



Parish of Newtownards & Comber

(a parish within the Ards Family of Parishes)

Sunday 28th September 2025

26th Sunday of Ordinary Time Year C

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.

BENEDICTION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

This Friday will be the first Friday. Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament will take place after 9.30am Mass.

MASSES IN THE PARISH DURING THIS WEEK

MONDAY

Newtownards 9.30am

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.

PARISH WHATSAPP COMMUNICATION

A whatsapp method of communication within the parish exists; its purpose is to disseminate important information within the parish, e.g. temporary changes to weekday Mass-time. If you are not included already, but would like to be, please contact Aine in the sacristy, or contact the parish office.

ORDINATION TO THE PERMANENT DIACONATE

By the grace of God, we look forward to the Ordination to the Diaconate of Derek Le Mahieu this coming Saturday, 4th October in St Peter's Cathedral. Derek has conducted his pastoral placement in the Parish of Newtownards and Comber. in recent months. Many parishioners have got to know him and have benefitted from his pastoral work. Please keep Derek in your prayers at this time.

A *Holy Hour of Prayer* for Derek will be celebrated in Saint Patrick's Church this Monday 29th September, the Feast of the Archangels 7-8pm. Please come along to pray for Derek and support him and his family by your presence on Monday evening.

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. During the coming week we are invited to pray for the following intention: - *this week we will be celebrating the feast days of both St Therese of the Child Jesus and St Francis of Assisi. Let us pray with their powerful intercession for governments, locally and internationally, that they would anchor themselves on the desire to protect all human life.*

OUR LADY'S ROSARY FESTIVAL 2025 4th to 12th October

Organised by the Legion of Mary & Knights of Saint Columbanus.

Come and join is for a week of events to honour Our Lady, ending with the Annual Belfast Rosary Procession on 12th October

Saturday 4th October

The Camino of St Michael the Archangel beginning with 11.30am Mass in St Michael's Church, Finaghy Road North. Visits to nine churches honouring the nine choirs of angels finishing at St Mary's, Chapel Lane.

Sunday 5th October Family Fun Day 12pm. Join us at St Colman's Hall, Lambeg for a family fun day with games, snacks, face painting, bouncy castle and much more.

Monday 6th October Ask a Catholic Priest 7pm St Paul's Parish Centre, Falls Road Got questions about the Catholic Church? Ask Father! Followed by tea & refreshments.

Tuesday 7th October From gangland to promised land 7pm St Anne's Church., King-sway. Ex-London gangster John Pridmore shares his journey from crime to Christ.

Wednesday 8th October Eucharistic Healing -experience Jesus' healing love through Mary: Eucharistic Adoration, Sacrament of Confession. Where? Church of Our Lady of Lourdes, Moneyglass. 7-9pm.

Thursday 9th October Be Reconciled St Mary's Church, Chapel Lane, 6pm Eucharistic Adoration, Sacrament of Confession & Mass. Refreshments afterwards.

Friday 10th October

All Night Adoration at the Church of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Antrim Road. 8pm-8am

Saturday 11th October Youth Retreat at (16-35yrs) St Paul's Parish Centre, Falls Road. New to the faith or looking to grow deeper and build community? Join us for Mass, talks, fellowship and more

Sunday 12th October Annual Rosary Procession from St John's Church, Falls Road to St Peter's Cathedral, beginning at 2.30pm. Followed by a Catholic organization's fair in the cathedral hall.

For more information, please visit: belfastrosaryfestival.com

WE PRAY FOR OUR DEAD

Recently Deceased: Dessie Mc Guigan

Months Mind: Paul Byers

Anniversaries:

Kathleen Mc Donald, James Bailie, Tracy Patterson, Russell Bowden,
John & Etta McConnell, Owen Bleakley

Requiescant in Pace

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

St Patrick's Parish Hall, every Wednesday 2-4pm.

New and existing members welcome. Do come along and make new friends!

MARYS MEALS Marys meals are now reaching 3 million children. We are so grateful for your prayers and support. Marys meals invites you to continue to pray for their work. If you would like to volunteer or for more info contact Caoimhe on 07394564065..

SVP We are in need of a double buggy. If anyone can help please contact SVP on 07738837984. Thank you.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

Weekly Offering £1241

Autum voluntary £682

Non-stop Draw Week 22

£100 Sharon Mc Guigan

£50 Mrs C Black

£50 Iris Mc Garvey

Hearty congratulations to the winners

DOWN AND CONNOR BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY

07563195580

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL HELPLINE

07738837984

CHILDREN PREPARING TO CELEBRATE THE SACRAMENTS

Parents of children at non-Catholic schools, and who wish them to be presented for the Sacraments of First Confession, First Holy Communion and Confirmation during this school year, should contact the Parish Office, leaving name and contact details so that we can begin to organise their preparation for the respective celebration. Deadline for applications is Friday 24th October 1pm.

CARING FOR OUR NEIGHBOUR

Autumn is here. This time of year can be somewhat lonely, even depressing, particularly for those who live alone. Have you a little time available to visit someone who is lonely? Do you know someone who would like a visit? If interested, please contact Mary Boyle on 02842 520171

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

-takes place every Sunday during the 11.30am Mass in St Patrick's Church.

All children p3-p7 welcome.. Parents must complete a registration form.

ST COLUMBANUS ' COLLEGE ANNIVERSARY MASS

St Columbanus' College, Bangor will celebrate its 65th anniversary with Mass in St Comgall' Church Bangor 14th October 7.30pm. Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Alan. All past and present pupils, parents and staff all very welcome.

EXPLORING THE CATHOLIC FAITH

Thinking about becoming Catholic or want to deepen your understanding of the faith? The Diocesan RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is a journey of faith, formation, and community for adults who wish to explore the teachings of Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church. It is open to those who are not baptised, those baptised in another Christian tradition, or Catholics who wish to reconnect with their faith. The 2025-2026 programme begins on Wednesday 1st October and runs weekly from 6.30-8.00 pm at St Mary's Hall, Chapel Lane, Belfast. Sessions include prayer, teaching, discussion, and time for questions. Spouses, fiancés or friends are welcome to attend alongside participants. All are welcome, whether you are exploring faith for the first time or returning after some time away. To register or find out more, please email rcia@downandconnor.org or scan the QR code.



PREPARING FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER

This Wednesday signals to first day of October, There are two emphases during October. The month is always dedicated to Our Lady of the Rosary, and it is also a special time of prayer for the Church on the mission fields. We are encouraged to pray the Rosary each day, individually or collectively, within our families, parishes, online platforms, EWTN, and some parishioners even pray the Rosary with friends on whatsapp calls!

As we pray the Rosary, we focus on the mysteries of Christ's life; the joyful times, the experiences of his sorrows, the manifestations of his light, and indeed the experience of his glories. The rhythm of each Hail Mary enables us to pray with the heart.

During various apparitions of Our Lady in various parts of the world, which have gained the clear approval of the church, Our Blessed Mother has promised many graces resulting from the praying the daily Rosary. In fact, the Rosary kept the flame of faith alive in the church, particularly during times of persecution when Catholics were not allowed to attend Mass. Our faith too will remain alive with the help of Our Lady.

Each Hail Mary contains words taken from the scriptures 'Hail Mary, Full of grace, the Lord is with thee.'.....the words of greeting used by the Archangel Gabriel during the annunciation. Every time we pray the Hail Mary, we ask our Blessed Mother, to *pray for us sinners, now, and at the hour of our death.* Let us unite our prayers with hers during the month of October.

.....more next week!

INDOOR BOWLS New indoor Bowls Monday nights from 6.30pm till 8.30pm. Stop for tea and biscuits and a chat afterwards. Also free during the month of September. Coaching and equipment provided for all new members. St Patricks Hall Newtownards We supply everything. For more INFO contact Annette 07534333049 or Declan 07742526471 thankyou..