

St Andrew Christmas Novena

*(Traditionally prayed 15 times per day
from 30th November until 25th December)*

Hail and blessed
be the hour and moment
in which the Son of God
was born of the most pure Virgin Mary,
at midnight, in Bethlehem,
in the piercing cold.
In that hour vouchsafe,
I beseech Thee, O my God,
to hear my prayer and grant my desires,
(here mention your request),
through the merits of Our Saviour Jesus Christ,
and of His blessed Mother.
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 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, Weddings, 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



47 Loughview Road, Coalisland

02887740245 mdormanandson@gmail.com 07799674169



Ballyclog & Donaghenry Parish Bulletin

First Sunday in Advent – 30th November 2025

Every day of our life, whether it's the best or the worst, lasts only 24 hours and no matter what that day holds, no matter how much we look forward to it or dread it, in a very quick blink that day will be added to the great bank of our memories. But probably no other day of the year gets a heavier share of preparation and a bigger measure of expectancy than Christmas Day. These days the TV is filled with Christmas adverts for food, toys, treats and who knows what else, and to entice us that little bit more we have the great Black Friday offers – never have so many deals for things we don't need been received!! No matter who we are we all buy into the idea of trying to make that extra effort for Christmas – doing something to make it special. As a day of gift ripping and turkey shredding, Christmas does only last a day – another 24 hours, but as a spiritual season, as a Christian time, Christmas should last so much longer. Just like we prepare for the temporal side of Christmas, as people of faith we're asked to prepare for the spiritual dimension of Christmas, the root of the Feast for us who believe. Today we celebrate the First Sunday of Advent and this marks the start of our preparations for Christmas. In every Church building the countdown to Christmas Day is marked by the lighting of the Advent wreath – 4 candles – one for each Sunday – and those 4 candles represent the 4 things we're asked to reintroduce to the world in preparation for Christmas and to try in some small way to help Christmas make the world better for the next 365 days. The four lights represent hope, peace, love and joy, four great virtues that can transform any life or any day. Hope is that belief that life will always get better, difficulties will diminish and happiness will grow – who do you know that needs hope this year and where do you need hope in life yourself? Can you do anything about it? Peace is the freedom to be ourselves in the world and with other people, the freedom to have our wrongs forgotten and be given a second chance. Is there someone in your life who you can give that gift of peace to? We all have someone who fits in there and in truth we all need that gift of peace and forgiveness from others ourselves too. Don't wait – just do it. Love is the gift of being accepted and of being seen as someone special in the eyes of someone else. Love sees beyond the darkness of our lives and always sees the little bit of light, goodness and grace. Who needs to know that you love them? Put them together and we can all find joy this Advent and Christmas. In a world that can sometimes be a tad grim and gloomy, Christmas comes as a little nugget of happiness – but for happiness to last and make a difference it takes work from us all. With a little effort to put some hope, peace, love and joy into every day, not just 24 hours the spirit of Christmas can last forever. This year – give it a go in a way that counts and to the people that count or need it most.

With best wishes for the week – Fr O'Neill

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

DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET: Wednesday - 3.00pm & 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 **13th December** and Saturday **20th December** in Holy Family Church, Coalisland and Sunday **14th December** 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

FIRST ANNIVERSARY: Saturday 29th November - 6.00pm - Mary Duffy

FIRST ANNIVERSARY: Saturday 29th November - 6.00pm - Dominic Forbes

SATURDAY 29TH NOVEMBER - 6.00pm - Coalisland Silver Band Deceased

ST MARY & ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH, BRACKAVILLE

MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA: Monday evenings at 7.30pm

WEEKDAY MASS: Tuesday - Friday: 10.00am.

FIRST ANNIVERSARY: Friday 5th December - 7.30pm - Malachy Hampsey

FIRST ANNIVERSARY: Friday 5th December - 7.30pm - Paul McBride

EUCARISTIC 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

EUCARISTIC ADORATION: Monday - 10.00am - 6.00pm

CLEANING FOR DECEMBER: Lisa Mulgrew

SUNDAY READER: 30TH NOVEMBER: Martin Kennedy

SUNDAY READER: 23RD NOVEMBER: Catriona McErlean

**"The more we spend in time and care for souls,
the more we shall realize what we are meant for."**

"A good conscience is a soft pillow."

St Francis Xavier - 3rd December

COLLECTION: Sunday 23rd November: £4093.55

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: Anne Devlin; Eugene Clernon; Mae Taggart; Maureen McCormack; Evelyn Trindade Soares Branco Sarmento; James Currie; Marie Forker; Anne O'Donnell; Marie Brady; Pat Daly; Bridget Dillon

WEDDINGS 2026: All couples who plan to marry in **2026** 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 2026 please bring this to their notice.
Many thanks.

ADVENT DAY OF ADORATION: will take place on **Sunday 14th December** in St Mary & St Joseph's Church to offer an opportunity for us all to focus on our spiritual preparations for Christmas.

Adoration will begin at 9.00am and will continue through to 6.00pm that evening.

Confessions will be available from 2.30pm until 5.30pm

Evening Prayer of the Church will be prayed at 5.45pm

Rosary will be prayed at 6.00pm.

Benediction will be celebrated following the rosary.



ST VINCENT DE PAUL ANNUAL CHRISTMAS APPEAL: will begin this weekend, the 29th/30th November (the First Sunday of Advent). **A second collection will be taken up at Masses this weekend to help those struggling most in our own community.**

Everything given to the St Vincent de Paul locally remains within the Parish to help those of our own who are most in need, while still giving them their dignity and privacy. It is the most noble of Christian virtues to show help to others and what you give this year, big or small, could make the greatest difference to someone else at Christmas. It means a family could have a Christmas dinner, a child could have a toy or two to open on Christmas Day or a soul could have heat. If you can do anything at all to help, then thank you yet again, because your kindness makes all the difference.

PARISH CHRISTMAS MASS BOUQUETS: are now available from the Church sacristies. All donations go towards the Sick and Retired Priests Fund in the Diocese and all Christmas Masses will be offered for the intentions requested.

CONCERN: would like to thank all those who so generously contributed to their Annual Church Gate Collection at Masses in Coalisland and Stewartstown. The amount raised totalled £3824. This will make a huge difference to so many. Thank you.

PARISH CAROL SERVICES: will be hosted by our Schools again this year:

St Joseph's College: Monday 15th December - St Mary & St Joseph's Church

Primate Dixon PS: Tuesday 16th December - Holy Family Church

St Mary's PS: Thursday 18th December - St Mary's Church

GATHERED VOICES: Mid-Ulster's community choir presents 'A Winter's Tale', in the Bardic Theatre, Donaghmore on Friday, 5 December 2025 at 7.30pm. Come and experience an evening of enchanting music, the perfect soundtrack for this special time of year. Tickets are available online at <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/bardictheatre>

PROVISIONAL SCHEDULE FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES

Christmas Vigil Mass	6.00pm	St Mary's Church, Stewartstown
Christmas Vigil Mass	8.00pm	Holy Family Church, Coalisland
Christmas Dawn Mass	7.30am	St Mary & St Joseph's Church, Brackaville
Christmas Day Mass	9.00am	Holy Family Church, Coalisland
Christmas Day Mass	10.30am	St Mary's Church, Stewartstown

