



PRAYER FOR THE ASCENSION

Lord Jesus,
 You became man
 and came to live among us.
 For love of us You suffered
 and died for us.
 Because You are God, You conquered
 death and rose on the third day.
 Today You return to Your Father
 and our Father,
 but You promised to remain with us
 until the end of time,
 and to send us the Holy Spirit.
 We rejoice and thank You, Lord, Jesus.
 Come Holy Spirit,
 purify and transform us,
 kindle within us the fire of Your love.
 Amen.

Contact Numbers for Clergy in Case of Emergency

Fr O'Neill - Brackaville: 02887740221	Canon Fee - Clonoe: 02887749184
Fr McCallion - Brocagh: 02887738381	Dean Donaghy - Dungannon: 02887722775
Fr McCamley - Dungannon 02887722631	Fr Tremer - Moortown: 02886737236

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

Fr Eugene O'Neill: 8774 0221 **PARISH OFFICE** Tues & Weds: 10am - 2pm
 Closed on Thursdays

Please note the Parish Office is opened every Tuesday and Wednesday from 10.00am until 2.00pm to arrange baptisms, anniversaries or certificates.

Bulletin Sponsored by:

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47 Loughview Road, Coalisland, Co Tyrone
 02887740245 mdormanandson@gmail.com 07799674169

Ballyclog & Donaghenny

Parish Bulletin ❖ The Ascension of the Lord ❖ 21 May 2023

We all remember those old days when we were small and a look of horror came over our faces as we sat down at the kitchen table for dinner and the feared vegetables were on the plate. Sometimes it was a more palatable mouthful for a youngster but when the dread turnip appeared it took an awful lot of cajoling to make us eat any of it let alone a plateful. The only convincing argument was "if you want to grow up to be big and strong like your father you have to cleat your plate". It was a weak argument in fairness yet we were small and daft and fell for it every time. Why? Because deep down we all want to follow the example of our heroes, we all want to be as good, strong and great as them, and any encouragement is enough to keep us trying. There's something of that in today's Feast of the Ascension when Christ left earth and returned to heaven and the disciples had to go it alone and follow the example of their great hero and carry on his work. It must have been a frightening moment, uncertainty and insecurity, wondering were they really wise, strong enough or good enough to keep going, and yet we can look back and say that they certainly were. Look at all that they did - stayed true to Christ, fearlessly stood for what was right, preached the great message of hope and forgiveness and spread a faith right around the world from their own small starting point. It goes to show that a little courage and a measure of determination can make most things happen. In our own lives we all hit our moments of doubt and dread, moments where we question what we do and our ability to do it. Those times can come in the massive change moments of life - bereavement, marriage, stepping up as a new parent, leaving home for the first time and 100s more, and yet we're all strong enough because our heroes have shown us how. In the small moments we can just lose our self-confidence and enthusiasm or even ask what's the point and yet the encouragement of the grateful is more than enough to shake away the negatives of the miseries. In life we always manage to overcome the challenges and in faith we can too. The world the apostles stepped out into didn't really want to hear the message of Christ because it shook all the comforts of their day, and the apostles had to risk everything to put Christ at the centre of life. Today's world is still the same and yet what we believe and what we preach is a simple faith - hope for the life to come, forgiveness for the mistakes now, another chance when it's needed and the belief that life is a gift to make a positive difference with by being the face of God when we can. In an era that can be so focused on self and self alone it's refreshing to see those people who see beyond that and live for others and not just themselves. Our fathers in faith did it, our heroes in life did it and because of them we have our faith and our hopes of today. Where could you pass that same faith and hope on today? This weekend remember that now it's your turn to do your little bit too "Go make disciples of all the nations and teach them to observe all that I command you". You already have the faith to do it, you have the examples of those who have done it and have brought you to today, have the courage to step out and step up and do your bit now that it's your time. Change the world but change it in the right way.

With best wishes for the week - Fr O'Neill

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

THE DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET - Tuesday @ 7pm in Holy Family Church

BAPTISMS Baptisms normally take place on Saturdays at 4.00pm in Holy Family Church and after 11am Mass on Sundays in St Mary's. The next available spaces for Baptisms are for Saturday 27th May in Holy Family Church and in St Mary's Church on Sunday 11th June To book please **email** the parish office at: coalislandparish@yahoo.co.uk or telephone the Parish Office on Tuesday/Wednesday mornings.

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH, COALISLAND

WEEKEND MASS: Vigil Mass - 6.00pm; Sunday Mass - 9.30am
WEEKDAY MASS: Friday - 10.00am
FIRST ANNIVERSARY: Saturday 20th May - 6.00pm - Dessie Hughes
MONTH'S MIND: Saturday 27th May - 6.00pm - Elizabeth McCann

ST MARY & ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH, BRACKAVILLE

MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA: Monday evenings at 7.30pm
WEEKDAY MASS: Tuesday - Thursday: 10.00am
MAY DEVOTIONS: Sunday - 6.00pm
FIRST ANNIVERSARY: Monday 22nd May - 7.30pm - Marie Boyce
EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Wednesday - 10.30am - 6.30pm
ROSARY: Wednesday - 6.00pm
CONFESSIONS: on request after weekday Mass

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, STEWARTSTOWN

WEEKEND MASS: SUNDAY - 11.00AM
CHURCH CLEANING FOR MAY: Geraldine Donnelly
SUNDAY READER 21ST MAY: Eva Gallagher
SUNDAY READER: 28TH MAY: Martin Kennedy
SUNDAY READER: 4TH JUNE: Eileen Devlin
SUNDAY READER 11TH JUNE: Lisa Mulgrew

COLLECTION: Sunday 14th May: £4029.00

Many thanks for your generosity. If anyone would like to make a donation by cheque please make cheques payable to "Coalisland Catholic Church". For those who would like to set up a Standing Order, forms can be downloaded from the Parish website.

LATELY DECEASED: Please pray for those who have died recently: Peter Aquilina; Kevin Mallon; Brieghe Rodway; Mark O'Kane; Elizabeth McCann; Christopher Nixon; Gerard Devlin; Sally Lowe; Lily Cremin (nee McGlone); Desmond McCusker; Stephen Hughes

WEDDINGS 2023: All couples who plan to marry in 2023 are asked to contact the Parish Office by email at coalislandparish@yahoo.co.uk to arrange for the completion of all necessary Church and State paperwork. Meetings to complete this paperwork will take place on Monday evenings at 5pm and at 6pm and should last no more than 30 minutes. **The completion of the necessary Church and State paperwork is a legal requirement and without completion the wedding cannot take place.** The requirements are:

- 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.

MAY DEVOTIONS continue this Sunday at 6.00pm in St Mary & St Joseph's Church and will continue for the Sundays of May, consisting of the Rosary and Benediction.

RELIQS OF BLESSED CARLO ACUTIS: will visit St Patrick's Cathedral, Armagh from 11th – 13th June, being received at 11am Mass on that Sunday. Blessed Carlo Acutis died aged only 15 in 2006, having used his computer genius to spread his faith in the Blessed Sacrament. He is an example of the goodness of youth and the difference young people can make through their ways in the world. Please feel welcome to come along for veneration of his relics at any time and we pray his visit may be a source of grace and inspiration for us all but most especially all younger people in our land.

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH: please be aware that Holy Family Church will be closed on Monday 22nd May and Tuesday 23rd May to allow for essential electrical upgrades. The work should last no longer than 3 days at most and for safety reasons we have been advised to remain closed until all installation and testing has been completed.

FATIMA PILGRIMAGE 2023: Led by Archbishop Eamon Martin from 20 July 2023 for 7 nights - £799 per person. Includes direct return flights from Dublin to Lisbon (20kg bags included), airport transfers, 7 nights full board in Hotel Avenida, a full religious programme with guided tours and visits to Aljustrel & Valinhos. Optional: travel insurance & single supplement. For information, please contact: Joe McLaughlin 07711808207. All bookings through Joe Walsh Tours 0808 1890468.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK: will take place on Saturday 3rd June 2023. In conjunction with Dungannon Parish a bus is being run, leaving Coalisland at approximately 8am and returning at 8pm on the same day. To book a seat please contact James Morgan at 07771810558

SOUTHERN TRUST SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE AND THANKSGIVING: for parents and families who have been bereaved through pregnancy loss or the death of a baby, child or young person in Craigavon Area Hospital or the wider community. The service will take place on Sunday 21st May at 3pm in Seagoe Parish Centre.

DROMANTINE FAMILY FUN DAY: Sunday 11th June 2023 1.30 pm – 5.30 pm. Grand Draw, Country & Western Music, Vintage Tractors, Bouncy Castles, Obstacle Courses, Stalls, Food, Refreshments and much more! Admission £5 Donation per car.

BLESSING OF GRAVES: will be celebrated in St Mary & St Joseph's Cemetery on **Friday 16th June at 7.00pm** and in St Mary's Cemetery on **Sunday 18th June immediately after 11am Mass.** Please do share these dates with all those who may wish to be present.

A WORD OF THANKS: to all families and musicians over the past 6 months for embracing our return to the guidelines regarding appropriate Church Music that are promulgated and exist throughout the entire Catholic world. A full explanation of the reasoning for the use of solely religious music and appropriate instrumental music can be found on the Parish Website or in all Church Porches and is a policy that we are asked to uphold in every Parish that exists.