

Parish of Bangor, Member of Ards Pastoral Community

Parish Priest: Very Rev Joseph Gunn St Comgall's Presbytery, 27 Brunswick Road, Bangor, Co Down, BT20 3DS

T: (028) 9146-5522 E: bangor@downandconnor.org W: www.bangorparish.com Office Hours: Mon-Fri 10am to 1pm.

Second Sunday of Lent, Year C – 16th March 2025

Easter Duty - every Catholic is required under pain of sin to receive Holy Communion worthily once between Ash Wednesday and the Feast of the Blessed Trinity

Your prayers are requested for

Recently Deceased:

PAULINE MCSHERRY
KATHLEEN (KAY) ROLSTON (Belfast)
OLIVE FEENY

Anniversaries:

MATT & JOSIE KELLY
MARGARET & PATRICK SHANNON
SIOBHAN & GEMMA SHANNON
MARY & MARTIN DREW
TOMMIE & MURIEL DREW
SEAN LENNON
EILEEN & FRED WATTS
TONY WATTS
PATRICIA GRAY
JOHN MAGILL
CAROL HUGHES
KEVIN O'KANE
MARY O'KANE
DEREK FINNEGAN
PATRICIA REILLY
BRIGID MCARDLE

St COMGALL'S CHURCH DONAGAHADDEE

Sunday 16th March @ 9am

ST COMGALL'S CHURCH BRUNSWICK ROAD

Saturday 15th March @ 6.30pm and

Sunday 16th March @ 10am and 12noon

MASS TIMES NEXT WEEK:

St Patrick's Day @ 9.30am, 1pm & 7.30pm

DAILY MASS: Tues 18TH, Wed 19th & Fri 21st March @ 9.30am

REQUIEM MASS: Thurs 20th MARCH @ 10AM

BAPTISM REGISTRATION

Please register online **SIDE BAR** under
'Baptism Registration'

Baptisms are celebrated on Sundays @ 1.15pm

Mass at Mass Rock on Slemish Mountain. St Patrick's Day 17 March 2025 at 3pm. Family Rosary at 2pm.

Mass Rock is 250m from Slemish carpark, up a gradual incline.

Free shuttle buses to Slemish car park all day from Michelin Tyre Factory (free parking available at the factory).

Make a family day of it – food vans and toilet facilities at Slemish carpark.

Contact Owen 07525 166090.

Pope Francis reflecting from hospital:

"The walls of hospitals have heard more honest prayers than churches...

They have witnessed far more sincere kisses than those in airports...

It is in hospitals that you see a homophobe being saved by a gay doctor.

A privileged doctor saving the life of a beggar...

In intensive care, you see a Jew taking care of a racist...

A police officer and a prisoner in the same room receiving the same care...

A wealthy patient waiting for a liver transplant, ready to receive the organ from a poor donor...

It is in these moments, when the hospital touches the wounds of people, that different worlds intersect according to a divine design. And in this communion of destinies, we realize that alone, we are nothing.

The absolute truth of people, most of the time, only reveals itself in moments of pain or in the real threat of an irreversible loss.

A hospital is a place where human beings remove their masks and show themselves as they truly are, in their purest essence.

This life will pass quickly, so do not waste it fighting with people.

Do not criticize your body too much.

Do not complain excessively.

Do not lose sleep over bills.

Make sure to hug your loved ones.

Do not worry too much about keeping the house spotless.

Material goods must be earned by each person—do not dedicate yourself to accumulating an inheritance.

You are waiting for too much: Christmas, Friday, next year, when you have money, when love arrives, when everything is perfect...

Listen, perfection does not exist.

A human being cannot attain it because we are simply not made to be fulfilled here.

Here, we are given an opportunity to learn.

So, make the most of this trial of life—and do it now.

Respect yourself, respect others. Walk your own path and let go of the path others have chosen for you.

Respect: do not comment, do not judge, do not interfere.

Love more, forgive more, embrace more, live more intensely!

And leave the rest in the hands of the Creator."



**ST COMGALL'S
PARISH CENTRE**

Cuppa & Connect:

*Sunday 16th March No Cuppa & Connect - St. Patrick's weekend

*Sunday 23rd March after 12md mass

*Sunday 30th March No Cuppa & Connect - Mothering Sunday

Family Fun Night 🍕🍷🍷

Friday 28th March 630pm in Parish Youth Club. Pizza for the

children & tea/coffee/biscuits for Parents. £3 per child

Please register your attendance by contacting the committee

email stcomgallspcc@gmail.com

All parents must remain with their child/children.

Easter Family Ceili Saturday 12th April @ 4pm - All welcome for an evening of fun, dancing, light supper and craic.

Easter treats for all children 🍌🍷🍷

PARISH CENTRE – PARISH GROUPS 2025

MONDAYS	TUESDAYS	WEDNESDAYS	THURSDAYS	FRIDAYS
BRIDGE CLUB at 7.15pm until 9.45pm [Minor Hall] LECTIO DIVINA GROUP 7.30pm – 8.30pm [St Dymphna's Room] BADMINTON NOW WEEKLY at 8 to 9pm [Main Hall]	FRIENDSHIP CLUB at 10.00am [Minor Hall] IRISH DANCING CLASSES at 6.00pm to 8.30pm [Main Hall] SVP at 7.30pm to 9.30pm [St Dymphna's Room]	PARENTS & TODDLERS 10am [Main/Minor Hall] MEDITATION GROUP at 12pm to 1.30pm [St Dymphna's Room] MENCAP Every fortnight at 6.00pm [Main/Minor Hall] FOLK GROUP AT 7pm [St Dymphna's Room] SENIOR CHOIR At 7.30pm [St Dymphna's Room]	St Comgall's Guide Unit (Girls aged 6-18) at 6.15pm to 8pm [Main/Minor Hall] IRISH LANGUAGE CLASS At 7pm to 8pm [St Dymphna's Room] CEILI DANCING at 8.15pm to 9.30pm [Minor Hall]	Ju-Jitsu Club (Juniors 5-15yrs) 6-7pm [Main Hall] Discussion Group At 7.30pm – 9pm [St.Dymphna's Room]

Step forward as a *Pilgrim of Hope* this Lent!

As we journey through the Jubilee Year, Pope Francis invites us to be Pilgrims of Hope – people who walk in faith, supporting one another and deepening our relationship with Christ. We invite you to join us for our Lenten program, *Pilgrim Hearts – Walking in the steps of Jesus this Lent*, a 6 week Lenten journey inspired by the Sunday gospels and the lives of the Irish saints who embraced faith in times of challenge. From St Patrick's prayers on the mountain to St Brigid's acts of compassion, their lives remind us that holiness is lived in simple, everyday choices. They were the great heralds of the Christian faith in Ireland.

Evangelisation begins with an invitation! Who in your life might need this journey? Invite a friend, a family member, or someone who perhaps has been away from Church for a while. Your invitation could be the start of their pilgrimage of hope.

All are welcome! For more details contact the parish office or Derek on the number below.

Venue: Most Holy Redeemer, Ballyholme

Date: Sundays during Lent, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th March, 6th & 13th April

Time: 5pm to 6.30pm

Contact person: **Derek 075 4936 2907**

Please visit the Parish website for the course resources.

Forthcoming Events at Drumalis Retreat and Conference Centre, Larne

“See, I’m doing something new” (Is 43:19) (Saturday, 22 March from 9:30 am – 4 pm) A Lenten renewing with Dr Gráinne Doherty
 In this day of input and quiet reflection, we will meditate on what is helping and what is blocking our embracing of God’s love, and God’s plans for each one of us.

The Passion Story: “A Work of Infinite Love” (Saturday, 12 April from 9:30 am - 4 pm) A Day of Prayer and Reflection with Fr Aidan Troy CP

Fr Aidan will lead us in a day of prayer and reflection as we enter into Holy Week, where we are invited to immerse ourselves in this story of hope and unconditional love.

To book a place(s) or for further details, please contact Drumalis during office hours (Mon-Fri, 9 am – 5 pm) – 028 28276455/28272196 or email drumalis@btconnect.com Further information also available on Drumalis website: <http://www.drumalis.co.uk>

Continuing the legacy of Saint Patrick who tells us in his Confessions that he rose as many as one hundred times before dawn to pray, a group of Christians will gather at 5:45 am at his grave on Saint Patrick's morning, Monday 17th March. We will pray The Our Father/ The Lord's Prayer one hundred times for peace and unity in Christ among our peoples. Everyone welcome. Please spread the word among friends from different Christian denominations.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL HELPLINES

Bangor Conference 07703679384

(covering Bangor West, Clondeboye/Newtownards Road area, Kilcooley, Helens Bay and Crawfordsburn) will continue to use the existing number -.

Ballyholme/Donaghadee Conference 07703679389. (covering Bangor city centre, Bangor East/Ballyholme, Balloo/Bloomfield Road area, Conlig/Breezmount, Groomsport, Donaghadee and Millisle)

- Towards Peace is an independent organization that provides a spiritual support and professional service for survivors of physical, emotional, sexual and spiritual abuse who suffered in an institutional, clerical or religious setting in Ireland. Funded by the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference and the Association of Missionary and Religious in Ireland, the vision of Towards Peace is to provide a safe supportive space for people and their families, whose spiritual life has been damaged by abuse. Through spiritual accompaniment with a qualified spiritual director, Towards Peace endeavours to accompany people as they seek their own experience of spiritual peace, one step at a time. Towards Peace is also a response to the continually growing understanding of the spiritual impact of the trauma of abuse and seeks to raise awareness about this within the Church. The Towards Peace Spiritual Support Service is free of charge and for more please see <https://towardspeace.ie/>**

Accord NI Catholic Marriage Care Preparation Facilitators **Service seeking Marriage**

- If you have a positive attitude towards marriage in the Catholic Church
- If you have the enthusiasm to be part of the Accord team in supporting couples who are preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage

Successful applicants will receive professional training and will be part of a team delivering marriage preparation programmes locally.

www.accordni.com

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ADOPTIVE PARENTS NEEDED URGENTLY



Family Care Adoption Services is an Adoption Agency, and a core part of our work is to place children with new adoptive families. We provide adoption services throughout all Northern Ireland and work with Health and Social Care Trusts to place single children and sibling groups for adoption.

These children are aged from babyhood to approximately 5 years old.

There are currently more children waiting to be adopted in Northern Ireland than families approved to adopt and there is an urgent need for new families to come forward.

All sorts of people from all walks of life can be considered for adoption.

So, wherever you live in Northern Ireland if you think you could offer a child/ren a new life in a family of their own and would like an informal chat to discuss this and to find out more about adoption,

CONTACT US!

Email: email@familycareadoption.org

Phone: 02890 691133

Website: www.familycareadoption.com

We are waiting to hear from you!

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