Parish of St MARY'S *on the* HILL 22nd Nov 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
Bernadette Walsh, Sandyknowes Crescent

MONTH'S MIND
Patrick McKeown

ANNIVERSARIES
Teresa & Joseph Shortt Jnr, Joseph & Matthew Short, Billy & Annemarie O'Neill, Matthew & Rose Ward, Sean McQuillan, Peggy & Robert Thompson, Debbie Magee, Margaret Rose McAtamney, Mary Milling, Seamus Armstrong, Mary Harrison, Denis Farrell, Aidan Lawlor, Patrick McGullion, John McStravick, Mary McElevey, Annie Gorman, Mary Alice Gallagher, Kevin McCaffrey, Gerry Melville.

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Sat 21st	6.00pm	Teresa & Joseph Shortt Jnr & Joseph & Matthew Short
Sun 22nd	9.00am	Matthew & Rose Ward
SMOTH	*10.00am*	*Sean McQuillan*
	11.00am	Billy & Annemarie O'Neill & M/M Patrick McKeown
	12.30pm	Kevin McCaffrey
Mon 23rd	9.45am	Mary Milling
Tues 24th	9.45am	Seamus Armstrong
Wed 25th	9.45am	Mary Harrison
Thurs 26th	9.45am	John McStravick
Fri 27th	9.45am	Denis Farrell
Sat 28th	9.45am	Aidan Lawlor



We welcome
Mía McGivern, Luán Neill, Luca Cummings, Franco Ahmed
recently baptised in the parish.



CHRISTMAS SHARING COLLECTION

Supporting a number of charities e.g. SVP, Parish Developing World Group, Friends of the Holy Land, Mary's Meals and others.
Envelopes are available in the church porchways. Indicate if you wish to Gift Aid your donation.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS & CHRISTMAS MASS BOUQUETS are now available from the Church Shop in St Bernard's.

Christmas Party Edmund Rice College

Edmund Rice College warmly invite Parishioners, Parish groups and Clubs to their annual Christmas Party on **Thursday 26th November at 10am-12 noon**. Come along for festive fun and enjoy the beginning of Christmas celebrations. Please confirm your attendance via your group or alternatively contact the school on 90848433 to reserve a place.

TROCAIRE CHRISTMAS GIFTS OF CHANGE

Will be available after all mass on the weekend of 12th & 13th December. Great Christmas gift.

Annual Mass for Deceased Diocesan Clergy & Religious
The Annual Mass for Deceased Diocesan Clergy and Religious will take place
Tuesday 24th of November 2026
St Peter's Cathedral, Belfast
7:30 pm
In particular we remember and offer Mass for those who have died in this past year.
All are welcome to join Bishop Alan McGuckian SJ as he celebrates this Mass.

Saint Vincent de Paul Senior Citizens Annual Dinner
Following discussions with some of our senior citizens this year's annual dinner will take place in mid-January. Further information on the date and venue will be issued soon.

'VACANCY'

PART-TIME COOK – JESUIT COMMUNITY, BELFAST

The Peter Faber Jesuit community based at 28 Brookvale Avenue, Belfast, are seeking to recruit a reliable and experienced part-time Cook to prepare the main meal three days per week (12 hours weekly to prepare meals for Tuesday 6.00pm, Wednesday 6.00pm and Thursday 1.00pm).
Rate of Pay: £13.20 gross per hour

We are looking for someone who takes pride in preparing nutritious and enjoyable home-cooked food. Previous professional experience would be an advantage.

To apply or make an enquiry, please contact: peterfabersj@gmail.com

Closing Date: Thursday 26 November 2026

Safeguarding & Equality

The Jesuits in Ireland are committed to the highest standards in Safeguarding and Protection of children and vulnerable adults. One of the ways we demonstrate this on-going commitment is to ensure rigorous background and reference checks for successful candidates.

Jesuits in Ireland are an equal opportunities employer and welcome applications from all suitably qualified candidates. We are committed to fairness, dignity, inclusion and respect throughout our employment practices.

We are delighted to invite you and your child to our Open Day on Friday 11th December.

Come and experience, first hand, life in St. Mary's on the Hill, including:

- Centre of pastoral excellence
- Child-centred learning and provision
- Our amazing school choir and orchestra
- Engaging interactive activities
- Enthusiastic and approachable staff

ST MARY'S ON THE HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Learn to Love, Love to Learn

OPEN DAY

FRIDAY 11th DECEMBER
9:30am



142 Carnmoney Road,
Co. Antrim, **BT36 6JU**
(028) 9083 6284

Find us on

St. MacNissi's

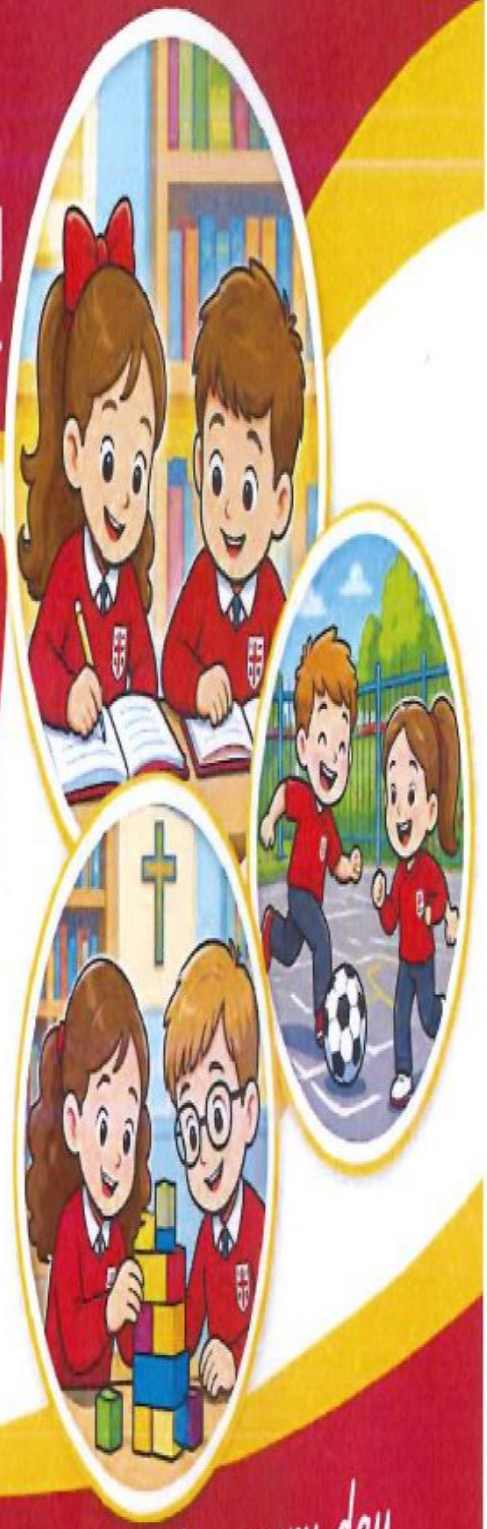
Pre-School and Primary School

Open Day

Pre-School and Primary 1

Friday 4th December 2026

9:30am - 10:30am



"A highly effective, inclusive and caring learning community."

ETI INSPECTION (NOVEMBER 2024)

Learning every day in a fun and safe way.

YOUTH 2000













YOUTH 2000
CHRISTMAS RETREAT

"HE IS THE PRINCE OF PEACE"

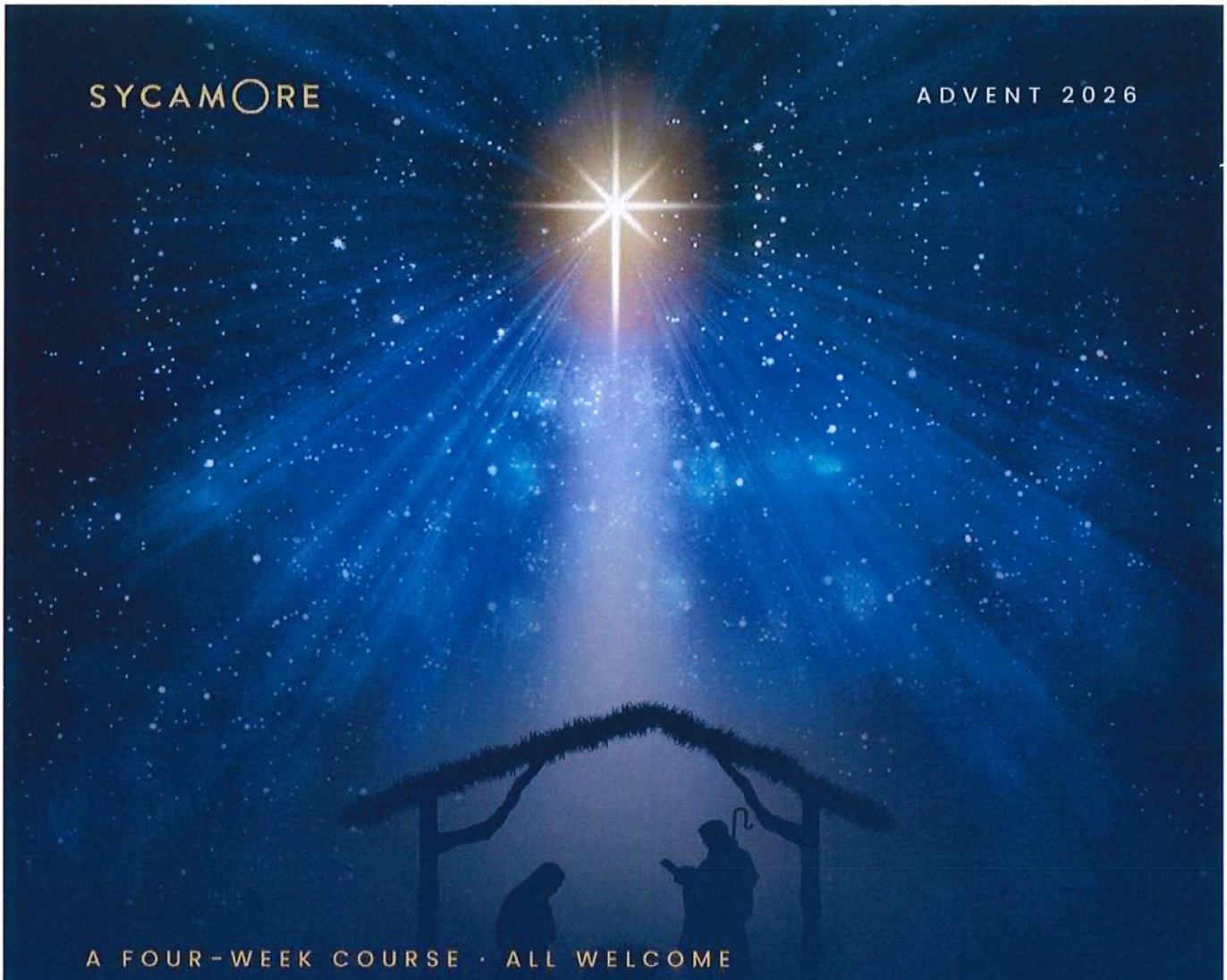
NEWBRIDGE COLLEGE, CO. KILDARE
11TH - 13TH DECEMBER 2026

FREE BUSES
DONATION ONLY

YOUTH 2000 NATIONAL OFFICE, DIVINE WORD MISSIONARIES, MOYGLARE ROAD, MAYNOOTH, CO. KILDARE,
EMAIL: OFFICE@YOUTH2000.IE | PHONE: 00353(0)16253690 REGISTERED CHARITY: CHY14874 / CRA20049713

SYCAMORE

ADVENT 2026



A FOUR-WEEK COURSE · ALL WELCOME

Make room this Advent **for the bigger questions**

Four relaxed sessions of film, conversation and friendship, exploring happiness, God, the Bible and prayer as we prepare for Christmas.

ST. GERARD'S

DIOCESE OF DOWN AND CONNOR

SYCAMORE

Sycamore: What do you believe?

1 FRIDAY 27 NOVEMBER
The Search for Happiness

2 FRIDAY 4 DECEMBER
A God Who Speaks

3 FRIDAY 11 DECEMBER
The Bible

4 FRIDAY 18 DECEMBER
The Power of Prayer

WHEN **Fridays 7.30pm**

WHERE **ST. GERARD'S - ENTER AT BACK OF CHURCH - GO UPSTAIRS**

CONTACT JAMES GILLAN – jamesmgillan@gmail.com / 078 6684 6558

BOOKING Text or email or just come along on the night

Everyone is welcome – whether you have lots of faith, a little, or none at all. No preparation needed. Just come along, watch a short film and share your thoughts over refreshments.

SYCAMORE.FM

DIOCESE OF DOWN AND CONNOR

East Coast Orchestra

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Sun Dec 6th 7.30pm

Rosemary Presbyterian Church
North Circular Road Belfast

Special Guests ~The Sanctuary Singers



Loreto McAuley ~ Conductor
Ciara Bowman ~ Piano
Naomi Hill ~ Violin

TICKETS:
Suggested donation £15 / £12
[includes refreshments]

In aid of:
Belfast Homeless Services

ECO

Tickets available from the website
eastcoastorchestra.org

t: 07979 868152
e: secretary@eastcoastorchestra.org

Trócaire

is looking for volunteers to help deliver school talks during our annual Lent Appeal during **February and March 2027!**

We are particularly interested in hearing from people with public speaking experience, especially retired teachers or those who have worked with young people. Volunteers will visit local schools during school hours to share stories of hope, justice and solidarity from communities around the world.

The role involves approximately **1-2 short talks per week** during the four-month campaign period.

Please contact Fionnuala McGuinness on 028 9080 8033 or fionnuala.mcguinness@trocaire.org by the first week of December if you are interested!

TAIZÉ PRAYER AROUND THE CROSS

You are warmly invited to Taizé Prayer Around the Cross on Friday 27th November 2026 , from 8-9pm in Holy Family Church, Limestone Road. This is an opportunity to take time out to pray with the beautiful Taizé chants, to be still and to prepare for Advent.

Everyone is very welcome, please come along and bring your friends.

Refreshments will be served afterwards in the Gathering Space.




Christmas Fair
Sunday 22nd November
10am - 2pm
Christmas Decorations
Dream Bakes
Santa's Grotto
B Creative NI
St. Bernard's Pre-school
Scentsy
Craft Stalls
Tropic Skin Care
165 Antrim Road
Glengormley
S & V design
Pastoral Centre behind the Chapel
St. Bernard's P6 for Children's Hospice
Sub Side NI
Homemade Jams
Tuck shop

A Year of IGNATIAN PRAYER

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

BELFAST JESUIT CENTRE

SONAS SUPPORT

Open Day

Discover a brighter day at Sonas Support

Day opportunities for adults aged 18+ with learning disabilities

Meet our team, explore our centre and find out what your next chapter could look like.

Families, carers and support professionals welcome.

PLACES AVAILABLE








Friday 4 December 2026

TWO SESSIONS
2:30 - 4:00 pm
5:00 - 6:30 pm

FRIENDSHIPS
Connect with others

COMMUNITY
Outings and new experiences

EVERYDAY SKILLS
Build confidence and independence

Houben Centre, 432 Crumlin Road
Belfast, BT14 7GE

028 9013 3636 | 07570 716123
info@sonassupport.co.uk

Facebook: Sonas Support
Instagram: @sonas.support