

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.

PARISH NEWSLETTER

The Ascension of the Lord, Year A – 21st May 2023

Your prayers are requested for

Recently Deceased

Anniversaries:

Jimmy Caulfield
Aoife Robinson
Margaret Cully
Alec Rogan
Ena Gorman
Eugene Magahran
Margaret & Salvatore Gatt
Patrick Keaveney
Willie Magill
Arthur Neeson
Jean O'Kane

ST COMGALL'S CHURCH, DONAGHADEE

Sunday 21st May 2023 @ 9.00am

ST COMGALL'S CHURCH BRUNSWICK ROAD

Saturday 20th May @ 6.30pm and
Sunday 21st May @ 10am & 12noon

MASS TIMES FOR:

DAILY MASS NEXT WEEK – 15th -19th May

Morning Mass: Monday to Friday @ 9.30am

BAPTISM REGISTRATION

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

PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE

In the Gospel this Sunday we hear the mission that Jesus gives his Church - "Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations." And that is still our mission today. Here in Down and Connor, our Pathways to the Future programme has been set up to help us go out, make disciples and share the love of Christ more effectively in the coming years.

One initial task is the count of Mass attendance which is happening across the diocese this weekend. On a practical level this helps us to get an accurate snapshot of who is connecting with our local parishes at this time. But it also encourages us to reflect about who isn't coming and how we might go out and share the Gospel with them.

That might seem a daunting task and it will mean doing some things differently in the future. But if we work together as a whole Church - lay people, religious and clergy, guided by the Holy Spirit - God promises that our efforts will be fruitful. Let's pray for the courage and imagination to go out and make disciples here in Down and Connor.

Most Holy Redeemer Church Ballyholme

At the most recent Parish Finance Committee it was recorded that £17,000 has been spent so far on most Holy Redeemer Church for gas installation, new alarm system and other repairs.

Preliminary costings received from the architect were too high and he was asked to revise them. He has now returned with an estimate of £70,000 which will bring the total to £87,000. This has yet to be put out to tender.

The committee, being aware of the Pathways to the Future project which will be diocese wide, has recommended that the church be repaired to allow it to open as soon as possible and to make best use of our limited parish financial resources. It is hoped that the work will be completed before the end of the summer.



NOVENA

TO

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP

At St Gerard's Church – 722 Antrim Road

MONDAY 15th MAY 2023

To

TUESDAY 23rd MAY 2023

9:30 am and 7:30 pm

EVERYONE VERY WELCOME

PARISH CENTRE – PARISH GROUPS 2023

MONDAYS	TUESDAYS	WEDNESDAYS	THURSDAYS
BRIDGE CLUB at 7.15 until 9.45pm YOUTH CLUB 6.30pm – 8.30pm LECTIO DIVINA GROUP 7.30pm – 8.30pm [St Dympna’s Room]	FRIENDSHIP CLUB at 10.00am IRISH DANCING CLASSES at 6.00pm SENIOR CHOIR Starting 11 th October at 7.30pm	MENCAP Every fortnight at 6.00pm YOUTH CLUB 6.30pm – 8.30pm BADMINTON Every fortnight at 8.00pm	St Comgall’s Guide Unit (Girls aged 6-18) at 6.30pm IRISH CLASS & CEILI DANCING at 7.00pm
BOOKING OF PARISH CENTRE: Contact Thomas on 07305 746 263 or Email: mcmullanthomas481@gmail.com			
If you have a parish group and wish to advertise the times of starting or day in this Parish Newsletter please contact the parish office by email on: bangor@downandconnor.org			

Assumpta est Maria.

Premiere of Organ Variations on the Plain Chant Antiphon by Professor Desmond Hunter.

Thursday 25th May 2023, 7.30pm.

In Our Lady of the Assumption Church, Newcastle, County Down.

Programme will include pieces by Bach, Byrd and a choral Ave Maria by Abt.

The Variations were written in tribute to the Parish of Maghera and the Church Organ built by Skrabl of Slovenia and Kenneth Jones of Wicklow.

Professor Hunter lectures on the music of Byrd in the University of Cambridge, a former President of the Ulster Society of Organists and the Titular Organist of the City of Belfast.

Deacon James invites you to a candlelit hour of adoration, quiet prayer and reflection with Taizé chant.
 In St. Colmcille’s Church, Holywood , **Wednesday 31st May, from 7:30pm to 8:30pm.**

Columbanus Community Folk Festival

Ards CCE are hosting the Columbanus Community Folk Festival in Bangor 4-11 June 2023.

All events posted and information on tickets at www.ardscce.co.uk

Headline act Sat 10 June – MiKE McGoldrick, Dezi Donnelly and Tim Edey.

St Comgalls Parish Centre. Doors open 7pm.

Tickets £12.50, children free with a paying adult

Licensed bar and fab ballots

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Novena for Life

The *Pray for Life* Novena is an invitation to join thousands of people across Ireland to pray for the protection of human life, from Tuesday 23rd May to the Feast of the Visitation on Wednesday 31st May. Each day’s intention is accompanied by a short reflection and suggested actions to help build a culture of life in Ireland. Visit www.prayforlife.ie for the daily novena prayers which will also be posted on [facebook.com/PrayforLifeNovena](https://www.facebook.com/PrayforLifeNovena) and @ChooseLifeIRL on Twitter. This is an initiative of the Council for Life of the Irish Catholic Bishops’ Conference.

All Ireland Rosary Rally in Knock- coach leaving from the Kennedy Centre, Falls Rd, Belfast at 8.15am to the Rosary Rally in Knock on Saturday 3rd June. Returning to Belfast at 5pm. To book your seat please contact 07592280522

The Diocesan Committee for Charismatic Renewal has organised a celebration for **Pentecost** on Pentecost Sunday, the 28th May from 7pm to 9pm, in St Bernard’s Church, Antrim Road, Glengormley BT36 7QR. The celebration will include prayer and praise, testimony and a talk by Fr. Darren Brennan PP. Everyone welcome.

Can anyone help?

Parishioner seeking a lift to morning Mass during the week. If you can help please ring the parish office. Many thanks.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL HELPLINES

Bangor Conference 07703679384

(covering Bangor West, Clandeboyne/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)

Tobar Mhuire Retreat Centre: A warm welcome is extended to a series of conversations under the theme of "Stories of Life, Faith and Hope."

Tuesday 30 May - Baroness Nuala O'Loan on 30 th May (former Police Ombudsman)

Tuesday 6 June - Fr Aidan Troy CP (former parish priest in Holy Cross, Ardoyne) and advocate on issues around suicide. Further information can be received from the reception at Tobar Mhuire, telephone 02844830242 or email reception@tobarmhuire.com.

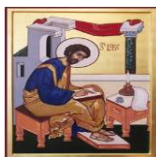
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SAFEGUARDING: The Diocese of Down and Connor has invited the National Board for Safeguarding Children in the Catholic Church in Ireland to conduct a review of safeguarding practice across the Diocese. The review will take place 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th June. If you have any views about Safeguarding in the Diocese, you are invited to contact Teresa Devlin, Chief Executive Officer, National Board for Safeguarding Children in the Catholic Church in Ireland, prior to the review dates: Tel 003531 5053124 or email teresa.devlin@safeguarding.ie.

This is part of the process of learning and maintaining best safeguarding practice across the Diocese and ensuring our Church is a safe and nurturing place for young people where they can grow and develop their faith. Philip O Hara, Interim Director of Safeguarding, Designated Liaison Person, Diocese of Down and Connor.

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Saint Luke's and Nativity Parish Offices



From Wednesday 17th May 2023, the Parish Office for both St Luke's & Nativity Parishes will be re-located to St Luke's Church, Twinbrook, BT17 0RP

(From that date, Nativity Presbytery, Bell Steel Road, will no longer serve as a Parish Office

The telephone number for the re-located Parish Office (both St Luke's & Nativity) and St Luke's Presbytery will be

028 90 625739

(the former St Luke's number 02890 619459) will no longer be in use)

The Parish Office opening hours will be the following:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 10am-1pm)

Email addresses will remain the same.

stlukes@downandconnor.org

nativity@downandconnor.org

OTHER NOTICES:

▪ **NI CANCER PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES, Sun 28 May to Fri 2 June 2023**

- The price of £799 (with price reduction for Cancer Patients) will include: Return flights from Belfast International Airport, operated by Northern Star Travel Ltd. Full board and accommodation at the Hotel Agena in Lourdes for five nights based on twin/double/triple rooms. Service of JWT guides in Lourdes. The party will consist of patients, ex-patients, relatives

To see the fuller details please go to the parish website 'Parish Newsletter' 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. **07846 88388** or email mail@nicancerpilgrimage.org.uk

▪ **COLUMBANUS ACROSS EUROPE**

Dear Friend of Columbanus Bangor, An Italian Columbanus friend sent me the link below which is a beautifully illustrated copy of a children's book written by Giovanni Caselli about the journeys of Columbanus across Europe through the eyes of a young trainee monk called Finbar. <https://rotharoutes.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/columbanus.pdf>

▪ **FOSTER CARE SERVICES AND SUPPORT**

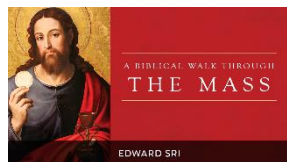
'There are children in crisis today in our local communities – children of all ages and all abilities. Can you spare an hour a day, an overnight or a weekend or more to make a difference in a child's life? If you can, then contact the Regional Fostering Team at www.adoptionandfosteringcare.hscni.net or on 0800 0720 137....remember ,every child is just one caring adult away from success'.

• **Graduation Mass – QUB Catholic Chaplaincy**

On **Thursday 1 June at 5.15pm**, the QUB Chaplaincy will host a Graduation Mass for the Class of 2023. Students, their families and friends, as well as staff and alumni are most welcome. This Mass will be the last special celebration before we close our doors and move to temporary accommodation whilst our landmark building on Elmwood Avenue undergoes major redevelopment. If the Chaplaincy holds special memories for you and you would like to experience it as-is for one last time, know that we would love to have you join us. Refreshments will be served afterwards. If you plan to come, it would be helpful if you could let us know by emailing catholicchaplaincy@qub.ac.uk

• **Lough Derg 2023**

The Living Church Office are organising a three-day pilgrimage to Lough Derg. The Pilgrimage will be led by Jim Deeds. Dates Friday 30th June – Sunday 2nd July 2023. Cost £90 includes luxury coach transfers. Bus departs 9am Friday 30th June from Glengall Street. Places are limited so early booking is recommended. Contact Claire Tel: 02890 690920 Email: livingchurch@downandconnor.org



The Mass is nothing short of amazing. The words, the gestures, and the rituals of the Mass are rich in meaning. Everything we say and do in the Liturgy is steeped in biblical language. We invite you to join us for the programme, *A Biblical Walk Through the Mass (Edward Sri)*, where we will explore the roots of the words and gestures we experience at Mass and reflect on their profound significance. We hope that this fascinating tour of the Mass will renew your faith and deepen your love & devotion to the Holy Eucharist. This programme will be facilitated by Fr Paul Byrne and Aishling Steen beginning on **Monday 29th May @7pm for 5 weeks online via zoom**. To book your place please contact the Living Church Office at **02890690920** or e-mail livingchurch@downandconnor.org



8th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A – 26th February 2023

Lord Jesus, you have said, 'Ask and you shall receive, seek and you shall find, knock and it shall be opened unto you.' I come to you in faith and trust, in love and hope. Let me know your closeness to me and your care for me and for all who are dear to me.

My intention: Hear my prayer (*mention intention*); grant what I ask, and may I always trust that in all that happens in life, you will be close to me as my friend, guide and saviour. And so, Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in you.

Penitential Act: I confess to the almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

PRAYERS AT HOLY COMMUNION

Spiritual Holy Communion Prayer

My Jesus, I believe that you are present
in the most Blessed Sacrament.
I love you above all things and
I desire to receive you into my soul.
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace you as if you have already come,
and unite myself wholly to you.
Never permit me to be separated from you.
Amen.
composed by Saint Alphonsus Liguori

ANIMA CHRISTI

Prayer to the Most Holy Redeemer

Soul of Christ, sanctify me.
Body of Christ, save me.
Blood of Christ, embolden me.
Water from the side of Christ, wash me.
Passion of Christ, strengthen me.
O good Jesus, hear me.
Within your wounds hide me.
Never permit me to be separated from you.
From the evil enemy defend me.
At the hour of my death call me
and bid me to come to you,
that with your Saints I may praise you
for age upon age. Amen

Prayer Online: Come and join us at... www.soulparemission.com *Who are we?* We are a new interactive prayer website created by Jacinta Crockford DipTH, Spiritual Director living in Down and Connor. *What's on offer?* A variety of PDF meditations on Scripture, Mother Teresa, Ignatius Spirituality to name but a few. Lots of content to Dive into! There you will find - Podcasts on Faith, Friendship & Knowledge; Rosaries, Prayers and Marian Consecration, Videos of Reflective Prayers during Adoration. Come and join us and be part of the local prayer movement online!

CALENDAR OF SAINTS DAYS

MAY/JUNE 2023

Wednesday 10 May

Saint Comgall, Abbot of Bangor

Sunday 21 May

The Ascension of the Lord

Wednesday 24 May

Day of Prayer for the Church in China

Sunday 28 May

Pentecost Sunday

Monday 29 May

The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church

Wednesday 31 May

The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Sunday 4 June

The Most Holy Trinity

Friday 9 June

St Columba

Sunday 11 June

Corpus Christi

Saturday 17 June

The Immaculate Heart of Mary

Sunday 18 June

Collection for Peter's Pence

Saturday 24 June

The Nativity of St John the Baptist