant and relatable they are. Whether they offer us wisdom or a warning, they are all worth getting to know.

PARISH MINI PILGRIMAGE

To mark Our Lady's month of May we will be making a parish mini-pilgrimage to the national shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes at **Moneyglass**. Built in the 1920s, this shrine was founded to allow Irish people to celebrate Lourdes devotions here at home at a time when travel to France would have been impossible for most.

We will meet there on the evening of **Friday 24th May** for devotions, rosary procession and outdoor Mass at the grotto. If you would like to come but need transport, please leave your details at the back of the church and we will make arrangements.

CEMETERY SUNDAY

Our Cemetery Sunday devotions will take place on **Sunday June 9th at 3pm**. As with the last couple of years we will meet outside in the cemetery for prayers, the rosary and the blessing of graves.



PARISH OF BALLYMONEY & DERRYKEIGHAN

Diocese of Down & Connor
Causeway Family of Parishes

Contact Details

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ST VINCENT DE PAUL

If you need our help please call us confidentially on **07860455549**. For more information about the work of our conference you can speak to any of our members. Thank you for your ongoing support.

OLD & NEW@No.5

Summer is coming and our parish shop has garden benches and outdoor mirrors to help make the most of the long days! A nice selection of coalport and doulton figurines have arrived this week as have a choice of tea and coffee sets. Our popular jack russell, spaniel, pug dogs, sheep and llamas figures continue to sell as well.

You can find the shop at 5 Gate End, Ballymoney and it's open 10am-4.30pm from Wednesday - Saturday. Take a look at our Facebook page for more information.

LOUGH DERG ONE DAY RETREATS

These guided days of prayer and reflection will take place throughout the month of May. Available dates are Sun 5th, Mon 6th, Sun 12th, Tue 14th, Sat 18th, Sun 25th and Mon 27th. More details can be found at www.loughderg.ie. €45 per person, booking essential.

The traditional Three Day Pilgrimage begins on Friday May 31st and continues until August 15th.

MASS INTENTIONS

Just a reminder that while anniversary notices for the bulletin can be left as notes to the parochial house or submitted by email or Facebook, you need to speak to Fr Damian personally if you want Mass to be said for an anniversary or special intention. After Mass is the best time as he can check the diary and confirm the date and time of the Mass for you immediately. A priest may only celebrate Mass for one special intention at a time. A parish priest also celebrates one Mass each Sunday and Holy Day of Obligation for all the people of the parish.

HYMNS FOR MASS

Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won;
angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.
*Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.*

Lo, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
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
*Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.*

To praise, my soul rejoices in God,
To praise, my soul shall glorify the Lord.
He who is mighty has done great things for me
Behold the servant of God.

*Magnificat, Magnificat,
anima mea Dominum;
Magnificat, Magnificat,
anima mea Dominum.*

To bless, to bless the people of God,
To bless, to bless the name of the Lord.
All generations shall call me blessed,
Behold the servant of God.