

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: Closed.

Second Sunday of Easter – 19 April 2020

THE PARISH CENTRE IS CLOSED

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

SUNDAY MASS TIMES

ALL BANGOR PARISH PUBLIC MASSES

are cancelled until further notice.

The weekend Sunday Mass will be offered for all parishioners living and deceased.

YOU CAN ASSIST AT MASS BROADCAST FROM THE PARISHES AS LISTED BELOW

MASS TIMES DURING COVID-19

NEWTOWNARDS Times:

St Patrick's Church
Daily Mon-Friday 9.30am
Weekend: Sat 6.30pm
Sunday 11.30am

www.newtownardsandcomberparish.com

HOLYWOOD Times:

St Colmcille's Church
Daily: Tuesday - Thursday 9.30am,
Mon & Fri 7.00pm
Weekend: Sunday 12noon

www.stcolmcilleshollywood.org

ARDGLASS Times:

St Nicholas' Church
Daily: Mon-Sat 10.00am Mass,
Mon-Fri Rosary 9.30am
Wed. eve. 8-9pm Holy Hour with
Eucharistic Adoration.

www.churchservices.tv/ardglass

Daily Podcast audio Mass is available on the parish website
www.bangorparish.com by 11.00am

Parishioners are asked to note that

Funeral Masses have now been suspended. When possible Fr Gunn will say Requiem Mass for the deceased on the day of burial. When this crisis passes, Fr Gunn will welcome all the bereaved families in St Comgall's Church, Brunswick Road, to a Mass for all those who have died during this time.

During the week Fr Joseph Gunn will celebrate Mass *alone* in the oratory in the parochial house.

'I encourage you all in your faith and the hope that only God can give us during these difficult times. To all those who are listening to the Podcasts I offer every prayer and best wish and assure you that you and all the people of the parish are remembered in the prayers offered here day and daily in the parochial house. May God bless and keep you all.'

Fr Joseph Gunn

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.
- Prayer Resources & articles from the Columban Sisters – Sr Maura & Sr Suzanne.
- Family Creative Prayer & Puzzles.

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.

Your prayers are requested for: Recently Deceased:



Fr Felix McGuckin (formerly PP St Joseph's Antrim), Frances Boyle (Liverpool), Fr Jim O'Donoghue, Mill Hill Father (formerly based in St. Mary's, Chapel Lane, Belfast)

Anniversaries:

Patrick McMahon, Alice O'Malley, Julian Greenwood, Molly Coyle, Maureen Craig, John Coyle, Patrick McGeough, Margaret Crilly, Marie Coulter, Peter Thompson.

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

Bethany Bereavement Support Group

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

PARISH REFURBISHMENT FUND
A sincere thank you for the parishioner who has donated an amount of £100.
Your support is much very appreciated.

The "Donation Button" on parish websites. This facility is being rolled out throughout the Parishes via updated websites and on Parish live streaming pages. See notice below.

Parish Podcast

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) If you use these apps please **'subscribe'** to our channel so you receive all the latest podcasts straight to your phone or tablet.



5 page bulletin this weekend includes the Second Sunday of Easter Readings. Homily of both Saturday vigil and Sunday can be found on the Podcast App or website.

Financial Contributions to the Parish

All Parish Priests have received a letter from the Diocese concerning financial contributions. The following is an excerpt:

"I hope you are keeping well in these challenging times.

Since the Government's "Stay at Home" and social distancing policies have come into force and the closure of businesses, leisure facilities, shops, schools and churches we find ourselves in unfamiliar and uncertain times. These Government directives, and the closure of many places, can bring burden to many.

*In the midst of financial distress for many, **financial contributions should be secondary to the needs of our Parishioners.***

Parishioners should feel free at this time to suspend their Standing Orders, or indeed their envelope contributions, until matters have improved.

If Parishioners are in a financial position to do so and wish to continue with contributions, they can be made via:

1. **Standing Order**, or
2. The "**Donation Button**" on Parish websites. This facility is being rolled out throughout the Parishes via updated websites and on Parish live streaming pages.
3. **Envelopes**. In line with the government's "Stay at Home" and social distancing policies we must not collect envelopes at this time. Can we recommend to Parishioners they use the weekly envelopes as normal, if they are in a financial position to do so, and once Government policy allows we will look at measures to safely collect."

Excerpt of letter sent to the priests of the Diocese from Bishop Noel Treanor on Confession / Reconciliation.

'...as highlighted in the abovementioned Decree of the Apostolic Penitentiary and stated by the Holy Father in his Homily of 20th March 2020, it is vitally important that the faithful know that if they cannot access confession, then, by making an act of sorrow, by being truly contrite for all their sins with the intention not to sin anymore, and with the intention of going to confession as soon as it is possible, they are reconciled with God and obtain the forgiveness of their sins, even mortal sins. With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption. Psalm 130.'

Please check out the Podcast for the Second Sunday of Easter audio Mass.



Readings at Mass – SECOND SUNDAY of EASTER 19th APRIL

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.

Entrance Antiphon - 4 Esdras 2: 36-37

Receive the joy of your glory, giving thanks to God,
who has called you into the heavenly kingdom, alleluia.

Gloria

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to
people of good will.

We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we
glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God,
Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the
sins of world, have mercy on us; you take away the
sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated

Gloria

*Gloria in excelsis Deo et in terra pax hominibus bonæ
voluntatis.*

*Laudamus te, benedicimus te, adoramus te,
glorificamus te, gratias agimus tibi propter magnam
gloriam tuam, Domine Deus, Rex cælestis, Deus Pater
omnipotens.*

*Domine Fili Unigenite, Iesu Christe, Domine Deus,
Agnus Dei, Filius Patris, qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis; qui tollis peccata mundi, suscipe*

at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

deprecationem nostrum. Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris, miserere nobis.

Quoniam tu solus Sanctus, tu solas Dominus, tu solas Altissimus, Jesu Christe, cum Sancto Spiritu: in Gloria Dei Patris. Amen.

First reading – Acts 2:42-47 - *The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common*

The whole community remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the brotherhood, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers.

The many miracles and signs worked through the apostles made a deep impression on everyone.

The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common; they sold their goods and possessions and shared out the proceeds among themselves according to what each one needed.

They went as a body to the Temple every day but met in their houses for the breaking of bread; they shared their food gladly and generously; they praised God and were looked up to by everyone. Day by day the Lord added to their community those destined to be saved.

The word of the Lord. **R:** Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm – Psalm 117(118):2-4,13-15,22-24

Response: *Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.*

Let the sons of Israel say:

‘His love has no end.’

Let the sons of Aaron say:

‘His love has no end.’

Let those who fear the Lord say:

‘His love has no end.’

Response:

I was thrust down, thrust down and falling,
but the Lord was my helper.

The Lord is my strength and my song;
he was my saviour.

There are shouts of joy and victory
in the tents of the just.

Response:

The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.

This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes.

This day was made by the Lord;
we rejoice and are glad.

Response:

Second reading – 1 Peter 1:3-9 *You did not see Christ, yet you love him*

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy has given us a new birth as his sons, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead, so that we have a sure hope and the promise of an inheritance that can never be spoilt or soiled and never fade away, because it is being kept for you in the heavens. Through your faith, God’s power will guard you until the salvation which has been prepared is revealed at the end of time. This is a cause of great joy for you, even though you may for a short time have to bear being plagued by all sorts of trials; so that, when Jesus Christ is revealed, your faith will have been tested and proved like gold – only it is more precious than gold, which is corruptible even though it bears testing by fire – and then you will have praise and glory and honour. You did not see him, yet you love him; and still without seeing him, you are already filled with a joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls.

The word of the Lord. **R:** Thanks be to God.

Sequence - Victimae Paschali Laudes

Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer sacrifice and praise.

The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb;

and Christ, the undefiled, hath sinners to his Father reconciled.

Death with life contended: combat strangely ended!

Life's own Champion, slain, yet lives to reign.
Tell us, Mary: say what thou didst see upon the way.
The tomb the Living did enclose; I saw Christ's glory as he rose!
The angels there attesting; shroud with grave-clothes resting.
Christ, my hope, has risen: he goes before you into Galilee.
That Christ is truly risen from the dead we know.
Victorious king, thy mercy show!

Gospel Acclamation – Jn20:29

Alleluia, alleluia!
Jesus said: 'You believe because you can see me.
Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.' Alleluia!

Gospel – [John 20:19-31] -Eight days later, Jesus came again and stood among them

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you', and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.

'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven;
for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him:

'You believe because you can see me.
Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.

R: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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 of Saint Bonaventure

Lord Jesus Christ, pierce my soul with your love so that I may always long for you alone, who are the bread of angels and the fulfilment of the soul's deepest desires. May my heart always hunger for you, so that my soul may be filled with the sweetness of your presence. Amen.

EXTRA NOTICES FOR YOUR INFORMATION

TROCAIRE UPDATE

Trócaire Boxes: This time of year, we would usually get back tens of thousands of boxes but that will not be possible this year, at a time when the developing world needs our help the most. If you can, please donate online or over the phone. Please do hold onto your boxes until further notice and we will be in contact about how to return them when it will be safe for people to do so. Donations can be made online at <https://www.trocaire.org/donate/make-a-donation> Several resources are available online at www.trocaire.org/parish. **'Trócaire Together: From our home to yours'**. Starting after Easter, there will be short videos of reflections, prayer and solidarity led by staff members from across the organization. They will be available on our social media channels for you to access at times that best suits you. Please keep an eye on our social media for these – the first one will be posted at noon on Thursday April 16th

ACCORD NI - Belfast
E:belfast@accordni.com
Thu 26/03/2020

We regret that due to the worsening situation being created by the spread of COVID-19, we are unable to resume Marriage Preparation Courses for the foreseeable future. We will continue to monitor the situation, and when we have been advised that it is safe to recommence our normal service we will be delighted to convey the good news to everyone.

For the present time Accord Marriage Preparation Courses are suspended until the end of **July 2020**.

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ACCORD NI during this Covid-19 lockdown, have set up a Support helpline if you need to speak to an **experienced couples & relationships counsellor** during this time of unprecedented stress and pressure on family life... Contact: **028 9568 0151** 9.00 am - 8.00 pm, Monday to Friday. All calls charged at local rate. Poster can be found under the website page Covid-19 updates.

PODCAST: CATECHISM WITH FR NEILL

Dear friends, We hope you had a peaceful and joyful Easter break and that you and your loved ones continue to be safe and in good health. As the lockdown and social distancing measures remain in place and many of us are self-isolating or cocooning, you may be interested to be reminded of Fr. Neil Xavier O'Donoghue's podcast, "*Catechism with Fr. Neil*" Fr. Neil is a Lecturer in Systematic Theology at St. Patrick's College, Maynooth Each day, Fr. Neil posts a short (5-10 minute) audio podcast for the 366 days of 2020. In each episode he reads a few paragraphs of the Catechism of the Catholic Church and gives a short reflection on the passage. In this way you can listen to the whole book over the course of a year, starting at any time that suits you. The Catechism is a great summary of the Catholic Faith that Pope St. John Paul II called a "sure reference for the teaching of Catholic Doctrine." The *Catechism with Fr. Neil* Podcast is available on SoundCloud and Spotify and also in the Apple podcast store. Details can be found on Fr. Neil's webpage: www.fatherneil.com

The feed for the podcast is also available at: <http://feeds.soundcloud.com/users/soundcloud:users:747004546/sounds.rss>

The Mater Dei Centre for Catholic Education is continuing with its activities, even from home. Updates can be found on our website news page (dcu.ie/mdcceNews) and at our Twitter handle (@MDCCE_DCU).

In particular I would like to draw your attention to an extension that has been granted to the closing date for a job advertised in Religious Education (Primary) with a specialisation in moral theology. The closing date is now 28th April.

Full details can be found at: dcu.ie/mdcceNews

We would appreciate your support in ensuring that as wide a dissemination of this information as possible is achieved in the coming days. We are seeking to ensure that all suitable candidates are given the opportunity to apply.