

Parish of Bangor, Member of Ards Pastoral Community

5th Sunday of the Year - 4 February 2018

World Meeting of Families on 21-26 August 2018, Dublin

Icon of the Holy Family

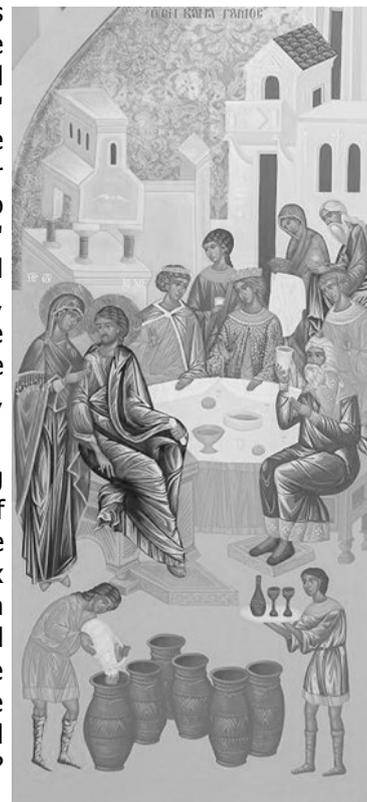
Description of the Icon continued.

And now we turn our attention to the narrative presented on the interior of the door on the right:

JOHN 2:1-11 THE WEDDING AT CANA

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

We hear in this passage how the Mother of Jesus had been invited to this wedding and that Jesus and his friends had also been invited – as if it was a later act of generosity by the couple to include the Son of Mary and his friends. We see the bride and groom seated at the table, with their wedding crowns. In the Orthodox Churches, spouses are 'crowned' as part of the wedding ritual. They look to each other with concern and worry on their faces. They have run out of wine. In the Old Testament we hear how wine is a symbol of joy. God brings forth wine from the earth "to gladden the human heart" [Psalm 104:15]. This couple have run out of the joy of love. An elderly couple in the background, perhaps the couple's extended family members, bring bread and wine to the table, but will their help be enough? *[More next week.]*



During Lent we will be praying the **Stations of the Cross** in the 3 Churches of Bangor Parish on alternate Sundays in Lent at **4.30pm**. We would like to invite 6 families to carry the cross for each of the stations during the read mediation in each of the Churches. If you would like to be involved please contact the parish office during office hours. The dates are as follows:

Time: 4.30pm **Dates:** 18th, 25th Feb; 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th March

Week 1 & 3 – 18th Feb & 11th March – St Comgall's Church, Brunswick Road

Week 2 & 4 – 25th Feb & 18th March – Most Holy Redeemer, Ballyholme

Week 3 & 6 – 4th March & 25th March – St Comgall's Church, Donaghadee

Sunday Mass Times this week:

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

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

Newtownards: Vigil 6.30 pm; 11.30 am.

Comber: 10.00 am.

Weekday Mass Times:

Bangor: Mon - Thurs 9.30 am.
Friday as announced.
Ballyholme: As announced.

Confessions: Sat 5.30 pm.

Baptisms: 1st and 3rd Sunday of the Month at 2pm.
Four weeks notice required. Register online at
www.bangorparish.com

Children's Liturgy:

Every Sunday at the 10.30am Mass in St Comgall's Bangor for primary school children.

Your prayers are requested for:

Recently Deceased:

Catherine O'Neill

Anniversaries:

Jack O'Driscoll, Gerard Cassidy,
Catherine and William Quirk,
Bert Cassidy, Phil McNally,
Pat Hagan, Patricia Simpson,
Esther Hill, Kay Magill, John O'Hara,
Paula O'Driscoll, Hugh McAlea,
Rosenna and Laurence Connor,
Winifred Savage, Mary Norrington.

*The second collection this Sunday
is the monthly stipend in support of
your priests.*

Perpetual Adoration

St Comgall's Church
Monday 10.30am-9.30pm.

Storehouse North Down

Monthly collection this weekend. We
need dried pasta, rice, tinned potatoes
and potato products such as stew.
Other foodstuffs and cleaning products
are also acceptable. *With you help no-
one needs to go to bed hungry.*

Holy hour and Exposition

St Comgall's Donaghadee this Sunday
4 February at 2.45pm sharp.
Everyone welcome.

Parish Fundraising Concert

featuring all 3 generations of the
'McClellan Family' will be held on Friday
9 Feb in St Comgall's Parish Centre.
Doors open 7.30pm, concert 8pm.
tickets £10 available from Thomas'
Shop, kids go free with a paying adult.
Bar available and fantastic ballot
prizes. All funds raised will go towards
Parish refurbishment.

**A Journey into the Ministry of
Service** providing instruction,
guidance and support for Extraordinary
Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors will
take place on Sat 17 Feb from 9.30am
to 3.30pm in St Patrick's Parish Centre
Newtownards. If you wish to attend,
contact the Parish Office by emailing
ards-comber@btconnect.com or by
phoning 9181 2137 no later than Friday
9 Feb. Tea/coffee available. Lunch will
be served. New members are welcome.

**27th Divine Mercy National
Conference Sat 17 Feb**

Theme: Courage, it is I. Do not be
afraid. (Mt 14:27). Entrance fee for Sat
is €30. It is hoped to organise a bus
from Portaferry (Cost and times will
follow). Contact Jean Byers 427 2 8781.

Parish Pastoral Council: Members
are invited to attend a meeting on Tues
6 Feb at 7.30 pm in the Parish Centre.

Parish Ministry

Are you aged between 14 and 18?
Would you like to become more
involved in your Parish? One way is to
become a junior Minister of the Word.
Training and support will be provided.
If interested please leave your name and
contact details at the Parish Office (9146
5522) during office hours or chat to
Josh Hall (07921917026) or James
McAllister (07751851444).

Diocesan Vocation Weekend

Is God calling you from your family to
serve His family? Have you ever asked
Jesus what he wants from you? Perhaps
He wants you to serve as a priest in His
Church. Take this opportunity to gather
with other men who are discerning a
vocation to the priesthood. This retreat
will create the time and space to help
you reflect on what vocation Jesus is
calling you to. Drumalis Retreat Centre,
Fri 16 –Sun 18 Feb 2018. To attend this
retreat or for further info contact: Fr
Kevin McGuckien 9061 4567, or email:
k.mcguckien@downandconnor.org

**The Bethany Bereavement
Support Team** wish to recruit new
members. A training course will start on
Thurs 22 Feb at 7.30pm in the Good
Shepherd Centre, Belfast. If interested
or require further info phone Geraldine
075 1085 2157 or Claire 075 5788 2183.

One Family-One Common Home"

Re-inhabiting the Earth Spring
Conference – Fri 23 - Sun 25 Feb 2018.
For further details or to book a place
contact Drumalis 028272196/28276455
(Mon- Fri, 9am–5pm) Booking forms
can also be downloaded from
www.drumalis.co.uk

Rally to "Save the 8th" – a massive
pro-life Rally will be held in Dublin on
Sat 10 March. Join thousands from
across Ireland in support of the 8th
Amendment of the Irish Constitution
that protects unborn babies. Coaches
travelling to the Rally from towns across
NI. For further details contact the Rally
for Life Committee on 9027 8484 or
click on www.rallyforlife.net

Bangor Hospice Support Group
invite you to a Table Quiz at Bangor
Golf Club, on Fri 9 Feb at 8pm. Cost £5
pp. To book a table please contact Vi
Bowler on 9146 8160. Proceeds to NI
Hospice.

**Bangor Parish
7 Day Trip to Brittany and
Normandy**

From June 25th to July 1st joining the
one day St Columbanus International
Meeting **in St Coulomb June 30th.**

The cost is 895 euro pp sharing, all
breakfasts and dinners included, 3
nights Lisieux, 3 nights St Malo. Day
trips include; Places associated with St
Therese, Mont St Michel, Dinard and
more. (Courier: Kieran Troy who has led
Bangor groups in the recent past). As
there is great demand for hotel space in
Brittany in this period prompt booking
would be highly recommended.

Details on the parish website, church
notice board and from the Parish Office.

Lourdes 2018: The Diocesan
Pilgrimage (11-16th July 2018) are
currently seeking nurses (on the NMC
live register - working in any area) to
join the volunteer staff. For more info
email lourdes@downandconnor.org or
telephone the Pilgrimage Office 9064
6040. Subsidised fare for nurses £520.

Lenten Pioneer Pledge

Many people choose to abstain from
alcohol during Lent. Why not take this
opportunity to help yourself or someone
you know with an alcohol or drug
problem by offering your sacrifice for
freedom from addiction? Please
consider taking the short term Lenten
Pledge and make a difference to
someone's life. Register your pledge
with local Pioneers and say the daily
prayer "I promise in honour of the
Sacred Heart of Jesus and with the help
of the Blessed Virgin Mary to abstain
from all alcoholic drink until the end of
Lent.

**Tobar Mhuire Ash Wednesday
Day of Prayer**

We invite you to join us for a day of
Prayer and Solidarity with the homeless
in our community beginning with Mass
and the distribution of ashes at 9am,
followed by a day of Adoration in the
chapel. In the evening we will host a
Prayer Service with Ashes beginning at
7pm during which we will remember the
plight of the homeless. At 8pm we
invite you to join us for a presentation
given by members of the homeless
community and Paul McCusker, a
tireless worker with the homeless in
Belfast. Please feel welcome to come for
either or both evening sessions. For
further information: Contact Tobar
Mhuire Tel: 0284483044 Email:
secretary@tobarmhuirecrossgar.com