



**Temptation of Christ  
in the Wilderness**

## PRAYER FOR Strength against Temptation

Heavenly Father,  
grant us the strength to resist  
the temptations  
that seek to lead us astray.

Fill our hearts  
with Your wisdom and courage,  
that we may stand firm in our faith.  
Help us to seek Your guidance  
in moments of weakness,  
and to find solace in Your love.

May we always choose  
the path of righteousness,  
reflecting Your light in our lives.  
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—2.00pm. Bookings for Baptisms, Weddings, Certificates, Anniversaries etc can be made by email or simply pop it through the door..

**Telephone:** 02887740221

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

**Parish Website:** [www.ballyclogdonaghenry.org](http://www.ballyclogdonaghenry.org)

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# Ballyclog & Donaghenry Parish Bulletin

**First Sunday in Lent**

**22nd February 2026**

**T**here's a famous story from the 16<sup>th</sup> Century by Christopher Marlowe that tells the tale of Dr Faustus, supposedly a German genius who made it as far as he possibly could on his own brains and with all his learning and still felt that greatness eluded him. Whichever of the great learnings of the day he looked at – medicine, law, science, theology – he felt none of them had anything to offer him, so he looked elsewhere. He was given a choice of paths in life – a good Angel offered him eternal life if he lived by his conscience, the Devil offered him power and happiness in this world for 24 years but at the end of it the Devil would come for his soul. Faustus took the easy path and gave into the temptation of the Devil, made a pact and had a wonderful time for the 24 years he was given. But time ticked on and the years ran quickly in, and one night at 11.00 the clock struck and Faustus realised he had only one more hour before he had to surrender his soul to Satan. Suddenly he was terrified. He cried out in fear "Stand still, you ever moving spheres of heaven, that time may cease, and midnight never come; Fair Nature's eye, rise, rise again and make perpetual day; or let this hour be but a year, a month, a week, a natural day, that Faustus may repent and save his soul." But it was all too late, at midnight the Devil came and claimed his own. It's a sad tale with a clear message to us all, the temptation to go the easy way in life is great, but giving in to temptation can never end well and can never make us happy. In life, we always come to times and situations where we sell out. Sometimes we sell out for good and sometimes for bad. We sell out either to God or to the Devil. God's way will always be a more difficult path to tread, but it's the one that brings long term happiness, peace and the gift of being able to look the world in the eye and stand proudly before God at the last. The easy way is to give in to the temptation for the quick fix, the easy answer, the path that doesn't cost us, exert us and ask anything of us – the instant result. But the instant result rarely brings a happiness that lasts because deep down we know we could have done things better or just done things right. We sell out to temptation for handiness, appearances, popularity or sometimes even fear, but deep down we know it's not right. Today's Gospel tells of Christ being tempted in the wilderness – how easy it would have been for Him to give in and sell out too, think of the pain and suffering He could have avoided, but He knew the path of good and the path of God was the only way to live, the only one that gave lesson, example and the long-term happiness of all mankind. To say no to temptation isn't easy, it takes courage, but when you doubt your ability to do what is right, think of Christ and His example and be brave too, be good and do things as best as you can.

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 **28th February** and Saturday **14th March** in Holy Family Church, Coalisland and Sunday **15th March** 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

**MONTH'S MIND:** Saturday 21st February - 6.00pm - Teresa Morgan

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

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

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

**MONTH'S MIND:** Friday 27th February - 7.30pm - Kieran Timlin

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

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** Sunday - 6.00pm; Monday - 7.00pm

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

**CONFESSIONS:** Wednesday 9.00am - 9.45am; 5.00pm - 5.45pm

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

**WEEKEND MASS:** Sunday - 11.00am

**EUCARISTIC ADORATION:** Monday - 10.00am - 6.00pm

**CLEANING FOR MARCH:** Alison Dillon

**SUNDAY READER: 22ND FEBRUARY:** Kieva Daly

**SUNDAY READER: 1ST MARCH:** Eileen Devlin



**“Let no one mourn that he has fallen again and again:  
for forgiveness has risen from the grave!”**

*St. John Chrysostom*

**COLLECTION:** Sunday 15th February: £4062.00

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: Teresa Morgan; Joan McGlinchey; Marie Morgan; Kieran Timlin; Gerard Rafferty; Gerard Donaghy; Sally Houston; Ann Curran; Evelyn Scullion; Eadaoin Ferguson; Tom Canning; Cassie Barrett; Sheila Morrison; Kathleen Cullen; Malachy Fitzgerald

**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 you or anyone you know is hoping to marry in 2026 please bring this to their notice as soon as possible. Many thanks.**

#### **WEEKDAY MASS DURING LENT:**

Monday: 7.30am Holy Family Church & 7.30pm St Mary & St Joseph's Church

Tuesday: 7.30am Holy Family Church & 10.00am St Mary & St Joseph's Church

Wednesday: 7.30am Holy Family Church & 10.00am St Mary & St Joseph's Church

Thursday: 7.30am Holy Family Church & 10.00am St Mary & St Joseph's Church

Friday: 7.30am Holy Family Church & 10.00am St Mary & St Joseph's Church

**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. These brief services give us an opportunity to reflect on the Passion of Christ offered for us all and to unite in prayer for the suffering of our community and our world.

**CONFESSIONS** will be available on Wednesdays from 9am until 9.45am and again from 5.00pm until 5.45pm in St Mary & St Joseph's Church during Lent. Confessions are also available upon request after weekday Mass.

**TRÓCAIRE BOXES** are available in all our Church porches as begin our annual Lenten season and campaign and can be returned at any time before Easter.

**PARISH ENVELOPES:** The new series of Parish envelopes are currently being prepared in the Parish Office and we are making best efforts to update our contributors list. If you would like to be added to the envelope system please let the Parish Office know at your earliest convenience. This system helps us sustain the inevitable Parish expenditure in running so many buildings and also helps us plan future developments and improvements. Many thanks to all who so faithfully and generously help the Parish in this way.

**THE GREAT DAFFODIL BALL:** The Dungannon Fundraising Group for Marie Curie invites you to our annual Great Daffodil Ball on Saturday, March 7th, 2026, at the Glenavon House Hotel, Cookstown beginning at 7.30pm. Drinks reception and meal, followed by dancing. There will also be many prizes to be won in our tombola and raffle. It is a great opportunity to enjoy yourself while supporting your local Marie Curie fundraising group. Tickets are £50 each. For further information or to purchase tickets, please contact a committee member or email: Cathal McGurk: 07762 309 294 Email: dungannonfundraisinggroup.mariecurie@hotmail.co.uk

**APOSTOLIC WORKERS/PARISH CRAFT & SEWING GROUP:** a lady from our Parish is keen to form or reform a group which could work together in various crafts, sewing to assist the Parish and to offer both a practical and social outlet for anyone interested. If you would be interested please leave your name to the Sacristy to assess feasibility.

**VOLUNTEER FOR LENT:** Lent is a time for doing a little extra. If you would like to volunteer to be part of our team of Readers, Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers, Choir, Cleaners etc., please leave your name into the Sacristy at any time.

**COUNTRY JIVING CLASSES** in Na Fianna GFC, Monday evening for 3 weeks from 8pm - 9.30pm. Cost is £30 for 18+ and £15 for -18. Contact Kara at 07713688299.