



### PRAYER BEFORE THE HOLY CROSS

Look down upon me, good and gentle Jesus  
while before Your face I humbly kneel and,  
with burning soul, pray and beseech You  
to fix deep in my heart lively sentiments  
of faith, hope, and charity;  
true contrition for my sins,  
and a firm purpose of amendment.

While I contemplate, with great love and tender pity,  
Your five most precious wounds,  
pondering over them within me  
and calling to mind the words which David,  
Your prophet, said to You, my Jesus:  
"They have pierced My hands and My feet,  
they have numbered all My bones."  
Amen.

*Monday 14th September  
Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross  
Relic of the True Cross will be  
present during Novena Mass*

### CONTACT NUMBERS FOR CLERGY

It may not always be possible for your local priest to be available. In case of an emergency, Clergy can be contacted at any of the numbers below.

Fr O'Neill - Brackaville - 02887740221      Fr Seery - Stewartstown - 02887739133  
Canon Fee - Clonoe - 02887749184      Fr McCallion - Brocagh - 02887738381  
Fr McGuigan - Moortown - 02886737236      Dean Donaghy - Dungannon - 02887722775

**INTERNET BROADCASTING:** Mass and other services will be broadcast each day over the internet. The operator of the system is Fr. Eugene O'Neill PP, Parochial House, Coalisland, Tel 8774 0221, to whom queries should be referred.

**PARISH EMAIL:** [coalislandparish@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:coalislandparish@yahoo.co.uk)      **PARISH WEBSITE:** [www.ballyclogdonaghery.org](http://www.ballyclogdonaghery.org)

*Fr Eugene O'Neill: 8774 0221 / Fr Michael Seery: 8773 9133*

Bulletin sponsored by:

*Springisland*

2 Washingbay Road      *Fresh & Local Market*  
Coalisland  
Co Tyrone  
BT71 4ND

Tel: 028 8774 7272  
Fax: 028 8774 7841

# Ballyclog & Donaghery

Parish Bulletin | 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time | 13th September 2020

Forgiveness is the theme of today's readings and truth be told, is the great theme of the whole Christian faith – that Christ came to world to give His life for the forgiveness of all our sins. His must have been such a strange life – to give up His divinity to become a man, so that He could completely understand pain and rejection, insult and ecstasy just as we humans do, and then to willingly suffer so horribly out of love for all of us. Love like that is a very special thing to have. That love was to bring the great forgiveness that overcomes all evils and death itself. That is our faith. Now as we all know, we get nothing for nothing in this world, and so there is a little price attached to our forgiveness – that what we receive we pass on to others. But that can be an awfully hard thing to do. The idea of forgiving is a lovely one, and deep down if we mess up, hurt or offend someone ourselves, we nearly feel it our right to be forgiven – how often do we say those words “oh I wish they would just get over it” – it's so easy to expect to be forgiven. But when it comes to forgiving others it can be a whole different thing, again how often do we hear ourselves mutter the words “I can't believe they did that!!”, “They'll have some job to do making up for this one”, “I'm going to make them suffer for that” – and we can easily feel we're perfectly justified in hanging on to every little slight and hold out for our revenge. Deep down we all know that's a waste of time, a waste of life and energy, and a waste of the love that we all have inside us. The first reading tells us resentment and anger are foul things, and those are wise words, because they do really rot us to our core and overshadow all the good we can do, the good we can let happen in others and the happiness, joy and peace we can bring to life. It's not easy to forgive, it's one of the most difficult things to do ever, but when we do a great weight lifts off our shoulders because suddenly that weight is added to the weight of the cross on Christ's shoulders. When we forgive we give someone else another chance, and there's always time for just one more chance because that one could be the one that totally changes someone's life. In 1981 Pope John Paul was shot in St Peter's Square during the weekly audience. He almost died and suffered health complications that came back to torture him in old age. 2 years later on Christmas morning, he visited the Rabibbia prison in Rome and sat in a cell with Ali Agca, his would be assassin, chatting too quietly for anyone to hear. When he left the cell, all the Pope said was “ I spoke to a brother whom I have pardoned”. The example is simple, anyone can forgive anything if they choose, and the world is always better for it. “I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound then to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you”. No matter how difficult, it's all God asks us to do – love in a practical way. Forgive. Do it today wherever you need to, let it all go and just live life happily.

With best wishes for the week,  
Fr O'Neill

**ROSARY** at Our Lady's Grotto Sunday to Friday at 8 pm.

**THE DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET** - Wednesday @ 7pm.

**BAPTISMS** Are celebrated on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month in the Church of the Holy Family and on the 3rd Sunday of each month in St Mary's Stewartstown. At present, due to the ongoing health crisis, there is a limitation of 20 guests as a maximum per Baptism party. To book please contact the parish office by email: coalislandparish@yahoo.co.uk.

**FUNERALS:** are still limited to **family and close friends only** in line with current guidance.

**WEDDINGS:** All couples intending to marry in the coming months are asked to contact the Parish Office to arrange for the completion of any necessary paperwork before the 3 month guideline expires. Please feel free to discuss any concerns regarding numbers or ceremony and we will try to help.

#### HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

**WEEKEND MASS:** Saturday - 6.00pm; Sunday - 9.30am & 12.00pm

**WEEKDAY MASS:** Monday - 7.30pm; Tuesday - Friday - 10.00am

**NOVENA MASS:** Monday - 7.30pm

**ROSARY** will be recited on Wednesday evenings at 6.00pm

**CONFESSIONS:** Only on request due to social distancing and sanitising requirements

#### ST. MARY'S CHURCH, STEWARTSTOWN

**SUNDAY MASS:** 10.30am

**WEEKDAY MASS:** Monday, Wednesday & Friday - 10.00am

**NOVENA MASS:** Tuesday - 7.00pm

#### ST. MARY & ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH

**CHURCH OPEN FOR DAILY PRAYER: 8.30AM - 6.00PM**

**COLLECTION:** Sunday 6 September 2020: £2450.00

Many thanks for your generosity. If anyone would like to make a donation by cheque please make cheques payable to "Coalisland Catholic Church".

If anyone would like to arrange donations to the Parish by Standing Order, please contact the Parish Office for any necessary details. Thank you to those who already contribute in this way.

**LATELY DECEASED:** Please pray for Claire McGonigle; Jim Curran; Paddy Hurle; Brigid McCaughery; Gerry Quinn; Declan Morgan; Patrick McCann

**NUMBER LIMITATION & PRE-BOOKING:** Under the current guidance, Holy Family Church can safely accommodate **175 people** maximum for any Mass. St Mary's Stewartstown can safely accommodate **50 people** maximum for any Mass. **Maximum capacity numbers cannot be exceeded.** To maintain a fair opportunity for as many people as possible to attend Mass you are asked to continue to use our **Booking sheets** which can be found at all times in the Church. **A new online booking system** will hopefully be running live from this weekend and can be accessed via the link on the **Parish Website**. Hopefully this will give people an easy way to book their place in whatever way they are comfortable. **Please do book as no one wants to ever have to turn anyone away from Church due to the safety number being exceeded. With increasing numbers of attendees at some Masses this is more important than ever.**

**FACE MASKS:** Please remember to wear your face mask at all times when participating in Church Services. I'm sure we're all agreed they can be uncomfortable things at times but it is a requirement of Law at the moment that face coverings must be used in all social settings, and is required only to ensure the safety of both yourself and others as the pandemic makes a resurgence. Thank you for your understanding and co-operation.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION** was sadly postponed in May but will take place for the children of Primate Dixon PS on Tuesday 22nd, Wednesday 23rd and Thursday 24th September at 1.00pm in St Mary & St Joseph's Church, Brackaville (numbers of under 20 children per day permit this) and on Saturday 26th September in St Mary's Church, Stewartstown at 11.00am for the children of St Mary's PS. First Confession will be celebrated privately in school before these days. We wish them all the best in their preparations.

**BRACKAVILLE GROTTTO:** A sincere word of thanks to all those who have worked so hard in recent weeks and months to refresh, tidy and repair the Grotto in Brackaville graveyard and who have given of their time and interest to enhance it's beauty. It is a favourite spot for so many parishioners and offers a little place of peace in a busy world. The work undertaken has only made it more special for us all. Thank you.

**HOLY TRINITY COLLEGE, COOKSTOWN:** A temporary part-time cleaner is required for Holy Trinity College during term time, with an immediate start required. 4½ hours daily from 10.00am to 2.30pm. For further information please contact the College on 028 8676 240 to speak to Principal, Mrs. Russell.

**SUSE+ PROGRAMME:** If you are unemployed or working less than 16+ hours per week, you may be eligible to join the SUSE+ Employability Programme to avail of free qualifications, specialised training and one to one dedicated Mentoring support. If you are an employer and you can offer work placements and job opportunities, we would be delighted to hear from you. For further information please contact: Angela; 077 3995 1970 [angela.reid@swc.ac.uk](mailto:angela.reid@swc.ac.uk) or Laura; 078 7027 6912 [laura.anderson@swc.ac.uk](mailto:laura.anderson@swc.ac.uk). Facebook; SusePlus Swc. Website; South West College"

**GRAVE SURROUNDS:** all those erecting grave surrounds are asked to ensure that the measurement of completed surrounds does not exceed 8ft long by 6ft 8in wide. Thank you for your understanding which ensures all families are treated equally at this most sensitive time.

**PARISH CHRISTMAS MASS BOUQUETS:** following the request of a number of Parishioners last year, Christmas Mass Bouquets will be available from the Holy Family Sacristy from November onwards. All intentions will be joined and offered on the Masses of Christmas Day. **All offerings made for Masses will be forwarded to the Sick and Retired Priests Fund for the Diocese.** More details later.