



PARISH OF NEWTOWNARDS & COMBER
MISSION SUNDAY- YEAR A
18TH OCTOBER 2026 **DIVINE OFFICE PSALTER: WEEK 1**



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

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 9am+ in St Patrick's

Saturday 5.45pm+ in St Patrick's

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.

MASSES DURING THIS WEEK

MONDAY

No Mass

TUESDAY

Comber 9.30am

WEDNESDAY

Newtownards 9.30am

THURSDAY

Newtownards 9.30am

FRIDAY

Newtownards 9.30am

SATURDAY

Vigil Mass Newtownards 6.30pm

SUNDAY

Comber 10am, Newtownards 11.30am

DIVINE OFFICE

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

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP

The Tuesday evening Mass in the Church of Our Lady of the Visitation, Comber is offered as a novena Mass in honour of Our Lady of Perpetual Help. All welcome!

CELEBRATION OF BAPTISM & MARRIAGE

For enquiries, contact the Parish Office on 02891812137

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

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

PARTICIPATION IN THE HOLY MASS-- Scripture Verses.

This Sunday 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time -Year A(Mission Sunday) Next Sunday 30th Sunday Ordinary Time-Year A

First Reading Isaiah 45:1, 4-6

First Reading Exodus 22:20-26

Psalms 95

Psalms 18

Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5

Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 1:5-10

Gospel Matthew 22:15-21

Gospel Matthew 22:34-40

CONTINUOUS PRAYER FOR MARRIAGE & FAMILY LIFE

During this month of October we are asked to pray for MERCY and FORGIVENESS in marriage and in family life.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THIS MONTH

Pope Leo invites us to pray with him during the month of October, for mental health ministry:

-Let us pray that the mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses.

This weekend, the Holy Father invites all Catholics to support *Missio* – his charity for world mission – through a special collection. This day of prayer, solidarity and giving unites Catholics worldwide to share the Good News of God's love which has the power to transform lives and heal our world. To donate, use the *Missio* envelopes, or call [00353 1 497 2035](tel:0035314972035) (office hours) or visit www.wmi.ie to give a gift, set up a Direct Debit and Gift Aid your donation if possible.

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*

PRAYING FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Recently Deceased: Patricia (Pat) Delaney-Australia

Months Mind: Raymond Heath

Anniversaries:

Helena & Thomas McCullough, Bernard Croan,
Kathleen McCabe, Mary Magill, Eamonn Irvine, John Halton,
Annie Kearney(nee Smyth,)Nan Smyth, Mick & Molly
Monaghan, Patricia Dynes, Pat & Lily Gilmore.

WORLD MISSIONS SUNDAY-18th October

This weekend we celebrate the 100th Anniversary of World Missions Sunday, an opportunity to grow in awareness of the crucial importance of the Church's work on the mission fields.

Many missionaries work in difficult and dangerous situations. 17 Catholic missionaries died tragically in 2025, 10 of them in Africa. The missionaries who were killed included 6 priests and 2 catechists. Missionaries carry out their important work in obedience to the commission given by Our Lord: "*Go and baptize all the nations.... know that I am with you, yes, until the end of time.*"(Mt 28)

In his message for Mission Sunday this year, Pope Leo XIV states: *On World Mission Day 2026, which marks the centenary of a celebration established by Pius XI that is very dear to the Church, I have chosen the theme "One in Christ, united in mission." Following the Jubilee Year, I wish to encourage the whole Church to continue its missionary journey with joy and zeal in the Holy Spirit. This requires hearts united in Christ, reconciled communities and, in everyone, a willingness to cooperate with generosity and trust. As we reflect on being one in Christ and united in mission, let us allow ourselves to be guided and inspired by divine grace, "to renew in ourselves the fire of our missionary vocation" and advance together in the commitment to evangelization, in this "new missionary age" in the history of the Church (Homily, Jubilee of the Missionary World and of Migrants, 5 October 2025).*

MONTHLY EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

The monthly Eucharistic Adoration will take place in St Patrick's Church this coming Wednesday, beginning after the 9.30am Mass and continuing until 4pm when Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. You are encouraged to spend an half hour in adoration, praying for your intentions, your families, parish, and the needs of the Church and the world. Ideally, a minium of three adorers should be present in the church at any given time. This will help to preserve reverence and safety. Please sign up in advance; this will help in the planning for the time of adoration. Sign-up sheets are available on the display stand at the back of the Church.

ANNUAL ROSARY PROCESSION Sunday 18th October

The procession will begin at St Malachy's Church, Alfred St, Belfast at 2.30pm, processing to St Peter's Cathedral. All welcome.

SUPPORTING THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

This weekend there are two collections: the *Weekly Offering* in support of the parish and the *World Missions Sunday Collection*.

Thanks to those who contributed so generously to the collections of last weekend. The Weekly Offering came to £1607 and the Monthly Offering came to £835.

NEWTOWNARDS & COMBER PARISH NON-STOP DRAW

Week 25 13th October 2026

£100 no.144	Ezra McMullan
£50 no.252	Claire Kirkwood
£50 no.355	Sally McGreevy
£50 Collector's Prize	Heather McClean

Congratulations to all the winners!

GIVING THANKS FOR THE HARVEST

At harvest time we give thanks to God for all the gifts we have been given. St Patrick's will be decorated with harvest produce. If you would like to donate some small items of fresh fruit or vegetables to decorate the church, feel free to do so. Bring the items along early to weekend Mass(or better still to weekday Mass,) and they can be placed into the baskets in front of the sanctuary. The donations will then be given to local charities.

MASS-this coming Tuesday

Please note: this coming Tuesday 20th October, the Mass in Our Lady of the Visitation, Comber will take place at 9.30am in the morning. This will enable the pupils and staff from St. Mary's to attend Mass

IN SUPPORT OF HUMAN LIFE

During this week we are asked to pray for the protection of life: - *this Thursday, we will celebrate the feast day of Pope St John Paul II, patron saint of the Pro-Life movement. We ask for his intercession as we the church seek to support all the vulnerable, especially those at the end of their lives, and that, like him, we would become models of support and charity to all in society.*

PREPARATION FOR THE SACRAMENTS

Children in our parish schools continue to be prepared for the sacraments. For those who attend schools other than St Finian's and St Mary's, and who wish to be enrolled for the sacraments of First Confession, First Holy Communion and Confirmation, their parents can contact the Parish Office at-newtownards&downandconnor.org The deadline for enrolment is Saturday 31st October.

COELIAC INTOLERANCE

For those with a gluten intolerance, special hosts are available in both churches. The special hosts enable those with the intolerance to receive the Holy Eucharist. Please speak to the sacristans before Mass if you wish to be included.

PREPARING FOR THE MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

November Dead Lists are available after Mass this weekend. Please take a list and envelope home to record the names of your loved ones, friends, neighbours and particularly those who have no living relatives to pray for them. Please return if possible before the beginning of November. Upon return all envelopes will be opened, read and placed near the altar during the month of November. The offerings enclosed are used to support the priests of the diocese.

ANNUAL MASSES FOR THE DECEASED

On the weekend of 7th/8th November we will include in the Masses those whose funerals took place in the churches of the parish over the last twelve months. We will also welcome their family members and pray God's consolation for them.

On **Wednesday 4th November** at 7.00pm in St. Patrick's Church, Mass will be offered in memory of **ALL** our deceased children. As in previous years, their names will be placed discreetly in front of the Altar. The Parish Bereavement Care Team invite those who have suffered the tragic loss of a child, regardless of age, to contact them in confidence on 07563195580 or to speak to Bronagh or Aine, if they would like their child's name to be included.

CARE OF SAINT PATRICK'S CHURCH

Would you be interested in helping to clean St Patrick's Church ? If so, please leave your name and contact details into the sacristy; after-all, 'many hands make light work

TIDY-UP' SATURDAY

Thanks to all those who participated in the 'Tidy-up' Saturday. There was a wonderful turnout and the grounds are looking very well. Well done to all!

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

The club meets in St Patrick's Parish Centre, Newtownards every Wednesday 2pm-4pm. Do come along to form and renew friendships. The club provides many opportunities for company, conversation and activities with many events organised 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. In addition, donations of non-perishable items can be deposited in the designated containers in both churches. Donations will be passed on to the local foodbank for distribution.