



Parish of Ballymoney & Derrykeighan

8th December 2024
Second Sunday of Advent



PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD

In today's Gospel, St John the Baptist announces to the world that the Saviour is coming. For Israel this was amazing news. They had been waiting centuries for the Saviour God had promised. As the first reading tells us, this Saviour would be a person of great power who would bring peace and justice to the nations. He would truly be the Lord.

John the Baptist then goes on to tell us that we should prepare for the coming of the the Lord by repenting of our sins. That's because the Lord Jesus is not just saviour of the world - he is *our* saviour. He has come for each of us personally. He knows us and cares for us. And he wants us to be free from sin and full of God's grace. That's why we have the sacrament of confession and we should all use this sacrament to receive God's healing mercy as a preparation for Christmas.

THIS WEEK

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

SATURDAY 7th	5.30-5.50pm Confessions 6pm Vigil Mass
SUNDAY 8th	9.30am Mass 4.30-4.50pm Confessions 5pm Mass
MONDAY 9th	10am Mass
TUESDAY 10th	7pm Advent Prayer & Reflection
WEDNESDAY 11th	10am Mass
FRIDAY 13th	6-6.40pm Confessions 7pm Mass
SATURDAY 14th	7.30am Rorate Mass

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

Recently Deceased

Danny McConville

Anniversaries

Oliver Delaney, Jimmy Diver, Kathleen Doherty, Margaret Gillan, John McAleese, Carol McGrath, Kathleen McGrath, Rosetta (Rose) McKay, Gerard Mooney, Jimmy Neill, Joe Quigg

CONGRATULATIONS

to the **Laura Kelly** and **Grant Fox** who celebrated their marriage 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 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.**

RORATE MASS

Early next **Saturday** morning (**14th**) we will have a special Advent Mass in honour of Our Lady's maternity. This is called a Rorate Mass (from the Latin of the entrance antiphon *Rorate Caeli*). By tradition it is celebrated before sunrise with the church lit only by candlelight to represent our waiting for the coming of Christ the Light of the World. The Mass will be at **7.30am**.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

If you would like to contribute to decorating the church for Christmas, why not buy a **poinsettia** (red or white) and leave it in the church over the next couple of weeks?

ST BRIGID'S PRIMARY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS DRAW

The Annual PTA Christmas Draw tickets are now on sale. As usual there are some great prizes on offer. Tickets are priced at £1 each or a book of 6 for £5. If you want any tickets please contact the school on **028 27662664** or call in to the office. The draw will take place on **Wednesday 18th December**.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL ANNUAL REPORT

The SVP is 180 years old in Ireland this year and our conference has been working on a volunteer basis for 115 years in the Ballymoney area helping those most in need in our local community. We are as busy as ever with people turning to us as they struggle to meet their basic needs of food and heating their homes.



Our activities this year:

- In 2023 our conference provided Christmas Toy & Gift vouchers to 51 children up to 16 years of age.
- Our annual outing for Senior Citizens and those living alone in September was a visit to Derry and then to the Bushtown Country Club Hotel for a carvery meal. A great time was had by all!
- We are very grateful to Alistair Coyles for his ongoing support from the Black Santa Sit Out in December '23, and to the donation from our Parish Bible Week Cake Sale in July. We were also grateful to receive a donation from Ballymoney Rotary Club.
- In the last 12 months our members made 175 home visitations, including to 65 people/ families who had called SVP for the first time.
- Income received: Red Box Church Door Collections=£24,420; Other Donations and Fundraising = £6,016

Summary of support provided from Nov '23 to Oct '24

- Heating Oil = £9,350
- Food & Energy Vouchers & Household Goods = £11,493
- Christmas Gift Support = £2,550
- Annual Outing = £1,237

New members welcome!

We have 9 active members in our conference and really need new volunteers to help us manage the demand for our help. If you would like more details on joining, please speak to any of our volunteers or call the helpline number for more information.

Our final note is we want to say a great big thank you for your continued support via the Red Box Donations and to wish you all a happy and holy Christmas. **Please join us for our coffee morning in the parish hall after 9.30am Mass on Sunday morning.**

PARISH OF BALLYMONEY & DERRYKEIGHAN

Diocese of Down & Connor
Causeway Family of Parishes

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Youtube: Ballymoney Parish

OLD & NEW@No.5

Our Parish Shop is open **Wednesday to Saturday 10am-4.30pm** at 5 Gate End Ballymoney. you can keep in touch with us by following our Facebook page @oldandnewatno5.

Our Advent Calendar 2024

SUNDAY 8th	St Vincent de Paul Coffee Morning <i>after 9.30am Mass</i>
SATURDAY 14th	7.30am Rorate Mass <i>candlelight Dawn Mass in honour of Our Lady's maternity.</i>
SUNDAY 15th	9.30am Do This In Memory Mass <i>with the blessing of crib figures followed by children's crafts in the parish hall</i>
SUNDAY 22nd	7pm Parish Carol Service
TUESDAY 24th Christmas Eve	11am-12noon Confessions 6pm VIGIL MASS of CHRISTMAS 12 MIDNIGHT MASS
WEDNESDAY 25th Christmas Day	9.30am DAWN MASS of CHRISTMAS
FRIDAY 27th St John's Day	9.30am Mass in Dervock <i>for the feast of St John the Evangelist</i>
SATURDAY 28th	2pm Dementia Friendly Mass

HYMNS FOR MASS

O come, O come, Emmanuel
and ransom captive Israel
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.

*R. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

* * *

O come thou Wisdom from on high,
who orderest all things mightily;
to us the path of knowledge show
and teach us in her ways to go. R.

O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free
Thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell Thy people save,
And give them victory over the grave. R.

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see. R.

*R. Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church
gathered today.*

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has power to save us.
Make us your living voice. R.