

Parish of St MARY'S on the HILL 30th Aug 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

**The Office is closed Bank holiday
Monday 31st August**

RECENTLY DECEASED

Thomas O'Boyle, Abernethy Park

Patrick McKernon, Glebecoole Pk

MONTH'S MIND

Marie Roberts

ANNIVERSARIES

Joe McCleave, John Bannon, Gerry Kearney,

Leita Quinn, Gerry Kearney, Hugh McNally,

Eileen Watton, Tommy Maguire, Jackie McCloskey, John

Whitehead, Teresa McCrory, Henry Curran, Gerard

Crossan, Joe & Dorothy Bardgett,

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Sat 29 th	6.00pm	John Bannon
Sun 30 th	9.00am	Leita Quinn & 1 st anniv Henry Curran
	11.00am	Joe McCleave & M/M Marie Roberts
Mon 31 st	9.45am	Garry Gregg & 1 st anniv Eileen Watton
Tues 1 st	9.45am	Tommy Maguire
Wed 2 nd	9.45am	Joe & Dorothy Bardgett
Thur 3 rd	9.45am	Gerry Kearney
Fri 4 th	9.45am	Jackie McCloskey
Sat 5 th	9.45am	Gerard Crossan

We welcome

Saorlaith McGorman

Mila Maclean, Grace Morgan

recently baptised in the parish.





MARRIAGE

Congratulations to

Olivia McClean & Christopher Mercer

Who celebrated the sacrament of Matrimony

FIRST FRIDAY CUPPA will be held on **Friday 4th September after the 9.45am Mass**. Why not come along and enjoy a chat over a cuppa? It will be held in St Malachy's Room behind the altar
EVERYONE IS WELCOME

Eucharistic adoration

More adorers required.

All hours available throughout the week outside of mass times. We are especially looking for more adorers on Saturdays. Is God calling you to spend a quiet hour in his presence every week?

Tel 07972103130 to join the parish adoration team.

CHILDREN ATTENDING CONTROLLED SCHOOLS

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Parishioners whose children attend controlled primary schools and wish their children to receive sacraments should contact the parish now to enquire about preparation.

Email the parish office

stmarysoth@downandconnor.org

and request a registration form.

CARMONEY CEMETERY SUNDAY

5th/6th SEPTEMBER

See details online

MASSES BACK TO NORMAL TIMES FROM THE WEEKEND 5th/6th SEPT.

St Bernard's Saturday vigil 6pm

Sunday 9am, 11am 12.30pm

St Mary's on the Hill Sunday 10am

Divine Mercy resumes on Fri 4th Sept at 7pm.



✿ 1:1 Pre-School Assistant – St. Bernard's Pre-School ✿

We're looking for a **caring, enthusiastic and dedicated 1:1 Pre-School Assistant** to join our friendly, inclusive team. ♡

The successful applicant will support a child's individual needs, helping them develop confidence, independence, communication and social skills through play-based learning. 🌈😊

We're looking for someone who is:

♡ Caring, patient & compassionate

🤝 A great team player

🦋 Passionate about children's development

☆ Committed to inclusion & safeguarding

Experience supporting children with additional needs and relevant childcare/education experience is desirable.

✉ **Apply:** stbernardsplaygroup@icloud.com

📅 **Closing date:** Friday 11th September 2026 at 5pm

If you're passionate about making a positive difference to a young child's pre-school experience, we'd love to hear from you! ✿

St. Bernard's Pre-School is committed to safeguarding and promoting children's welfare. Appropriate pre-employment checks, including an AccessNI check, will be required.



RCIA
A JOURNEY IN FAITH

Thinking about becoming Catholic or want to deepen your understanding of the faith?

The Diocesan RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is a journey of faith, formation, and community for adults who wish to explore the teachings of Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church. It is open to those who are not baptised, those baptised in another Christian tradition, or Catholics who wish to reconnect with their faith.

**The 2026–2027 programme begins on
Wednesday 1st October and runs weekly from
6.30–8.00 pm at St Mary's Hall, Chapel Lane, Belfast.**

Sessions include prayer, teaching, discussion, and time for questions. Spouses, fiancés or friends are welcome to attend alongside participants. All are welcome, whether you are exploring faith for the first time or returning after some time away.

To register or find out more, please email rcia@downandconnor.org or scan the QR code



6TH ANTRIM GLENGORMLEY SCOUT GROUP

**We need volunteers to
keep our Sections open &
grow our group!**

No Skills Needed- Just Enthusiasm!

Join your local Scout group and make a real
difference in our community.

All training provided, don't miss out.

Spaces are limited for kids, preference given
where parents are willing to volunteer.



FOR MORE INFORMATION GET IN TOUCH!



Contact Michael on
07545382120



6thantrimscouts.co.uk



**SCOUTING
IRELAND**

← Scan the QR code to get in touch!

6th Antrim Scout Group

will be holding their annual group recruitment and registration on
1st and 2nd September between 7.30 and 8.30pm, in Scout Den behind
St Bernard's Parish hall. For more information go to www.6thAntrimscouts.co.uk
or phone Michael on 07545382120 or Peter on 07921801038.

Adult Volunteers needed, spaces are limited for kids, preference given where
parents are willing to volunteer.

HOPE IN THE *Storm*



GLENGORMLEY PARISH RETREAT AT DRUMALIS SATURDAY, 3 - SUNDAY, 4 OCTOBER 2026

"When we seem to be sinking, overcome by adverse forces, when everything appears bleak and we feel alone and weak...Jesus is with us always, stronger than any power of evil. He comes to us and repeats: 'I am here with you, do not be afraid'. This is why we can get up again after every fall, not allowing ourselves to be stopped by any tempest. Rather we go forward always with courage and trust." (Pope Leo XIV Apostolic journey to Algeria, Cameroon, Angola and equatorial New Guinea, 18 April 2026)

This weekend retreat in Drumalis invites you to come into a safe place to rest a while from the "storms of life", a place where you can open your heart and listen to the Lord's message of love, grace and hope for you. In this sacred space of prayer and reflection God offers to strengthen you, heal you and encourage you to continue moving forward on life's journey; to bless you with His peace.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR TO BOOK A PLACE,
PLEASE CONTACT ANN LAWLOR - 07902405709**

DRUMALIS, LARNE, BT40 1DT



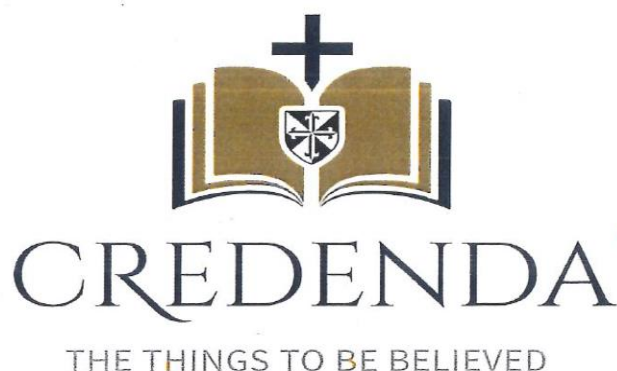
028 28272196/28276455



www.drumalis.org



katrina@drumalis.co.uk



**Begins,
Sept 2026**

A Course for Beginners in the study of Theology

No previous knowledge of Theology required.

No Exams.

No Essays.

Commitment is to:

one hour personal study per week, and
one 90min session with a Dominican Tutor.

There are 24 of these sessions, from September to May,
with sixteen of these sessions on Zoom and eight in person.

Some of the subjects studied:

The Existence of God. The Structure of Human Nature.
Habit and Virtue. The Person of Jesus Christ. The Person of the Holy Spirit.
The Sacraments . Personal Prayer. Witnessing to Christ.

Cost: €190 for the full course.



To **book your place** or for more information
email: **op.evangelisation@gmail.com**
or visit **www.dominicans.ie**



August & September 2026 @ Lough Derg

A pilgrimage has a vital part to play in our life of faith, for it removes us from our daily routines, and gives us time and space to encounter God more deeply.

Pope Leo XIV

Three Day Pilgrimages – *In the tradition of prayer, fasting and keeping Vigil*

Begin on any day of the week until Thursday 13th August.

Admission €85. Discounts available for Groups, Seniors & Students.

One Day Retreats – *Guided Days of Prayer and Reflection* - places available on

August 18th, 22nd, 23rd, 29th and 31st

September 5th, 6th, 9th, 12th, 15th, 19th and 20th

Admission €50. Group discounts available. Advance Booking Essential .

Includes Special Themed Retreats:

23rd August - St Peregrine

5th September – Pioneer Pilgrimage

6th September – St Carlos Acutis

9th & 12th September – Vocations Monstrance

19th September – Divine Mercy Pilgrimage

Heritage Day Tours – *Explore one of Ireland's most enduring and authentic spiritual destinations.* Thursday 20th August. 11am & 2:30pm

As part of National Heritage Week celebrations visitors will enjoy a guided boat trip on the lake, guided tour of Station Island and refreshments.

Admission €15. Student & Child discounts available. Advance Booking Essential.

Lakeshore Pilgrim Path Pilgrimage – *In the footsteps of pilgrims through the centuries*

Sunday 30th August. 8km & 12km routes, fully guided. Outdoor Mass weather permitting.

Admission €25. Advance Booking Essential.

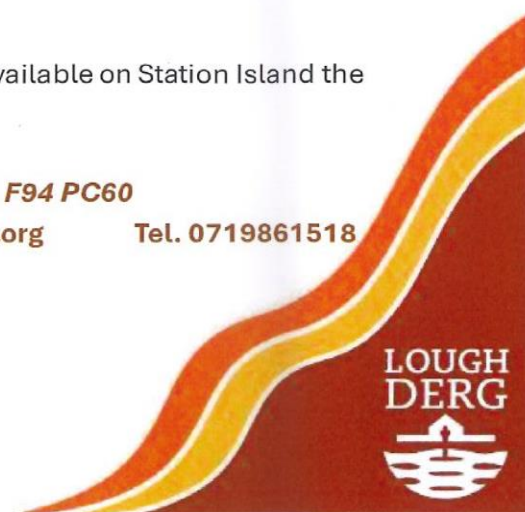
NEW FOR 2026 SEASON – Overnight accommodation available on Station Island the night before beginning a Retreat or Pilgrimage.

Lough Derg, Pettigo, Co Donegal. F94 PC60

www.loughderg.org

email. info@loughderg.org

Tel. 0719861518



STANDING — IN THE — BREACH

CATHOLIC MEN'S RETREAT



NO LONGER I WHO LIVE
but Christ who lives in me

— Galatians 2:20 —



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

FR EDDIE
MCGEE



+ MEN'S TESTIMONIES



SATURDAY, 19TH SEPTEMBER 2026



9AM – 1PM



PORTGLENONE MONASTERY

CONTACT



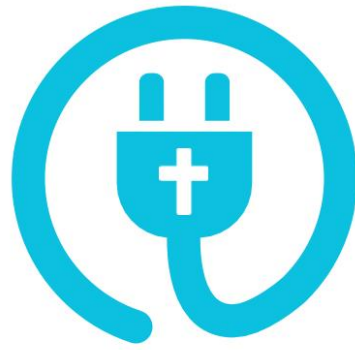
THOMAS CAREY
07967620435



SEAN@CATHOLICMINUTE.CO.UK

PRAYER • TEACHING • FELLOWSHIP





RECHARGE

Young Adult Group

Join us on the first and third Tuesday of every month to recharge your spiritual batteries through prayer, study and friendship.

First Tuesday - Adoration with Guided Meditation and Confession

Third Tuesday - Group Study Course

**St Colmcille's
Church Belfast**

7.30 PM



07481940689

<https://linktr.ee/rechargebelfast>



rechargecatholic@gmail.com



Join our WhatsApp Group

@rechargecatholic



LOCAL IRISH DANCE CLASSES SEPTEMBER

The Carson Academy of Irish Dance
welcomes **girls & boys aged 4+**
to our fun and friendly beginner Irish dance classes.

Mayfield Village Hall
Every Tuesday | 5:30–6:30pm

Glengormley Integrated Nursery School
Every Saturday | 10:00–11:00am

Classes commence **week of 7th September.**

Enquiries & Booking:
WhatsApp: **07803 785103**
Email: carson_acd@icloud.com

New beginners are very welcome!



DOWN and CONNOR DIOCESAN TRUST

BELFAST JESUIT CENTRE

VACANCY

“PASTORAL MINISTRY CO-ORDINATOR”

(FIXED TERM CONTRACT FOR 2 YEARS)

We are seeking to recruit into a 2-year Fixed Term Contract role as Pastoral Ministry Co-Ordinator based within the Jesuit Centre at 193-195 Donegall Street, Belfast, BT1 2FL.

The Pastoral Ministry Co-Ordinator will support the Director of the Belfast Jesuit Centre & Chaplain to the Ulster University, Belfast. The role holder will help nurture the emerging community involved in the growing programme of formation initiatives and offer pastoral, spiritual and community support to students of all faith backgrounds and none.

This is an exciting opportunity where you will be at the heart of creating opportunities for people to feel supported in their spiritual lives and be empowered to serve others. You will design and deliver pastoral programmes, nurture volunteers, and offer spaces of welcome, reflection, and renewal.

The post will be for 35 hours per week. In order to meet the business and pastoral needs of the role, flexibility will be required in relation to attendance and hours worked including evening work.

Salary: £29,000 gross per annum

Full details relating to the vacancy can be found on the Diocesan website at: <http://www.downandconnor.org> clicking on the tab: **JOB VACANCIES**, also on the Community NI website, <https://belfastjesuitcentre.co.uk> and nijob.com. Terms and conditions relating to the role are available via the above links, by way of a Role Profile and Employment Application form.

We welcome applications from anyone who feels they meet the criteria and are interested in playing an active role within the Diocese of Down and Connor

Closing date for applications will be 12.00 noon on Thursday 10 September 2026

Down and Connor Diocesan Trust is an Equal Opportunities Employer

COULD GOD BE CALLING YOU TO THE PRIESTHOOD?



DIOCESE OF
DOWN & CONNOR



"What are you looking for?"

— John 1:38

Do not be afraid to ask the question

"Do not be afraid. Open wide the doors to Christ."

— St John Paul II



Fr Conor McGrath

Vocations Director

✉ c.mcgrath@downandconnor.org



David Goodwin

Vocations Support Officer

✉ d.goodwin@downandconnor.org

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Lord Jesus, raise up generous men and women who will courageously answer Your call to serve Your Church as priests and religious. Open the hearts of those whom You are calling, and give them the faith, courage and freedom to say "yes" to You.

May our families and parish communities always be places where vocations are prayed for, encouraged and joyfully supported. Amen.



— A Year of — IGNATIANT PRAYER

Saturdays 10am-4pm (in-person sessions) Belfast Jesuit Centre	Wednesdays 7-8pm Online Integrative Practice Pause Points
26 th September	
10 th October	21 st October
7 th November	25 rd November
5 th December	16 th December
9 th January	20 th January
6 th February	17 th February
6 th March	Easter Break
10 th April	21 st April
8 th May	19 th May
5 th June	

Now entering its third year,
A Year of Ignatian Prayer offers a spacious,
immersive journey into Ignatian Spirituality.

Whether you are already familiar with Ignatian Spirituality, or encountering it for the first time, the programme invites you to deepen your relationship with God, grow in interior freedom, and cultivate a more attentive, discerning way of living.

The year will unfold through ten in-person days at the **Belfast Jesuit Centre**, supported by seven online *Integrative Practice Pause Points* to help you weave the graces of each session into daily life.

Across the programme we'll explore:

- St Ignatius: A Man For Our Times
- Images of God
- Approaches to Prayer: Lectio Divina, Imaginative Contemplation, the Examen, Journalling
- Finding God in all Things
- Paying Attention to Feelings: Consolation/Desolation
- Discernment
- God Calls Me
- What next?

This list offers a flavour rather than a full syllabus. Throughout, the emphasis will be on practice, experience and integration; discovering how Ignatian spirituality can take root in the rhythms of everyday life.

Scan
here to
register or
visit our
website



**Suggested
donation
£200 - £280
Bursaries
available**

Belfast Jesuit Centre . 193-195 Donegall Street . Belfast BT1 2FL
www.belfastjesuitcentre.co.uk . bjc@jesuit.ie . 0770 631 6319



The CHOSEN

Season 2



The Chosen first began as a crowdfunded project and has become a global phenomenon, watched by more than 600 million people and translated into over 50 languages.

Our journey through **Season 1** was very rich and rewarding; full of insight, warmth, and fresh ways of engaging with Scripture. Join us as we journey through **Season 2** in a gentle, reflective way.

Each Friday we'll gather for tea and coffee at **10.45am**, begin the episode at **11.00am** sharp and follow it with a gentle, reflective Examen, followed by group conversation.

We'll finish at **12.15pm** and those who are able are invited to join us for Mass at **12.30pm**.

No need to register, just come along and bring a friend.

4TH SEPT

Thunder

11TH SEPT

I Saw You

18TH SEPT

Matthew

25TH SEPT

The Perfect Opportunity

2ND OCT

Spirit

9TH OCT

Unlawful

16TH OCT

Reckoning

23RD OCT

Beyond Mountains



✉ bjc@jesuit.ie

☎ 07955282371

🌐 www.belfastjesuitcentre.co.uk