



# PARISH

of Aghagallon & Ballinderry

**Receiving Holy Communion:** We are still encouraging everyone to receive Holy Communion on the hand. If you wish to receive Holy Communion on the tongue, please join the end of the procession and request this from the priest.

**Celebration of the Liturgy of the Word:** Thank you to all the Ministers of the Word and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion who provided such a prayerful space with the Celebration of the Liturgy of the Word last week.

**St Patrick's Primary School Aghagallon – Open Morning Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December.** Time to start school? Join us and see why our children love attending St Patrick's Primary School Aghagallon. The morning will begin at 9.15am, with refreshments, followed by the principal's address at 9.30am and finally the school tour at 9.45am. Everyone welcome.

**Aghalee Parish Heritage Project:** Heritage book & website launch – Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm in Soldierstown Church hall. All who attend will receive a free copy of the book, which tells the story of the heritage and history of Aghalee Parish. Everyone welcome.

**Youth 2000 Ireland Annual Christmas Retreat:** 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> December in Dominican College, Newbridge, Co Kildare. Come along, meet new people, and find out what it means to be young and Catholic today. The retreat is aimed at young people aged 16-35. Free buses from various locations. Donation only. Find out more and register now on [www.youth2000.ie](http://www.youth2000.ie)

**Great Women of Prayer & Faith - An Advent Journey:** St Comilles Church, Belfast invite you to join them for three talks during the season of Advent. The talks will take place on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, and 20<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm. The evenings will conclude with supper. All are welcome.

**Adult Spiritual Preparation for Christmas:** Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> December in St John the Baptist PS, Belfast. 9.30am registration – 3pm finish. Talks and testimonies followed by Confessions, Adoration and Holy Mass. Cost £10 – includes lunch. For more information or to book contact Luke on 07955 386288.

**Africa Magazine:** For subscribers, the latest issue is now ready for collection from the Church porch.

## WEEKLY BULLETIN

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec 2023  
1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

The Second Collection  
this week is the Monthly  
Stipend

Recent Expenditure:  
My Day by Day Advent  
Books £147.50

The Sanctuary Lamp will  
burn this week for A  
Special Intention

## WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday: 10.00am

Tuesday: 7.00pm

Wednesday: 10.00am

Thursday: 7.00pm

*(Novena Prayers)*

Friday: 10.00am

*(First Friday 7pm)*

Saturday: 7.00pm

*(Vigil)*

Sunday: 9.00am &  
11.00am

## CONFESSIONS

Thursday before Mass

## EMERGENCIES AND SICK CALLS:

07831 934 756

(in the event you are unable to reach  
Fr Declan on the emergency number)

028 944 595 600

St Vincent De Paul Contact  
Number: 028 9035 1561

[www.svp.ie](http://www.svp.ie)

Lifeline Freephone 0808 808 8000

The Order of The Knights of

St Columbanus 028 92 528 916

Diocesan Safeguarding Office

028 9049 2798

## MINISTRY OF WELCOME

**Congratulations to Mairead and Jack, who recently celebrated their wedding.**

**Baptisms:** Please email the office for a booking form and more details. Baptisms take place the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month directly after 11am Mass and on Thursday evenings at 6pm. At least one month's notice is required, during which parents meet with a member of our Baptismal Team and the family attends the 11am Sunday Mass weekly, prior to the Baptism. Families must also be present at 11am Mass on the morning their child receives the sacrament and be ready to begin immediately after Mass. If families are unable to complete the preparation or attend Mass, the Baptism will be rebooked to a time when they can. A total of 20 people are permitted to attend.

**Weddings:** Wedding guests must continue to follow all guidance and adhere to policies and procedures put in place to ensure the safety of all. Couples must contact Fr Declan six months before the date of their wedding to arrange to complete the necessary paperwork. Couples are also required to attend a pre-marriage course. A Wedding Mass is only offered to those who attend Mass in their parish *weekly* during the six-month notice of marriage period.

**NB: Parish Staff and volunteers are there to support and help us.**

**Please engage respectfully with them at all times.**

## RECENTLY DECEASED

Paul Grogan  
Dwyer Marshall  
Seamus Farrell  
Lily Hanna

Malachy Haughey

## ANNIVERSARIES AT THIS TIME

Mary McCavigan  
Eileen Lavery (Nee Leen)  
Peter Campbell  
The Deceased Members of the McStay Family  
Patsy Lappin  
Bridie Lavery (7)  
Veronica Lavery  
Mary McVeigh

Patrick McStravick

Joseph Patterson

Eugene McStravick (27)

Months Mind Mass on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December at 10am

Anniversary Mass on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December at 9am  
Anniversary Mass on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December at 11am  
Anniversary Mass on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm  
Anniversary Mass on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm  
Anniversary Mass on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December at 11am  
Jane McStravick  
Hugh McCann  
Paddy Lyons (44)  
David Kelly  
Larry McVeigh

## ADVENT BEGINS

The Church has many seasons. Advent is a season of preparation for the great feast of Christmas. In the four weeks of Advent, we have time to prepare spiritually for Christmas marking the arrival of the Son of God, the Lord, Jesus Christ. Celebrating Advent typically involves a season of prayer, fasting, and repentance, followed by anticipation, hope, and joy. We light the first Advent Candle, representing hope and we ask God to fill our hearts and minds with hope. Hope is like a shining light in a dark place because God is faithful and will keep the promises made to us.

*“Advent is a journey towards Bethlehem. May we let ourselves be drawn by the light of God made man”*

*Pope Francis*

Parish Priest:

Fr Declan Mulligan

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Parish Office open Tuesday – Thursday 10am-4pm.  
All insertions for the bulletin please leave in the  
Parochial house red post box, email or phone the  
parish office before 4pm on Tuesday.