



PRAYER FOR ADVENT

O gracious and holy Father,
give us wisdom to perceive thee,
diligence to seek thee,
patience to wait for thee,
eyes to behold thee,
a heart to meditate on thee,
and a life to proclaim thee;
through the power of the spirit
of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.



CONTACT NUMBERS FOR CLERGY

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

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

PARISH EMAIL: coalislandparish@yahoo.co.uk **PARISH WEBSITE:** www.ballyclogdonagherry.org

Fr Eugene O'Neill: 8774 0221

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Ballyclog & Donagherry

Parish Bulletin | Second Sunday of Advent | 5th December 2021

John the Baptist was an odd sort and no one could argue against it, living wild, eating strangely and going against the grain in all his preaching and predictions. But John's message was a simple one – shake yourselves up because the time has come, God is here. The last of the prophets John had a simple task -to get the world ready for Christ, to sacrifice his own fame and glory, power and popularity in the service of God. In many ways he could be called the first Christian, because he believed when no one else did and he paved the way for all of us who have followed since. John always pops up at Advent when we're encouraged to take time to prepare ourselves for the spiritual Christmas that awaits. Advent is our spiritual time of expecting or waiting for the birth of Christ, and like anyone expecting anything it's not just a case of sitting back with our legs crossed and arms folded waiting for someone else to get us ready, it's up to us to make sure that when Christmas day comes, amidst the long list of everything else that has to be done our minds and our lives are a little bit holier because we've thought about what Christmas means. The 4 Sundays of Advent give us a nice theme each week to reflect on – hope, peace, joy and love – the 4 great things that Christmas really celebrates – the hope that God gives to life that one day life will be more wonderful than we can even dream of; the peace of knowing that God is always there with us, the joy of God's presence in our lives every day in the faces of all those who around us who give us happiness and care at just the right time and the love that all that hope, peace and joy bring alive. I know it can be hard to make time for everything as Christmas draws near but this year I'd encourage you all to make a special effort to do some little thing every day to remember the real reason for and meaning of Christmas. Why not try to say one extra prayer a day, just to say thank you for all the good things in life, because when we look for it there is always good to be found. And why not try to match it up with a good turn for someone else. Last week we reflected on the good turns we can all do for strangers in charity at this time of year, but sometimes a good turn done at home for our family, our nearest and dearest can make a huge difference too. Every good turn helps someone else share in your blessings – it might be as tiny as a chat, a smile, a wee encouragement, or just a little bit of your time given up for them, but it really does make a difference and reminds people of what Christmas is all about – sharing kindness, sharing, love, spreading joy and making sure Christ has a place to be born this year in your words and your works.

With best wishes for the week, Fr O'Neill

ROSARY at Our Lady's Grotto every evening at 8.00pm.

THE DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET - Wednesday @3pm in Holy Family Church

BAPTISMS Baptisms will take place on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month at 4.00pm in Holy Family Church and after 11am Mass on the 2nd Sunday of each month in St Mary's. To book please email the parish office at: coalislandparish@yahoo.co.uk.

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH, COALISLAND

WEEKEND MASS: Vigil Mass - 6.00pm; Sunday Mass - 9.30am

WEEKDAY MASS: Monday - 7.30pm; Tuesday & Thursday- 10.00am

FIRST ANNIVERSARY: Monday 6th December - 7.30pm - Carmel Nixon

FIRST ANNIVERSARY: Saturday 11th December - 6.00pm - Patrick McGlinchey

NOVENA MASS: every Monday evening at 7.30pm

ST MARY & ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH, BRACKAVILLE

WEEKDAY MASS: Wednesdays 10.00am

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Wednesday 10.30am - 6.30pm

FIRST ANNIVERSARY: Friday 10th December - 7.30pm - Mary Dynes

ROSARY: Wednesday evening at 6.00pm

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, STEWARTSTOWN

WEEKEND MASS: Sunday - 11.00am

CHURCH CLEANING FOR DECEMBER: Jane McElhatton

MONTH'S MIND MASSES celebrated on request Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - 8TH DECEMBER

Mass: 10.00am - St Mary & St Joseph's Church; Mass 7.30pm - Holy Family Church

NO MORNING MASS: Friday 10th December, a Communion Service will take place.

COLLECTION: Sunday 28th November 2021: £2679.00

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 Patrick Herron; Annie Ashbridge; Patrick Cullen; Patricia Ann Herron; May Foster, Michael Ward

COALISLAND/CLONOE CONCERN: thank sincerely all the generous people of the Parish & beyond who donated to the Church collections in Coalisland & Stewartstown chapels on 13/14 November last. The total sum raised was £3744.72. This money, in these countries, will help greatly in easing suffering of many unfortunate families living through this present turmoil. 50 years of hard work by Concern volunteers had bettered their conditions but drought, hunger, Covid, wars & climate change have set back their great earlier work. However Concern volunteers are still there working alongside other charities & Missionaries & hopefully will be there for the future. Thank you all for your continued generosity over last 40 yrs in the Parishes'

COALISLAND FIANNA GFC CHRISTMAS FAIR: will take place in Coalisland Parochial Centre on Sunday 5th December from 1pm-5pm - a one stop shop for all your Christmas Shopping needs! For further information contact Maria on 07856499883

CHRISTMAS BELLS: Next Sunday, Gaudete or Rejoicing Sunday, the bells in all Churches in the country will ring at 9.00am as an invitation to people to keep in their thoughts those who have been bereaved in the past year, and we pray for the gifts of healing and hope for all. If you hear the bells and have a spare moment why not offer up a prayer for all those who need it at this time.

CHRISTMAS WEEK: please note when booking Anniversaries that there will be no weekday Mass Tuesday 28th, Wednesday 29th, Thursday 30th and Friday 31st December. All anniversaries for those days will be celebrated at the 7.30pm Mass on Monday 27th December and at the following weekend. Many thanks for your kind co-operation.

PROVISIONAL CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES:

Christmas Vigil - 6.00pm - St Mary's Church, Stewartstown

Christmas Vigil - 8.00pm - Holy Family Church, Coalisland

Dawn Mass - 7.30am - Holy Family Church, Coalisland

Christmas Day - 9.00am - Holy Family Church, Coalisland

Christmas Day - 10.30am - St Mary's Church, Stewartstown

These Mass times are unfortunately **all subject to change** as Christmas approaches. When Churches have reached their **safe capacity number** we sadly cannot admit further entry as we are bound by legislative regulations and a moral duty to safeguard all present. All Masses will be live streamed.

SOUTHERN AREA HOSPICE: Remember a loved one with an Engraved Leaf on the Southern Area Hospice Memory Tree. The Memory Tree is located in the Southern Area Hospice Memory Garden and provides a beautiful and meaningful way to remember a loved one whilst also helping the Hospice to continue delivering specialist palliative care to patients and support to their families. Call 028 3026 7711 for details or visit <https://www.southernareahospiceservices.org/memory-tree>

PARISH CHRISTMAS MASS BOUQUETS: are available in both our main Sacristies and samples of this year's designs can be seen in the Church porches. All Christmas Masses will be offered for these intentions and all donations will be forwarded to the Sick and Retired Priests Fund for the Diocese.