

Parish of St MARY'S on the HILL 13th Sept 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

Alex Cusick, The Cairn

MONTH'S MIND

Patricia Duffy, Jimmy Beatty

ANNIVERSARIES

Andy Gillespie, Danny McCarthy, Anne McCotter,
John & Mary Loughran, Patricia Higgins,
Thomas O'Hanlon, Rosanna Glover, Sam Palmer,
Eileen Mowbray, Peter McCarthy, Jackie Robinson,
Eleanor Dean, Nancy Mullen, Sean McGrogan,
Margaret & Patrick Darling, Felix Madden Jnr,
Pat McCamphill.

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Sat 12 th	6.00pm	Danny McCarthy & 1 st Anniv Thomas O'Hanlon
Sun 13 th	9.00am	
SMOTH	10.00am	Patricia Higgins & 1 st Anniv Rosanna Glover
	11.00am	John & Mary Loughran & 1 st Anniv Peter McCarthy & M/M Jimmy Beatty
	12.30pm	Andy Gillespie & M/M Patricia Duffy & 1 st Anniv Sean McGrogan
Mon 14 th	9.45am	Jackie Robinson & Eleanor Dean
Tues 15 th	9.45am	Margaret & Patrick Darling
Wed 16 th	9.45am	Anne McCotter
Thur 17 th	9.45am	Eileen Mowbray
Fri 18 th	9.45am	Nancy Mullen
Sat 19 th	9.45am	Sam Palmer

We welcome

Sonai Scott, Anna Finlay,

Theo Reid, Senan Hayes

recently baptised in the parish.



St. Mary's on the Hill Pre-school Playgroup

We provide education for children aged 2 years 10 months
To 4 years with a focus on play-based learning. We have
availability for children born between July and December
2023 to join us from September 2026.

For further information contact us on: 02890840777 /
07543684924 or email smothpg@icloud.com"

Eucharistic Adoration:

Down and Connor Diocese is renewing and developing its
Diocesan Adoration Lay Committee in order to
increase the practice of Eucharistic Adoration in parishes
throughout the diocese. You are welcome to attend an
Information Meeting at **ONE** of these venues:

**Thu 1st Oct The Parish Centre, Ballymena, 2 Broughshane
Rd BT43 7DX 8pm**

**Fri 2nd Oct St Patrick's Centre, Downpatrick Market St
BT30 6LZ 8pm**

Registration from 7.30pm. See poster in the church for
details.

G.I.F.T. Programme

Year 8, 9 & Year 10 PUPILS

LEARN ABOUT YOUR FAITH WITH GAMES & ACTIVITIES.
We invite our young people to share with us in celebrating
their faith, come along to the
free programme which will run
for four Sunday **evenings**
**27th September, 4th, 11th &
18th October 7pm to 8.30pm** in
the Pastoral Centre. Parents
should register online on the
parish website. or click the QR
CODE. **ALL children must be
registered to attend.**

St Marys on the Hill Sept 2026:
Gift 2, 3 & 4 (Yr8, 9 & 10)



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.



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



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

HOLY FAMILY PARISH
PRESENTS
AN EVENING OF
MUSIC
IN
HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

LIMESTONE ROAD
SUNDAY 4TH OCTOBER 2026
7PM



FEATURING:



NEIL
MARTIN



CAVEHILL
COMMUNITY
CHOIR



FRIENDS



HOLY FAMILY
CHURCH

TICKETS

£10

available from the parish office

supporting the work of
Newington Day Centre



NEWINGTON
DAY CENTRE
— Est. 1978 —



Join us for tea and coffee after.

For your comfort bring a cushion.



Queen's University Belfast

Catholic Chaplaincy

Welcome Back *Week!*



Chaplaincy
Opening!

Monday,
September 14th



First
Sunday Mass!

Sunday,
September 20th
at 7pm

28 Elmwood Ave, Belfast
qubcatholic.org

"PRAY, HOPE AND DON'T WORRY."

Saint Padre Pio



**CELEBRATION OF MASS AND BLESSING WITH
HOLY RELIC OF**

Saint Padre Pio

**WEDNESDAY, 23RD SEPTEMBER 2026 AT 7PM
SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL PARISH
171 LIGONIEL RD, BELFAST BT14 8DP**

There will be a collection to support the Parish of Saint Vincent de Paul

IRISH LANGUAGE CLASSES

Craobh Naomh Pádraig will begin Irish/Gaeilge classes on Wednesday 16 September 2026 at 7 p.m. Classes will be held in Arás Mhic Reachtain, 283-289 Antrim RD (opposite waterworks).



Term will last for 12 weeks finishing on Wed 9 December.
Cost per term for adults £30. Teenagers - no cost.
All levels available: bunrang, meánrang, meán rang uachtar, ardrang and class for teenagers.

All welcome!"

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!

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 — IGNATIAN 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.

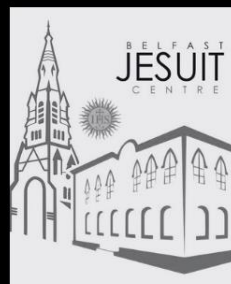
Our journey through **Season 1** was very rich and rewarding; full of insight, warmth, and fresh ways of engaging with Scripture. Join us as we journey through **Season 2** in a gentle, reflective way.

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.

4 TH SEPT	Thunder
11 TH SEPT	I Saw You
18 TH SEPT	Matthew
25 TH SEPT	The Perfect Opportunity
2 ND OCT	Spirit
9 TH OCT	Unlawful
16 TH OCT	Reckoning
23 RD OCT	Beyond Mountains



✉ bjc@jesuit.ie

☎ 07955282371

🌐 www.belfastjesuitcentre.co.uk



FRIENDS OF THE ORDER

Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem
Lieutenancy of Ireland

Help sustain the living Christian presence in the Holy Land

The Holy Land is the land of the Gospel, but it is also home to Christian families, schools, parishes and communities who need prayer, solidarity and practical support today.

Friends of the Order offers a simple way to help.

The Order is a Catholic Order under the protection of the Holy See, dedicated to supporting the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem and the Christian communities of the Holy Land.

Friends are not members of the Order but are people of goodwill who wish to support this mission through prayer, awareness and charitable giving.

Friends support helps provide:

- ✠ Catholic schools, scholarships and teacher support
- ✠ Parishes, churches, seminaries and religious communities
- ✠ Healthcare, homes for the elderly and humanitarian aid
- ✠ Projects in Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Gaza, Jordan, Galilee and the West Bank

100% of Friends' donations go directly to approved Holy Land needs, without administrative deductions.

To learn more or become a Friend:

Website: holysepulchre.ie/friends

Facebook: [EOHSJ Ireland](https://www.facebook.com/EOHSJ-Ireland)

Email: friends@holysepulchre.ie

Phone: 086 3253882

Together, we can help ensure Christianity continues to flourish in the land where Our Lord lived, died and rose again.