

## LAY MINISTRY FOR MAY 2026

### Eucharist Ministers

St Mary's Church: Saturday Vigil 6.30 pm. Marie McElduff  
Sunday 9.30 am Anne McNally  
St Joseph's Church: Sunday 11.30 am Anne Hagan/Monica Hagan

### Collectors

St Mary's Church: Saturday Vigil 6.30 pm. Thomas Loughran/Eamon McGurk  
Sunday 9.30 am. Pat McCormick/Paul McGarrity  
St Joseph's Church: Sunday 11.30 am Conor Gilligan/Mark McMenamin

### Readers

St Mary's Church: Saturday Vigil 6.30 pm. Dan Quinn  
Sunday 9.30 am. Donna McCrory  
St Joseph's Church: Sunday 11.30 am Deirdre Bowe

### Altar Societies

St Mary's Church: Siobhan Kerr/Una Lagan/Fiona McCormick/Monica Young  
St Joseph's Church: Briega Bell/Anne Mallon/Frances O'Gara

**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](http://www.kildressparish.co.uk) ) for details of forthcoming Diocesan events/courses which may be of interest to you including:

- \* Pilgrimage to Rome and Umbria 27th July – 4th August 2026
- \* Vocation to the Diocesan Priesthood special event Synod Hall 23rd May 2026 @ 3pm
- \* St Patrick's Church, Dungannon, 150th Anniversary Concert 29th May 2026

## 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 on the weekend of **23rd/24th May**. If there is something you wish to have included in that bulletin please ring 028 867 51857 / 07584168879 by **Wednesday 20th May 2026**. Inclusion of anything offered after that date cannot be guaranteed.

## KILDRESS PARISH BULLETIN

17th May 2026

### **The Ascension Of The Lord** World Communication Day



Dear Parishioner and Gentle Reader,

On this feast of the Ascension, we might relate to the bewildered friends of Jesus standing on the outskirts of Jerusalem. Sometimes we too can find ourselves in strange and frightening places where we are lonely and feel ill-equipped to carry on. In today's first reading we are told that the disciples were staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they asked them, "Why are you standing here looking into the sky?" It is a question that suggests that Jesus whom they were seeking will not be found by looking upwards but looking around and looking within.

Back in the fifth century, St Augustine made an interesting observation when he wrote about the Ascension: "*Lord, you ascended from before our eyes. We turned back grieving, only to find you in our hearts*". And therein lies the meaning of what we celebrate today. The Ascension reminds us that if we are looking for the Lord, we will discover him within our own hearts and in the community, especially when we gather to celebrate the Eucharist.

The parting words of Jesus remind us of what St Teresa of Avila once said:

*"Christ has no body now on earth but yours, no hands but yours, no feet but yours; yours are the eyes through which Christ's compassion looks out on the world, yours are the feet with which he is to go about doing good and yours are the hands with which he is to bless us now."*

*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**

**£2,056**

**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 (18th - 22nd May 2026 )**

**Please note : The Rosary is said during the 15 minutes immediately before each weekday Mass.**

**St Joseph's, Killeenan**

**Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 9.30 am**

**Tuesday evening: 7.30 pm Month Mind Mass for Raymond Lagan**

**St Mary's, Dunamore**

**Tuesday, Thursday: 9.30 am**

**PENTECOST SUNDAY**

Next Sunday ( 24th May ) we will celebrate the Feast of Pentecost.

**CONGRATULATIONS**

*Congratulations to our 29 boys and girls of St Mary's Primary School who received their First Holy Communion on Saturday. My thanks to their Class teacher, Mrs Gallagher, to the School Principal, Mrs Ward, and to all the staff off the school; to Mrs McCrory and to the school Choir and to all who helped to make it a very memorable day.*

*Fr Paddy Hughes*

**BLESSING OF GRAVES**

**28th June:** St Joseph's, Killeenan after 11.30 am Mass; St Mary's, Dunamore at 6.00 pm.

**26th June:** St Michael's, Lissan. Mass in the chapel at 7.30 pm followed by prayers in the graveyard.

**7th June:** Holy Trinity, Cookstown at 2.00 pm

**WORLD DAY OF COMMUNICATIONS**

In his message for the 60th World Day of Social Communications, Pope Leo focuses on the need to preserve human voices and faces rather than allow artificial intelligence to replace them. He highlights that faces and voices are unique, sacred expressions of human identity, reflecting God's image and divine imprint on each person. Protecting these elements is essential for authentic human relationships and communication, which cannot be honestly replicated by technology or AI.

**DAY OF FRIENDSHIP AND PRAYER**

Lough Derg will host their Day of Friendship and Prayer on **Wednesday 20th May**. This special annual event promotes Christian unity. Archbishop Eamon Martin and Archbishop John McDowell, two close friends and partners in ministry, join Fr La Flynn, Prior of Lough Derg, for a day of spirituality, friendship, and reflection. Events take place from 10.00 am until 3.00 pm on Station Island. Admission fee of €25 includes boat fare, refreshments, and lunch. **Advance booking essential:** www.loughderg.org  
info@loughderg.org tel. 353 071 9861518.

**SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE AND THANKSGIVING.....**

.....for parents and families who have been bereaved through pregnancy loss or the death of a baby, child or young person in Craigavon Area Hospital or the wider community.  
**Sunday 31st May 2026 at 3.00 pm in Seagoe Parish Centre, 46 Seagoe Road, Portadown BT63 5HW**

**CLOUGHFIN PIPE BAND**

Congratulations to the band that celebrates its centenary this year. And congratulations to all those who organised and took part in the outstanding Centenary Celebratory Concert last Saturday in the Burnavon Theatre Cookstown. **You make Kildress proud!**

**KILDRESS WOLFE TONES ALL STAR TEAM**

We are proud to continue building our All Star Team and would love to welcome any child with special/additional needs to come along and be part of our club in a fun, inclusive and supportive environment. **We are also looking for new coaches and volunteers to get involved. If helping young people enjoy GAA football is something you'd be interested in, we would love to hear from you. Together we play. Together we win.** For further details, please contact Caroline 07789440000 or Shannon 07939475015

**CHORAL CONNECTIONS CONCERT.....**

.....**Friday 12th June** at 8.00 pm in Burnavon Theatre, Cookstown. Tickets £10  
An evening celebrating 4 of our local choirs; The Hub Community Choir, Cookstown Youth Choir, St Philomena's East Timor Choir & Rural Melody Ladies Choir, Moneymore, with Special Guests. Compere: Carol Doey Tickets available from The Burnavon.

**THE HUB ( COOKSTOWN ) AFTERNOON TEA DANCE**

**Friday 29th May 2026** 2.00 pm-4.00 pm £4 includes raffle ticket. All welcome.