

Thanks to those who gave so generously to the Weekly Offering collection of last weekend which came to £1465, and the Autumn Voluntary Collection which came to £1096.

This weekend, there is one collection: **Weekly Offering** in support of the parish.



Parish of Newtownards & Comber

(a parish within the Ards Family of Parishes)

Sunday 27th September 2026

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in
Ordinary Time-
Year A



DIOCESE OF DOWN AND CONNOR

NEWTOWNARDS & COMBER PARISH NON-STOP DRAW

Winners for Week 22 22nd September 2026

£100	no. 227	Ella & Rowan Ferguson
£50	no. 42	Jimmy McInerney
£50	no. 376	Linda Higginson

Congratulations to all the winners!!!

The Goodness of God

Floral & Harvest Exhibition

Saint Joseph's Church, Ballycran

Thursday 1st October 12noon until Thursday 8th October 7pm

All welcome to visit.

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!

TIPPY TOES Mothers & Toddlers Group

Every Friday morning during term--time in St Patrick's Parish Centre 9.30-11.30am

Join us for some breakfast

£3 includes toast, juice, tea/coffee

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.

Also: donations of non-perishable food items can be deposited in the 'Food-Bank' containers in both churches and will be passed onto the local foodbank for distribution.

USEFUL NUMBERS

DOWN & CONNOR BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY 07563195580

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL HELPLINE 07738837984 ST PATRICK'S FUNERAL CATERING TEAM 07769796997

St Patrick's Irish Dancing Club

Classes have resumed/ 'Little Cygnets' parent and toddler class Saturdays 10-10.30am

For info email stpatricksidc@gmail.com

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.

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.

POPE LEO'S APOSTOLIC VISIT TO FRANCE



On Friday last, Pope Leo XIV travelled to France. His initial stop-off was the city of Paris, where he visited the recently restored Notre Dame Cathedral and celebrated a prayer vigil with young people at the Stade de France in Saint-Denis. On Saturday and Sunday he will be visiting Lourdes, where he will celebrate Mass, and meet the sick and infirm. His final will be the city of Metz, visiting the Cathedral of Saint Stephen. The logo for the visit incorporates the stained-glass windows reminiscent of the rose windows of France's Gothic cathedrals, symbolizing the beauty of communion and unity within the Church. At the centre of the logo, according to an official statement, are a pointed Gothic arch and the Cross, expressing "the apostolic and liturgical dimension of the journey." A dove, representing the Holy Spirit, carries an olive branch, a sign of peace for humanity. Shades of blue, white, and red—together with the yellow-orange of light and the green of hope—combine the colors of France with those of the Vatican.

SATURDAY EVENING EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

We will have an opportunity for silent adoration next Saturday 3rd October 5.30-6.30pm in St Patrick's Church in advance of the Parish Prayer Day, which will take place the following Wednesday 7th October.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY IN NEWTOWNARDS & COMBER PARISH

-every Sunday during the 11.30am Mass in St Patrick's Church
Children aged 6-11 welcome

PRAYING THE FAMILY ROSARY AT HOME

This Thursday, 1st October, 1000's of children from schools and parishes in Rome will join the Holy Father at the Lourdes Grotto in the Vatican Gardens, marking the beginning of the "One Million Children Praying the Rosary" initiative promoted by Aid to the Church in Need. The event will begin at 5:00 p.m., with the Pope joining the children later to pray the Rosary. The campaign is inspired by the words attributed to Saint Padre Pio of Pietrelcina: "When one million children pray the Rosary, the world will change." The invitation is not addressed only to children. ACN also encourages parents, teachers, priests, religious, catechists and families to pray with them. It is not necessary to pray the entire Rosary: even a single decade, prayed in faith, can become part of this worldwide chain of prayer.

Two ideas:- parents could consider praying the rosary with their children and young people at home on Thursday evening. In addition why not join in the celebration? Visit www.holysee.va

'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:

Raymond Heath, Eddie McGee, Mary O'Neill

Months Mind: Desi Donaghy, Kathleen Crone

Anniversaries:

John & Etta McConnell, Russell Bowden, Terence Carnie, James Bailie, Tracey Patterson,

IN SUPPORT OF HUMAN LIFE

During this week we are asked to pray:-*let us pray that the human dignity of those with disabilities, the homeless, and the unborn is always respected and protected.*

GROTTO IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES

To celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary on Wednesday 7th October, the Lourdes Grotto in the grounds of St Patrick's will be re-dedicated at the 9.30am Mass. Please God, the weather will be pleasant. We will meet at the grotto at 9.30am for the blessing and re-dedication, and then process into the church for the celebration of Mass. Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, pray for us.

Catholic Mothers Ireland -

are holding our Ulster Retreat Day on Saturday, 3rd Oct, from 10am-6pm at Benburb Priory. For further details visit facebook Catholic Mothers Ireland

PARTICIPATION IN THE HOLY MASS-- Scripture Verses.

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

This Sunday-26th Sunday in Ordinary Time-Year A Next Sunday 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time-Year A

First Reading Ezekiel 18:25-28

First Reading Isaiah 5:1-7

Psalm 24

Psalm 80

Second Reading Phillipians 2:1-11

Second Reading Phillipians 4:6-9

Gospel Matthew 21:28-32

Gospel Matthew 21:33-43

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.

OUR LADY'S ROSARY FESTIVAL

will take place from 12th to 18th October 2026. Join us for a week of events to honour Our Blessed Lady, ending with the annual Belfast Rosary Procession. The procession will leave St Malachy's Church, Alfred St, Belfast at 2.30pm on Sunday 18th October, and finish at St Peter's Cathedral. A full list of events can be found on the poster at the back of the Church and online at belfastrosaryfestival.com

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.com): tickets €70 + Eventbrite fees, or €50 for students.