

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.

THIRD SUNDAY of LENT, 19/20 March 2022

**THE COUNCIL FOR CATHOLIC MAINTAINED SCHOOLS (CCMS)
HAS PROPOSED CLOSING ST. ANNE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL IN DONAGHADEE.**

"The Case for Change" can be found by: *clicking the below link –*
<https://www.eani.org.uk/sites/default/files/2022-01/20%2001%2022%20St%20Anne%27s%20PS%20Donaghadee%20-%20Case%20for%20Change%20updated%200.pdf>

Also this document in its entirety can also be found on the Parish Website under 'News'.

The proposed date for "discontinuance" was 31 August 2022, but this will be amended to August 2023. This is still only a proposal and a final decision by the Dept. of Education is unlikely to be given in 2022, but if you would object to this proposal, please take a moment to write to dps@education-ni.gov.uk before March 20th. St Anne's has been serving the communities of Donaghadee/Millisle/Groomsport for 90 years, and its closure would leave children in the Ards Peninsula with a 12- to 16-mile return trip each day to the nearest Catholic primary school. The school had a glowing ETI inspection report in 2018, is in a healthy financial position, and pupil numbers have steadily increased from 29 in 2011 to 59 in September 2022. Don't forget to send your objection by March 20 to dps@education-ni.gov.uk. Enquiries can be sent to: Mr John Hennessy, Principal, jhennessy542@c2kni.net.



BANGOR PRAISH 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. Then subscribe to our channel so that you will receive all the latest podcasts straight to your device.

Mass is Live Streamed and can be accessed via the Parish Website

www.bangorparish.com

FULL COPY OF THE SUNDAY MISSALETTE CAN BE FOUND ON THE PARISH WEBSITE UNDER "NEWS"

Pastoral Community - SYNODAL WAY –

An event is being held in the **Parish Centre** in **Newtownards** on **6 April 2022** from **7pm-9pm**.

The main objective is to obtain feedback from our wider Parish Community regarding the way forward following on from the Question Cards which Parishes were asked to distribute and complete recently. Places are limited and can be booked by contacting the Parish Office in Newtownards on 028 91812137.

Your prayers are requested for Anniversaries:

Bernard Brady, Leticia Benas, Damien Morrow, Matt & Josie Kelly, Winifred O'Neill, Nellie McCluskey, Mary Rose Teer, Celia Matthews, Marie Henry, James Kelly, Jimmy & Ann Breslin, Hannah Carlin, Flurrie Keegan, Seamus McKearney, Frank Lennon, Brigid McArdle, Josie Morrison.

Special Collection for Ukraine: The Irish Bishops have asked for a Special Collection to be taken up at Masses on the weekend of **26/27 March** to support humanitarian efforts in Ukraine and especially the families and children who have had to flee their homeland in advance of the Russian invasion. The proceeds of this Special Collection will be directed to Caritas Internationalis, which is the helping hand of the Church on the ground in the Ukraine and the surrounding region. Please be as generous as you can. Thank you.

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

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

**This is an 8 Page Bulletin
so please scroll down!**

BAPTISM REGISTRATION

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

PRAYING WITH THE ICONS

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

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION CLASSES

For all children not attending
Catholic Schools.



1ST PENANCE & HOLY COMMUNION –

Classes to be held in the Parish
Centre on

Sunday mornings at 9:15 starting in
November 2021.

Please register by contacting the parish
office by email stating the Child's(rens)
Name(s), Primary School, Year Group
and Age.

CONFIRMATION 2022 - Confirmation
Classes will be starting on 23 January
2022 – Please register by email to the
parish office Email:
bangor@downandconnor.org

SUNDAY MASS TIMES THIS WEEKEND

ST COMGALL'S CHURCH, DONAGHADEE

Sunday 20th March @ 9.00am

ST COMGALL'S CHURCH BRUNSWICK ROAD

Saturday vigil 19th March @ 6.30pm

Sunday 20th March @ 10am & 12noon

3RD SUNDAY IN LENT

NO REGISTRATION NEEDED

*Please note that the Covid sanitising regulations have not changed and will
continue to be strictly observed.*

DAILY MASS NEXT WEEK – 21st to 24th March

Morning Mass: Monday to Friday at 9.30am

**During Lent there will be Evening Mass:
Monday, Wednesday, Friday at 7.30pm**

[may be changed at short notice due to a funeral]

We have a number of Masses including funerals recorded.
These can be accessed when you click on the link below:

www.churchservices.tv/bangor

Solemn Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament has resumed from
Monday 7th March 2022 and on every Monday thereafter. Adoration
will last from after Morning Mass until 4.00pm with the intention of
prolonging it later until 9.00pm as heretofore subject to there being
sufficient adorers on the rota.

Diocese Directories on sale from Sacristy - £4

The Society of St Vincent de Paul offers practical and confidential help to those in need
throughout the North Down Area. We know it can be hard to ask for help but please,
if you need help call us on **our Helpline: 077 0367 9384.**

To help us to help others you can make direct payments 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.

Donations can also be made to SVP Giving Page at www.svp-ni.co.uk. If you are a UK income tax payer please
consider Gift Aiding your donation, which will enhance your donation by 25% at no extra cost to you. Gift Aid
forms are available on the Parish website, or on request, via SVP Helpline number, as above.

The Society wishes to thank you for your tremendous response to our Annual Appeal, on the theme of "Impossible
Choices" Through your generosity St Comgalls Conference were able to assist over 150 families in the month of
December, and Most Holy Redeemer Conference Ballyholme provided assistance to 108 families and individuals over the
same period To include those donations enhanced by Gift Aid, the Appeal raised over £10,000. We thank you on behalf of
the Society, and on behalf of those we assisted.

The Society is always on the lookout for new Members, and if you are interested and can spare a few hours
per week please speak to a Conference Member, or leave your name and contact number on the Helpline and
we will return to you promptly. You will be warmly welcomed and full training will be given.

***We can now accept donations of Good quality furniture –
please call our Helpline or speak to a member of the Society.***

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.

3rd SUNDAY IN LENT – 19 & 20 March 2022

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

CALENDAR OF SAINTS DAYS

MARCH 2022

Thursday 17th March Saint Patrick, Principal of Ireland - <i>Holy Day of Obligation</i>	Thursday 24th March Saint Macartan, Bishop
Friday 18th March Saint Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop & Doctor	Friday 25th March The Annunciation of Our Lord
Saturday 19th March Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Sunday 27th March 4 TH SUNDAY OF LENT
Sunday 20th March 3 RD SUNDAY OF LENT	Friday 1st April Saint Celsus, Bishop
Monday 21st March Saint Enda, Abbot	Saturday 2nd April Saint Francis of Paola
Wednesday 23rd March Saint Turibius of Mongrovejo, Bishop	Sunday 3rd April 5 th SUNDAY OF LENT

OFFICIAL GUIDE OF COLUMBAN WAY IN ITALY

The Italian members of the European Association of the Way of St Columba are pleased to announce the release in bookshops from 3 March 2022 of the official guidebook of the Way of St Columba published by Terre di Mezzo Editore, by the authors Caterina Barbuscia and Valeria Beretta with the collaboration of the Associations of the Friends of San Colombano per l'Europa of San Colombano al Lambro, the Friends of San Colombano of Bobbio and the Friends of the Cammino di San Colombano of Vaprio d'Adda who act as points of reference and support along the entire route. It was a great work of synergy between the three associations and the 62 municipalities, the two regions and the Diocese of Piacenza-Bobbio, crossed by the route, and other public and private bodies.

330 kilometres on foot or by bicycle from the Swiss border to Bobbio. The route of the Cammino di San Colombano winds its way along 18 stages, from Villa di Chiavenna, along the Sentiero del Viandante to Lecco and Milan, where the final 8 stages begin, leading to the last abbey founded by Saint Colombano in Bobbio.

This is the last stretch, on Italian territory, of a European Cultural Itinerary of over 5,000 km that crosses another 7 countries and follows in the footsteps of a man who helped build Europe.

An additional stage from Bobbio to Coli leads to the cave of San Michele.

https://www.terre.it/prodotto/il-cammino-di-san-colombano/?utm_source=google&utm_campaign=Google%20shopping&utm_medium=cpc&utm_term=229726&qclid=EA1aIQobChMIk9al5_aQ9qIVAeN3Ch3S2ACrEAYYASABegJXhvD_BwE

THE WAY OF SAINT COLOMBAN, EUROPEAN CULTURAL ITINERARY AND PILGRIMAGE ROUTE IN ITALY 330 KM FROM THE SWISS BORDER TO BOBBIO IN 18 STAGES.

The years around the turn of the second millennium were characterised by the rediscovery of St. Columbanus, which brought him up to date after 14 centuries. Starting from the town of San Colombano al Lambro, where the interest for a deeper knowledge has been rekindled and devotion has never waned, this desire for rediscovery has gradually spread to many other places touched by his passage and his work, through studies, research, publications and initiatives of all kinds that have highlighted the importance that this figure has had and continues to have for Europe.

A dense network of links that has been created between the various civil and religious realities inspired by Columbanus has given rise to ideas and projects in many sectors, but it is thanks above all to the associations of the Friends of St. Columbanus, active in the places of ancient Colombian memory, that we have the idea of re-proposing to today's Europeans the path that the Irish monk travelled on foot or by boat between the 6th and 7th centuries from his native Ireland to Bobbio. With the European Association of the Way of St. Columbanus, founded in 2014, the idea took shape and after 7 years has become reality.

The idea was to repurpose one of the oldest pilgrimage routes in Europe, which winds through eight countries (in order Ireland, Great Britain, France, Germany, Switzerland, Austria, Liechtenstein, Italy), traced by one of the most venerated figures of the Middle Ages, an exponent of the migratory monastic phenomenon, typical of Ireland, which played a fundamental role in the birth of Western civilisation and Europe itself. For the part of the itinerary that winds through Italian territory, thanks to the Associazione Amici del Cammino di San Colombano of Vaprio d'Adda (for the area north of Milan), the Associazione Amici di San Colombano per l'Europa of San Colombano al Lambro (across the southern Milanese plain), the Association of Friends of San Colombano di Bobbio with the GAL Ducato di Parma e Piacenza (for the Piacenza Apennine section), which has mapped and reported on this journey in 18 stages, 330 km long, which will take all those who wish to travel along it from the Alps to the regions furrowed by rivers and lakes, to then reach the modern metropolis and, across the Po Valley, enter the valleys of the Piacenza Apennines, reminiscent of glimpses of Ireland.

The research work started from the few localities identified by Jonah in the Vita Sancti Columbani and then identified other localities that were the result of research and studies carried out in later periods or deduced from documents that formed the basis of their history, or supported by centuries of tradition, or imprinted in geographical places by popular beliefs handed down to the present day. Alongside the route probably followed by Columbanus, it has been decided to follow, in some places, paths already identified later on the ancient Roman roads (as in the case of some stages of the Sentiero del Viandante or the recent Via dei Monaci).

The Way of St. Columbanus is one of those routes proposed to the walking public that refer to the figure of saints who were travellers and pilgrims, whose tomb became a traditional pilgrimage destination. Columbanus is unanimously recognised as one of the most famous pilgrims; he was one first and foremost in his deeds, having travelled more than 5000 km on foot, but no less so in his state of mind, his inner attitude. The 140 km stretch from Milan to the tomb of Saint Columbanus in Bobbio was structured in 8 stages on the model of the Way of St James, with credentials and the issuing of the testimonium. So those who walk the last few kilometres in this spirit will be able to recall the work of a great evangeliser who combined prayer with work and study, embodying the Irish vocation for pilgrimage understood as the definitive abandonment of one's land and one's people, which entails a voluntary exile in the name of faith and therefore the choice to live forever without a homeland, as strangers in one place, as they are always on the way to their true homeland which is not of this world.

Continued.....

In addition to the historical and religious reasons for this journey, there are also important attractions in terms of the environment, landscape, culture, music, crafts and food and wine, which are so varied even though they are concentrated in just two regions, Lombardy and Emilia Romagna.

The invitation to those embarking on this adventure is therefore to rediscover, through the varied beauty of nature in its many forms, that "common home" which Columbanus conceived as such from its very beginnings, and to walk through it with the same spirit in grateful memory of a man who made history, who has not been forgotten and who gives us the opportunity, with this experience, to become protagonists of the history of Europe today.

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!

TIME CHANGE - Saturday at 3.30pm: Live recitation of the Most Holy Rosary. **Saturday at 8.30pm** I will be leading prayer with Eucharistic Adoration on the Catholic Internet TV – Shalom World.org 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 live Eucharistic Adoration.

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

"Walking Together Towards Easter"

Residential Easter Triduum at Drumalis, Larne (14-17 April 2022) led by Fr Perry Gildea CM and Drumalis Team. An opportunity to reflect and participate in the Liturgy of Holy Week – the Triduum will commence with registration from 5 pm on Holy Thursday and end on Easter Sunday morning with Mass followed by breakfast. Cost: £295 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
See poster on Bangor Parish website under 'Bulletin Notices' or 'News'

The Synod 2021-2023 – Listening Process

Quote from the handbook: "In this sense, it is clear that the purpose of this Synod is not to produce more documents. Rather, it is intended to inspire people to dream about the Church we are called to be, to make people's hopes flourish, to stimulate trust, to bind up wounds, to weave new and deeper relationships, to learn from one another, to build bridges, to enlighten minds, warm hearts, and restore strength to our hands for our common mission (PD, 32). Thus the objective of this Synodal Process is not only a series of exercises that start and stop, but rather a journey of growing authentically towards the communion and mission that God calls the Church to live out in the third millennium." *Found on the Vatican website.*

Cards containing 4 Questions were offered on Ash Wednesday to each person to fill in. These questions when answered should be left back to the parish office. Please find the a copy of the original card online under the page 'Bulletin'.

- Q1. As a Diocese we aspire to 'Open wide the doors of the Church to all without exception'. Who finds welcome and support for their Christian journey and who might feel left out?
- Q2. Every baptised person is called to participate in the mission of the Church. How is dialogue and participation in the life of the Church enabled and how is it hindered?
- Q3. We are called to mission; to put our faith into action. What enables or hinders us in speaking up for the Gospel and acting courageously in society?
- Q.4 What steps is the Holy Spirit calling all of us to take at this time?

South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust Carer Support Service Are you an unpaid carer who cares for a family member of friend?

You are invited to come along to the Carer Support Service Carer Hub in Bangor.

When: 1st Wednesday of every month

Where: North Down Community Wellbeing Hub, Main Street

Time: 10.30 – 1pm

No need to book, just call in at any time during the morning for carer information advice and guidance. Join us for tea/coffee and scones, we would love to meet you.



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),

Donations to Ukraine will go to support our partner, Caritas Poland, who are working on the border. Poland has received 400,000 refugees from Ukraine over the past week and volunteers from Caritas Poland are providing food, blankets, hygiene kits and other essentials to people at the border as they arrive. We are already working in partnership with Caritas Poland and have supported their response in Yemen. We are now also extending financial support to their work on the Polish/Ukrainian border to support those arriving from Ukraine.

We will continue to engage with Caritas Europa to identify how Trócaire can best support the local Caritas organisations in their response.

Please note, however, that the Trocaire Lent boxes cannot be used to collect money for Ukraine and donations made to Ukraine will not be matched by UK Aid Match as the scheme is specifically tied to our Lent campaign.

DROMANTINE CONFERENCE NEW WORKSHOP 2022 - BOOKINGS NOW OPEN

Please contact Jacinta or Louisa to reserve your place: TEL: 028 (048 from ROI) 3082 1964

EMAIL: admin@dromantineconference.com

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**Preparing for Marriage? Catholic Engaged Encounter**  
A Marriage Preparation course is planned for **9/10 April 2022** in **The Drummond Hotel**, Ballykelly, Co. Derry. This 2-day **non-residential** course is a positive way of preparing for Marriage where you will discover how you can enrich your future relationship.

Information/Booking: [marriageencounter.ie](http://marriageencounter.ie)  
or 028276 38512

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**ARDS CCE St Patrick's Party Concert** with  
fantastic Irish Traditional Music,  
Dancing, and guest artists.

**SUNDAY 13<sup>th</sup> March, 4pm St Patrick's Hall,**  
Newtownards. Tickets £5 from the Mace Brunswick  
Rd, Bangor or pay at door.(kids free with adult)

### **LENTEN PIONEER PLEDGE**

Many people choose to abstain from alcohol during Lent. Why not take this opportunity to perhaps help yourself or someone you know with an alcohol or drug problem by offering your sacrifice for freedom from addiction? Please consider taking the short- term Lenten Pledge and make a difference to someone's life and say the following daily prayer. **PRAYER:** "I promise in honour of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and with the help of the Blessed Virgin Mary to abstain from all alcoholic drink during Lent."

We are delighted that the **2022 Church of Ireland Theological Lecture at Queen's University**, Belfast, will be given by renowned scholar, theologian, author and communicator, Professor Alister McGrath. Professor McGrath is the current Andreos Idreous Professor of Science and Religion in the Faculty of Theology and Religion at the University of Oxford, and the title of his address is 'Theology: Why it matters to the academy and the churches'.

The lecture will take place on **4th April 2022 at 6pm** in the Isdell Courtyard at Riddell Hall, 185 Stranmillis Road, Belfast, with reducing covid restrictions permitting, tea & coffee on arrival from 5.15pm.

More information can be found on our website

<https://thehubbelfast.org/2022/02/22/tickets-available-for-theological-lecture-at-queens-2022/>

Of you can do directly to reserving seats here

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/theology-why-it-matters-to-the-academy-and-the-churches-tickets-261838825977>

We would love to see you there, and please feel free to share the invitation or publicity found on any of our social media channels (simply search for 'The Hub Belfast') with others.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/629759561452493>

**The Lough Derg Pilgrim Path** on the lough shore is now open daily. The full route is a 12km loop, with a shorter 8km option, and several information boards highlight features of particular interest. Leaflets are available at the Visitors Centre. For bookings and further information email [info@loughderg.org](mailto:info@loughderg.org) or telephone 0(0353) 71 9861518.

**Bangor group of Alcoholics Anonymous** has restarted our Open Meetings. Open Meetings are, as the name suggests, open to everyone and anyone who wishes to know more about alcoholism, how it effects the individual and how they can recover. Bangor AA Open Meetings, The last Friday of the month, every month. Doors open at 8pm for an 8.30pm start. **Bangor Community HUB**, Hamilton Road, Bangor. BT20 4LF.

### **DOWN AND CONNOR SAFEGUARDING OFFICE**

TOWARDS PEACE in relation to a Webinar coming up on the 29<sup>th</sup> March 2022, entitled, "Healing Woundedness one soul at a time". If you are interested in this event, further information and joining instructions can be found on the link below;

[www.towardspeace.ie](http://www.towardspeace.ie) or alternatively you can email: [towardspeace@iecon.ie](mailto:towardspeace@iecon.ie)

## Icon Painting Workshop Knock, Co. Mayo

Experience the unique spiritual world of the Byzantine Era through icon painting



September 26 - October 1, 2022  
Alexian Brothers Monastery  
Knock, Co. Mayo

The Alexian Brothers Monastery is excited to welcome back master iconographer Theodore Papadopoulos! Join us on this six day intensive course under the direction of visiting master iconographer and expert instructor Theodore Papadopoulos from Greece. This Virgin Mary icon will "come alive" as he will guide you step by step, through the ancient techniques of Byzantine Iconography. Let us journey together, discovering anew, this traditional artistic expression of theology and spirituality often called the "meeting place of the Divine". Whether you are a beginner or an advanced artist, you will be able to follow the instructor for an outcome of a beautiful icon.

Your tuition fee of €480 includes all materials.  
Space is limited. Please register early to secure your spot.  
The Alexian brothers have excellent accommodations.

For registration and more information visit the website  
[www.theodoreicons.com/knock](http://www.theodoreicons.com/knock)  
or contact Theodore Papadopoulos at: [theodoreicons@gmail.com](mailto:theodoreicons@gmail.com)



HSC  
Northern Ireland  
**Adoption &  
Foster Care**

**0800 0720 137**  
[adoptionandfostercare.hscni.net](http://adoptionandfostercare.hscni.net)  
f @HSCAdoptionAndFosterCare  
t @HSCAdopt\_Foster



Could you provide a long term foster home for Paul\*?  
We are looking for a two adult household who can offer  
Paul a long term foster home.

Paul is a happy, gentle and loveable 12 year old boy. He has blonde hair, blue eyes and is of slight build. Paul has poor eyesight and is registered blind and has limited mobility.

Paul has Down syndrome and has global developmental delay, which limits his understanding of the world around him. Paul is very happy when he is around those he is familiar with. He recognises their voices and will respond by smiling or giggling. Paul loves to cuddle up with his foster family and know that they are near him.

Paul's foster carers will receive: ✓ full training ✓ fee of £39,000 per annum plus fostering allowances.

**DOWN and CONNOR DIOCESAN TRUST VACANCY INTERNAL AUDITOR** We are looking to recruit an Internal Auditor who will develop and execute a structured audit methodology across the Diocesan Trust network of Parishes, ensuring that financial accuracy, internal controls and regulatory compliance are continually challenged and maintained. The post holder will report to the Chief Operating Officer and will play an integral part of the Diocesan Trust Finance Team. This is an excellent opportunity and challenge for an individual who is ready to make their mark in the establishment of this new and exciting role, where the terms are based on a permanent appointment requiring 35 hours attendance each week, Monday to Friday. Salary: £25,000 - £34,000 - salary offer will be commensurate upon qualifications and experience. 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, and Diocesan profile. **Closing date for applications will be 12 noon on Thursday 31st March 2022**

Down and Connor Diocesan Trust is an Equal Opportunities Employer

## AID TO THE CHURCH

<https://www.acnireland.org/n-donate>

SUBSCRIBE TO THE MIRROR

### Papal envoy visits refugees at Catholic seminary in Lviv

Cardinal Krajewski, a papal envoy to Ukraine and Pope Francis' almoner, has paid a visit to refugees staying at a retreat house in a Catholic seminary in Lviv. The cardinal assured the refugees there that they were in the prayers of Pope Francis. By Tobias Lehner

Refugees at the retreat house in the seminary. (Credit: Aid to the Church in Need)

"There is a lot of coming and going here. Thousands of refugees arrive every day," reports Father Wladyslaw Biszko in conversation with the international foundation Aid to the Church in Need (ACN). The priest leads a pilgrim and retreat house in Lviv, on the same premises as the Roman Catholic seminary. **Since the start of the war, the buildings, which were constructed largely through the support of ACN, have been used as a camp for refugees from all over Ukraine and last Wednesday was visited by the envoy of Pope Francis, the Polish Cardinal Konrad Krajewski.**

Cardinal Krajewski meeting refugees at the seminary. (Credit: Aid to the Church in Need)

The house is open to everyone seeking refuge, explains the priest. "We don't ask about religion. **However, people should know that they are in a Catholic centre. We pray before meals and have devotions every evening, which are well received.**"

"About **120 people** live here all the time," reports Fr Biszko. "They are simply waiting to see whether they can go back to their houses." It's mostly a case of mothers with their children or elderly people who don't want to leave their homeland – at least not yet. **The people are sleeping in every space available, including on the ground in the conference rooms.**



The refugees do not just include Ukrainians. **Visiting international students, from India for example, are also seeking refuge.** Before the war, Lviv, Kyiv, Odessa and Kharkov were popular with international students.

As the envoy of Pope Francis, **Cardinal Krajewski has been in Ukraine since Tuesday** and is seeking to strengthen the Church's relief work. **"The Holy Father is present in Ukraine,"** he said during his visit, "although he is in the Vatican. He is suffering with you. The Pope is experiencing the way of the Cross which you in Ukraine are walking."

The Cardinal, who as **the Pope's almoner is responsible for distributing charity in his name**, highlighted the fact that after the beginning of the war Pope Francis visited the Russian ambassador to the Holy See to appeal for "compassion and peace". Normally it is the Pope who summons ambassadors. **The pontiff is advocating for peace "in every imaginable way," said Cardinal Krajewski.** "At the same time the Pope is grateful to everyone who is showing their love towards Ukraine."

*In response to the outbreak of war in Ukraine, **Aid to the Church in Need is sending an aid package which currently amounts to 1.3 million euros.** The money is for priests and religious, who are working across the country in parishes, with refugees, in orphanages and homes for the elderly. The foundation is also appealing for prayers for peace in Ukraine.*