

Parish of St MARY'S on the HILL 27th 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

Richard Fox, Wynnland Park

Philomena Lawell, Archvale Drive

MONTH'S MINDS

Thomas O'Boyle, Louise Moody, Patrick McKernon.

ANNIVERSARIES

Tony Fisher, Joe Shortt, Elizabeth McCallion,
Winnie Larkin, Kieran Marsden & May Marsden,
Patrick McCrory, Annie Hamill & Clara McManus,
Leonard Rainey, Claire Doolan, Thomas McArdle,
Annie Pollock, Patsy Campbell, Isabella O'Hara,
Mary, Vincent, Patrick & Joan Murray.

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Sat 26 th	6.00pm	Joe Shortt
Sun 27 th	9.00am	Patrick McCrory, Annie Hamill, & Clara McManus
SMOTH	10.00am	Elizabeth McCallion & M/M Patrick McKernon
	11.00am	Kieran & May Marsden & M/M Thomas O'Boyle
	12.30pm	Tony Fisher & M/M Louise Moody
Mon 28 th	9.45am	
Tues 29 th	9.45am	Deceased members of the Murray family
Wed 30 th	9.45am	1 st Anniv Claire Doolan
Thurs 1st	9.45am	
Fri 2 nd	9.45am	Winnie Larkin
Sat 3 rd	9.45am	Leonard Rainey

We welcome

**Jacob Welsh, Hugo Halfpenny,
Sofia Thompson, Lucas McKinley**
recently baptised in the parish.



ROSARY FOR PEACE

13th-21st October at 7pm
St. Mary's on the Hill



FIRST FRIDAY CUPPA

Why not come along and enjoy a chat over a cuppa after Mass on Friday morning –
2nd October - in St Malachy's Room behind the altar?
EVERYONE IS WELCOME

CHOOSE LIFE WITNESS

Join **Precious Life** on **Monday 28th September**
at **6.15pm** at **Primark/Bank Buildings, Donegall Place, Belfast**, as we walk together to **Belfast City Hall** for a peaceful **Choose Life Witness**, opposing the planned illumination for so-called "International Safe Abortion Day."

For more information: **07592 280522**

SAVE THE DATE

The Good Brews Cafe in St Bernard's Parish Hall will be open again after ALL the Masses on **Saturday 10th and Sunday 11th October**
Come along and enjoy a FREE beverage and some sweet treats in the company of friends - both those you know AND those you don't know yet!!
Looking forward to seeing you in St Bernard's Parish Hall



OUR PARISH RETREAT IN DRUMALIS

Saturday 3rd to Sunday 4th October

Theme **HOPE IN THE STORM**

Come along and join us in Prayer,
Reflection, Rest
& Community.

For further information contact
Ann Lawlor 07887930695



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



Rosary *for* Peace



13th – 21st October 7pm

St. Mary's on the Hill



GIVE BLOOD **Save Lives**



Northern Ireland
needs 1200 blood
donations per week.

**That's 1 every 8
minutes.**

**Book now for your local
community blood donation
session!**



**Trinity Reformed Presby
Church Hall
Newtownabbey**



**Thursday 08 October
12:30 – 19:30**

**SCAN HERE
TO BOOK**



 www.NIBTS.org

Northern Ireland
Blood Transfusion Service 



WOMEN'S DISCERNMENT NIGHT

Are you a young woman discerning God's call? Join us for an evening of prayer, reflection, and fellowship with the Nashville Dominican Sisters as we explore God's call in our lives. Whether you're just beginning to ask the question or have been discerning for some time, all women throughout the Diocese aged 18-40 are welcome. Stay afterwards for refreshments and the chance to continue the conversation in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. Our guest speaker is Sr Mary Sheila Maksim OP, Vocations Director for the Diocese of Limerick.



DIOCESE OF
DOWN & CONNOR

THURSDAY 22ND OCTOBER 7PM

ST COLMCILLE'S CHURCH, BALLYHACKAMORE

RSVP TO DAVID: D.GOODWIN@DOWNANDCONNOR.ORG

**MON
12 OCT**

PENAL PERSECUTIONS

Lecture by historian A. Bede on faith in Ireland during the Penal Times

Lecture begins at 7.15pm (following the 6.30pm Mass)

Church of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Antrim Rd, BT15 3BU

**TUES
13 OCT**

TO JESUS THROUGH MARY

God Changed My Life: HM Sisters on Sr Clare Crockett, with Fr Robert Smialek & Michael McDonagh, hosted by John and Danielle Connors

7pm

St. Malachy's Church, Belfast, BT2 8EN

**THURS
15 OCT**

BE RECONCILED

An evening of Eucharistic Adoration, Confession and Nightfever

Adoration and Confession from 6pm; Mass at 9pm

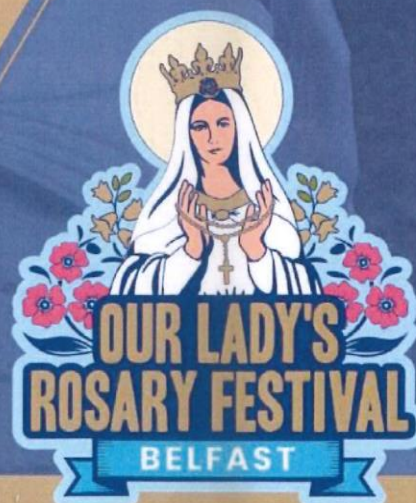
St. Mary's Chapel Lane, Belfast, BT1 1HH



**SUNDAY
18 OCT**

ANNUAL ROSARY PROCESSION

From St. Malachy's Church at 2.30pm
to St. Peter's Cathedral
Followed by Benediction and
refreshments



For more information on each event, please visit:
belfastrosaryfestival.com

COULD GOD BE CALLING YOU TO THE PRIESTHOOD?



DIOCESE OF
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"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

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🌐 www.belfastjesuitcentre.co.uk