

PARISH OF BANGOR, MEMBER OF ARDS FAMILY OF PARISHES

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.

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A – 25th January 2026

Your prayers are requested for:

Recently deceased:

Month's Mind:

Sarah Mount

Anniversaries:

Noreen Gunn	Thomas Doherty
Tommy Jennings	Comgall Storey
Rosaleen Lennon	Victoria Taiwo
Martha Grimes	Caroline Thompson
Eileen & Harry Morrow	Mollie Hall
Christina Auld	Rose Gordon
Sean Morrison	Gordon Morrison
Robert Brown	Freddie Bailie
Gerard Finnegan	Doris Prendiville
Anne Nelson	

MASS TIMES NEXT WEEK

DAILY MASS:

Monday 26th – Friday 30th January @ 9.30am
Service of Light – Thursday 29th January @ 1pm

ST COMGALL'S CHURCH DONAGHADEE

Sunday 1st February @ 9am

ST COMGALL'S CHURCH BRUNSWICK ROAD

Saturday 31st January @ 6.30pm
Sunday 1st February @ 10am & 12noon

BAPTISM

Please register online SIDE BAR under Baptism registration
Baptisms are celebrated on Sundays @ 1.15pm

This year, The St Brigid's Day Lecture will be given by Fr Tom Layden, S.J. Fr Layden is a Jesuit priest, living and working in Belfast. The theme of his lecture, "The Nicene Creed: A foundation for Ecumenism", is based on Pope Leo XVI's address at Nicaea.

The Lecture will be in St Brigid's Parish Centre, Derryvolgie Avenue, Belfast BT9 6FP, on Sunday 8th February, at 4.00pm. All welcome.

Vocations Society of St. Joseph

(formerly St. Joseph's Young Priests Society) 23 Merrion Square, Dublin 2. D02 XE02



Bangor Branch has received a letter from the Society, acknowledging receipt of donations of £1,640 from the parish. The following is an extract from the letter.

"The Seminarians who are supported by the Society pray for all those who contribute to their education and formation for the Priesthood and are very appreciative of the support they receive prayerfully and financially.

We thank you and all the officers, members and subscribers of the Bangor branch for your continued dedication and support for the Society.

Be assured that you and all will be remembered in the Mass that is offered daily for the intentions of all our members and benefactors, living and deceased."

Medjugorje Pilgrimage 29th July-5th August 2026 - an opportunity to experience the Peace of Medjugorje and the absolute Joy of our faith with the Mladifest Youth Festival.

7 nights £755 pps (£705 with January discount).

Contact Éadaoin for details **07706288095**

Friends of Columbanus Bangor Event celebrating the lives of St Brigid and St Columbanus

Saturday 7th February in the North Down Museum Bangor: Enjoy a demonstration of St Brigid Cross Making and using the materials provided make your own cross. Refreshments provided.

Limited number of places. For more information and to book now go to <https://www.visitardsandnorthdown.com/whats-on/celtic-saints-a-journey-through-time-and-tradition-p948071>

PARISH CENTRE – PARISH GROUPS 2025

MONDAYS	TUESDAYS	WEDNESDAYS	THURSDAYS	FRIDAYS
BRIDGE CLUB at 7.15pm until 9.45pm [Minor Hall]	FRIENDSHIP CLUB at 10.30am [Minor Hall]	PARENTS & TODDLERS 10am [Main/Minor Hall]	St Comgall's Guide Unit (Girls aged 6-18) at 6.15pm to 8pm [Main/Minor Hall]	Ju-Jitsu Club (Juniors 5-15yrs) 6-7pm [Main Hall]
LECTIO DIVINA GROUP 7.30pm – 8.30pm [St Dymphna's Room]	IRISH DANCING CLASSES at 6.00pm to 8.30pm [Main Hall]	MEDITATION GROUP at 12pm to 1.30pm [St Dymphna's Room]	IRISH LANGUAGE CLASS At 7pm to 8pm [St Dymphna's Room]	Discussion Group At 7.30pm – 9pm [St. Dymphna's Room]
BADMINTON NOW WEEKLY at 8 to 9pm [Main Hall]	SVP at 7.30pm to 9.30pm [St Dymphna's Room]	FOLK GROUP AT 6.30 -7.30pm [St Dymphna's Room]	SENIOR CHOIR At 7.30pm [St Dymphna's Room]	CEILI DANCING at 8.15pm to 9.30pm [Minor Hall]

ST COMGALL'S AND ST MALACHY'S PRIMARY SCHOOLS – RECIPIENTS OF THE SPIRIT OF CATHOLIC EDUCATION AWARD 2026

To mark Catholic Schools' Week 2026, the Diocese of Down and Connor paid tribute to the inspiring work of thirty-one schools from across the Diocese of Down and Connor by awarding them with the prestigious *Spirit of Catholic Education Award 2026*.

It is my pleasure to announce that this year, St Comgall's and St Malachy's Primary Schools were two of the award-winning schools. At a special ceremony in St Mary's University College on Wednesday 21st January, both schools received the award from Bishop Alan McGuckian, in recognition of their commitment, dedication and lived Christian witness to developing and nurturing the spiritual and prayer life of their school communities. This focus was linked to the Jubilee Year of Hope and the invitation to "fan the flame of faith".

The schools being presented with the Spirit of Catholic Education Award engaged in a whole school self-reflection process, using the *Catholic Ethos and Values – A Framework for Self-Reflection* document, on how they intentionally provided spiritual opportunities for prayer that in turn inspired acts of faith, love and service that are connected to the word of God, the message of Christ, the power and influence of the Holy Spirit and Catholic Social Teaching.

The 'Spirit of Catholic Education Award' is presented annually in conjunction with Catholic Schools' Week, to celebrate outstanding contributions to Catholic Education in terms of instilling the Gospel values and ethos of the Christian message into the daily life of the school. Within this gospel-inspired educational environment, pupils are brought to understand and appreciate the importance of their sacredness as children of God, caring for others in need within their school, parish, community, and wider society, contributing to building peace and reconciliation and being ecologically aware of the beauty and wonder of God's creation. It also provides an opportunity to affirm and pay tribute to the ongoing work of the governors, school leaders, teaching and support staff as they seek to form young people in their spiritual, intellectual, moral, and social development.

We send our warmest congratulations to all the staff who are representative of how teachers across the diocese monitor, evaluate, review, and embed an ongoing commitment to living out the Spirit of Catholic Education. Well done to everyone.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL HELPLINES

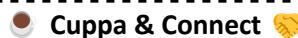
Bangor Conference 07703679384

(covering Bangor West, Clandeboye/Newtownards Road area, Kilcooley, Helens Bay and Crawfordsburn)

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

St. Comgall's Bereavement Support Group

The aim of the Bereavement Group is to provide support to the bereaved. If you wish to avail of this service, please contact the parish office **028 9146 5522**

 **Cuppa & Connect**

Stay a while after **10am Mass** and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee with friends old and new. It's a lovely opportunity to catch up, reconnect, and build community. Parents are very welcome — relax and chat while little ones enjoy time to play. **When: Every 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month**, after 10am Mass.

Please note: Dates may occasionally change due to other parish events (e.g. Trócaire). Keep an eye on the bulletin for updates. Frequency will be reviewed if demand and volunteers increase.

Next Cuppa & Connect: Sunday 25th January, after 10am Mass

• **Towards Peace Spiritual Support Service**

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  **Service seeking Marriage**
Preparation Facilitators

ACCORD NI Catholic Marriage Care Service is currently recruiting people to train as marriage preparation programme facilitators.

- 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

Accord wants to hear from you!

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

Contact Brenda on 02890 233002 or by email to info@accordni.com

www.accordni.com



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!
