



# Parish of Newtownards & Comber

(a parish within the Ards Family of Parishes)

**Sunday 14th September 2025**

*The Feast Of The Exaltation Of The Holy Cross*

DIocese OF DOWN AND CONNOR



## PARISH PRIEST

Very Rev. Brian McCann PP  
Tel: 028 91812137

## ST PATRICK'S CHURCH

71 Upper North Street  
Newtownards BT23 4JD

## CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF THE VISITATION

Killinchy Street Comber BT23 5AP

## PARISH OFFICE (located in St Patrick's Hall)

Monday, Wednesday and Friday. 10am-1pm  
Tel: 028 91812137

Email: newtownards@downandconnor.org

Parish website:

www.newtownardsandcomberparish.com

## ST PATRICK'S PARISH HALL

Brian McDonald 028 91815051 for all enquiries.

## Meditating on the Mysteries of Christ's Life

The Holy Rosary is prayed in Saint Patrick's every Saturday evening before Mass (6.10pm onwards). Please come along to join in prayer for the needs of our parish, and the needs of the church and the world. *"I promise my special protection and the greatest graces to all those who shall recite the Rosary." (Our Lady)*

## OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP

The Tuesday evening Mass each week at 7.30pm in the church of Our Lady of The Visitation is offered as a Novena Mass in honour of Our Lady Of Perpetual Help.

## MASSES IN THE PARISH DURING THIS WEEK

### MONDAY

Newtownards 12noon (Funeral)

### TUESDAY

Comber 7.30pm

### WEDNESDAY

Newtownards 9.30am

### THURSDAY

Newtownards 9.30am

### FRIDAY

Newtownards 9.30am

### SATURDAY

Newtownards 6.30pm

### SUNDAY

Comber 10am, Newtownards 11.30am

## SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION

You are most welcome to come along to celebrate the Sacrament of Confession at the following times:

Saturday evening 5.45pm-6.25pm in St Patrick's

Tuesday evening 7pm in Comber

Friday morning: 9am St Patrick's

## THE DIVINE OFFICE

Morning Prayer of the Church is celebrated in St Patrick's Church Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at 9.10am. All welcome.

**Please note:** Tuesday 23rd September-change of Mass-time. The pupils of St Mary's P.S. in Comber will celebrate their opening of year Mass at 9.30am in Comber Church. Parishioners very welcome. **No 7.30pm Mass on that day!**

## FEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

This weekend we celebrate the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross (September 14th). As it is a major feast, it replaces the Sunday in Ordinary Time. This feast celebrates the victory of our Saviour, Jesus Christ upon the Cross. The feast has its origins in the discovery of the True Cross by Saint Helena in the year 326. Helena embarked on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Her mission was to identify significant sites from Christ's life and establish churches at these locations. In Jerusalem she aimed to find the True Cross and to build a church over the sites of Mount Calvary and Jesus' tomb, known as the Holy Sepulchre. Upon identifying Mount Calvary and the empty tomb, she discovered three discarded and buried crosses. After an investigation, the local bishop confirmed they were the crosses used to crucify Jesus and the two thieves. Saint Helena did not know which cross was Christ's, so she arranged for a sick woman to touch all three. The woman was immediately healed upon touching one of them, indicating that it was the True Cross. On this Feast Day, we give thanks for Christ's victory over sin and death. With the whole church we proclaim:

*"We adore you and we praise you O Christ; because by Your Holy Cross, You have redeemed the world."*

## MONTHLY EUCHARISTIC ADORATION:

This Wednesday 17th September St Patrick's Church, Newtownards 10am-4pm. Please 'sign up' for an hour of Adoration. Sign up sheet available at the back of the Church.

## ORDINATION TO THE PERMANENT DIACONATE

By the grace of God, we look forward to the Ordination to the Diaconate of Derek Le Mahieu on Saturday the 4th October in St Peter's Cathedral. Derek has conducted his pastoral placement in the Parish of Newtownards and Comber. Please keep Derek in your prayers in these coming weeks. A **Holy Hour of Prayer** for Derek will be celebrated in Saint Patrick's Church on Monday 29th September, the Feast of the Archangels 7-8pm. Please come along to pray for Derek and support him by your presence.

## INTENTIONS OF THE HOLY FATHER

Each month, through the Worldwide Prayer Network, the Holy Father announces his intentions for prayer. During the month of September we are invited to join with Pope Leo XIV for the following intention in our daily prayers:

*-Let us pray that, inspired by Saint Francis, we might experience our interdependence with all creatures who are loved by God and worthy of love and respect.*

## IN SUPPORT OF HUMAN LIFE

Each weekend in the parish bulletin we will be including a focus for daily prayer for the protection of human life in our world.

*-This weekend we celebrate the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. Let us pray that generations to be born will experience the saving power of Christ.*

### **WE PRAY FOR OUR DEAD**

#### ***Recently Deceased:***

Mario Crawford, Margaret McAuley, Gene Cisliauskiene, Jane Lynch,  
Deacon Mark Lenaghan

#### ***Anniversaries:***

Dominic Faloon, Harold Gamble, Ciara and Jack McGahey, Joy and Ken Banks,  
Moirá McMullan, Margaret Paden

### **Requiescant in Pace**

### **CARE OF THE SICK IN HOSPITAL**

Each hospital has an appointed Chaplain, whose Ministry to the sick includes visiting patients in the hospital, administering the Sacrament of the Sick celebrating the Sacrament of Confession, and attending emergencies within the hospital. Fr Henry McCann and Sister Ann are the appointed chaplains at the Ulster hospital. Fr Conor Mc Grath and Fr Brian McCann also provide cover for emergency sick calls at certain times each week. When requiring a priest to visit a sick family member in hospital, the staff in the ward will contact the SWITCHBOARD of the hospital, who will in turn contact the priest who is on duty.

#### **THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY**

Weekly Offering £1451

#### **Non-stop Draw Week 20**

£100 Kieron and Joanie Mc Kenna

£50 James and Sam Pyper

#### **BETHANY BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT**

07513 195580

#### **SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL HELPLINE**

07738837984

**ST PATRICKS IRISH DANCING CLUB CLASSES** Resume at 10am on Saturday 30th August in St Patrick's Parish centre. Beginners welcome from 3 years up. No experience necessary. For more information contact Gemma and Angela at [stpatrickside@gmail.com](mailto:stpatrickside@gmail.com).