



**St Thomas Aquinas**  
Patron Saint of Students

## Prayer for Exam Students

Come, Holy Spirit, Divine Creator,  
true source of light and fountain of wisdom!  
Pour forth your brilliance upon my intellect,  
scatter the darkness which covers me.  
Grant me a penetrating mind to understand,  
a retentive memory, method and ease in learning,  
the lucidity to comprehend,  
and abundant grace in expressing myself.  
Guide the beginning of my work,  
direct its progress,  
and bring it to successful completion.  
This I ask through Jesus Christ,  
true God and true man,  
living and reigning with You and the Father,  
forever and ever.  
Amen.

*St Thomas Aquinas*

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 Tremer (Moortown): 02886737236
Dean Donaghy (Dungannon): 02887722775	Fr McCamley (Dungannon): 02887722631

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

**Telephone:** 02887740221 **email:** coalislandparish@yahoo.co.uk

**Parish Website:** www.ballyclogdonaghenry.org

**Bulletin Sponsored By:**

**M Dorman & Son**  
Funeral Directors



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**02887740245 mdormanandson@gmail.com 07799674169**



# Ballyclog & Donaghenry

## Parish Bulletin

Fifth Sunday in Easter 18th May 2025

**T**his weekend and last weekend we celebrated First Holy Communion in the Parish, when all our P4 students receive the Blessed Sacrament for the first time in their lives. First Communion days are always special – there's always a lot of preparation and every boy from every child has military precision, the fancy frock is bought, the first suit too, dinners booked and families gathered and the wallets are all opened up. We all make a great fuss of First Holy Communion. And on the other end of life, we all make a fuss too of the final Communion anyone receives – their Viaticum or 'food for the journey', because at the end of our days it's calming to know we walk to meet our God with the Body of Christ inside us as our strength and our guide. When we say farewell knowing that someone has received those final Sacraments we have a little peace despite the sorrow. I suppose the inevitable question arises then – what's different about those two key moments than any other time we receive Holy Communion? The answer is – nothing. Every time we receive Communion we come closer to God than at any other time of our day or our lives, God enters our bodies and, if we allow Him, changes us – but only if we allow. That may sound strange, but the truth is God doesn't force Himself or His ways on any of us, it's something we choose for ourselves and for God to change us, the way we act or behave, our attitudes and our dispositions, we have to choose to let that happen too. The only way to choose is to stop and think about what we believe and what we receive. In every Mass Christ is sacrificed on the altar once more – giving His Body out of love for you. When we really think about that it should make us see every opportunity to be at Mass, to be in the presence of God, to receive Holy Communion as the greatest privilege of our lives. If we really believe in Christ and really believe in what happens on the Altar, if we really believe in the love of God for every one of us – we would cry for joy at how lucky we are, how blessed we are to have such a God as ours. It never does us any harm to review our own faith honestly, to review our Mass and our ways. In the presence of God we should be respectful, we should be prayerful and dignified. We're always that way for other important people and events – all the more reason to be the same for God. If God Himself walked into our rooms we would be models of perfection in our words and ways. God walks right into our lives in every Mass – always be the same. We make such fuss for the first and last Communion, why not make the same fuss for every Communion? This month of May, why not set some time aside to think about what we are offered at every Mass, at every devotion and at every visit to Church. We're offered the chance to be in the Real Presence of God, to receive the real Body of Christ, to worship the very presence of God. Don't waste that chance. Stop, think, believe and respond.

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 **7th June** and Saturday **14th June** in Holy Family Church, Coalisland and Sunday **8th June** 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

**MONTH'S MIND:** Saturday 17th May - 6.00pm - Ellie Ward

#### **ST MARY & ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH, BRACKAVILLE**

**MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA:** Monday evenings at 7.30pm

**WEEKDAY MASS:** Tuesday - Friday: 10.00am.

**MAY DEVOTIONS:** Sunday at 6.00pm

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:** Wednesday - 10.30am - 6.30pm

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

**CONFESSIONS:** Wednesday: 5.00pm - 5.45pm

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

**WEEKEND MASS:** Sunday - 11.00am

**CLEANING FOR MAY:** Geraldine Donnelly

**SUNDAY READER: 18TH MAY:** Katie O'Neill

**SUNDAY READER: 25TH MAY:** Martin Kennedy



**"The secret of happiness is to live moment by moment  
and to thank God for all that He, in His goodness,  
sends to us day after day"**

*St Gianna Molla*

**COLLECTION:** Sunday 11th May: £4122.50

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: Sr Brieg Reynolds; Pope Francis; Pat Totton; Fred Shields; Matt Scullion; Mary Murphy; Brinie McCloskey; Fr Peter Kerr, PE; Mary Conway; Kayleigh Magee

**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.**

**MAY DEVOTIONS:** continue this Sunday at 6.00pm in St Mary & St Joseph's Church, Brackaville and will continue on the Sundays of May, consisting of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, recitation of the Rosary and Benediction. All are welcome.

**CONGRATULATIONS:** to the P4 children of Primate Dixon Primary School who received their First Holy Communion on Saturday 17th May. Thanks also to their teachers, principal and assistants who worked so hard to prepare them for this day. May God ever grow in them a true and deep faith which will bless our part of the world.

**BLESSING OF GRAVES 2025:** will be celebrated on **Friday 13th June at 7.00pm in St Mary & St Joseph's Cemetery, Brackaville** and on **Sunday 15th June following on from 11am Mass in St Mary's Cemetery, Stewartstown.** Many thanks for sharing these dates with all who normally travel home for these commemorations. As we begin to prepare for these celebrations I would ask you to spare a thought for those who have nobody left to remember them as we all tend to and tidy our own graves.

**DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK:** will take place on Sunday 25th May. A bus will be run in conjunction with Dungannon Parish, leaving Holy Family Church, Platers Hill entrance at 7.45am and returning for 8.15pm. The cost of the bus is £25 and you're advised to take a packed lunch. For further details or to book a place, please contact James on: 07771810558.

**MARY'S MEALS** Armagh & Benburb Group invite you to their coffee morning on Sat 24th May @ Benburb Priory 10.00am - 1.00pm. Raffle on the day. All proceeds go to feed hungry children. Everyone welcome.

**ST MARY'S HALL, STEWARTSTOWN:** A massive thank you to all who supported and attended Evelyn's Teddy Bear Tea party coffee morning on Sunday 4th May in St Mary's Hall Stewartstown. £8000 was raised for Buddy Bear Conductive Education School in Dungannon.

**SOUTHERN AREA HOSPICE:** offer a beautiful selection of wedding favours, perfect for adding a thoughtful touch to your special day. All favours are personalised with the bride & groom's name and wedding date. By choosing to make a donation in lieu of traditional favours, you are helping to support the specialist palliative care and vital work provided by Southern Area Hospice. To find out more, please contact Katie on 028 3026 7711 or email heaneyk@southernareahospiceservices.org

**STEWARTSTOWN HARPS GAC:** congratulations to the Committee and members of Stewartstown Harps who officially had their new stand and grounds blessed and opened on Saturday 17th May. Best wishes for all their future ventures within the community.

**GRAVEYARD SKIPS:** many thanks to all who have worked so hard to maintain our Parish cemeteries, and to those who have respected the purpose of skips for graveyard waste only. This is a great comfort to all who visit the graves of their loved ones.