

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY**  
**WEEKLY OFFERING £1466**  
**MAINTENANCE FUND £742**

The second collection this weekend is the *Annual Faith & Pastoral Development* collection.

**Parish non-stop Draw Week 38**  
 £100 Irene Mc Cormack  
 £50 Billy Rowley  
 £50 Tracy Colaluca  
*Hearty congratulations to the winners*



# Parish of Newtownards & Comber

(a parish within the Ards Family of Parishes)

**Sunday 18th January 2026**

2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time– Year A



**DIOCESE OF DOWN AND CONNOR**

### MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT WEEKEND

Experience transformation in the marriage relationship! All married couples welcome.  
 Takes place in St Mary's Retreat Centre, Knock, Co Mayo Friday 20th March till 22nd March.  
 For further information, please visit [www.marriageencounter.ie](http://www.marriageencounter.ie)

### DOWN & CONNOR LOURDES PILGRIMAGE

9th-14th July 2026

We are seeking doctors, registered nurses and volunteers to care for pilgrims who need medical, nursing and personal care or assistance to make their pilgrimage to Lourdes possible.  
 This year we are especially seeking new brancardiers (adult men helpers) in addition to our medical, nursing and handmaidens teams.

### TAIZE HOLY HOUR

A Taize Holy Hour in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament will take place this Wednesday 21st January in St Comgall's Bangor 7.30- 8. 30pm. The monthly services will alternate between Bangor St Comgall's and Our Lady Of The Visitation Comber. All very welcome.

Ards CCE Traditional Music classes in St Columbanus College Bangor , Sunday afternoons also Sunday evenings in St Josephs Belfast. All instruments and all levels welcome. For more information, contact Niall on 07960072218. Also Mc Clean family concerts in the Courthouse Bangor.

### USEFUL NUMBERS

DOWN AND CONNOR BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY 07563195580  
 SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL HELPLINE 07738837984

### WEEKLY ACTIVITIES IN SAINT PATRICK'S PARISH HALL

#### *Mondays*

Indoor Bowling 7 9pm

#### *Tuesdays*

Lacemakers 2-4pm, Dance Class 6.30-7.15pm

#### *Wednesdays*

Friendship Club 2-4pm Pickle Ball 7-9pm

#### *Thursdays*

Line Dancing 7 9pm

#### *Fridays*

Tippy Toes (parents and toddlers) 9 30 11.30am Parish Youth Club 7-9pm

#### *Saturdays*

Irish Dancing 10 –12 noon

### PARISH PRIEST

Very Rev. Brian McCann PP  
 Tel: 028 91812137

### PERMANENT DEACON

Rev. Derek Le Mahieu

### 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](mailto:newtownards@downandconnor.org)

Parish website:

[www.newtownardsandcomberparish.com](http://www.newtownardsandcomberparish.com)

### ST PATRICK'S PARISH HALL

Brian McDonald 028 91815051 for all enquiries.

### CONTACTING THE PARISH OFFICE

Please note the parish office hours:

Monday, Wednesday and Friday 10am-1pm.

During this time, our Parish Secretary, Gail will be happy to deal with many matters including receiving visitors to the parish office, answering the parish telephone, issuing of sacramental certificates, collating information for the parish bulletin, and much more. Parishioners are encouraged to conduct routine matters during these hours.

In addition, outside of parish office hours, the parish now has an answering machine, In cases of **emergency**, that is, for urgent sick calls when a parishioner is seriously ill, and the immediate attention of a priest is required, the answering machine message provides clear instructions as to how contact can be made with Fr Brian in such emergencies.

### MASSES DURING THIS WEEK

#### MONDAY

NO MASS

**TUESDAY** Comber 7.30pm

#### WEDNESDAY

Newtownards 9.30am

#### THURSDAY

Newtownards 9.30am

#### FRIDAY

Newtownards 9.30am

#### SATURDAY

Vigil Mass Newtownards 6.30pm

#### SUNDAY

Comber 10am, Newtownards 11.30am

### SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION

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

Saturday 5.45pm+ in St Patrick's

Tuesday evening 7pm+ in Comber

Friday morning 9am+ in St Patrick's

### THE DIVINE OFFICE

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

### OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP

The Tuesday evening Mass each week in the Church of Our Lady of The Visitation is offered as a novena Mass in honour of Our Lady Of Perpetual Help.

### PRAYING OF THE HOLY ROSARY

Tuesdays 7-7.15pm in Comber

Saturday 6-6.15pm in St Patrick's

Sunday 9.30-9.45 in Comber

*Mass will be preceded by 15 minutes silence*

### CELEBRATION OF THE SEASON OF ORDINARY TIME

The liturgical calendar of the Church is defined by various seasons. Now that the Season of Christmas has concluded with the celebration of the Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord last Sunday, we enter the Season of Ordinary Time, which will take us to the beginning of Lent. During this season, in the Gospels, we encounter the beginnings of Our Lord's ministry and teachings. The colour of the liturgical vestments is green, reminding us of the new life we receive in Christ.

In the words of Our Lord as recorded in Saint John's Gospel:

*'I came that you may have life, and have it to the full.'* (John 10:10)

### DEDICATION OF THE DAYS & MONTHS OF THE YEAR

Each month of the year is dedicated to a particular devotion within the Catholic faith. The dedication of each month is based on historical events or a particular aspect of the liturgical calendar, focused on some particular mystery of the faith, or particular saint. Focusing on the particular devotion can help bring variety to the forms of prayer and help growth in understanding of the various mysteries of the faith. You will find the suggested devotions for the particular months:

January --	The Holy Name of Jesus
February --	The Holy Family
March --	Saint Joseph
April --	The Holy Eucharist
May --	The Blessed Virgin Mary
June --	The Sacred Heart of Jesus
July --	The Precious Blood of Jesus
August --	The Immaculate Heart of Mary
September --	The Seven Sorrows of Mary, the Sorrowful Mother
October --	The Holy Rosary
November --	The Holy Souls in Purgatory
December --	The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Similarly, each day of the week is dedicated to a particular intention in our prayer:

Sunday	The Blessed Trinity
Monday	The Holy Angels
Tuesday	The Holy Apostles
Wednesday	Saint Joseph
Thursday	The Holy Eucharist
Friday	The Passion of Our Lord
Saturday	The Blessed Virgin Mary

### WE PRAY FOR OUR DEAD

#### Recently Deceased:

Anthony Waugh, Fr Eugene Hasson, Val Meredith

**Months Mind:** Pat Deaney

#### Anniversaries:

Dolours Robinson, Michael Corcoran, Bishop Daniel Mageean, Alan George, Lil and Frankie Kennedy, James McDonagh, Robert and Greta Bowden, Elanor & Kiernan McErlane, Kay Clarke, Leonora Williams (1st,) Charles Twite, Wilfred Roul, Lawrence Gillespie, Eilis Kennedy & Rosie McVeigh, Michael Mc Bratney, Alan Irvine, Linda O'Neill Mary Kennedy. David Mc Mullan.

### IN SUPPORT OF HUMAN LIFE

During this week we are asked to pray for the following intention:

– As we just enter a week of prayer for Christian unity, let us pray that all Christians might express our shared love of Christ in charity towards the most vulnerable, including the sick, the poor, and the unborn.

### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

The monthly Eucharistic Adoration in Newtownards & Comber parish will take place in St Patrick's Church this Wednesday 21st January 10am until 4pm. 'Sign-up' rota sheets are available at Masses next weekend. Please consider spending some time in prayer on that day. In that way participants can help to ensure that the Blessed Sacrament is always attended.

### WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

**18th-25th January 2026**

The annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity commences today Sunday 18th January and continues until next Sunday 25th January.

This celebration provides an opportunity to focus our prayers on Christian unity and to know that we are joining with fellow Christians in praying for the unity of the Church. This year's theme is taken from Saint Paul's letter to the Ephesians, which includes the words:

*'There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were all called to the one and same hope when you were called.'*

(Ephesians 4:4).

Paul's epistles stress the importance of unity within the Church, urging us to live lives worthy of our calling with humility, gentleness, patience and love (Ephesians 4:1-3). This particular piece of sacred scripture summarises the teachings of Paul about unity, emphasising here, too, that the followers of Christ represent 'one body and one Spirit', united in a single hope. This metaphor signifies the Church as a unified entity transcending barriers of geography, nationality, ethnicity and tradition. Paul uses the metaphor of the Church being the body of Christ to describe its unity within the diversity of its members.

Locally this weekend there will be a Church Unity Service in  
Saint Mary's Church of Ireland,  
The Square, Comber  
at 6.30pm Sunday 18th January

Please consider going along to represent the Parish of Newtownards & Comber.

### PRAYING THE MASS

Mass response cards are available in both churches of the parish; they contain the prayers and responses used during the celebration of Mass. An idea for parents: you may consider helping your child to follow the Mass by helping him/her to learn and use the various responses.

### SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Please remember in your daily prayer those who are preparing for the sacraments, including the children in our parish schools who will be celebrating the sacraments of First Confession, Confirmation and First Holy Communion. We also remember those who are participating in the RCIA course in our diocese, and who will be received into the Church on Holy Saturday evening.

### THE BEGINNING EXPERIENCE

Beginning Experience is a peer ministry to the bereaved, separated and divorced, based within the Family Ministry of the Diocese of Down and Connor. We are offering a support programme over three Saturdays during the spring and would be most grateful if you could include the following information in your Church Bulletin at your earliest convenience. The loss of a partner through death, separation or divorce is devastating. Beginning Experience is offering a programme of bereavement support in St Bride's Hall, Derryvolgie Ave., Belfast on three Saturdays (31st January, 28th February and 28th March) Booking essential. To find out more, contact Pauline 07519289185 or Marie 07896119669 or email [belfastbe@yahoo.com](mailto:belfastbe@yahoo.com)