

16th June 2024

Eleventh Sunday of Ordinary Time



## TIME TO PLANT THE SEED

In the Gospel today Jesus describes the Kingdom of God as a living thing. It might start off very small, like a tiny mustard seed, but it's capable of growing into something big, like a bush or a tree that shelters birds or a crop that yields a great harvest.

This is Good News for us to hear because it's our job to plant the seed and help God's Kingdom to grow. The Lord has entrusted to us his work of growing the kingdom by evangelising and helping others to encounter Jesus Christ. We often tell ourselves that it's difficult work, but the Holy Spirit does most of it. We just need to plant the seed and then be patient while it grows in the hearts of those we meet.

## THIS WEEK

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

**SATURDAY 15th** 5.30-5.50pm Confessions

6pm Vigil Mass

SUNDAY 16th 9.30am Mass

4.30-4.50pm Confessions

5pm Mass

MONDAY 17th 10am Mass

TUESDAY 18th 7pm Dervock Holy Hour

WEDNESDAY 19th 10am Mass

**FRIDAY 21st** 6.30-6.50pm 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

## Anniversaries

Thomas Beckett, Patrick McErlain, Mary McGill, Eileen Mooney, Patrick & Monica O'Sullivan

**REQUIESCAT IN PACE** 



# CONGRATULATIONS

to the family of **Enzo Liberante** who was baptised here 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 cheques payable to: **Parish of Ballymoney & Derrykeighan**.

# 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.

We would like to thank parishioners for your very generous ongoing support.

# OLD & NEW@No.5

This week why not check out our lovely collection of ruby glass, our Belleek and Doulton vases and extensive selection of crystal and crystal glasses? Alternatively there's the latest David Dunlop book, nice gifts and many other things.

You can find us 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.

# SHARING THE GOSPEL

Has today's Gospel or Fr Damian's homily stirred something in your heart? If you are interested in helping our parish to evangelise come and have a word with Fr Damian, email or contact us through Facebook. We're just at the early stages of planning what to do, so if you have ideas, or you just want to find our more please get in touch.

## **RALLY FOR LIFE**

All-Ireland Rally for Life takes place in Dublin on Saturday 6th July. Make a stand to protect Ireland's unborn babies. Coaches will be travelling from towns across Northern Ireland. To book your seat contact 02890278484 / 07592280522 or email info@preciouslife.com

# SHORT PRAYERS TO THE SACRED HEART

June is the month of special devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. We continue to pray:

- I believe in God, I hope in God, I love God.
- I am sorry for having offended God.
- Sacred Heart of Jesus I believe in your love for me.
- Sacred Heart of Jesus I believe you love me now.
- Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in thee.

#### SUMMER BIBLE WEEK

From **Monday 15th** to **Sunday 21st July** we're running a summer Bible celebration. Activities will include; Arts & crafts nights, Taize evening of prayer; Bible Table Quiz; Scripture night; Movie night and a Bring & Buy Cake Sale in aid of charity. More details to follow!

# PRAYER FOR FATHER'S DAY

Dear God, thank you for the gift of fatherhood. We pray for all fathers and those hoping to become fathers. May You give them the strength to be a vessel of Your love. Amen.

# DAY FOR LIFE MESSAGE

Day for Life Sunday is celebrated annually with a special message by the Catholic Church across Ireland, Scotland, England and Wales. It is a day specifically dedicated to raising awareness and reflecting on the deep value and meaning of human life at every stage, and in every condition. On Sunday 16 June, the Church will mark Day for Life 2024 with a message on the theme: The Lord is my shepherd - Compassion and Hope at the End of Life.

There has been much discussion in the media recently about "assisted suicide", whereby people who feel they are overburdened by suffering will be facilitated in bringing their lives to a premature end by a change in legislation.

The Catholic Church opposes such proposals. As Catholics, along with many people of other faiths and none, we share a different vision about what it is to be fully human, especially when we are suffering and approaching death in the hope of eternal life.

People who are coming towards the end of their lives are vulnerable, and recent research shows that many feel themselves a burden on their loved ones and wider society. Jesus shows us that life always has dignity and that there is no such a thing as a useless life.

We are called to defend this gift of life to its natural end and to protect vulnerable citizens from a culture that could pressure them into assisted suicide. We support people with the companionship of a listening ear, appropriate treatment, and the best of care, so that their last days can be times of grace, intimacy and love.

Jesus did not send the sick away. Our Lady remained at the foot of the Cross to the very end as Her Son, Jesus, died. Mary is the model of compassionate presence and prayer whom we are called to imitate. People close to death and their loved ones, often go through similar darkness and pain but can come to a more complete acceptance and find peace in those treasured last moments accompanied by spiritual care.

A longer version of this message can be found online at: https://councilforlife.ie/day-for-life-2024/

# 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 Youtube: Ballymoney Parish

# HYMNS FOR MASS

Tantum ergo Sacramentum Veneremur cernui: Et antiquum documentum Novo cedat ritui: Praestet fides supplementum Sensuum defectui.

Genitori, Genitoque Laus et iubilatio, Salus, honor, virtus quoque Sit et benedictio: Procedenti ab utroque Compar sit laudatio. Amen. Sweet heart of Jesus, fount of love and mercy, today we come, Thy blessing to implore; O touch our hearts, so cold and so ungrateful, and make them, Lord, Thine own for evermore. Sweet heart of Jesus, we implore, O make us love Thee more and more.

Sweet Heart of Jesus make us know and love thee. Unfold to us the treasures of thy grace. That so our hearts, from things of earth uplifted, May long alone to gaze upon thy face. Sweet heart of Jesus, we implore, O make us love Thee more and more.