

Thanks to those who gave so generously to the Weekly Offering collection of last weekend which came to £1720 and the Monthly Offering which came to £1131.
This weekend, there are two collections: the *Weekly Offering* in support of the parish and the *Parish Maintenance Collection*

NEWTOWNARDS & COMBER PARISH NON-STOP DRAW
Winners for Week 20
£100 no.311 Bernice Anderson
£50 no.127 Julie Leckey
£50 no.303 Ronald Smyth
Congratulations to all the winners!!!

8th September 2026

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION IN THE DIOCESE OF DOWN & CONNOR
Down & Connor Diocese is renewing and developing its Diocesan Adoration Lay Committee in order to increase the practice of Eucharistic Adoration in parishes throughout the diocese.
You are welcome to attend an information evening at one of these two venues:
Thursday 1st October The Parish Centre, 2 Broughshane Rd, Ballymena at 8pm
Friday 2nd October St Patrick's Centre, Market St, Downpatrick at 8pm
Registration from 7.30pm

SAINT PATRICK'S YOUTH CLUB
St Patrick's Youth Club usually takes place September to April on Friday evenings in St Patrick's Hall, 7-9pm. Generations of children and young people have been members of the club, and have benefitted greatly from their experiences over the years. The club caters for the P3-P7 age group. In order to comply with statutory and diocesan requirements, volunteers are required for the re-commencement of the Youth Club. As an adult, if you are interested, or to find out more, please provide your name and telephone number and kindly leave your details into the sacristy or the post-box at the parish office.. Students at university could also benefit from the experience in their C.V! Expressions of interest will be passed onto the youth club committee. Training and safeguarding training will be organized for volunteers.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB
The Friendship Club resumes in St Patrick's Hall on Wednesday 23rd September 2-4pm
Do come along to make and renew friendships.
The friendship club provides many opportunities for company, conversation, activities with many events organized throughout the year.
Please spread the word-invite friends along too!

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL
Sincere thanks to those who regularly donate to the SVP box at weekend Mass.
Your generosity helps many needy individuals and families in these challenging times.

USEFUL NUMBERS
DOWN & CONNOR BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY 07563195580
SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL HELPLINE 07738837984 ST PATRICK'S FUNERAL CATERING TEAM 07769796997

DAY OUT BUS TRIP
Faith-Heritage-Community
Explore, Experience, Enjoy Together
Visit to Glenshane Country Farm, Gorta Experience at Friel's, Dinner at Friel's Bar, Swatragh
Thursday 24th September leaving Portaferry at 9am sharp, returning 6pm
Contact Seamus Dorrian on 07813968171



Parish of Newtownards & Comber
(a parish within the Ards Family of Parishes)
Sunday 13th September 2026
Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time-
Year A



DIOCESE OF DOWN AND CONNOR

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

Email: newtownards@downandconnor.org
Parish website:
www.newtownardsandcomberparish.com
Facebook: Parish of Newtownards & Comber
ST PATRICK'S PARISH HALL
Brian McDonald 028 91815051 for all enquiries.

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 to celebrate the Sacrament of Confession at the following times:
Tuesday 7pm+ in Comber
Friday morning 9am+ in St Patrick's
Saturday 5.45pm+ 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
Saturday 6-6.15pm in St Patrick's
Sunday 9.30-9.45am in Comber
Tuesday 7pm in Comber
Mass will be preceded by 15 minutes silence

NEWTOWNARDS & COMBER PARISH-OUR MISSION
Responding to our baptismal call, we come together in prayer and worship to celebrate the word and the Eucharist. Having been fed at these tables we are sent out to witness to Christ by announcing and living out the Gospel. In this way we pass on the gift of faith to future generations.

MONTHLY EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

This coming Wednesday, 16th September, you are invited to participate in a time of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament in Saint Patrick's Church. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will commence at the conclusion of the 9.30am Mass and will continue until 4pm when Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament will take place. Please consider 'signing-up' in advance using the sign-up rotas available at the back of both churches this weekend. This will help to ensure that we have an adequate number of adorers in the church at any given time.

In the words of Mother Teresa:

"Every Holy Hour we make so pleases the Heart of Jesus that it is recorded in Heaven and retold for all eternity!"

CONTINUOUS PRAYER FOR MARRIAGE & FAMILY LIFE

Following on from our recent Parish Prayer Day on the 7th of the month, we are asked to remember in daily prayer the following intention:

We pray for those going through the difficult and painful experience of divorce and separation.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY IN NEWTOWNARDS & COMBER PARISH

St Patrick's Church hosts the Children's Liturgy at the 11.30am Mass each Sunday. All children aged 6 to 11 are welcome. New registration/consent forms need to be completed for all children attending. Forms can be obtained from children's liturgy team-members at the 11.30am Mass. Please return completed forms in a sealed envelope to the sacristy. Any adults who would be interested in assisting with Children's Liturgy would be most welcome.

Please speak to the members of the children's liturgy team after Mass this weekend.

BE STILL AND KNOW-The Art of Silent Prayer

If you are interested in learning more about how develop silent prayer, do come along this Thursday evening at 7pm to St Patrick's Racquets Club. Cup of tea/coffee also available!

WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED IN HELPIING THE BEREAVED

On-going support of the bereaved, in terms of offering a listening ear, support, reassurance and company is an important aspect of the church's ministry of consolation. Training has been organized in the Pathways to the Future Office in this diocese. Application forms are available in the church sacristies after Mass.

'TIDY-UP' SATURDAY-

Saturday 17th October 10am-12noon.



Have you an hour or two to spare on Saturday 17th October
We plan to host a 'tidy-up' Saturday for the grounds around St Patrick's Church..
As autumn sets in, and in advance of winter, you are invited to come along to help.

Refreshments will be provided. Bring along your rakes, brushes, shovels, buckets and gloves.
We will meet at the minor hall at St Patrick's at 10am.

WE PRAY FOR OUR DEAD

Recently Deceased:

Desmond Donaghy

Anniversaries:

Margaret Paden, Dominic Faloon, Moira McMullan, Margaret Byers, Hugh Murray,
Vera McGrory, Philomena Crummy.

IN SUPPORT OF HUMAN LIFE

-Let us pray for our society, that we would promote a culture that values life, and that we would seek the protection of all humans from conception to natural death.

CATHOLIC MEN'S RETREAT-STANDING IN THE BREACH

A Catholic Men's Retreat will take place in Portglenone Monastery on
Saturday 19th September from 9am to 1pm.

The theme of the retreat is :

"It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me." (Galatians 2:20.)

The morning will include prayer, teaching, fellowship and men's testimonies with

Fr Eddie McGee as the keynote speaker. All men are welcome!

For further information, contact Thomas Carey on 07967 620435.

HOLY FATHER'S INTENTIONS

During the month of September, Pope Leo invites to join with him in prayer for the following intention:

For the care of water

Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.

- further information, visit www.popesprayer.va- includes monthly podcasts by Pope Leo

PARTICIPATION IN THE HOLY MASS-- Scripture Verses.

For those who would like to prepare for Mass in advance:

This Sunday 24th Ordinary Time-Year A

First Reading Sirach 27:30-28:7

Psalm 103

Second Reading Romans 14:7-9

Gospel Matthew 18:21-35

Next Sunday 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time-Year A

First Reading Isaiah 55:6-9

Psalm 145

Second Reading Phillipians 1:20-24, 27

Gospel Matthew 20:1-16a

PIONEER GATHERING-- Sunday 27th September

A meeting for all Pioneers who are interested in helping to renew and strengthen the Pioneer Association in Down & Connor will take place on Sunday 27th September in Holy Family Church, Newington Avenue, Belfast. This gathering is open to all Pioneers, especially those who would like to support a fresh start, new energy and renewed commitment within our diocese.

ABIDE IN HIS LOVE WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

Great Northern Hotel, Bundoran November 20th-22nd

Speakers include: Sarah Swafford, Danielle Noonan, Nashville Dominicans,
Kimberlee Wooling, Fr Barry Braum and Bishop Fintan Gavin, (Bishop of Cork & Ross.)

Book on [Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk): tickets €70 + Eventbrite fees, or €50 for students.