

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 9.30pm to 1pm.

PENTECOST SUNDAY – 23 May 2021

MASS TIMES NEXT WEEK: *Every day*
at **10AM**

Monday 24th to Friday 28th May
[no registration needed]



MASS TIMES NEXT WEEKEND:
MOST HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY
VIGIL SATURDAY 29th May @ 6.30pm
SUNDAY 30th May @ 10am, 12noon
online registration required.

When registering please specify which Mass you would like to attend.
[You will be contacted by text on Thursday when you have been allocated your seat(s).]

BOOKING BEFORE MONDAY IS RECOMMENDED.

PLEASE REGISTER USING THE CONTACT FORM [click below]
<https://www.bangorparish.com/re-opening-of-bangor-parish-for-public-mass/>

PRAYING WITH THE ICONS

under **The Four Saints** found in 'Parish Today'

An up-to-date summary of all Executive regulations and guidance can be found at:

<https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/coronavirus-covid-19-regulations-guidance-what-restrictions-mean-you>

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BANGOR TROCAIRE TEAM & FRIENDS

The Bangor Trócaire team (and friends) are walking 5 million steps over 5 months (May-September). This is approximately the perimeter of Ireland!

We hope to raise funds to assist in health care and pandemic programmes in the developing world.

Donations via Just Giving are very welcome but if you wish to donate via cash or cheque, these can be put through the St. Comgalls Parish Office letterbox in an envelope clearly marked 'Trocaire Trekkers'. If you are eligible to claim Gift Aid please include your name and address and state that you are eligible to claim Gift Aid. Any money donated before May 16th will be matched by the government!!!

Thank you very much for your support!

Online donations can be made at www.justgiving.com/TrocaireTrekkers

Sr Maura of the Columban Sisters

has added new reflections to the website page. Find them under the 'News' section of the tool bar and in the Columban Sisters page under 'The Parish Today'.



Your prayers are requested for Recently Deceased:

Patrick Coyle, Margaret Gilroy

Anniversaries:

Gemma McKinney, Alex Rogan, Frank & Kathleen Rafferty, Daisy Gatt, Salvatore Gatt, Ena Gorman, Bernadette Price, David Creed, Neal Murray, Carmel Thomas, Godfrey Thomas, Owen Rafferty, Paul Robinson, Mary Haire, Joe O'Keefe, Bernadette Price, David McHenry, Eugene Magahran.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES 2021

We invite expressions of interest from parents of children not attending Catholic Schools who wish to have them confirmed. Please contact the parish office as soon as possible for registration.

BAPTISM REGISTRATION

Evenings only until further notice at 7pm. Wednesdays and Thursdays. Please register online SIDE BAR under '**Sacramental Preparation**'

Bethany Bereavement Support Group

we are here to support and listen. Confidential. **075 1085 2157**

St Vincent de Paul Helpline 077 0367 9384

Donations of good quality furniture and clothing are suspended temporarily.

Podcast audio Mass is available on the parish website

www.bangorparish.com

[Daily] **by 12noon.** [Sat vigil] **by 9pm.**

Bangor Parish Podcast

Fr Gunn offers Mass daily in **St Comgall's Church**, Brunswick Rd and podcasts it on the parish website. You can listen to the Parish podcasts by clicking on the audio files on the website or by searching for "**Parish Of Bangor Podcast**" in the apple or google podcast apps. You can download these apps from [Apple App Store](https://www.apple.com/app-store/) or [Google Play](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.bangorparish) If you use these apps please '**subscribe**' to our channel so you receive all the latest podcasts straight to your phone or tablet.



THE PARISH CENTRE IS CLOSED to groups until further notice due to social distancing as recommended by the Diocese of Down and Connor, which is following the government's advice.

If you would like your deceased family & friends to be prayed for please email your names to the parish office: E: bangor@downandconnor.org
all names will then be mentioned on the weekly Sunday bulletin.

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FULL COPY OF MISSALETTE ON THE WEBSITE on the Slider or found in 'NEWS'

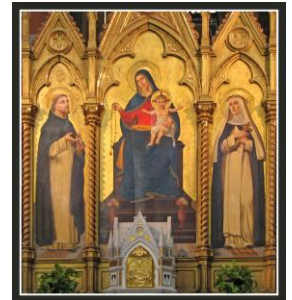
As you will have noticed we have refreshed our website and have given some new prayer resources: Look under **The Parish Today**

- Daily Mass – uploaded by 11am.
- **NEW RESOURCES ONLINE... weekly**
Prayer Resources & articles from the Columban Sisters – Sr Maura & Sr Suzanna.
- Family Creative Prayer.

Pontifical Council – Prayer and supplication to **OUR BLESSED MOTHER MARY** in the Month of **MAY!**

In response to the Holy Father's heartfelt wish, the month of May will be dedicated to a "marathon" of prayer, to ask for the end of the pandemic, which has afflicted the world for more than a year now, and to ask for the resumption of social and work activities. Pope Francis wishes to involve all the Shrines around the world in this initiative, so that they may become vehicles of the prayer of the entire Church. The initiative is being conducted in the light of the biblical expression: **"Prayer by the Church was fervently being made to God"** (Acts 12:5).

The Pontifical Council for the Promotion of the New Evangelization, entrusted by the Holy Father with the task of organizing the event, has extended this invitation to all the Shrines around the world, in order to promote the diffusion of the initiative in the relevant Regions, so as to reach priests, families, and all the faithful, inviting them to join in this prayer of intercession and hope to the Blessed Virgin Mary.



All information can be found on the parish website: www.bangorparish.com under the 'Latest News Section'

Different ways of donating to St Vincent de Paul.

Direct Payment to Conferences Bank Account. St Comgall's, Allied Irish Bank. Sort Code 93-82-03. A/C No is 25302098. **Most Holy Redeemer Ballyholme**, Allied Irish Bank. Sort Code 93-82-03. A/C No. 06885061.

For account reconciliation purposes, please provide a note of your name where indicated.

Gift Aid Envelopes will be made available. **Standing order form** is available on Parish website.

Taxpayers please tick the box which will give us an extra 25p in the pound. Thank you.

Donations of good quality furniture and clothing are suspended temporarily.

Storehouse North Down

Storehouse continues to help St Vincent De Paul provide non-perishable food for those in need. Storehouse welcomes donations of foodstuff at their premises, 12 Balloo Avenue, Bangor on Mondays and Thursdays between 10.00am to 3.00 pm. Cash donations are also very acceptable.

Are You, or anyone you know, having financial difficulties due to reduced or loss of income through Covid 19?

The Society of St Vincent de Paul,
throughout North Down and Ards can help.

We know how hard it is to ask for help but these are extraordinary times and people. T: **077 0367 9384**

Diocesan Directory available in the Parish Office.

Cost £4.50 Includes updated list of Priests, City & Country Parishes, Church Services, Diocesan Bodies, Religious Orders & Pastoral Organisations, Schools & Colleges, Index of deceased bishops and priests 1960 – 2019.



TRÓCAIRE thank you for your help. You can donate in the following ways:

1. Online at www.trocaire.org.
2. By phone: 0800 912 1200 (NI)
3. By post to Trócaire, 10 King Street, Belfast, BT1 6AD (NI), please count the amount you have collected indicating the parish you are connected to by writing on the back of the cheque D&C Bangor Parish. Post your cheque through the post box at the parochial house with your Name, Address and Tel No. and we will send to Trocaire. This virus knows no borders, but neither does our compassion.

VOCATION Intercession

"As the Father sent me, so am I sending you." Will you let the Holy Spirit lead you to your true vocation in the Risen Lord."

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 Mother Teresa, St John Paul II, 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. Come and join us and be part of the prayer movement online! **Every Saturday at 4.30pm** over the next 3 months (April-June 2021) I will be leading a live Rosary broadcast with ShalomWorld Internet TV. Just click on the following link to access this time of prayer. www.swprayer.org Please be assured that I will be including all the parishioners and their families during this Rosary.



PENTECOST SUNDAY – 23rd May 2021

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

CALENDAR OF SAINTS DAYS

MAY 2021

Friday 21st May

Saints Christopher Magallanes & Companions, Martyrs

Saturday 22nd May

Saint Rita of Cascia, Religious

Sunday 23rd May

PENTECOST SUNDAY

Tuesday 25th May

Saint Bede the Venerable, Priest & Doctor,
Saint Gregory VII, Pope,
Saint Mary Magdalene de'Pazzi, Virgin

Wednesday 26th May

Saint Philip Neri, Priest

Thursday 27th May

Saint Augustine of Canterbury

Saturday 29th May

Saint Paul VI, Pope

Sunday 30th May

The Most Holy Trinity

Monday 31st May

The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Tuesday 1st June

Saint Justin, Martyr

Wednesday 2nd June

Saint Marcellinus & Saint Peter, Martyrs

Thursday 3rd June

Saint Kevin

NATIONAL CENTRE FOR LITURGY - Keeping The Song Alive || Celebrating and Supporting the Work of Cantors in our Church. The Advisory Committee on Church Music invites you to take part in a **Celebration by Zoom on Wednesday, 16 June 2021** from **7.30 – 8.30 p.m.** Included in the Event: *Sharing the Experience of Cantors, Input on Repertoire, Copyright, Caring for your Voice.* **TO REGISTER, PLEASE CLICK ON THE FOLLOWING LINK:**

<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/keeping-the-song-alive-the-advisory-committee-on-church-music-tickets-155812189453>

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RIGHT TO LIFE UK.

The Severe Fetal Impairment Abortion (Amendment) Bill will remove the current grounds in the Northern Ireland abortion regulations that were imposed on Northern Ireland that allow abortion for 'severe fetal impairment'. Under these grounds in the regulations, babies with disabilities including Down's syndrome, cleft lip and club foot can currently be singled out for abortion in Northern Ireland because of their disability and can be aborted right up to birth.

The Northern Ireland Health Committee is now undertaking a consultation on the Bill and is seeking submissions from the public. It is important that as many people as possible submit to the consultation in support of the Bill to clearly show that there is widespread support for this important change.

Right To Life UK has set up an easy-to-use tool on their website that makes it simple to complete your submission. This tool can be accessed [here](#).

PRAYER INTENTIONS

23rd - *"As we celebrate the feast of Pentecost, we recall the fruits of the Spirit that are present in our lives. We pray that in our church's mission to serve the poor, broken and unborn, it would be anchored in love, joy, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Lord hear us"*

30th - *"We pray for our Government, that their ability to support pregnant women would increase and that they would anchor themselves on the desire to protect all human life. Lord hear us"*

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Handmade Religious Gifts.

The Dominican Sisters of St Joseph have got you covered! We serve the Church through prayer, study, community life, and proclaiming the truth of the Catholic Faith in as many ways as possible - including art and beauty! We offer a wide range of affordable handmade rosaries, greetings cards, prayer cards, chaplets, prints and artwork. We also accept requests for bespoke commissions to suit your needs. Browse our Etsy store at <https://www.etsy.com/shop/dominicards/>

All proceeds from our products go towards supporting our life and mission.

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Knock Shrine offers virtual pilgrimages

This year, as we find ourselves in unique and challenging times, pilgrimage Masses will be broadcast online from Knock Basilica **every Sunday at 3pm**. The schedule for the afternoon will include the praying of the Rosary at 2.30pm, followed by Mass and Benediction at 3pm. The celebrant will be Fr. Richard Gibbons, PP, Rector at Knock Shrine. Daily Masses continue to be broadcast on the Knock Shrine website and Facebook page at 12 Noon and 7.30pm, with Rosary at 7pm. **SUNDAY MASS IS BROADCAST AT 12 NOON**, ROSARY AT 2.30PM and MASS AT 3PM. For further details, please see www.knockshrine.ie

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Holy Mass Live Stream

Holy Mass is celebrated Monday to Friday at 12 noon for friends and benefactors of **Aid to the Church in Need, Ireland**. Beginning soon, we will also host a weekly rosary, to facilitate prayerful community among our staff and benefactors. Contact info@acnireland.org if you would like to join us weekly to pray for the persecuted Church.

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**"The Healing Power of Poetry"
with Sr Una Agnew SSL PhD**

hosted by Drumalis via Zoom from 10:30 am – 12:00 noon (20 & 27 May and 3 June)

Focusing on the poets Patrick Kavanagh and Seamus Heaney, these three sessions led by Sr Una Agnew will look at some of the ways in which poetry offers an alternative mind-set to experiences of social unrest, self-questioning, isolation, failure, and personal loss and gifts us instead with moments of perspective, meaning, transcendence and spiritual healing. Suggested Donation: £30 per person. For further details or to book a place, please contact Drumalis during office hours (Mon-Fri, 9 am – 5 pm) – 028 28272196/28276455 or email drumalis@btconnect.com

FREE online workshops we have coming up over the next few weeks which have been designed specifically for Places of Worship in Northern Ireland:

Every Church has its own story to Tell (Wednesday 9th June 10.30am) - The first of three interactive "Communications and Marketing" workshops designed for Places of Worship in Northern Ireland and focussing on how Churches can tell their stories. Book your free place here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/every-church-has-its-own-story-to-tell-tickets-148631074545>

Church Storytelling and Interpretation (Monday 14th June 10.30am) - The second of three interactive "Communications and Marketing" workshops designed for Places of Worship in Northern Ireland and focussing on how Churches can tell their stories. Book your free place here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/church-storytelling-and-interpretation-tickets-148636145713>

Storytelling and Marketing (Wednesday 16th June 10.30am) - The third of three interactive "Communications and Marketing" workshops designed for Places of Worship in Northern Ireland and focussing on how Churches can tell their stories. Book your free place here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/storytelling-and-marketing-tickets-148637178803>

Blasphemy accusations against Christian nurses in Pakistan dropped

ACCUSATIONS OF BLASPHEMY MADE AGAINST THREE CHRISTIAN NURSES IN PAKISTAN HAVE BEEN DROPPED. ACN SPOKE WITH FR. JAMES CHANNAN OP, DIRECTOR OF THE LAHORE PEACE CENTRE, ABOUT THE INCIDENT. FR. CHANNAN PRAISED SENIOR IMAM ALLAMA MUHAMMAD ZUBAIR ABID FOR THE VITAL ROLE HE PLAYED IN HAVING THE ACCUSATIONS AGAINST THE NURSES DROPPED. By ACN Staff.



Fr. James Channan OP in the centre with senior imam Allama Muhammad Zubair Abid to his right. (Credit: Fr. James Channan OP)

The director of the Lahore Peace Centre, Fr. James Channan OP, has praised senior imam Allama Muhammad Zubair Abid and other officials for refusing to back the accusation of blasphemy made against three Christian nurses by Muslim colleagues at the Punjab Institute of Mental Health in Lahore. The three Christian nurses, Sakina Mehtab Bibi, Jessica Khurram and Treeza Eric, were accused of blasphemy after a video was circulated

on a WhatsApp group belonging to the nursing staff at the mental health institute.

The video was recorded by someone in France and condemned the Pakistani Government's reaction to the EU highlighting the violations of human rights in Pakistan. The European Commission has been asked to consider suspending Pakistan's trading privileges because of violations of human rights in the country.

The video also highlighted Pakistan's blasphemy laws. Tehreek-e-Labbaik Pakistan, a religious political party in Pakistan, was also criticised in the video. This video created a backlash against Christian staff at the institute. **Institute staff protested against their Christian colleagues and shouted Islamist slogans.**

Christian staff were threatened and were put under pressure to convert to Islam. **The three Christian nurses accused of blasphemy were forced to go into hiding for their own safety.** Some of the Muslim staff even demanded that **the institute's chapel be turned into a mosque.** They took the chapel's key and shouted Islamic chants inside the chapel.

Fr. Channan received appeals for the fearful Christian staff at the institute. **At this stage a requested intervention was made to Mr. Zubair Abid, vice-president of the Pakistan Ulema Board (a group of Islamic scholars).** Mr. Zubair Abid is also chair of the Pakistan Peace Foundation. He agreed to help mediate. **After consulting with those involved, the senior imam declared that the Christian nurses had not committed blasphemy.**

Fr. James Channan OP with nursing and other staff in the chapel of the Punjab Institute of Mental Health in Lahore. (Credit: Fr. James Channan OP)

After this a **hearing was held at the institute** that included Christian and Muslim staff, Church leaders, police officials, and representatives of the federal and provincial governments. **The government representatives included Shunila Ruth, Parliamentary Secretary for Inter-religious Harmony** and Dr Nausheen Hamid, Parliamentary Secretary for the Ministry of Health. **Fr. Channan said there was what he described as a reconciliation held in the chapel on Friday the 8th of May following the hearing.**

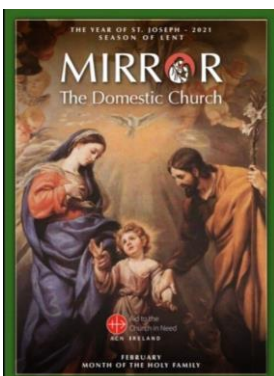


Fr. Channan said the following of the intervention made by Mr. Zubair Abid:

"Mr Zubair Abid played a vital role in defusing the situation which so easily could have flared up and caused riots in different parts of the country."

The priest also praised the interventions made by the officials. **Fr. Channan lastly thanked ACN for supporting the Lahore Peace Centre:**

"I have had good relations with ACN for many years and the charity has done a lot to help our pastoral outreach to young people."



The Mirror:

SUBSCRIBE TO THE MIRROR