

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.

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time C, 6 February 2022

Good News! In response to relaxation of Covid Regulations the parish will take the following steps:

1. St Comgall's Church Brunswick Road, Bangor – cleaning will continue as usual after each Mass but the Church will be reopened for the rest of the day to facilitate private prayer. People visiting the Blessed Sacrament will be required to sanitise their hands on arrival and departure. The doors of the Church will be left open to encourage ventilation.
2. Beginning on **Sunday 6th February there will be 9am Mass in St Comgall's, Donaghadee and on each Sunday in February.** In March there will be 9am Mass in Most Holy Redeemer Church on each Sunday of March. Sunday Mass will alternate between these two Churches on a monthly basis. Experience from other parishes has shown that monthly rather than weekly rotation of Masses causes less confusion for parishioners.

This new arrangement is entirely dependent on the continuing generosity of our 86yr old Fr Whyte in saying a Sunday Mass for which all of us are so grateful.

The context for this new arrangement is as follows. Priests retire at the age of **75** yrs. At the moment Down and Connor has **87** active priests under **75** for its **87** parishes. In twenty years it is projected that there will be **33**.

The Diocese has responded to the drastic change in the age profile of priests by

- 1) Creating Pastoral Areas; in our case stretching from Holywood to Portaferry.
- 2) Appointing one priest to take charge of 2 or more contiguous parishes as is the case in:
 - a) Ballygalget & Portaferry,
 - b) Cushendall & Cushendun,
 - c) Carnlough & Glenarm,
 - d) Portrush, Bushmills & Portstewart,
 - e) Glenravel & The Braid,
 - f) Castlewellan & Kilcoo.

In any parish all arrangements are provisional by definition. The test for Mass Times will be to see if they work. If not they can be altered subject to availability of priests and the geography of the parish. Your cooperation and understanding are kindly requested and your prayerful support is vital.

Volunteers will be needed to deep clean the Churches before reopening and to sanitise parishioners and to clean the Church after Mass. If you are in a position to offer your services please contact the parish office. This partial reopening of our Churches represents the start of a return to normal parish life but we must continue to observe government anti-Covid Regulations and Diocesan Guidelines.

SUNDAY MASS TIMES THIS WEEKEND

[ST COMGALL'S CHURCH, DONAGHADEE](#)

Sunday 6th February @ 9.00am

[ST COMGALL'S CHURCH BRUNSWICK ROAD](#)

Saturday vigil 5th February @ 6.30pm

Sunday 6th February @ 10am & 12noon

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time C

NO REGISTRATION NEEDED

ALL MASSES ARE SUBJECT TO DIOCESAN REGULATIONS.

SUNDAY MASSES

Admittance will be on a first come first served basis and if the permitted number is exceeded a notice to that effect will be posted on the Church door.

Safety of parishioners and welcome to all, particularly families are joint top priorities. **Please note that the Covid sanitising regulations have not changed and will continue to be strictly observed.**

DAILY MASS NEXT WEEK – 7th to 11th February

Monday to Friday at 9.30am

[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



Your prayers are requested for

Recently Deceased:

Gerard Finnegan

Month's Mind:

Deacon Paul McCormick

Anniversaries:

Vincent O'Regan, Bert Cassidy, Ester Hill, Eileen Rice, Phil McNally, Bridget Rice, Kay Magill, Leonard & Walter Rice, Laurence Connor, Mary Norrington, Mary & Martin Drew, Margaret & Patrick Shannon, Siobhan Shannon, William Donegan, John Rogan, Denis Rush, Michael Coyle, David Carlin, Victor McHenry.

BAPTISM REGISTRATION

Evenings only until further notice at 7pm. Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Please register online SIDE BAR under 'Sacramental Preparation'

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

www.bangorparish.com

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

Bethany Bereavement Support Group

we are here to support and listen.

Confidential. **075 1085 2157**

PRAYING WITH THE ICONS

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

Job Vacancies - St Comgall's PS, Bangor

St Comgall's PS seeks expressions of interest in the following temporary positions:

- Lunchtime Supervisor (12noon - 1pm daily) - **starting asap**
- School Crossing Patrol (Temporary Relief Cover)
- School Cleaner (Temporary Relief Cover)

Please contact the school office to register interest and enquire - Tel **02891 463194** or email

ajones169@c2ken.net

Job Vacancy – Lough Derg

Exciting employment opportunity at the Sanctuary of St Patrick, Lough Derg, Pettigo, Co Donegal.

Applications are invited for an **Operations Manager** which is a key leadership role in delivering the Mission and Vision of Lough Derg, responsible for the smooth running of all day to day operational activities at the pilgrimage centre.

For further details and Application Pack contact Mary at +353 7198 61518 or mary@loughderg.org

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'.

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



Hail Glorious Saint Patrick!

A 9-week novena in honour of Saint Patrick will take place on Wednesday evenings in the coming weeks to pray for the renewal of the faith in Ireland.

The novena begins on **19 January at 7 pm** in St Patrick's Cathedral, Armagh, with Adoration, Rosary, Novena prayer to St. Patrick and Holy Mass celebrated by Archbishop Eamon Martin. Following Armagh, the novena will take place on the following Wednesdays in different churches across Ireland following in the footsteps of St. Patrick.

You can join the novena each Wednesday evening at 7 p.m. at Shalom World Prayer www.swprayer.org. You can also join the opening night of the novena via the webcam for St. Patrick's Cathedral, Armagh.

The novena will also be broadcast live by Radio Maria Ireland. Updates on the novena will be posted on facebook at Hail Glorious Saint Patrick. St. Patrick pray for us, pray for Ireland.

Sharing the Good News – Website: www.catholicbishops.ie

The January issue features the following articles:

- Bishop Tom Deenihan to open Catholic Schools Week 2022 with livestream Mass
- Webinar to launch Credible Catholic RE Programme
- Archbishop Francis Duffy installed as Archbishop of Tuam
- Archbishops of Armagh video message for Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
- Bishop alphonus Cullinan's invitation to #Pray4Vocations to priesthood
- Ashling Murphy RIP laid to rest in her home parish
- Archbishop Dermot Farrell prays for peace and highlights the need for vaccine equity in his World Day of Peace homily
- New synod.ie website launched to support the Synodal Pathway
- Catholic Education Partnership seeks new Chief Executive Officer

"Spiritual Challenges in Later Life" with Sr Una Agnew SSL PhD

hosted by Drumalis via Zoom from 11:00 am – 12:15 pm (8, 15 & 22 Feb 2022)

"Spiritual well-being in later life is a potential that needs to be explored even as it is happening within us and among us. During this series, we will explore together this rich season of grace that we call ageing." (Úna Agnew SSL)
Suggested Donation: £50 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

"Patrick Kavanagh – A Poet for Spring" with Sr Una Agnew SSL PhD

hosted by Drumalis via Zoom from 11:00 am – 12:15 pm (2, 9 & 16 March 2022)

"As we embark on the season of spring, we celebrate in poetry the way Kavanagh senses the stirrings of his soul as the earth comes alive in Spring. His liturgy of the seasons enhances his poetic pilgrimage from Monaghan to the Grand Canal." (Úna Agnew SSL) 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

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 or telephone 0(0353) 71 9861518.



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 and at all the weekend Masses.

Bangor 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](#) or [Google Play](#). If you use these apps please '**subscribe**' to our channel so you receive all the latest podcasts straight to your phone or tablet.



LIVING CHURCH OFFICE COURSE – contact below

Email: Aisling

a.steen@downandconnor.org

Mob No: 07548893514

What is Alpha? An opportunity to explore: life – faith – meaning in a friendly and informal setting. You are invited to Alpha for a time of video presentations that will make you think – a place where you can be yourself. No pressure. No charge. **How?** Via Zoom link **When?** Begins on Tuesday 11th January 2022 @ 8.00pm **Contact Email:** n.dunn@downandconnor.org Tel: 07879 498131 <https://alpha.org/catholic-context/> **Why not give it a try? Invite someone else too!**



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

2022 All Ireland Eucharistic Conference Saturday 5th February at 2pm live on Radio Maria Ireland. Speakers include Fr. John Mockler, Servant Sister of the Home of the Mother, Antoinette Moynihan (Children of the Eucharist) and Fr. Morty O'Shea.

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.



FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME C – 5 & 6 February 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

FEBRUARY 2022

Thursday 3rd February Saint Blaise, Bishop & Martyr	Thursday 10th February Saint Scholastica, Virgin
Saturday 5th February Saint Agatha, Virgin & Martyr	Friday 11th February Our Lady of Lourdes
Sunday 6th February 5 th Sunday in Ordinary Time C	Saturday 12th February Blessed Virgin Mary
Monday 7th February Saint Mel, Bishop	Sunday 13th February 6 th Sunday in Ordinary Time C
Tuesday 8th February Saint Jerome Emiliani, Saint Josephine Bakhita, Virgin	Monday 14th February Saints Cyril & Methodius, Patrons of Europe

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!

Saturday at 4.30pm (live) Rosary and later **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

**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.



COVID INFORMATION

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>



Angel Guardian

"Angel of God my guardian dear to whom God's love commits me here. Ever this day be at my side, to light, to guard, to rule and guide. Amen."

Trócaire

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),

This Christmas see the gifts online @ www.trocaire.org/gifts

The 4 Corners Festival 2022 is a 10th Anniversary celebration that begins in St Anne's Cathedral and ends in St Peter's. This year the week long series of thought-provoking events will be around the theme Common Ground, Common Good and includes participants as diverse as boxer Carl Frampton, the Archbishop of Canterbury, and Dr Austen Ivereigh, the Pope's biographer. There's sure to be something to pique your interest at this unique Christian Festival.

Come and join us between January 30th and February 6th, somewhere across Belfast's four corners or online. Browse events here, or see highlights programme attached: <https://4cornersfestival.com/>

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 or 028276 38512

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

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Mozambique hit by tropical storm

MOZAMBIQUE HAS RECENTLY BEEN HIT BY A TROPICAL STORM. THE COUNTRY'S CATHOLIC BISHOPS ARE FEARFUL THAT THE STORM WILL MAKE THE PLIGHT OF HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF INTERNALLY DISPLACED PEOPLE IN THE COUNTRY EVEN WORSE. By ACN Staff

Internally displaced persons in Mozambique. (Credit: Aid to the Church in Need)

Mozambique is currently being swept by a tropical storm. **The country's bishops have expressed concern that the storm will compound the humanitarian crisis caused by the Islamist insurgency in the country's north.** Hundreds of thousands of people are currently internally displaced due to the violence.

Destruction caused by Tropical Storm Ana. (Credit: Aid to the Church in Need)

Tropical Storm Ana hit Mozambique on Monday, 24 January. **So far, 14 deaths have been reported due to the storm.** It is feared that the storm will devastate the hundreds of thousands of internally displaced people living in refugee camps.



Bishop Alberto Vera of Nacala spoke to ACN about the current issue and said the following:

"We are all praying that God may spare us another great disaster, in which it is always the poor who suffer the most."

Bishop Hilário Massinga of Quelimane explained that there were two days of heavy rain before the storm hit:

"The rivers overflowed and swept everything along with them, including people, houses and other goods."

Roads are flooded, in other cases, **trees have collapsed** across them or on houses, and many **houses are in ruins**. Seminarians are supposed to be heading back to seminary these days, but at least six are isolated and unable to secure safe transportation to the capital, Maputo."

Destruction caused by Tropical Storm Ana. (Credit: Aid to the Church in Need)

The concerns of the bishops are well warranted. **In January 2021, cyclone Eloise killed 12 people and impacted the lives of a further 300,000 people in Mozambique.** Hundreds were also killed in 2018 and 2019 by cyclones Idai and Kenneth, which left a trail of destruction in Mozambique amongst other countries.

ACN has several projects to support internally displaced people in Mozambique. In Cabo Delgado, the pontifical charity supports social integration initiatives and provides spiritual assistance to the displaced. In the Nacala and Nampula Dioceses, ACN supports an initiative to provide psychosocial support to enable internally displaced people to deal with the challenges they face as victims of war with greater resilience. In the Diocese of Quelimane, where hundreds of people fleeing from the Province of Cabo Delgado have found refuge, **ACN support allows diocesan workers to distribute food, hygiene products, seeds and small tools for cultivating the fields to 500 displaced families.** A similar project was financed for the diocese of Lichinga, which has recently also been affected by Islamist terrorist attacks.

