



PRAYER TO OUR LADY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

O Most Holy Virgin,
immaculate in body and spirit,
look kindly on me as I implore
your powerful intercession.

O most Holy Mother,
receive my prayers
as I present them to God.

O Mary, Mother of Jesus
and our Mother,
intercede for us with your Son.
O Mary conceived without sin,
pray for us
who have recourse to thee.

Our Lady of
the Immaculate Conception,
pray for us. Amen.



Contact Numbers for Clergy in Case of Emergency

Fr O'Neill - Brackaville: 02887740221

Fr McCallion - Brocagh: 02887738381

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PARISH EMAIL: coalislandparish@yahoo.co.uk

Fr Eugene O'Neill: 8774 0221

PARISH WEBSITE: www.ballyclogdonaghenny.org

PARISH OFFICE Tues & Weds: 10am - 2pm

Closed on Thursdays



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MONDAY 5TH DECEMBER

Ballyclog & Donaghenny

Parish Bulletin ❖ Second Sunday in Advent ❖ 4-12-2022

John the Baptist was a bit of an odd chap based on what the Gospel tells us about him, living in the wilds, wearing rags and eating bugs, and yet when he preached that Christ was on His way, people sat up and listened. John was quite blunt in his message – Christ is on his way, wise up, shape up and make yourself and the world ready to meet Him. Many people did and because of them Christ gathered his first followers. Others learned and listened and because of them we all gather 2000 years later to continue to prepare for the second and final coming of Christ. The big part of our own preparation for that day is tidying up our own souls, making our peace with God and the world, repenting for our failings and trying to turn life around. Its letting go of what's bad and of what we think might make us happy, getting rid of the sins and habits we fall into, all for the hope of one day living a perfect life in the Heaven John tells us about today. Being human though it can be very hard to turn away from our pet sins. If we had any sense we'd all give it a go because we all know habits, failings and comfort sins make us less good than we can be – either selfish, heartless or just indifferent to what's right. How much better would we be if we let those things go? There's a story told of how hunters used to catch monkeys in former times. They would cut a small hole in a coconut, just large enough for the monkey to put its hand in and fill it with a sweet treat, and leave it fixed under a tree. The poor monkey would smell the treat, squeeze its hand into the coconut, grab the treat in its little paw and then find that its fist wouldn't come out through the hole. Because the monkey wouldn't let go of the treat, it held itself as prisoner. While it just sat there desperately grasping its treat, the smart hunter came along and caught it. Silly monkey! All it had to do was to let go and slip its arm out of the coconut and run for freedom. The monkey seems so foolish and yet a lot of times we're like that ourselves with our wee pet sins. We hold on to things that imprison us. In order to get our hand out of the jar, regardless of what the jar is, we need to be brave and change. We'd like to think that we're smart enough to let go of something to gain our freedom; but the truth is we all find it so hard to ditch the bad, give up the wrong and keep on trying to be bigger, better people. We refuse to change because we're comfortable with what we have. To move forward in life, sometimes we have to just let go of the past and move ahead with confidence and Faith. During Advent, the Church challenges us all to free ourselves from the snares of the devil and really be ready to meet Christ. This Advent, why not try?

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 St Mary & St Joseph's Church

BAPTISMS Baptisms normally 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. The final baptisms of the year will take place on Saturday 17th December in Holy Family Church. The first baptisms of 2023 will be on the weekend of 14th/15th January. 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: Tuesday, Thursday & Friday - 10.00am

ROSARY: Tuesday & Thursday - 9.30am

CONFESSIONS: On request after weekday Mass

ST MARY & ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH, BRACKAVILLE

MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA: Monday evenings at 7.30pm

WEEKDAY MASS: Wednesday - 10.00am

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Wednesday - 10.30am - 6.30pm

MONTH'S MIND: Friday 9th December - 7.30pm - Kitty Coyle

FIRST ANNIVERSARY: Friday 9th December - 7.30pm - Eamon McNally

ROSARY: Wednesday at 6.00pm

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, STEWARTSTOWN

WEEKEND MASS: Sunday - 11.00am

CHURCH CLEANING FOR DECEMBER: Jane McElhatton

SUNDAY READER 4TH DECEMBER: Eileen Devlin

SUNDAY READER 11TH DECEMBER: Lisa Mulgrew

SUNDAY READER 18TH DECEMBER: Martin Kennedy

MONTH'S MIND MASSES: Wednesdays at 7.30pm - by arrangement

COLLECTION: Sunday 27th November: £3278.00

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 those who have died recently Kitty Coyle; Michelle Gildernew; Marie Watkins, Geraldine Hughes; Marie Mallon; Noel McKenna; Conor Sheehan; Maura McBride; Mary Marshall, Ciaran Coyle

WEDDINGS 2022 & 2023: All couples who plan to marry in the next year are asked to ensure that the following requirements are completed **3 months before the wedding.**

- 1) Arrange for your Pre- Marriage Course – see accord.ni for details
 - 2) Contact your local Council Offices for Notification of Marriage Forms.
 - 3) Complete Pre-Nuptial Enquiry forms with the Priest of the Parish you live in.
- A suitable time to complete all paperwork can be arranged by emailing the parish office.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES 2022

Vigil Mass – St Mary's Church, Stewartstown – 6.00pm

Vigil Mass – Holy Family Church – Coalisland – 8.00pm

Dawn Mass – St Mary & St Joseph's Church, Brackaville – 7.30am

Morning Mass – Holy Family Church, Coalisland – 9.00am

Morning Mass – St Mary's Church, Stewartstown – 10.30am

Please note the slight difference in times for Christmas morning compared to the regular Sunday schedule. Mass will be celebrated as usual on Monday 26th December at 7.30pm in St Mary & St Joseph's Church but there will be no weekday Mass for Christmas week except for funerals and weddings. Many thanks for your understanding.

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION: 8th December. Masses will be celebrated in honour of the Feast on Wednesday 7th December at 7.30pm in St Mary & St Joseph's Church (Vigil) and on 8th December at 10.00am in Holy Family Church.

CHRISTMAS MASS BOUQUETS: are now available from Holy Family and St Mary's Church Sacristies. All donations will be forwarded to the Sick and retired Priests Fund.

CONCERN: Annual Church Gate Collection will take place on **10th/11th December**

BRACKAVILLE GRAVEYARD: unfortunately we still have a problem with stray dogs in the cemetery and the inevitable messy fowling that follows. While we have worked with the Council to try to remedy this situation, I ask for your help on the matter. If you see stray dogs rubbishing our cemetery please contact the local dog warden as soon as possible via Mid Ulster Council at 03000 132 132 or Mid Ulster Dog Kennels at 02887738861.

ADVENT PRAYERS: will be led on the Sunday evenings of Advent in St Mary & St Joseph's Church at 6pm by members of the Parish Pastoral Council. All welcome.

WEEKDAY MASS: in the coming weeks we may make the decision to move the bulk of our weekday Masses to St Mary & St Joseph's Church, but any change will be announced well in advance. The design and volume of Holy Family Church makes it nigh impossible to maintain a comfortable level of heat during the week, especially when allied to the current price of heating oil and being hampered by a boiler which uses 8 gallons (not litres) of heating oil per hour which equates to approx. £34 per hour. We all know the uncertainty around living costs at the moment and a move to Brackaville may leave us in both a warmer and more manageable state. Thanks for your understanding should such a move take place in the near future.

ST.MARY'S PARISH HALL STEWARTSTOWN: Christmas Bingo Night will be held in St Mary's Hall on Tuesday 6th December @ 9pm. Books £8. - flyovers £2. Lots of additional prizes on the night. Come along and show your support.