

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: Monday to Friday, 9.30am-1.30pm

SUNDAY MASS TIMES This weekend:

Bangor: (PARISH CENTRE)

Vigil 6.30pm;
Sun 11.00am

Donaghadee:

Sun 9.30am.

Ballyholme:

Sun 12.30pm.

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES:

MOST HOLY REDEEMER
at 9.30am Monday-Friday

Confessions:

Bangor: Sat 5.30 pm and
after all Masses.

Weekend Mass in the Pastoral Communities

Holywood: Vigil 6.30pm;
Sun 10am & 12noon.

Newtownards:

Vigil 6.30pm; Sun 11.30am.

Comber: Sun 10.00am.

Baptisms: 1st and 3rd

Sunday of the Month at
2pm. Register online at
www.bangorparish.com
under

Sacramental Preparation.
2 month's notice required.

PERPETUAL EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

**Every Monday
10.00am to 9.30pm**

Venue: **Most Holy
Redeemer Church,**
Ballyholme.

Bible Study Group

7.30pm – 9.00pm
every Thursday.

St Dymphna's Room, Saint
Comgall's Parish Centre.
Join us as we reflect on the
Gospel passages.
Everyone welcome.

Extra notices on the website page! 3 page Bulletin.

For inclusion in the
Bulletin Notices, notices
need to be in to the
Parish Office before 1pm
on Wednesdays.

1st SUNDAY in ADVENT – 1st December 2019

ST VINCENT de PAUL CHRISTMAS DINNER

SVP Senior Citizens Christmas Dinner will be held in the Parish
Centre on **Sunday 22nd December at 3.00pm.**

Do you wish to attend or do you know someone who would be
interested? Please leave name, address and contact details,
together with any dietary requirements on
SVP Helpline 07703 679384. Transport to and/or from the
venue can be arranged, if required.

SVP Christmas cards now on sale after all
weekend Masses. £3.50 per pack. Please support this worthy cause.



Your prayers are requested for:

Recently Deceased: Catherine Walls,
Patricia Cruise Dawson (Durban, S. Africa).

Month's Mind: Marie Hamill

Anniversaries:

Rosetta McCullagh, Peter McCullagh, Brendan Curran,
Moya McAlea, Stephen Anderson, Margaret Teggart, Hugh
Teggart, Tom Connor, Patsy McPeake, Jimmy McPeake,
Margaret Barber, Bernard Barber, Gordon Parker.

Holy Hour with Exposition in Saint Comgall's Church
Donaghadee **Sunday 1st December** at 2.45pm sharp.
Everyone welcome.

SATURDAY 14th DECEMBER

St Comgall's Bangor Marian Prayer Group invite you our
Annual Advent One Day Retreat with the Mother Teresa
nuns, Missionaries of Charity in their house in Armagh. A bus
has been organised to pick up in Portaferry, Newtownards,
Bangor, Holywood & Belfast. If you would like to book a
seat, cost £10 each please contact Jacinta during office hrs.

St Joseph's Young Priests Society.

The latest addition of The Sheaf, the quarterly magazine of
the Society, is available at the back of the church.
There are also blue "thank you cards" thanking you for your
support in the past. On the reverse of the cards are statistics
showing the expenditure over the last three years, the
number of students assisted, and the number of new Priests
ordained. Please take copies of both.

Seeing Your Life Through the Lens of the Gospel of Saint Matthew 24:37-44

1. The 'coming of the Son of Man' can be applied to the end of the world, to the moment of death, or to any moment of grace. We are not given advance notice as to when any of these will happen, so the message is to be alert and ready. When have you found that your alertness meant that you were able to receive an unexpected grace?
2. One of the enemies of alert living is constant busyness. Have you ever found that being caught up in your own agenda makes you less sensitive to what is happening around you? Recall times when you paused in your relentless busyness and were rewarded by a significant interchange with another person, a moment of grace.
3. You probably know the difference between being ready for a visitor and the unannounced caller who catches you unprepared. Let the memory of the discomfort of being caught off guard spur you on to a constant readiness for the coming of the Lord.

John Byrne OSA, E: jbpbymeosa@gmail.com

**St Vincent de Paul
Helpline 077 0367 9384**

**Bethany
Bereavement
Support Group**
we are here to support
and listen. Confidential.
075 1085 2157

WELCOME ROTA DURING DECEMBER

6.30pm Mass -
Anne Mc Cabe and
Maxine Galway
11.00am Mass -
Joe Drew and
Pauline Andrews

Month's Mind Mass for
Monsignor Ambrose
Macaulay will be held in
St Brigid's Church on
Wednesday 4th December
at 7 pm.

TROCAIRE SPECIAL CHRISTMAS BALLOT

weekend of 30th
November & 1st
December in the Parish
Centre after 11am Mass.
Christmas Fayre served
with tea & coffee
to bring lots of cheer!
All welcome.

Most Holy Redeemer
Church **Sunday 1st Dec**
after 12.30pm Mass.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION CLASSES CONTINUE AFTER 11AM MASS IN THE PARISH CENTRE.

Please register your interest by contacting the parish office during office hours or by email. bangor@downandconnor.org

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY! AND OTHER NOTICES....

BANGOR PARISH FAMILY OF SCHOOLS



Open Days/Nights

St Malachy's PS, Bangor –
Wednesday 4th December at 6pm

St Comgall's PS, Bangor –
Thurs 5th Dec at 7pm

St Anne's PS, Donaghadee –
Wed. 18th Dec & Thurs. 9th Jan, 11am~12noon

St Columbanus' College, Bangor –
Tuesday 7th January at 7pm.
Principal's address 7pm & 8pm.

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St Comgall's Pre-School,
St Comgall's Parish Centre
Tuesday 3rd December at 9.30am-10.30am.

DONAGHADEE COMMUNITY DEV. ASSOCIATION

Sunday 1st December First Presbyterian Church Community Carol Service at 6.30 pm followed by switching on of the Christmas tree lights.

TUESDAY 3RD DECEMBER

There will be a lecture in St. Brigid's Parish Centre, Derryvolgie Avenue, Belfast at 7.30pm. Given by Monsignor Roderick Strange, Professor of Theology, St. Mary's University, Twickenham, London. The title of the Lecture is, "**Cardinal Newman: preparing an apologia for our times.**" Monsignor Strange has published several books and many articles with a particular focus on St. John Henry Newman.

SATURDAY 7TH DECEMBER

First Saturday Devotion of Reparation as requested by Our Lady of Fatima will take place in St Joseph's Church, Killough, Chapel Street, BT30 7QJ: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 8.30am; Sacrament of Reconciliation from 8.30 to 9.45am; Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary at 9.00am; Meditation on the Mysteries of the Rosary at 9.30am, Holy Sacrifice of the Mass at 10.00am.

SATURDAY 9TH & THURSDAY 19TH DECEMBER

St Anne's Primary School's children will be singing at 10.30am on Saturday, Dec 9 at Copeland Fold (Donaghadee), for a Parish fundraiser in aid of the homeless charity, Night Shelter. Coffee, tombola, Santa etc and then at 1.30pm on Thursday, Dec 19 at Donaghadee Garden Centre.

FRIDAY 13TH DECEMBER

A Celtic Christmas by Candlelight. Join the award-winning St Agnes' Choral Society for a Celtic Christmas at **7.45pm** in St. Peter's Cathedral, Belfast. With donations in aid of Belfast City Hospital's Renal Unit. Tickets are £12 (£6 chn) and are available from St. Peter's Cathedral, online at www.tinyurl.com/agneschristmas or by calling 077 868 37198.

St Vincent de Paul –

Will be talking this weekend 30Nov-1Dec 2019.

The theme of this year's SVP Annual Appeal campaign is "**save someone from a life of poverty**" and is supported by press and television adverts running since 20th November. At this weekend's Masses local SVP Members will speak from the pulpit about the good work the Society does in the area, and practical ways in which you can help, ahead of next weekend's collection. The Society thanks you for your help to date and looks forward to your continued support.

Storehouse North Down anticipate distributing 300 + family hampers into the Christmas period and are reliant on our supporting Churches to fulfil this need. Please do consider supporting us with the usual non-perishable groceries but also Christmas fayre eg mince pies, small Christmas cakes or puddings, chocolates or bottles of Shloer and those treats that help make Christmas special. Donations gratefully accepted in 1st or 2nd weekend in December.

SATURDAY 7TH DECEMBER – SAVE THE DATE!!

St Comgall's Church Donaghadee invite you to a Christmas Fayre in the Copelands Fold, Cannyreagh Rd, Donaghadee BT21 0BS on Saturday 7th December from 10am – 1pm. In aid of the "**Night Shelter for Rough Sleepers**" Daddy & Mummy Claus will be there with gifts for everyone. There will be a Christmas Hamper Ballot drawn on the day. £1 per ticket. Lots of fun for all the family - Trombola. Traybakes, Tea & Coffee served. Bring all your family and friends. St Anne's Primary School Choir will be singing carols at 10.30am.

The Diocese of Down and Connor Office

The Westminster parliament recently passed a Bill extending abortion services to Northern Ireland. It is now the responsibility of the Northern Ireland Office to implement the Bill. A public consultation on the implementation of a legal framework for abortion services in Northern Ireland is now underway. This consultation will influence the precise details of the legislation. **Bishop Noel Treanor** would like to bring this issue to the attention of all parishioners and encourage them to take part either by going on line – (see links below) – or by responding in writing to: Abortion Consultation, Northern Ireland Office, Stormont House, Stormont Estate, Belfast, BT4 3SH. **Please note: the deadline is 16 December 2019.**

1) Overview on Consultation

<https://consultations.nidirect.gov.uk/nio-implementation-team/a-new-legal-framework-for-abortion-services-in-ni/>

2) Form for Response to Consultation

<https://consultations.nidirect.gov.uk/nio-implementation-team/a-new-legal-framework-for-abortion-services-in-ni/consultation/intro/>

3) Advice from SPUC

<https://www.spuc.org.uk/NIconsultation>

Saint Vincent de Paul Society appreciate the generosity of the parishioners in Bangor, however due to the ongoing reorganisation of our storage facility, St Vincent de Paul **cannot currently accept donations of clothes**, household or furniture items. Contact the helpline number. Please **do not** leave clothes in the Parish Centre.

FRIDAY 13TH to SUNDAY 15TH DECEMBER

Advent Retreat: "A Sabbath for the Lord" with Fr Brian O'Leary SJ *Drumalis*. These quiet days in the middle of Advent will offer us the opportunity to leave aside the busyness of our daily lives and rest, in silence, togetherness and worship, as we await the coming of the Son of God at Christmas. For further information or to book a place, please contact Drumalis - tel 28272196/28276455 (during office hours, Mon-Fri 9 am – 5 pm) or email drumalis@btconnect.com

DOWN and CONNOR DIOCESAN TRUST - VACANCY PRINCIPAL SAFEGUARDING PRACTITIONER

We are looking to recruit a knowledgeable safeguarding professional, to take on the role and challenges as Principal Practitioner within the Down and Connor Diocesan Trust Safeguarding Team. As part of our responsive service, you must be able to problem solve, prioritise quickly, identify risk, be able to build professional relationships, know and apply legislation and work with others to achieve the best possible outcome. You must demonstrate enthusiasm, dedication and the ability to think on your feet. The post holder will report to the Director for Safeguarding and will adopt the role of Designated Liaison Person for safeguarding children and young people, and the Adult Safeguarding Champion in relation to adult safeguarding. The role will extend to having a safeguarding oversight within the parishes, Diocesan Commissions and Committees across the Diocese of Down and Connor. The terms are based on a permanent appointment requiring 37.5 hours attendance each week. Out of hours availability will be a requirement from time to time. Salary and other relative terms are available within the application pack. If interested in making application for this post, please download an application form from the Diocese of Down and Connor website at:

<http://www.downandconnor.org/job-vacancies>

where details of the role are also available by way of an Application Form, Role Profile and Person Specification. **Closing date for applications will be 12 noon on Monday 2nd December 2019.**

SUNDAY 15TH DECEMBER

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas!

Concert by St Colmcille's & St Joseph's primary school choir & renowned Soprano Marion Jordan @ 5.00pm.
Venue: St Colmcille's Church, 191 Upper Newtownards Road, Belfast BT4 3JB. Hope to see you there!

St Vincent De Paul: Clare Lodge, Newcastle

Why spend Christmas or New Year alone when you can be among friends and have company.

- Christmas breaks from 24th December – 27th Dec
- New Year 30th December – 2nd January (Accommodation & full board meals) - (single room occupancy £175.00) (Sharing room £145.00)

Alternatively, if you just wish to spend the day having Christmas Dinner and Evening Tea or New Year's Dinner & Evening Tea in the company of others for the cost £20.00 (numbers for day visit limited to 20 people)

All bookings to be made in advance. For further information and any queries, please contact Clare Lodge Reception on 028 4372 2849 or email clare.lodge@svpni.co.uk (All special dietary meals catered for via prior arrangement).

YOUTH FESTIVAL AT MEDJUGORJE - 2020

The LIVING YOUTH Summer Pilgrimage 2020 will be to Medjugorje. We will join more than 50,000 other young people from around the world to celebrate our Catholic Faith. Staying at the Medjugorje Palace Hotel we will take part in the youth festival and also visit the Waterfalls of Kravice, the capital Mostar and the Shrine of Vepric at Makarska, all the while journeying with other young people from across our Diocese.

Pilgrimage Dates: **29th July – 7th August 2020**, for those aged 17 – 25 Cost £799. For an Application Form and more information go to www.livingyouthni.org or contact us on 02890 232 432 or info@livingyouthni.org.

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE

Conference starts at 2pm on Friday 27th December and ends on Monday 30th December at 4pm. The Conference takes place at Clongowes Wood College, Castlebrown, Clane, Co Kildare, W19 DN40. Price for the 4 day event is 150 euro inclusive. Age group 16+. Register: www.afcmteamireland.org

NI CANCER PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES.

Tues. 19th May to Sunday 24th May 2020

The price of £695 (with price reduction for Cancer Patients) will include: Return flights from Belfast International Airport, operated by JWT License T.O. 052. Full board and accommodation at the Hotel Agena in Lourdes for five nights based on twin/double/treble rooms. Travel insurance cover for persons up to 85 years on date of return.

The party will consist of patients, ex-patients, relatives and friends accompanied by medical, nursing and other staff. To enquire or to obtain a booking form please speak to a member of the committee on Tel: 07933938981; Email: mail@nicancerpilgrimage.org.uk or contact: Mrs Jean Clarke, N. I. Cancer Pilgrimage, c/o Drumbo & Cartyduff Parish, 546 Saintfield Road, Carryduff, Belfast, BT8 8DL. Chairman:- Dr Gerard Walls, accompanied by Dr Seamus McAleer & Spiritual Director.