

Parish of Bangor

Christmas Day - 25 December 2016

“If some King of the earth”

If some king of the earth
Have so large an extent of dominion,
in north and south,
As that he hath winter and summer
together in his dominions;

So large an extent east and west,
As that he hath day and night,
together in his dominions;
Much more hath God
mercy and judgment together.

He brought light out of darkness,
not out of a lesser light;
He can bring thy summer out of winter,
though thou have no spring.

Though in the ways of fortune,
or understanding, or conscience,
Thou have been benighted till now,
wintered and frozen,
clouded and eclipsed,
damped and benumbed,
smothered and stupefied till now.

Now God comes to thee,
not as in the dawning of the day,
not as in the bud of the spring,
But as the sun at noon to illustrate all shadows,
As the sheaves in harvest to fill all penuries.

All occasions invite his mercies,
And all times are his seasons.

*John Donne (1572-1631)
Sermon for Christmas Day 1624*

Sunday Mass Times Next Week

Bangor: Vigil 6.30 pm,
10.30 am, 12.30 pm.
Ballyholme: Sun 11 am.
Donaghadee: Sun 9.30 am.

Hollywood: Vigil 6.30 pm;
10 am and 12 noon.

Newtownards: Vigil 6.30 pm; 11.30 am.
Comber: 10.00 am.

Confessions: Sat 5.30pm.

Children's Liturgy:

Sunday at the 10.30am Mass in St Comgall's
Bangor for children from P1 to P7.

Baptisms:

1st and 3rd Sunday of the Month at 2pm.
Contact the Parish Office to register.

Exposition and Holy Hour: Every first Sunday of
the month at 3pm in St Comgall's Donaghadee,
organised by the Prayer Group.

Christmas Mass Times

Bangor: Vigil 9pm and 11pm.
9am and 11am.
Ballyholme: Vigil 9pm
11 am.
Donaghadee: 9.30 am.

Weekday Mass Times week beginning 26 December:

Bangor: Monday - Friday 9.30am.
Ballyholme: No Mass.

Christmas Day Mass times in Newtownards:

9.30am and 11.30am.

*The Priests of the Parish
wish all the parishioners a Joyful Christmas and
many Blessings in the New Year*

Your prayers are requested for:

Recently Deceased:

Colette McAlister

and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Brian Campbell, Mamie Smyth, Jim McCart, Margaret Beggs, Ena Bowler,
Margaret Johnston, Maude and Archie McKillop, Billy Gardner,
Annie Coan, Mick and Molly Monaghan, Michael Foley, Austin Gunning,
Dave Tandy, Sammy Curry, Rose and Kingsley Ringrow, Conor Diver,
Patrick McAvoy, Michael and Veronica O'Brien,
Bridie and Patrick Donaghy, Anne Browne.

*The Christmas Collection for the
support of your priests will be taken
up today.*

Ordination to the Diaconate

Your prayers are asked for Manuelito Milo who has been Ordained to the Diaconate this Christmas Eve at the 6am *Missa De Gallo* in St Vincent de Paul Church, Ligoniel.

As part of an international **World Meeting of Families** initiative, please find beside the crib prayer cards for you to take home. We remember all families throughout the world who are in need particularly as we prepare to welcome ones from all over the world to the World Meeting of Families in 2018. Sign up to be kept informed at www.worldmeeting2018.ie/contact/newsletter-request/

St Vincent de Paul

The SVP Society in Bangor, Ballyholme and Donaghadee is seeking new members who can offer a few hours each week to help with the work of the Society. If you are interested or if you would like further information please leave your name and phone no, stating it is about becoming a member, on the Helpline 07703679384 or speak to a member. Training for new members will take place in January 2017.

Welcome Rota January 2017

6.30 pm Mass

Madeleine de Barnardo, Anne McCabe

10.30 am Mass

Pauline Andrews, Joe Drew

12.30 pm Mass

Sarah Donaghy, Anne Rea

Healing Mass

Devotion to St Pio at 7.30pm on Mon 2 January in St Mary's Star of the Sea Church, Killyleagh. St Pio's Relic will be available before and after mass.

Café Donaghadee

£1,600 was presented to the 'Night Shelter for Rough Sleepers' plus £100 for a homeless boy. The hamper was won by John and Eilish McMullan and they gave it to the Night Shelter.

Thanks to the parishioners who provided warm clothing for the Shelter.

The Tea Money was donated to St Comgall's Church Refurbishment £110 and to St Vincent de Paul £50.

Storehouse North Down

Thanks to your wonderful generosity we have distributed 470 hampers to families in need within our community. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for helping those less fortunate have a better Christmas. Thank you again for showing God's love this Christmas.

Catching Your Breath

A one-day workshop involving gentle movement, breath, chant and meditation will take place at Glenstal Abbey, Murroe, on 14th January, 2017 from 9.30am to 5pm. Fee €85, includes workshop, materials, lunch, teas and coffees. Workshop Leader, Niall Kelly is a certified Alexander Technique teacher who has been teaching since 2004. He has run a number of similar workshops in Glenstal and around Ireland. Contact Glenstal Abbey directly for more details: Email: events@glenstal.com

Confirmation 2017

Sacramental preparation for children not attending the parish schools will be held in St Colmcille's Parish, Holywood beginning January 2017. Parents of children wishing to make their Confirmation in 2017 are asked to contact Joe McKeown 078 4110 2376 or email joemckeown@btconnect.com with details of your child.

Catenian Rosary Group

Following an appeal earlier this year the Catenian Rosary Group have written to thank us for responding to their Appeal for unused Rosaries. Approximately 450,000 Rosaries have been dispatched to the Missions and they aim to send a total of 500,000. Priests are asked to encourage parishioners to search for unused Rosaries and send them to: The Catenian Rosary Group, 164 Green Park Road, Halifax, W Yorks, HX3 0SP.

Dates for your Diary

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated in this parish on Monday 20 March 2017 at 5pm.

First Holy Communion will be celebrated in the parish on Saturday 3 June 2017.

St Columbanus' College

Open Evening

Tuesday 10 Jan 2017, 7-9pm
Principals address in the College Hall at 7pm and 8pm.

Open Morning in Our Lady and St Patrick's College, Knock

for Year 7 Pupils and Parents on
Sat 14 Jan 2017, 9.15am 12.30pm
Principal's Address 9.30am and 11am.
Prospective Year 13 students are also welcome.

Trocaire Global Gifts

We sold £2,084 of the global gifts. Thanks to all the parishioners who purchased these.

The Emerald Ball at Titanic, Belfast

Will take place on the eve of St Patrick's Day, 16 March. The evening will commence with drinks at 7pm, to be followed by a sumptuous four course dinner at 8pm. There will be a high-end luxury ballot and dancing to a live band. Dress is formal and monies raised will support the **Down and Connor Lourdes Pilgrimage** for the sick and the young people who support them. Tickets are £60 each and available from the pilgrimage secretary, Sinead on 90610477 or the Drumbo Parish office on 90812238. The Emerald Ball promises to be a highlight of the social calendar so be sure to reserve your tickets early.

Fr Gunn/Parish Office Tel: 9146 5522, 27 Brunswick Road, Bangor.

Website: www.bangorparish.com

Email: bangor@downandconnor.org. Office hours Mon-Fri 9.30am-1pm.