The Annunciation of the Lord
25th March

Prayer to the Mother of the Word Incarnate

Virgin most Holy,
Mother of the Word Incarnate,
Treasurer of graces,
and refuge of us poor sinners,
we fly to thy motherly affection with lively faith,
and we beg of thee the grace
ever to do the will of God.
Into thy most holy hands
we commit the keeping of our hearts,
asking thee for health of soul and body,
in the certain hope that thou,
our most loving Mother, will hear our prayer.
Wherefore with lively faith we say
Hail Mary (3 times)

From the Raccolta

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

Bulletin Sponsored By:

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PHARMACY PLUS

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Ballyclog & Donaghenry Parish Bulletin

Fifth Sunday in Lent 22nd March 2026

Yugoslavia officially stopped existing in 2003 when it split into 7 nations after a bloody war, but before that it was a basic lifestyle lived and risks were many. The big risks we all know about, but the little ones were everywhere. The newspapers there ran a story about a judge in Yugoslavia who was electrocuted when he reached up to turn on a light while standing in the bathtub. He was zapped and fell out of the tub. His wife called the doctor who pronounced him dead. In line with government health regulations, the judge's body was taken straight away and placed in a vault under the cemetery chapel. In the middle of the night, the judge regained consciousness. He had no idea where he was or what had happened. When he did finally realize where he was, he ran to the closed vault door and began shaking it and yelling for help. The guard who was there was terrified and ran like the wind away. Luckily, the guard found some courage and got some help; he came back and opened the door and released the newly revived judge. The judge phoned his wife that he was coming home. She screamed and hung up the phone. Next he tried going to the homes of his friends. They took one look at him, thought he was a ghost and slammed the door in his face. Finally, he found a friend who hadn't heard he was dead. He convinced that friend to act as a go-between. Gradually, the judge was able to convince his friends and family that he really was alive! If someone we knew came back from the dead would we be any better than the poor judge's chums? The finality of death is a horrible thing – life changes forever when we don't have the friend to talk to, to laugh with, to help us out, to cheer us up and to make us feel special. Death makes us all cry a little because it's a step into sadness for us that is the hardest sadness of all. In today's Gospel Jesus felt that all too as He cried His eyes out over the death of His friend Lazarus. But then He raised him from the dead – the last great sign He gave before His own death and resurrection that we'll celebrate in 2 weeks' time. For us the resurrection is the very centre of our faith – the promise of God that the dead will rise, will walk in heaven, and will be perfectly happy forever without the shackles this world places on us all. We can't understand the resurrection because it's just beyond our minds, all we can do is believe or in the hardest moments try to believe in it. Jesus said "I am the resurrection and the life, whoever believes in me will never die". It's God's promise to us all and God never breaks His promises. Everyone has been touched by grief at some stage, our closest family and friends, or maybe just that local sadness that touches us all. Today try to believe they are all with God, all living a happiness we can't even begin to imagine and that soon we will be with them again and be happy forever. The first Easter happened to make that happen for us all. Christ understands the pain, He weeps with us all but He knows that what waits us will be the greatest of all rewards. The dead have risen, the weak will be strong and God will make everything right in the world to come. Always try to hang on to that thread of hope and trust in God. Always try to believe.

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 - Friday: 7.30am
FIRST ANNIVERSARY: Saturday 21st March - 6.00pm - Brigid Hughes

ST MARY & ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH, BRACKAVILLE

MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA: Monday evenings at 7.30pm
WEEKDAY MASS: Wednesday - Friday: 10.00am.
MONTH'S MIND: Friday 27th March - 7.30pm - Plunket & Kathleen Cullen
MONTH'S MIND: Friday 27th March - 7.30pm - Brian McDowell
MONTH'S MIND: Friday 27th March - 7.30pm - Eileen McGinley
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
EUCHARISTIC ADORATION: Monday - 10.00am - 6.00pm
CLEANING FOR MARCH: Alison Dillon
SUNDAY READER: 22ND MARCH: Kieva Daly
SUNDAY READER: 29TH MARCH: Eileen Devlin

"I know the resurrection is a fact, and Watergate proved it to me. How? Because 12 men testified they had seen Jesus raised from the dead, then they proclaimed that truth for 40 years, never once denying it. Every one was beaten, tortured, stoned and put in prison. They would not have endured that if it weren't true. Watergate embroiled 12 of the most powerful men in the world-and they couldn't keep a lie for three weeks. You're telling me 12 apostles could keep a lie for 40 years? Absolutely impossible."

Charles Colson

COLLECTION: Sunday 15th March: £4122.00

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: Brian McDowell; Eileen McGinley; Shanie Aiken; Jimmy Donnelly; Plunket Cullen; Patrick McDonagh; Helen Sutton; Martin O'Neill; Tony Connolly; Gerard McAliskey

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.

DAY OF PRAYER FOR LENT: will take place in St Mary and St Joseph's Church, Brackaville on this **Sunday, 22nd March.** This day gives us all an opportunity to step for a moment 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. Please do feel welcome to join at any time throughout the day.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place from 9.00am until 6.30pm.
Confessions will be available from 3pm until 5.45pm.
Stations of the Cross will be recited at 6.00pm
Devotions will be celebrated at 6.30pm.

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.

EASTER TRIDUUM: The document ***Paschale Solemnitatis*** from the Congregation for Divine Worship gives instruction on the celebration of the Easter Triduum throughout the world. In paragraph 94 it states for the celebration of the Easter Triduum "the faithful should come together as one and should experience a sense of ecclesial community", while paragraph 43 states "Where there are Parishes with only one priest, parishes should assemble in a principal church and participate in the celebration there". In light of this wise document and of our own parish situation the Easter ceremonies will be celebrated as follows.

EASTER CEREMONIES SCHEDULE 2026

Holy Thursday: Mass of the Lord's Supper: 7.00pm - Holy Family Church
followed by Eucharistic Adoration and concluding with Night Prayer at 9.00pm

Good Friday: Passion of the Lord: 3.00pm - Holy Family Church
Stations of the Cross: 7.00pm - Holy Family Church
7.00pm - St Mary's Church
9.00pm - Outdoor Stations Brackaville

Holy Saturday: Easter Vigil - 8.00pm - Holy Family Church

DIOCESAN CONGRESS: 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.