

LAY MINISTRY FOR JULY 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 Deirdre Bowe/Martina McNamee

Collectors

St Mary's Church: Saturday Vigil 6.30 pm. Sean Heagney/Jason Lagan
Sunday 9.30 am. Louis Lennon/Pat Wilson
St Joseph's Church: Sunday 11.30 am Liam Hughes/Niall Ruddy

Readers

St Mary's Church: Saturday Vigil 6.30 pm. Michelle McLaughlin
Sunday 9.30 am. Tony McKernan
St Joseph's Church: Sunday 11.30 am Margaret Loughran

Altar Societies

St Mary's Church: Meagan Grimes/Laoise Loughran/Una McGlinchey
St Joseph's Church: Noel Conway/Aoife O'Connor

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:

- * **Pilgrimage to Rome and Umbria 27th July – 4th August 2026**
- * **Saint Patrick's Way Pilgrim Walk in Downpatrick**
- * **Pilgrimage to Lisieux 18 -21 September**

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 6686 ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS (028 90434848)

NEXT BULLETIN

Next bulletin will be on the weekend of **4th/5th July**. If there is something you wish to have included in that bulletin please ring 028 867 51857 / 07584168879 by **Wednesday 1st July 2026**. Inclusion of anything offered after that date cannot be guaranteed.

KILDRESS PARISH BULLETIN

28th June 2026

Thirteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time



Dear Parishioner and Gentle Reader,

The main theme of today's Gospel reading focuses on the cost of discipleship. If we wish to be true followers of Jesus, then we will have to pay the price. Any commitment that is genuine will always involve sacrifice and service.

Bette Midler's recording of the beautiful song "The Rose" has a striking line: *"It's the one afraid of dying who never learns to live"*. Those words echo the message of Jesus, *"Anyone who finds his life will lose it; anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it"*.

This is spelt out in the rest of the gospel and is connected to the First Reading. Hospitality and welcoming the stranger is given high priority and is a practice that has featured in the life of the Church down through the centuries. It is based on the belief that we all belong to one family, and every person is a brother or sister.

Unfortunately, in recent times we have seen a distortion of that truth. Ugly graffiti and racist billboards convey a different message. The open door of the past has been replaced by closed gates and surveillance cameras. We live in a society which is based on competition, self-interest and social status.

Whenever we choose generosity over selfishness, forgiveness over resentment or faith over fear we will discover that God repays us through ordinary acts of hospitality, kindness and compassion. That truth is beautifully illustrated in today's First Reading where the hospitality of the husband and wife towards the prophet Elisha become the doorway through which God's blessing enters their lives.

"Whoever gives only a cup of water to one of these little ones, will surely not lose their reward".

*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

£1,655

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 (29th June - 3rd July 2026)

(The Rosary will be said 15 minutes before the start of each weekday Mass.)

St Joseph's, Killeenan

Monday, Thursday: 9.30 am

St Mary's, Dunamore

Tuesday: 9.30 am

Friday evening: 7.30 pm Month Mind Mass for Joe McElduff

BLESSING OF GRAVES

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

A collection will be taken up in the graveyards to help with their upkeep.

Please place all dead wreaths, flowers and rubbish in the bins provided.

MONTH'S MIND MASS FOR VERY REVEREND SEAN F. QUINN,

The Month's Mind Mass for Very Reverend Sean F. Quinn, PE, will take place on **Tuesday 30 June 2026, at 7.30 pm** in the Church of the Assumption, Pomeroy.

NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE TO FAUGHART SHRINE

The national pilgrimage to Faughart Shrine is on **Sunday 5th July** at 3.00 pm. There will be a procession around the stream, anointing of the sick during the Mass, and Blessing with St. Brigid's Relic. Our celebrant this year is Fr. Emlyn Mc Ginn PP. All welcome.

RALLY FOR LIFE, BELFAST, SATURDAY 4 JULY @ 2PM

Organised by Precious Life and other pro-life groups, this rally will be held at Belfast City Hall at 2.00 pm on Saturday, **4th July**. All are welcome.
Earlier at 12.00 noon a 'Mass for Life' will be celebrated in St Malachy's Church, Belfast. Again, all are welcome.

ST. OLIVER FESTIVAL DROGHEDA, 3-5 JULY 2026

Friday 3rd July

A Walk in the Footsteps of St Oliver, starting at St Peter's Church, West St at 7.00 pm, led by Archbishop Eamon Martin. Unveiling of plaque at the Augustinian Church, Shop Street, believed to be the site of St Oliver's school, at 8.15 pm.

Saturday 4th July

Guided tours of St Peter's Church, West St, 11.00 am-1.00 pm.

"Guilty until Proven Innocent" debate and music in the Barbican Centre. Speakers include author, Anthony Murphy, Fr Paddy Rushe, PP, and poet, John O'Rourke. Traditional music to close. 3.00 pm-5.00 pm.

Sunday 5th July, National St Oliver Plunkett Pilgrimage Day

Procession commences at Holy Family Church, Ballsgrove at 3.00 pm, arriving at St Peter's Church for concelebrated Mass at 4.00 pm. Preacher: Rev Dr Thomas O'Connor, Emeritus Professor of European History, NUI Maynooth, priest of the Diocese of Meath and recently appointed Chaplain to the Irish College, Paris. Priests are welcome to concelebrate.

KILDRESS HEALTH MATTERS Annual River Walk

The walk takes place **TODAY, Sunday 5th July** along the Dunamore River Path with walkers setting off from Dunamore Hall at **1.00 pm**. Delicious refreshments will be served in the Hall afterwards.

There will be a Collection Bucket at the event with all donations going to the Kildress Health Matters Community Fund. Everyone welcome.

S.V.P. ANNUAL FAMILY BUS TRIP TO PORTRUSH.....

.....on **Tuesday August 4th 2026**. Leaving Loy Street Cookstown at 9.00 am. Leaving Portrush at 5.00 pm. All children under 16 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Contact 028 867 62900 to secure places on the bus. Names, ages, contact phone numbers and £10 deposit are required. Numbers are limited. **Closing date is July 20th.**

JOB ADVERTISEMENT,

PASTORAL MINISTRY CO-ORDINATOR IN THE JESUIT CENTRE, BELFAST

The director of the Jesuit Centre, Fr Gerry Clarke, is seeking applicants for a 9-month fixed contract role attached to the Jesuit Centre in Belfast. The role holder will also work alongside the Chaplain to the University of Ulster, delivering Campus ministry across their Belfast Campus.

Full details relating to the vacancy can be found on the Diocesan website at: <http://www.downandconnor.org> clicking on the tab: JOB VACANCIES. Terms and conditions relating to the role are available via the above link, by way of a Role Profile and Employment Application form.