



**The Annunciation
of the Lord
25th March**

**PRAYER FOR the
Feast of the Annunciation**

*O most holy Virgin Mary,
to whom God sent the Angel Gabriel
to announce that you should be
the mother of His Only-Begotten Son,
pray for us who have recourse to you.*

*Holy Mary,
we give our all to you
what is past and present,
and the future, too.
Blessed be the holy
and Immaculate Conception
of the most blessed Virgin Mary,
Mother of God. Amen.*

For those Parishioners who wish to talk or consult. I will always be available a half hour before and after Mass in any of our Churches.

In the case of an emergency clergy can be contacted at the following numbers:

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

Parish Office is open every Tuesday and Wednesday from 10am until 2pm to arrange for Baptisms, Certificates, Anniversaries and all other Bookings.

Telephone: 02887740221 **email:** coalislandparish@yahoo.co.uk
Parish Website: www.ballyclogdonaghenny.org

Bulletin Sponsored By:



**Ballyclog & Donaghenny
Parish Bulletin
Third Sunday in Lent 23rd March 2025**

We've all known the benefit of being given a second chance at some stage in our lives – at school, in work, at home, locally, just in life in general, and with a second chance freely given we have the opportunity to put the past mistakes behind us and just start over and give it all one more go. Today's Gospel, with the parable of the fig tree that was producing nothing but with care and attention was given a chance to rejuvenate, is one of those little rarities where what Christ says is subtle - there's always time to improve, to put right, to get better and to be better in life. The message is a simple one but one that should touch us all, that God is the Master of Second chances and no matter our past, no matter our mess ups, if we're willing to take God's offer we can always start over again. God never gives up on us, because He knows that we all have a lot of love and talent inside us, a lot of gifts to do a lot of good – given a chance. Think how many times we hear of that in our readings on Sundays: Adam and Eve disobeyed the very First Rule. But God never gave up. Abraham wandered, and Sarah laughed. But God never gave up. Moses hid and shook with fear. But God never gave up. The great King Saul went insane. But God never gave up. Israel fell into pieces. But God never gave up. The Jewish people became exiles. But God never gave up. John the Baptist was beheaded. But God never gave up. Peter denied he even knew Jesus, and Judas betrayed Him for 30 pieces of silver. But God never gave up. The disciples all ran away. But God never gave up. Because God never gave up on them look at what they did or at the difference they made. Now look at you and look at the world. When we make mistakes in life, when we get things wrong we all know the easy thing is to slip to the background, drop our heads and just not put ourselves out there again. But that's an awful waste of our own potential. Sometimes all we need is someone to tell us that it's OK to have messed up, made mistakes or not been able to do something, and to be given that little shove in the back that sets off to try again. Its amazing what the trust of others can make us do. Whatever the past it's in the past, whatever the future holds has yet to be written and only you can write your own future – don't let anything put you off trying your best no matter how little it may be. If you have a hope that is good, want to do a thing that is right, want to be the person who makes a difference don't let the fails of the past hold you back be like God and never give up. God trusts you because He has trusted everyone who came before you, and you could be the very one He needs to do the great things for faith, for love, for people. Take your second chance and use it well – that is the lesson of today's Gospel – there's always one more time to give anything a try. Don't be afraid, don't be shy don't not give it all just one more go.

With best wishes for the week - Fr O'Neill

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

DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET: Friday - 10.30am.

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 dates for Baptisms are Saturday **12th April** and Saturday **26th April** in Holy Family Church, Coalisland and Sunday **6th April** in St Mary's Church, Stewartstown. 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: Monday - Friday - 7.30am; Friday - 10.00am

DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET: Fridays - 10.30am

ST MARY & ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH, BRACKAVILLE

MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA: Monday evenings at 7.30pm

WEEKDAY MASS: Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday - 10.00am

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Wednesdays - 10.30am - 6.30pm

ROSARY: Tuesday & Thursday: 9.30am, Wednesday - 6.00pm

CONFESSIONS: Before Rosary each Wednesday evening

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, STEWARTSTOWN

WEEKEND MASS: Sunday - 11.00am

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Monday 10.00am - 4.00pm

CLEANING FOR MARCH: Alison Dillon

SUNDAY READER: 23RD MARCH: Martin Kennedy

SUNDAY READER: 30TH MARCH: Catriona McErlean

"To repent is not to look downwards at my own shortcomings,
but upwards at God's love.

It is not to look backwards with self-reproach but forward with trustfulness.

It is to see not what I have failed to be,
but what by the grace of Christ I might yet become".

St John Climacus

COLLECTION: Sunday 16th March: £4262.00

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: Stephen Hughes; Msgr Ray Murray, Ray Ryan; Baby Rowan McClure; Pat Comac; Callum Quinn; Michael Rodgers; Teresa O'Neill; Francie Kelly; Harry Connolly; Mary McKernan; Raymond Mitchell; Sean McGeary; Liza Kirk

WEDDINGS 2025: All couples who plan to marry in **2025** 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 paperwork will take place on Monday evenings in January at 5pm / 5.45pm and should last no more than 30 minutes. **The completion of the necessary 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.

If anyone you know is hoping to marry in 2025 please bring this to their notice. Many thanks.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: will be celebrated each Sunday at 6.00pm in St Mary & St Joseph's Church and again at 7.00pm on Monday before the Novena Mass.

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION: will be celebrated in the Parish on Thursday 3rd April at 5.00pm in the Church of the Holy Family. Please keep in your prayers all those who are preparing for this celebration, that God may bless them and their families with faith, devotion and courage in life.

DAY OF PRAYER FOR LENT: will take place in St Mary and St Joseph's Church, Brackaville on **Sunday 6th April**. This day gives us all an opportunity to step for a few moments out of a frantic world for a moment of peace and prayer, to ask God's grace in our lives and to offer thanks for the goodness of God that we remember and celebrate during Lent and Easter. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place from 9.00am until 6.30pm. Confessions will be available from 2pm until 5.45pm. Stations of the Cross will be recited at 6.00pm and Devotions will be celebrated at 6.30pm. Please do feel welcome to join at any time throughout the day.

PARISH EASTER MASS BOUQUETS: are available from all the Church Sacristies. All Masses for these intentions will be offered at Easter and all donations go towards the Sick & Retired Priests Fund for the Diocese.

PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK: will take place on Sunday 25th May 2025. The Parish will run a bus in conjunction with Dungannon Parish and further details will be available in the coming weeks.

GRAVEYARD SKIPS: are provided solely for the disposal of flower arrangements and other waste from graves and the graveyard. They are not intended for the disposal of household waste. Local Council dumps and our own household bins are available for all other waste products. It is disrespectful to the cemeteries and the bereaved to view the graveyards as a suitable setting to dump food waste and household items - or even an old headboard as appeared this week. At a current annual running cost in the region of £6000 for our skips I would respectfully ask everyone to avail of the free Local Council Skip and Refuse Amenities for the disposal of all but graveyard waste. Many thanks for your cooperation.

PARISH ENVELOPES: the new run of Parish Envelopes are now available for collection in the Church Sacristies and begin on Sunday 6th April. Many thanks to all who contribute so generously towards the needs of the Parish. This makes a huge difference in defraying our running costs. If you would like to join the envelope scheme, please leave your name and address to the Sacristy or Parochial House at any time.

REDEMPTORIS MATER SEMINARY VISIT: the seminarians from the seminary in Dundalk, will be visiting the Parish this weekend to introduce themselves and the seminary. They will also have Mother's Day cards and a cross necklace available for donation to help support their formation.