Prayer for the Faithful by St Patrick

May the Strength of God guide us.
May the Power of God preserve us.
May the Wisdom of God instruct us.
May the Hand of God protect us.
May the Way of God direct us.
May the Shield of God defend us.
May the Angels of God guard us.
Against the snares of the evil one.
May Christ be with us!
May Christ be before us!
May Christ be in us,
Christ be over all!
May Thy Grace, Lord,
always be ours,
this day, O Lord, and forevermore. 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
Fr McCallion (Brocagh): 02887738381
Dean Donaghy (Dungannon): 02887722775
Canon Fee (Clonoe): 02887749184
Fr Tremer (Moortown): 02886737236
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

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Ballyclog & Donaghenry Parish Bulletin

Fourth Sunday in Lent 15th March 2026

History is a wonderful thing, filled with so many facts that teach us, inspire us or move us in some wee way. Yet it's the tidbits in history, the little things that could seem irrelevant, that can really give us what we need, because the tidbits normally belong to the more ordinary, human side of nature rather than to the dazzling greatness of the greatest. History shows us lists of people who overcame difficulties - a bit like the blind man in today's Gospel who overcame his blindness with the help of God, but overcame his treatment by society, his fear, his uncertainty and self-doubt by the grace of God as his little pat on the back that said "Go on –you can do it". Look at the past for a moment and the stories of people who triumphed over huge and almost impossible disadvantages and challenges. Homer the ancient Greek was blind but is still famed in the world as one of the greatest poets to ever breathe. Beethoven was deaf when he composed his Ninth Symphony, so deaf that when his work was first performed, he couldn't hear a note of the music played in all its glory. Thomas Edison, who lost his hearing at the age of eight went on to invent over 100 useful things, including the lightbulb, the gramophone and moving pictures. Alexander the Great, Shakespeare, Sir Walter Scott and Franklin Roosevelt had skeletal deformities that should have stopped them, but one conquered the known world, one is the world's most famous playwright, one became his countries most famed novelist and the last became US President. Francis Mouthelon, a man with no hands was awarded first prize by the French society of artists for the most excellent painting of 1875. Helen Keller, one of the world's most famous women, was blind, deaf and mute from early childhood, yet she became a teacher, author and educator. George Frederick Handel, the great musician suffered endless setbacks. He lost his health and his right side was paralyzed. When he lost his money, his creditors wanted him thrown into prison. In the throes of his darkest days, Handel composed his finest work, *The Hallelujah Chorus*, citing his Faith in God as the only thing that kept him going. Some people just seem to defy all the odds and their triumphs bolster the human spirit with the knowledge that handicaps, and hardships don't have to mean the end and don't have to mean we can't dream, believe and achieve. Sometimes the successes of others are enough to remind us that we can change, overcome and be great ourselves. Lent challenges us all to think about the obstacles we face every day, especially the things that hold us back in the ordinary things of this world and in our spiritual life too. Fear, a lack of self-belief, hurt, tiredness, boredom and apathy can all lead to wasted lives and wasted opportunities. But we've had so many example of what God and good can do when given a chance. The blind man in today's Gospel overcame it all – he rediscovered his faith by trusting in God, he found a new life by the goodness of God, he found freedom when he stood up and was finally accepted by others. That's a fine lesson, just like all those people who overcame all things. Whatever your obstacles and difficulties don't let them stop you. God can do all things when we trust Him and let Him. Let Him do something good with you.

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 March** and Saturday **11th April** in Holy Family Church, Coalisland and Sunday **12th 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; Wednesday - Friday: 7.30am
ST PATRICK'S DAY MASS: Tuesday 17th March - 9.30am Irish Mass
FIRST ANNIVERSARY: Saturday 21st March - 6.00pm - Brigid Hughes

ST MARY & ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH, BRACKAVILLE

MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA: Monday evenings at 7.30pm
ST PATRICK'S DAY VIGIL MASS: Monday 16th March - 7.30pm
WEEKDAY MASS: Wednesday - Friday: 10.00am.
FIRST ANNIVERSARY: Monday 16th March - 7.30pm - Mary McKernan
FIRST ANNIVERSARY: Friday 20th March - 7.30pm - Sean Donnelly
FIRST ANNIVERSARY: Friday 20th March - 7.30pm - Stephen Cullen
EUCHARISTIC ADORATION: Wednesday 10.30am - 6.30pm
ROSARY: 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
ST PATRICK'S DAY: Tuesday 17th March - 11.00am
EUCHARISTIC ADORATION: Monday - 10.00am - 6.00pm
CLEANING FOR MARCH: Alison Dillon
SUNDAY READER: 15TH MARCH: Catriona McErlean
ST PATRICK'S DAY READER: 17TH MARCH: Martin Kennedy
SUNDAY READER: 22ND MARCH: Kieva Daly

"Every contact you make with everyone you meet will help them or hinder them on their journey to heaven."
C.S. Lewis

COLLECTION: Sunday 8th March: £4198.00

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: Briege Quinn, Conor Quinn; Brian McDowell; Eileen McGinley; Shanie Aiken; Jimmy Donnelly; Plunket Cullen; Patrick McDonagh; Helen Sutton; Martin O'Neill

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 - Friday: 7.30am Holy Family Church & 10am 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.

NEW PARISH ENVELOPES: are now available for collection in Holy Family Church Sacristy and St Mary's Church for distributors or individuals after any of our Masses. The new series of envelopes begins on Sunday 5th April. If you would like to be added to the envelope system please let the Parish Office know at your earliest convenience. Many thanks to all who so faithfully and generously help.

EASTER MASS BOUQUETS: available from the Sacristies. All donations, as always, go towards the Sick and Retired Priests Fund for the Diocese.

IRISH LANGUAGE CHURCH GATE COLLECTION: will take place at all Masses in the Parish next weekend - 14th/15th March, many thanks for your support.

ST PATRICK'S DAY: is celebrated on Tuesday 17th March and Masses for the feast will be offered as follows:
Monday 16th March - Vigil Mass - 7.30pm - St Mary & St Joseph's Church
Tuesday 17th March - Morning Mass - 9.30am - Holy Family Church *(Irish Mass)*
Tuesday 17th March - Morning Mass - 11.00am - St Mary's Church.

PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL BE NO 7.30AM MASS ON ST PATRICK'S DAY.

ST PATRICK'S DAY IRISH MASS will be offered at 9.30am in Holy Family Church on 17th March by Canon Fee. Everyone welcome to join in this celebration.

LENTEN DAY OF PRAYER: will be celebrated on Sunday 22nd March from 9am until 6.30pm in St Mary & St Joseph's Church, consisting of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Evening Prayer of the Church, Stations of the Cross and Benediction. Confessions will be available from approximately 3pm until 5.45pm on that day for those who wish to fulfil their Easter duty.

DIOCESAN CONGRESS: takes place in Armagh next weekend when reflection and discussion on future plans and hopes for the Diocese will be made. Mass will be offered as part of the Congress in St Patrick's Cathedral at 6.30pm on Saturday 21st March and a concluding liturgy at 4pm on Sunday 22nd in St Malachy's Church. Everyone is most welcome to attend these events.

CHURCH CLEANING: to spruce up our Churches for Easter I ask and invite volunteers to come together before Holy Week to have everything looking it's best for our celebrations. Volunteers are invited to gather in Holy Family Church for a big clean and tidy on **Wednesday 25th March at 7pm.** Many thanks to all volunteers.

EASTER WEEK MASSES: Please note there will be no Mass on Wednesday 8th April to Friday 10th April inclusive as we all look forward to an Easter Week break. All anniversaries will be offered at Monday and Tuesday Masses. Many thanks for your understanding