

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

- Marriage Enrichment Weekend 20th – 22nd March 2026 St Mary's Retreat Centre, Knock
- Divine Liturgy for the Ukrainian Community Dundalk 18th January 2026 at 3.00 pm

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 **24th/25th January**. If there is something you wish to have included in that bulletin please ring 028 867 51857 by **Wednesday 21st January 2026**. Inclusion of anything offered after that date cannot be guaranteed.

KILDRESS PARISH BULLETIN



18th January 2026

Second Sunday In Ordinary Time



Dear Parishioner and Gentle Reader,

Today's Gospel is unusual insofar as John the Baptist, rather than Jesus, has centre stage. John is giving a report of his impression of Jesus and highlights the fact that Jesus is the one they have been waiting for – he is indeed the Chosen One of God.

Artists frequently depict John the Baptist with one arm outstretched pointing to Jesus. This image accurately reminds us that John was a man of humility who recognised that Jesus had a life-giving message that could change people's lives.

As we stand on the threshold of a new year, this might be a good time to think about the people in our lives whose example or advise pointed us in the direction of a fuller life:

*** Who has helped you to appreciate the importance of Jesus and his message?**

*** Who helped you to grow in faith?**

*** Who formed you in your understanding of the Gospel message?**

By the same token we might ask ourselves:

*** How am I enabling others to follow Jesus?**

*** Am I a good role model for other people in terms of witnessing to my faith in what I do and say?**

*** Does my behaviour and lifestyle inspire or diminish the faith of others?**

*** How do I measure up to the criteria of what it means to be a Christian?**

By virtue of our Baptism, we are called to witness to Jesus; we are asked to point away from ourselves and draw attention to him. But the question is: *are we open, like John the Baptist, to listening to the Lord speaking to our hearts?*

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

LAST WEEKEND'S OFFERTORY COLLECTION BANKED

£ 2,200

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 (19th - 23rd January 2026)

St Joseph's, Killeenan

Monday to Friday: 9.30 am

St Mary's, Dunamore

No Weekday Masses as there is repair work to be done to the stain glass window at the front door of the Church and this involves the erection off scaffolding.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK 18th - 24th January 2026

The theme of Catholic Schools Week this year is "Normal Lives Called To Holiness." Pope Leo said recently. ***"Our Catholic schools are like Stars in the Constellation of the School and Universities."***

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 18th - 25th January 2026

The theme this year is: ***"There is one Body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one Hope of your calling."*** Ephesians 4. 4

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.

SPIRITUAL EXERCISES: 5 DAY SILENT IGNATIAN RETREAT FOR MEN

Led by Benedictine monks from St. Joseph Abbey, in France. **Starts Thursday 30th April (3pm). Benburb Priory, Co. Tyrone.** €450 (all meals & single room included).

Daily Mass - Ordinary Form (Latin and Ad Orientem).

Discover the strength that only comes when you stop running and let God speak.

Book at: <https://soutenir.clairval.com/retreat-benburb-priory>

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

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FOR OUR OWN DES KEENAN

The Pride of Tyrone Awards ceremony was held in Canavan's Restaurant last Saturday night. There were 9 groups of awards on the night and the last one was the Lifetime Achievement Award. This was presented by Peter Canavan to Kildress' Des Keenan for his tireless fundraising efforts over 40 years. Over that time Des has raised half a million pounds for many charities through various fundraising ventures - from walking the roads around Northern Ireland collecting money in buckets to organizing functions at £1,000 per table.

In his acceptance speech Des was very anxious to point out that he may have initiated fundraising but it was the marvellous support from the Parish of Kildress and surrounding areas which brought each venture to fruition. He had a special word of thanks to the many business people who supported him. Des also wants to mention that he has done his last fundraiser and now is the time for someone else to step up.

Congratulations, Des, on the thoroughly deserved recognition of your wonderful efforts!

PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE AUGUST 2026

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. Please contact columcurry@yahoo.com or (028) 86763674

THE HUB (COOKSTOWN) JANUARY TEA DANCE

Takes place **Friday 30th January** from 2.00 pm until 4.00 pm Admission £4.
Everyone welcome.