

LAY MINISTRY FOR JANUARY 2026

Eucharist Ministers

St Mary's Church: Saturday Vigil 6.30 pm. Gerard Quinn
Sunday 9.30 am Ann Small
St Joseph's Church: Sunday 11.30 am Gary Kane/Don McGurk

Collectors

St Mary's Church: Saturday Vigil 6.30 pm. Sean Heagney/Thomas Loughran
Sunday 9.30 am. Paul McGarrity/Pat Wilson
St Joseph's Church: Sunday 11.30 am Liam Hughes/Vincent Ruddy

Readers

St Mary's Church: Saturday Vigil 6.30 pm. Michelle McLaughlin
Sunday 9.30 am. Fintan Loughran
St Joseph's Church: Sunday 11.30 am Ciara McNally

Altar Societies

St Mary's Church: Martina Mallon/Clare Tracey/Sinead Tracey
St Joseph's Church: Mary Conway/Rita Nugent

Anyone who cannot fulfil their ministry should contact Fr Hughes.

PARISH WEBSITE

Visit the [Latest News](http://www.kildressparish.co.uk) section of our Parish Website (www.kildressparish.co.uk) for details of forthcoming Diocesan events/courses which may be of interest to you including:

- Irish Mass St Malachy's Church 17th January 2026 at 4.00pm
- Marriage Enrichment Weekend 20th – 22nd March 2026 St Mary's Retreat Centre, Knock

SOME USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

SAMARITANS: 028 25650000 and 08457909090 (Freephone 116123 from any phone)

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

Next bulletin will be **17th/18th January**. If there is something you wish to have included in that bulletin please ring 028 867 51857 by **Wednesday 14th January 2026**. Inclusion of anything offered after that date cannot be guaranteed.

KILDRESS PARISH BULLETIN



11th January 2026

The Baptism Of The Lord



THE BAPTISM OF JESUS

Today we celebrate the feast of the Baptism of the Lord – the last major feast of the Christmas season.

His baptism by John is a threshold moment in Jesus' life. He is leaving behind the security of his 'hidden' life in Nazareth and entering the public arena for the first time. So, the liturgy invites us to shift our focus from the baby in the manger to the adult Jesus about to embark on his messianic mission in the service of God's reign.

Jesus' first public act is to go to the Jordan river to be baptised by his cousin John, an event recorded by Mark and Luke as well as Matthew. Matthew's account suggests that John is reluctant to baptise Jesus, saying in words with which we can readily identify, *'It is I who need baptism from you'* (Mt 2:14). But Jesus insists and is baptised. At this moment the true identity of Jesus as God's Beloved Son is revealed and he is empowered by the Spirit:

'As soon as Jesus was baptised, he came up from the water, and suddenly the heavens opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming down on him. And a voice spoke from heaven, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased" (Mt 3: 15 -16).

For Jesus, this event marks the beginning of a journey that will take him from Nazareth to Jerusalem, from the hills of Galilee to the hill of Calvary.

Recalling the baptism of Jesus and what it meant for him reminds us of our baptism and what it means for us. It reminds us of who we are and to whom we belong. By baptism we become children of God, brothers and sisters of Jesus, members of the Church, and sharers in the threefold office of Jesus: the priestly, prophetic and kingly offices.

Let us ask our Lord to help us to be true disciples of Jesus, faithful to our baptismal commitment. Let us thank him for the privilege of being joined to Jesus' mission in witnessing to the Gospel by our lives of love, mercy, service and forgiveness.

Courtesy of Fr Michael McCabe SMA

PARISH PRIEST CONTACT DETAILS

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

LAST WEEKEND'S OFFERORY
COLLECTION BANKED

£ 3,125

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 McNally (Cookstown): 028 867 63490
Fr Francis Coll (Coagh): 028 867 37212 Fr Moore (Pomeroy) 028 877 57867

WEEKDAY MASSES (12th - 16th January 2026)

St Joseph's, Killeenan

NO WEEKDAY MASSES

St Mary's, Dunamore

Friday evening: 7.30 pm First Anniversary Mass for Patsy Boone

Next Saturday night's Vigil Mass will be the Month Mind Mass for Martin Keenan

BOOKING ANNIVERSARY MASSES

All anniversary Masses should be booked at least two weeks before the required date and after Mass in the Sacristy of the Church in which the anniversary Mass is to be celebrated. Or a note can be placed through the letter-box of Killeenan Parochial House, no later than two weeks before the required date and a contact number should be included in the note. **Please do not book anniversary Masses over the phone or by email. Month Mind Masses/First Anniversary Masses must be booked with Fr Hughes directly.**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

The Sacrament of First Holy Communion will be celebrated for the boys and girls of P4 in St Joseph's School on **Saturday 9th May 2026** at 11.00 am in St Joseph's Church and for the boys and girls of P4 in St Mary's School on **Saturday 16th May 2026** at 11.00 am in St Mary's Church. The Sacrament of Confirmation will be conferred on the boys and girls of P7 of both schools on **Tuesday 21st April 2026** in St Joseph's Church at 5.00 pm

ANAM CARA ONLINE BEREAVEMENT INFORMATION EVENING

Anam Cara, which supports parents after bereavement, is hosting an Online Bereavement Information Evening on **Thursday 22nd January at 7pm.** Dr. Róisín Finnegan will be our guest speaker this month. Dr. Finnegan is a Chartered Clinical Psychologist currently working in Cancer Care West with individuals affected by cancer and loss. This talk will focus on understanding grief after the death of a child, the many ways it can show up over time, and how parents can be supported in living alongside their loss. It will also touch on the impact of loss within the family, including siblings, and offers gentle ways of coping when emotions feel overwhelming.

MESSAGE FROM HOLY TRINITY COLLEGE, COOKSTOWN

The Principal and Staff of Holy Trinity College invite Primary 7 & Primary 6 pupils and parents/guardians to join with them for our Open Day on **Friday 23rd January 2026** at 10.00am.

Please be seated by 9.45am. Participate in activities, explore all subjects on offer, hear what pupils and staff have to say, and see our fabulous new school build.

We look forward to welcoming you. See College Facebook or contact the College on 28 8676 2420 for further details.

IMPORTANT EVENT IN KILDRESS WOLFE TONES HUB

Raising Emotionally Resilient Children (**Free Workshop For Parents**)

Preventing Violence From The Start: Why big emotions lead to big behaviour ***how the brain reacts under stress (fight/flight) ***the hidden messages we give girls and boys ***how to calm chaos with connection; ***tools for discipline without shouting, punishment or shame; ***raising children who express themselves with confidence.

Kildress Wolfe Tones Hub Thursday 29th January 2026 7.00 - 9.00 pm

**LET'S RAISE THE NEXT GENERATION WITH STRENGTH, KINDNESS
AND EMOTIONAL CONFIDENCE**

PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE AUGUST 2026

After four years of investigation into the phenomenon of Medjugorje, Pope Francis declared in September 2024 that the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith "recognises that there have been abundant conversions, pilgrims have rediscovered their faith, many people have returned to Confession and the Eucharist while numerous vocations have been confirmed as well as the renewal of marriage and family life." While not commenting on the alleged Apparitions of Our Blessed Lady, bishops and priests are invited to lead pilgrimages to Medjugorje.

There will be a local Pilgrimage departing from Belfast to Medjugorje **Wednesday 19th August to Wednesday 26th August 2026** with Marian Pilgrimages and led by Monsignor Colum Curry. Seven night's accommodation near St James' Church with breakfast and dinner, including all airport and local taxes for £750, with discount of £50 for bookings before 30th January 2026. For more information, please contact columcurry@yahoo.com or (028) 86763674

ARMAGH ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

Our 2026 Annual Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place from the **10th - 15th of May 2026.**

The hotel pricing for the May Pilgrimage has been structured slightly different from previous years.

For full details on pricing and hotels please see Diocesan Notices in the Latest News section of our Parish website.