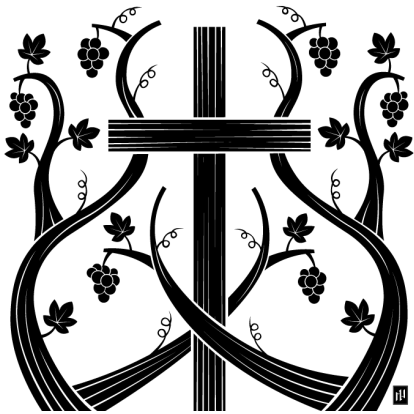




# Parish of Ballymoney & Derrykeighan

5th May 2024  
Fifth Sunday of Easter



## THE LOVE OF GOD

Love is the great theme of our readings today - love of God and love of each other. The second reading and the Gospel in particular assure us of the great love that God has for us, and they invite us to grow in our love for him. And the best way to do that is to spend time with God, meeting him so that we can talk to him from our hearts and listen to him when he speaks to us.

In the Catholic Church we have the two greatest ways to meet the Lord - the Word of God in the Bible, and the Word made flesh in the Sacrament of the Eucharist. Let's make sure we use them well so that we can be the best of friends with Jesus, and learn from him how to share his love with others.

## THIS WEEK

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

<b>SATURDAY 4th</b>	5.30-5.50pm Confessions 6pm Vigil Mass
<b>SUNDAY 5th</b>	9.30am Mass 4.30-4.50pm Confessions 5pm Mass
<b>MONDAY 6th</b>	10am Mass
<b>WEDNESDAY 8th</b>	10am Mass
<b>FRIDAY 10th</b>	6-6.40pm Confessions 7pm Mass

*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

## WE PRAY FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

### Recently Deceased

Joseph Fuller  
Fr Brendan Beagon, Glengormley

### Anniversaries

John Boyle, Teresa Elliott, Marie McConville,  
Gerard Mulholland, Brendan Smyth

## REQUIESCAT IN PACE

## CONGRATULATIONS

to the family of **Frankie Mullan** who was baptised this 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 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

Thanks to everyone who took part in the broadcast Mass last Sunday - particularly our choir led by Aimee and our readers Mark and Eithne. We're very grateful to the team at Blackthorn Productions and producer Bert Tosh for making the broadcast possible. You can listen to the Mass on the BBC Radio Ulster website for the next three weeks.

## DO THIS IN MEMORY

This Sunday is the last *Do This In Memory* before we celebrate First Holy Communion on Saturday 1st June. The children are all invited to come back for the **9.30am Mass on Sunday 2nd June** (in their communion clothes!) to give thanks to God and to allow us all to celebrate with them.

## 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.

## MASS ATTENDANCE CENSUS

Last weekend a census was taken of Mass attendance across the Diocese of Down & Connor for the second consecutive year. Here in our parish the total attendance was **445** (an increase of **19%** on 2023!). The breakdown for the individual Masses was:

2pm Dementia Friendly Mass	<b>41</b>
6pm Saturday Vigil	<b>172</b>
(10am) Sunday Morning	<b>118</b>
5pm Sunday Evening	<b>114</b>

**58%** of our congregation is **female** and **42%** is **male**.

**26%** of the congregation is **under 40** and this section is almost **equally split** between **male** and **female**. The Sunday evening **5pm Mass** is the most popular for this younger group.

## PARISH MINI PILGRIMAGE

To mark Our Lady's month of May we will be making a parish 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 Mass at the grotto. St Vincent de Paul have kindly agreed to organise transport for those who wish to go together. If you want to go by bus please leave your name on the sign up sheets at the entrance to the church by next weekend. There is no cost for the bus as it will be covered by the parish.

## LECTIO DIVINA

Our scripture prayer group will be meeting this Tuesday at 7pm in the Canon's House to spend some time meditating on God's Word in the Bible. If you haven't been before why not come along and try this style of prayer?

## PARISH OF BALLYMONEY & DERRYKEIGHAN

Diocese of Down & Connor  
Causeway Family of Parishes

### Contact Details

Very Rev. Damian McCaughan PP

81 Castle Street  
BALLYMONEY  
Co. Antrim  
BT55 6JT

Tel: 028 2766 2003

Email: [ballymoney@downandconnor.org](mailto:ballymoney@downandconnor.org)

Website: [www.ballymoneyparish.com](http://www.ballymoneyparish.com)

Facebook: [@ballymoneycatholic](https://www.facebook.com/ballymoneycatholic)

Youtube: Ballymoney Parish

## HYMNS FOR MASS

Christ be beside me, Christ be before me,  
Christ be behind me, king of my heart.  
Christ be within me, Christ be below me,  
Christ be above me, never to part.

Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand,  
Christ all around me, shield in the strife.  
Christ in my sleeping, Christ in my sitting,  
Christ in my rising, light of my heart.

Christ be in all hearts thinking about me,  
Christ be on all tongues telling of me.  
Christ be the vision in eyes that see me,  
in ears that hear me Christ ever be.

Bring flowers of the fairest  
Bring blossoms the rarest,  
From garden and woodland and hillside and dale;  
Our full hearts are swelling,  
Our glad voices telling  
The praise of the loveliest flower of the vale!

*O Mary, we crown thee with blossoms today!  
Queen of the Angels, Queen of the May.  
O Mary, we crown thee with blossoms today,  
Queen of the Angels, Queen of the May.*

Their lady they name thee,  
their mistress proclaim thee,  
ah, grant that thy children on earth be as true  
as long as the bowers  
are radiant with flowers,  
as long as the azure shall keep its bright hue.

## LOURDES ASSOCIATE COLLECTION

The Lourdes Associate Members will be having a collection at Masses on the weekend of **11th/12th May**. This is a way for us to support the pilgrimage and, in particular, to raise funds to subsidise the pilgrims who are sick or taking part in the Youth Team. Please note that the collection can only accept cash donations. Those who support the collection may be enrolled as associate members of the pilgrimage and your names and intentions will be prayed for in Lourdes.

## 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.



## OLD & NEW@No.5

Our parish shop urgently requires new volunteers to help on Thursday afternoons from 1pm to 4.30pm. It would be great to have either regular or relief staff. For more information contact **Gerard** on **07860474956** or **Carmel** on **07907652408**.

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 Mon 6th, Sun 12th, Tue 14th, Sat 18th, Sun 25th and Mon 27th. More details can be found at [www.loughderg.ie](http://www.loughderg.ie). €45 per person, booking essential.

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