



Parish of Ballymoney & Derrykeighan

12th May 2024
The Ascension of the Lord



THE ASCENSION INTO HEAVEN

For the apostles the Ascension of Jesus was probably a bittersweet moment. After three years of following Jesus they must have felt great sadness at seeing him leave for heaven. At the same time there would have been great joy at those wonderful promises Jesus had made them. He had gone from their sight, but he promised he would be with them always!

How can Jesus be with us today when we can't see him? Well, the Lord is with us in the sacrament of Holy Communion which we celebrate at Mass. Wherever the Eucharist is we find the real presence of Jesus. And we also receive from the Lord the gift of the Holy Spirit. When we have the Spirit within us we have the power of God to guide us wherever we go. That is why Christians are never alone!

THIS WEEK

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

SATURDAY 11th	5.30-5.50pm Confessions 6pm Vigil Mass
SUNDAY 12th	9.30am Mass 4.30-4.50pm Confessions 5pm Mass
MONDAY 13th	10am Mass
TUESDAY 14th	7pm Holy Face Devotions
WEDNESDAY 15th	10am Mass
FRIDAY 17th	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

Leanbh Cherub Cassidy
Monica McNicholl, Eglinton
Dan Higgins, Ballycastle

Anniversaries

William Blaney, John Boyle, Johnny Connor, Stuart Coyles,
David Doran, Arnold McDaid, Henry O'Loan

REQUIESCAT IN PACE

PARISH FINANCES

Here are the parish collection figures for **July-December 2023**:

Weekly Collection	£35,681.00 (average £1372/week)
Monthly Offering	£9493.04 (average £1582/month)
Church Renovation	£8702.14 (average £1450/month)
Pastoral Services	£513.04
Cathedral Fund	£409.60
Autumn Voluntary	£822.00
Propagation of the Faith	£536.00
Bishops' Commissions	£433.90
Christmas Voluntary	£1566.41

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 cheques payable to: **Parish of Ballymoney & Derrykeighan.**

LOURDES ASSOCIATE COLLECTION

Their will be a collection at Masses this weekend to support the diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes 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.

HOLY FACE DEVOTIONS

On Tuesday evening at 7pm there will be devotions to the Holy Face of Jesus in the church this time and will include a period of adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.



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.



FOSTER CARE

Foster Care Fortnight runs from Monday 13 - Sunday 26 May 2024, and highlights how fostering transforms lives. As the number of children coming into care each year increases, more foster homes are needed across Northern Ireland.

At HSC NI Foster Care, there are lots of ways people can get involved including short-term support, emergency care placement, supported lodgings/STAY, or long-term care.

There is no such thing as a 'typical' foster carer. We welcome enquiries and applications from all backgrounds. Could you foster? For more information, call HSC NI Foster Care on 0800 0720 137 or visit adoptionandfostercare.hscni.net.

PRAYER FOR THOSE DOING EXAMS

O great Saint Joseph of Cupertino who, by your prayers, obtained from God to be asked at your examination only the questions that you knew, pray that I, like you, may succeed in the exam which lies before me. In return I promise to make your name known and cause you to be loved. Amen.

Why is St Joseph of Cupertino the patron saint of those doing exams?

St Joseph was born in Cupertino, Italy in 1603. As a young man he felt a strong calling to the priesthood but was not at all academic. He struggled to learn the theology and was not expected to pass his exams. He turned to prayer and his faith was rewarded. On the day of the exam he was asked the one question he knew the answer to. Another time the examiner passed him without asking him any questions.

He went on to be ordained as a member of the Franciscan Order. Joseph lived a life of great humility and spirituality and had a number of mystical experiences in prayer. He died in 1663 and was canonised in 1767.

OLD & NEW@No.5

Why not give us a call at Old & New @ No.5... where we have everything from summer benches to Doulton figurines, Jack Russell ornaments to floor rugs, garden planters to quality crystal.

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.

Don't forget 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**.

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.

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 at 7.30pm on **Friday 24th May** for devotions, rosary procession and Mass at the grotto.

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
BT53 6JT

Tel: 028 2766 2003

Email: ballymoney@downandconnor.org

Website: 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.

Hail the day that sees him rise, Alleluia!
to his throne above the skies; Alleluia!
Christ, the Lamb for sinners given, Alleluia!
enters now the highest heaven! Alleluia!

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.

Lo! the heaven its Lord receives, Alleluia!
yet he loves the earth he leaves; Alleluia!
though returning to his throne, Alleluia!
still he calls mankind his own. Alleluia!

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.