

## LAY MINISTRY FOR MAY 2024

### Eucharist Ministers

St Mary's Church: Saturday Vigil 6.30 pm. Marie McElduff  
Sunday 9.30 am Mark McMenamin  
St Joseph's Church: Sunday 11.30 am Monica Hagan/ Briega McCrory

### Collectors

St Mary's Church: Saturday Vigil 6.30 pm. Thomas Loughran/Tony McKernan  
Sunday 9.30 am. Eimear Donnelly/John Loughran  
St Joseph's Church: Sunday 11.30 am Shane Bowe/Vincent Ruddy

### Readers

St Mary's Church: Saturday Vigil 6.30 pm. Michelle McLaughlin  
Sunday 9.30 am. Linda Hughes  
St Joseph's Church: Sunday 11.30 am Catherine McKenna

### Altar Societies

St Mary's Church: Eithne Donnelly/Eileen Keenan/ Caroline Kelly  
St Joseph's Church: Caroline Mullan-Beggs/Vera Mullan

**Anyone who cannot fulfil their ministry should contact Fr Hughes.**

## PARISH WEBSITE

Our Parish website can be accessed at [www.kildressparish.co.uk](http://www.kildressparish.co.uk)

Visit the Latest News section of our Parish Website for details of forthcoming Diocesan events/courses which may be of interest to you.

**The website has a facility to have the bulletin forwarded to your email address.**

## SOME USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

SAMARITANS: 028 25650000 and 08457909090      RELATE ( Marriage counselling ): 08702426091  
CRUISE ( Bereavement support ): 08444779400      COOKSTOWN COMMUNITY CANCER CARE: 028 867 66111  
AWARE ( Help defeat depression ): 0845 1202961      ACCORD ( Pre-Marriage Courses ): 028 38334781  
PIPS PROJECT ( Suicide awareness ): 07876552046 and 07789797483  
LIFELINE ( For those in despair ): 0808 808 8000      ST VINCENT DE PAUL: 028 867 69400  
LILAC CANCER SUPPORT: 028 8774 6600 / 028 867 66866      ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS (028 90434848)

## NEXT BULLETIN

The next bulletin will be the weekend **11th/12th May 2024**. If there is something you wish to have included in that bulletin please ring 028 867 51857 by **Wednesday 8th May 2024**. Inclusion of anything offered after that date cannot be guaranteed.

# KILDRESS PARISH BULLETIN



5th May 2024

**SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**



*Dear Friends,*

I sometimes try to imagine the terrible loneliness of the 'American Wake' of years gone by. So many of our people had to emigrate from every county in Ireland to the United States and other parts of the world, knowing that they might never return. In those days they had little means of communication, so the farewell party on the eve of departure was indeed equivalent to a wake.

Today's gospel is also a story of farewell and departure. It is taken from a section of St John's gospel known as 'The Farewell Discourse'. The setting is the Last Supper, the night before Jesus' crucifixion. For a group of people who had become dependent on him as leader and friend, they must have felt lonely and bewildered. Not only were they engulfed by the sadness of his impending death, but they were overwhelmed by a terrible sense of confusion and emptiness. The uncertainty of a future without Jesus disturbed them deeply. With great gentleness and compassion, Jesus reassures them of the special relationship he has with them, ***"You are my friends...You did not choose me, no, I chose you. What I command you is to love one another.....the Father will give you anything you ask him in my name"***.

The intimacy of that relationship will be fortified with the coming of the Holy Spirit, who is called the Advocate and Helper. During our own times of uncertainty and confusion, and especially in our moments of personal loneliness and fear, let us remind ourselves that Jesus has promised us the same Advocate to be with us as Comforter and Consoler.

According to the Gospel reading, what the Lord asks of us in return is that we love him by keeping his commandments: ***"If you love me you will keep my commandments."*** We are called to be immersed in a culture of kindness and to have the living expression of God's goodness reflected in all that we do and say. Yet we know from experience that love and friendship make demands on us. Parents, for example, give freely of their time and energy to caring for their children, but it often requires great effort and much sacrifice. In responding to the needs of friends or spouses, people can be challenged to 'lay down' their own 'lives' at least for a time, so that something better can be achieved. You might like to recall a time when putting yourself out for others bore fruit for them and for you.

*With every blessing, Monsignor Colum.*

**PARISH PRIEST CONTACT DETAILS**

**Fr Paddy Hughes,**  
**Parochial House, 10 Cloughfin Rd.,**  
**Killeenan, Cookstown BT80 9JB**  
**Tel: 028 867 51206**  
**Email: kildressparish@outlook.com**

**COLLECTION BANKED FOR LAST**  
**WEEKEND**

**£ 1,625**

**TELEPHONE NUMBERS FOR OTHER PRIESTS IN OUR PASTORAL AREA**

Monsignor Curry (Lissan) 028 867 63674 email: columcurry@yahoo.com  
Fr Boyle (Cookstown): 028 867 63370 Fr Slater (Cookstown): 028 867 63490  
Fr Francis Coll (Coagh): 028 867 37212 Fr Moore (Pomeroy) 028 877 57867

**WEEKDAY MASSES 6th - 11th May 2024**

**St Joseph's, Killeenan**

**Wednesday, Friday: 9.30 am**

**St. Mary's, Dunamore**

**Tuesday, Thursday: 9.30 am**

**SATURDAY: 11.00 am FIRST COMMUNION**

**CONGRATULATIONS**

*Congratulations to the boys and girls of St Joseph's PS who received their First Holy Communion on Saturday. My thanks to their class teacher Mrs Crozier for preparing the girls and boys for the sacrament and for organising the ceremony with the help of Mrs McKenna and all the Staff of the School. Thanks to Emer McCrory, our organist, and to the Choir for enhancing our ceremony with music and song.*

*A day to be remembered but a memory to be relived each time the boys and girls return to the altar to receive the "Bread of Life"*

*Fr Paddy Hughes*

**MONTHLY YOUTH MASS**

The Parish of Dungannon will be celebrating a youth Mass each month in St. Patrick's Church, Dungannon. It will take place at the 6.15pm Saturday night Vigil for the Sunday Mass. Young people from across the Archdiocese are welcome to attend. Dates for future Masses are:

**11th May 2024; 8th June 2024.**

**LOUGH DERG ONE DAY RETREATS IN MAY**

These guided days of prayer and reflection will take place on **Sunday 5th, Monday 6th, Sunday 12th, Tuesday 14th, Saturday 18th, Saturday 25th and Monday 27th.** More details can be found at [www.loughderg.ie](http://www.loughderg.ie) €45 per person, booking essential. The Lough Derg traditional Three Day Pilgrimage begins on Friday May 31st and continues until August 15th.

**WALK TOGETHER - QUESTION TOGETHER -**  
**TAKE RESPONSIBILITY TOGETHER.**

The Benedictine community in Rostrevor will host Dr Catherine Clifford from Saint Paul University, Ottawa, in a reflection on the Synodal Journey through three evening events. Dr Clifford is one of a number of lay members of the current Synod in Rome and will speak on **Tuesday 14th May, Wednesday 15th May and Thursday 16th May at 7.30pm on each evening. Everyone is welcome to any or all these evenings.**

**LAY MINISTRY ROTAS**

The above rotas were disrupted due to Covid.

If there are any Collectors or Altar Society members who wish to continue to be included but have not yet appeared on the monthly lists in the bulletin please contact 028 867 51857.

Also any new volunteers for Collecting or for the Altar Societies, should contact the same number.

**HOSPITAL CHAPLAIN**

If admitted into hospital, or if your health deteriorates while in, and you would like to receive the Sacraments please request a visit from the Hospital Chaplain by asking at the Nurses' Station.

**BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE**

Wolfe Tones GAC are hosting a blood donation session on **Friday 10th May 2024.**

Book your appointment now. Booking times: 12.30 pm - 7.00 pm

Ring: 08085 534 653 or visit [www.nibts.org](http://www.nibts.org)

**Every blood donation saves 3 lives**

**OTHER DIOCESAN EVENTS TO CHECK OUT ON OUR WEBSITE**

- \* **Pilgrimage to Medjugorje 2024.**
- \* **Called to Be a Monk? A Monastic Come and See Day Sunday 23rd June 2024**
- \* **All Ireland Rosary Rally - Knock – 1 June 2024**
- \* **St. Brigid 1500 – Family Fun Day, Dundalk 16<sup>th</sup> June 2024**