

Parish of St MARY'S on the HILL 22nd February 2026

Churches: St Mary's on the Hill & St Bernard's

PRIESTS OF THE PARISH

Fr Pat Sheehan & Fr Aidan Kerr

PARISH OFFICE 028 90832979

Lorraine Carlin & Patricia Gillespie

Opens Mon – Friday 9am – 1pm

165 Antrim Road. BT36 7QR

e-mail: stmarysoth@downandconnor.org

website: www.stmarysonthehill.online

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Dan Casey, Glenwell Gdns

Maire McCullagh, Collinbridge Gnds

MONTH'S MINDS: James McKernon, Paula Gilfedder

ANNIVERSARIES: Josie, Tommy, Tom & Matthew Magill; Nora Hanna; Isaiah Curry; Frank McLean; Alphonsus Quinn; Bill Kerr; Gerry McGuinness; Fr. Raymond Murray; Peggy & Eddie Loughran; Michael Bradley; Michael Rogers; Francis Devlin; Rosemarie McClean; Freddie Pollock; Seamus McAleese; Patrick & Bernadette Ramsey.

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Sat 21 st	6.00pm	Josie, Tommy, Tom, Matthew Magill & M/M James McKernon
Sun 22 nd	9.00am	
<i>SMOTH</i>	10.00am	Bill Kerr
	11.00am	Peggy & Eddie Loughran
	12.30pm	Nora Hanna & M/M Paula Gilfedder
Mon 23 rd	9.45am	Gerry McGuinness (1 st Ann)
Tue 24 th	9.45am	Fr. Raymond Murray
Wed 25 th	9.45am	Isaiah Curry
Thurs 26 th	9.45am	Frank McLean
Fri 27 th	9.45am	Alphonsus Quinn
Sat 28 th	9.45am	Michael Bradley, Michael Rogers & Francis Devlin



We welcome

Lacie Nixon, Freddie Nixon
recently baptised in the parish.

Divine Mercy Conference 2026

Saturday 28th February

Bus will leave **St Paul's Church, Falls Road** at 7.30pm
Returning approx. 10.45/11.00pm. Yes, a long day but well worth it. Travel cost is £25 (bus price only) which must be paid when booking your seat. Failure to get 30 people the bus would have to be cancelled. Travel confirmation, 1 week before departure. Unfortunately, no refund can be given in cases of sickness etc.

Conference tickets to be bought individually at the venue £35 or Euros.

Bring enough food for lunch and dinner – there are tea and coffee stations where hot drinks and snacks can be purchased. Telephone Tina McCrory 07523824350 to book a seat on the bus.

The Good Brews Café

come along to St. Bernard's Parish Centre on

Sunday 8th March after

9am, 10am (SMOTH),

11am and 12.30pm

Masses. There will be free coffee, tea and treats for all.

Come and share the 'Good Brews' with your fellow parishioners and the priests.



St Patrick's Way Pilgrim Walk

in Downpatrick with guides Martina Purdy and Elaine Kelly on **Saturday March 14** on the 25th Anniversary of The Saint Patrick Centre. Includes the fabulous 180° IMAX film of St Patrick, with internal bus transfers, pilgrimage lunch, an authentic Camino passport and a 6 mile pilgrimage walk finishing at St Patrick's grave. A special 25% discount price is on offer of £40 (normally £55) To book ring 02844 61900 or www.thesaintpatrickcentre.com 🍀

Epilepsy Awareness Day

In Ireland today, over 45,000 people live with epilepsy. For further information, please visit www.epilepsy.ie. Purple Day (or Epilepsy Awareness Day) will take place on Thursday 26th March.

LENT

2026



PARISH LENTEN COURSE- Parish Centre **Wednesdays of Lent 7-8.30pm**

25th Feb, 4th, 11th, 18th & 25th March.



LOOKING AT THE GOSPELS

Bring along a bible (or New Testament),
have a cup of tea, learn, discuss & pray
together.

Register with QR code or the parish website.

SOMETHING NEW

BE STILL IN THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD

Learn and practice Contemplative Meditation

Monday to Thursday in

St Bernard's Church from 7.30-8am.

Begin the day by learning how to come to
'*Stillness of Body & Stillness of Mind*' in the presence
of the Lord before the Blessed Sacrament.
This ancient prayer of the Church is going through
a renewal in recent years and can be compared
to a form of Christian Mindfulness.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS AT CALVARY

A Friday challenge.



Each Friday of Lent 6.30am (approx. 15/20mins)
we will pray the Stations of the Cross
OUTSIDE at the Statue of Calvary in St Bernard's
grounds. Bring a battery candle if you have one.
In very poor weather we will gather in
St Bernard's Church.

MORNING PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

The Divine Office will be prayed on
Mondays-Wednesdays-Fridays before morning
mass 9.30 am
starting Monday 10th March.

SATURDAYS OF LENT

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament before mass
in the main body of the Church will begin at
9.15am followed by the Rosary at 9.30am,
Mass 9.45am.

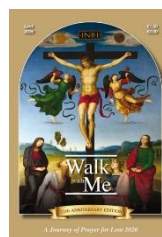
Confessions will also be heard during this time.

DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET: PRAYED & SUNG

A quiet time for prayer and reflection in front
of the image of the Divine Mercy,
Friday evenings 7.00-7.30pm.

Confessions will also be heard during this time.

A THOUGHT FOR THE DAY: Booklet



Walk with Me booklets provide a
thought for each day of Lent.
Booklets are available in the
porchway of St Bernard's Church £1
for adults.

A THOUGHT FOR THE DAY: Digital

Download this FREE Apps to your smartphone



Lektion365 is an APP for adults
which you can download to your
smart phone. It gives a thought for the
morning, midday and a night prayer.
Play it first thing in the morning, on the
way to work in the car or when you get some quiet time
before going to



Parish of St. Mary's On The Hill

Temporary Pledge for Lent 2026

Offering Prayer

*To be recited every morning and evening
Lord for your sake, for the recovery of
problem drinkers and victims of substance
abuse, to make amends to your Sacred Heart,*

and for temperance in my life

I will abstain from taking alcoholic drinks for the duration of

Lent 2026

Name

Date

Saturday 14th March 2026
Theatre at The Mill, Newtownabbey







Whitewell

Cave Hill's Lost Village



**A film by Michael McKernon about a unique community on Cave Hill.
They carried water from a local well, but despite lives of hardship and struggle
their stories reflect humour, resilience and love of Bellevue and Cave Hill.**

 **Date: Saturday 14 March 2026** Booking link: <https://theatreatthemill.com/book/?show=198001>
 **Time: 19:00**
 **Venue: Theatre at The Mill**
 **Tickets: £11.50**



Thanks to
National Lottery Players

Discernment Retreat *for* Diocesan Priesthood



*They left everything at once
and followed him.*

Luke 5:11

6th - 8th March 2026
at Drumalis Retreat House, Larne

For more details, contact

Fr. Conor McGrath

c.mcgrath@downandconnor.org

Diocese *of* Down and Connor



DOWN & CONNOR
LOURDES PILGRIMAGE

YOUTH TEAM 2026



8-15 July 2026

Online applications now open
to all 17 - 24 year olds (at time of travel)

Applications close Friday 7 March @ 5pm

£810

Fare includes: flights, shared full-board
accommodation & insurance

Scan me for the
application form



Limited Places!

For more information contact

lourdes@downandconnor.org (028) 9077 0162 downandconnor.org/lourdes

From Encounter to Mission

The Lord God has given me a disciple's tongue

(Isaiah 50: 4)



Parish Cell System of Evangelisation

National Seminar

Saturday 28th and Sunday 29th March 2026,

Drumalis Retreat Centre, Larne, Co. Antrim

For bookings, please contact Drumalis on 028 2827 2196, or 0044 28 2827 2196 from the Republic of Ireland. Website: www.drumalis.org

For enquiries please contact:

Margaret Webb: Tel. 07779 729505. (From RoI 0044 7779 729505)

Email: magswebb1@gmail.com

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Email: anne.mcferran@gmail.com



(<https://www.parishcellsireland.ie>)

TRADITIONAL MUSIC MONTHLY SEISIÚN 2 ROYAL AVENUE

SUNDAY 15 February 2026
MONDAY 16 March 2026
SUNDAY 19 April 2026

SLOW SEISIÚN: 2PM-3PM

STRONGER MUSICIANS SEISIÚN: 3PM-4PM

SEISIÚNS ARE OPEN TO ALL YOUNG TRADITIONAL MUSICIANS FROM THE GREATER BELFAST AREA.

SEISIÚNS ARE LED BY EXPERIENCED ADULT TRADITIONAL MUSICIANS/TUTORS.

Led by Glengormley School of Traditional Music in partnership with other Traditional Music providers in the greater Belfast area: Andersonstown Traditional & Contemporary Music School, BelfastTrad, An Droichead, Ionad Na Fúiseoige, Loch Lao Comhaltas and Belfast Summer School of Traditional Music.



**Belfast
City Council**



THE NATIONAL
LOTTERY



**arts
council**
of Northern Ireland