Parish of St MARY'S *on the* HILL 29th 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
Christine (Chris) McKenna, Glencoole Park
Anne Wilson (nee Watson) Canada
Patricia Spray (nee Maguire) England)

ANNIVERSARIES
Jackie McKeown, Teresa, John & Bernice Campbell, Ann Heaney. Elizabeth McCotter, Alice McKernon, Jim & Patricia McBride, Eilish & Geordie Douglas, Frank Mullan, Bernadette Joyce, John Hughes, Peggy McLaughlin, Dermot Corrigan, Stephen McWilliams.

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Sat 28th	6.00pm	Ann Heaney
Sun 29th	9.00am	Alice McKernon
SMOTH	*10.00am*	*Frank Mullan*
	11.00am	Jackie McKeown
	12.30pm	Teresa, John & Bernice Campbell
Mon 30th	9.45am	Elizabeth McCotter
Tues 1st	9.45am	Jim & Patricia McBride
Wed 2nd	9.45am	Special Intention
Thurs 3rd	9.45am	Anne Wilson (rec dec)
Fri 4th	9.45am	Special Intention
Sat 5th	9.45am	Eilish & Geordie Douglas



We welcome
Freya Burns, Oisín Monaghan
recently baptised in the parish.

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MARRIAGE
Congratulations to
Niamh Bannon & Patrick Devlin
Who celebrated the sacrament of Matrimony



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.

TROCAIRE CHRISTMAS GIFTS OF CHANGE
Will be available after all mass on the weekend of 12th & 13th December. Great Christmas gift.



FIRST FRIDAY OF ADVENT CUPPA
Come along and get Advent off to a good start 🎄🌟 Enter into the Christmas spirit and get your cuppa after Mass on Friday morning - 4th December - in St Malachy's Room behind the altar
🎄🌟**EVERYONE IS WELCOME** 🌟🎄

ROSARY PROCESSION FOR LIFE
Join us for a Candlelight Rosary Procession through Belfast City Centre on the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Saturday 12th December. Meet at St Malachy's Church, Alfred Street, at 4.15 pm. Come and pray with us for the protection of unborn children.

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.

The Legion of Mary invites you on

THE JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM

A morning retreat with Fr Columba Mary OP

Take time this Advent to pause, pray and prepare your heart for the coming of Christ

10 am - Confessions available
11 am - Holy Mass (First Saturday)
11.45 am - Brunch
12.15 pm - Talk on Advent
1 pm - Finish



SATURDAY 5TH DECEMBER
HOLY FAMILY CHURCH, BELFAST

226-228 Limestone Road, BT15 3AP

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.

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

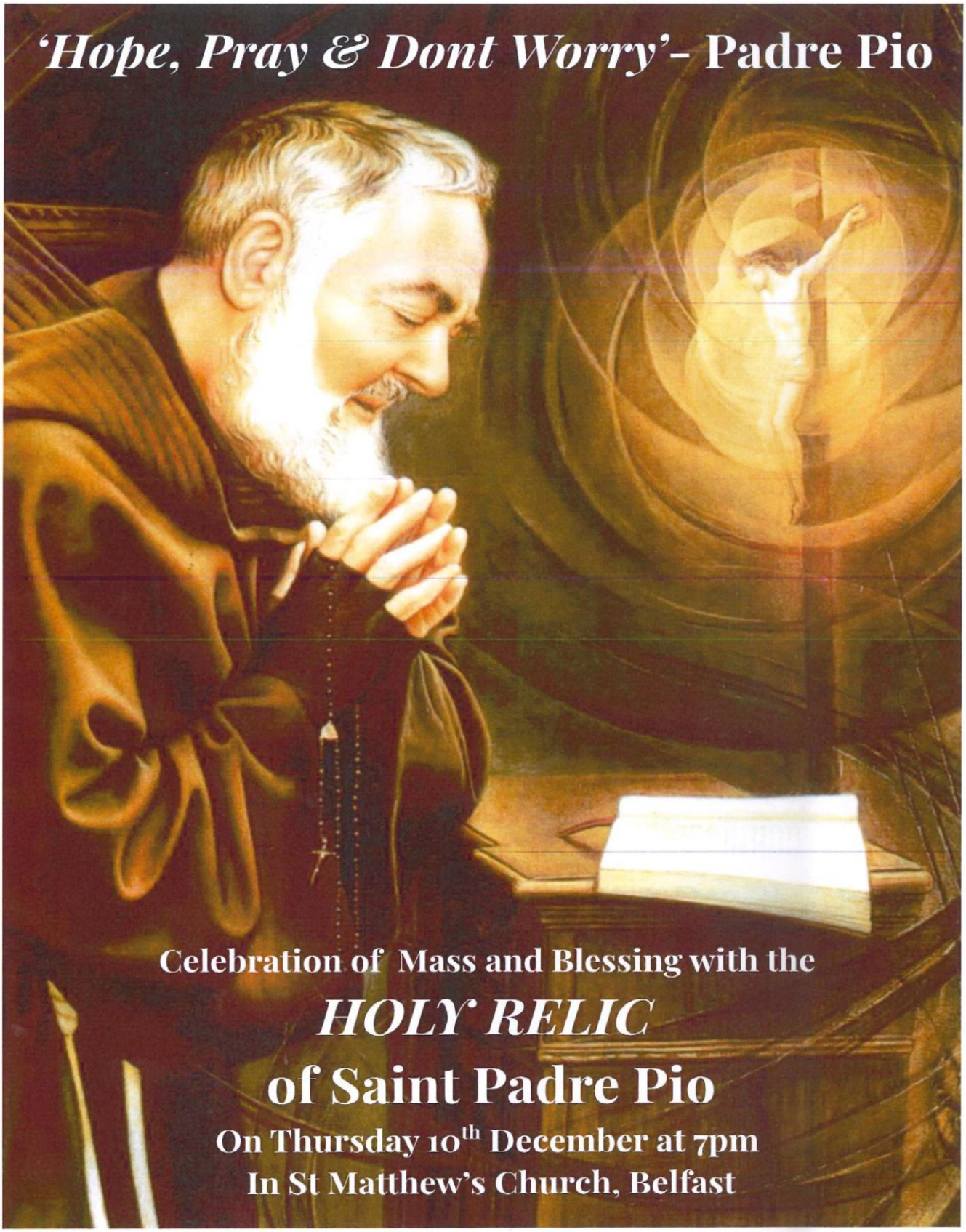
OPEN DAY

FRIDAY 11th DECEMBER
9:30am



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

Find us on


'Hope, Pray & Dont Worry'- Padre Pio
Celebration of Mass and Blessing with the
HOLY RELIC
of Saint Padre Pio
On Thursday 10th December at 7pm
In St Matthew's Church, Belfast

YOUTH 2000













YOUTH 2000
CHRISTMAS RETREAT

"HE IS THE PRINCE OF PEACE"

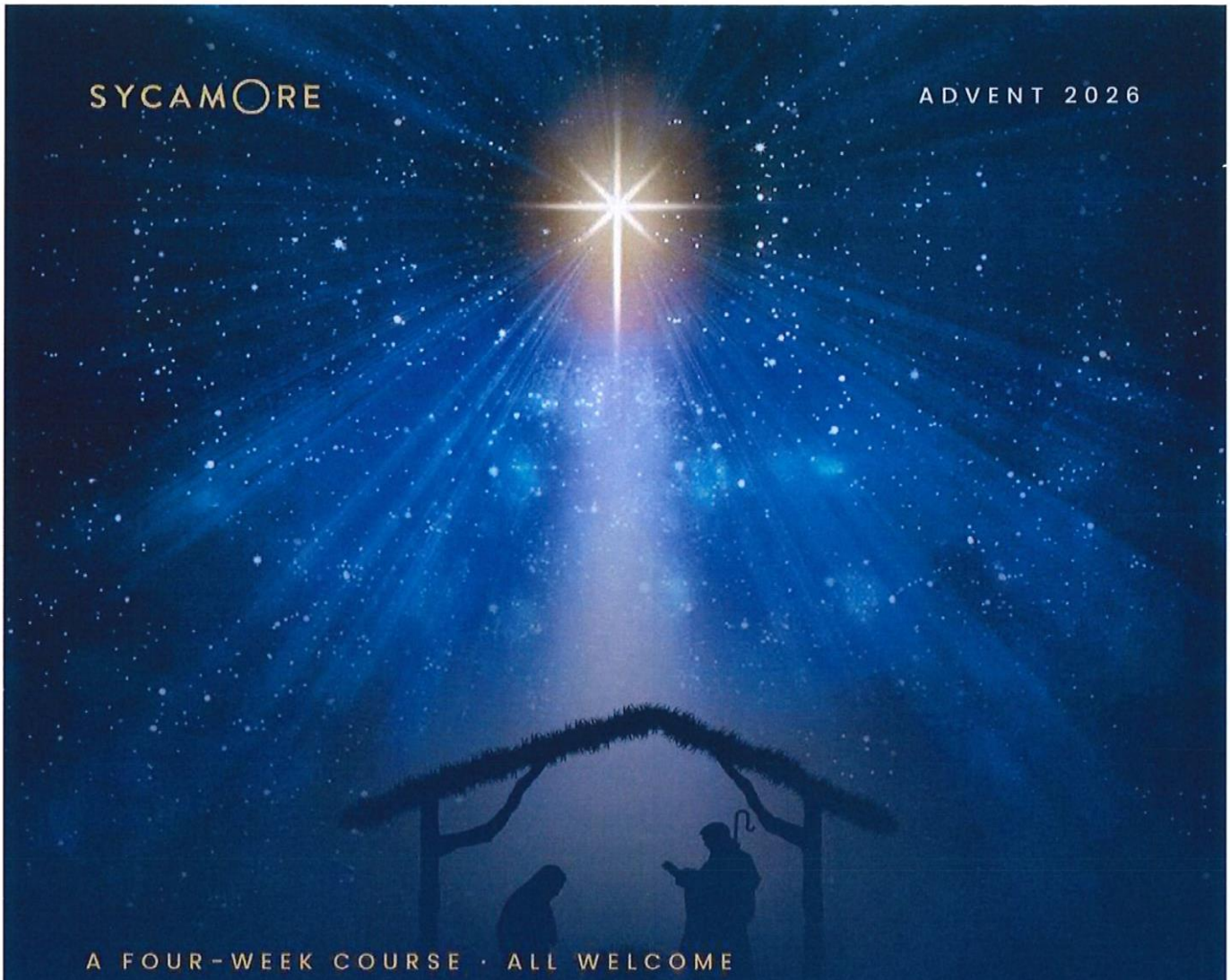
NEWBRIDGE COLLEGE, CO. KILDARE
11TH - 13TH DECEMBER 2026

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!

EMBRACE

SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE AND PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

Sunday 24th January 2027 at 3:30pm

BELFAST CATHEDRAL
THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. ANNE

St Anne's Cathedral
Donegall Street, Belfast, BT1 2HB

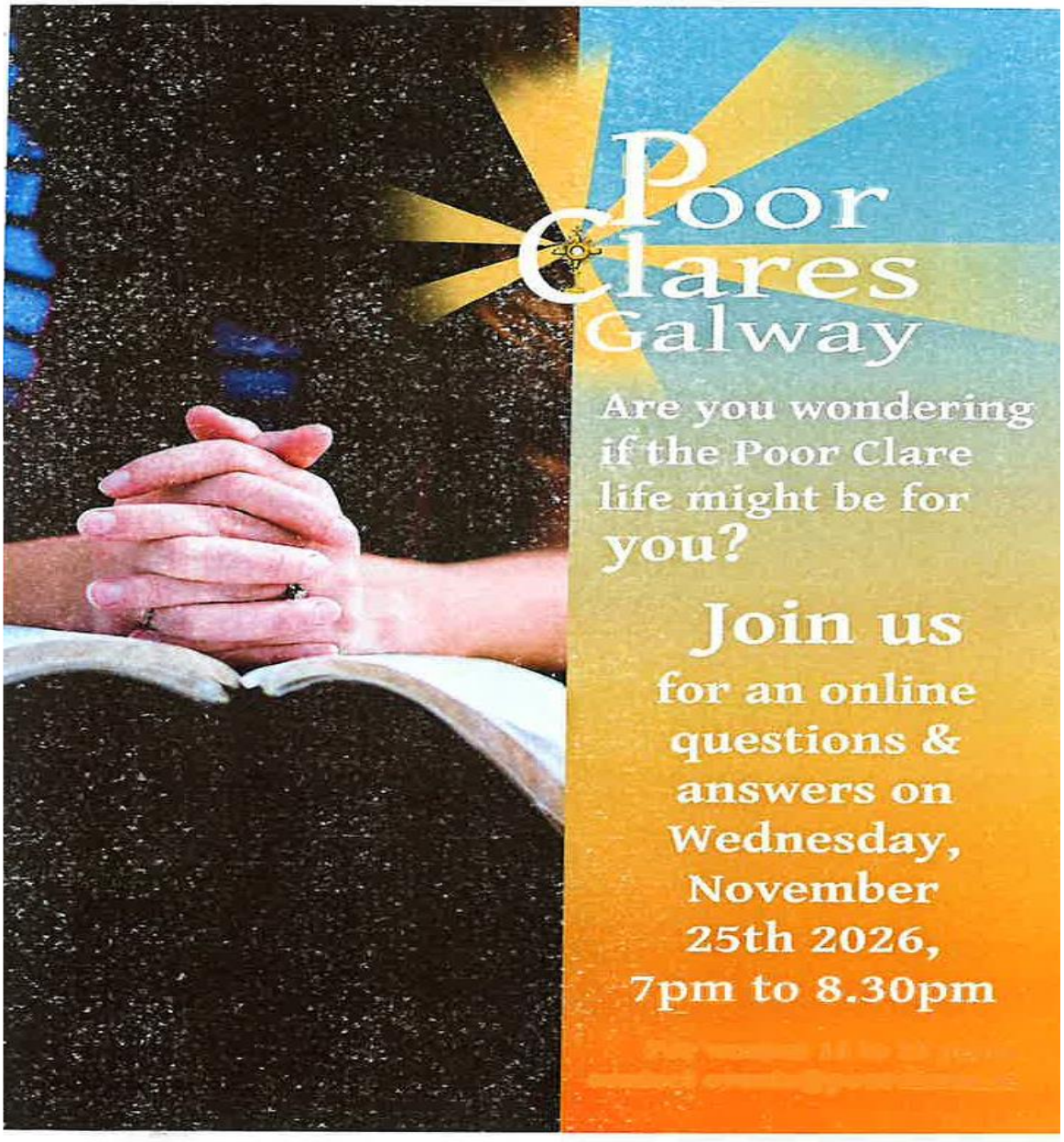
churches together
IN BRITAIN AND IRELAND

Thousands of people die each year as they seek refuge or opportunity.
Join us to remember the precious lives lost by refugees
and asylum seekers, searching for security.



All welcome and bring your friends
Refreshments will be provided afterwards

info@embraceni.org | www.embraceni.org | Charity No. 100294



STELLA MARIS



STELLA MARIS CHRISTMAS APPEAL

For seafarers and fishers across the globe, Christmas can feel especially lonely, with long working hours and months spent far away from loved ones. Those at sea can easily feel forgotten.

This Christmas, could you remind a seafarer or fisher that they are not alone by donating to our Christmas appeal?

You can help by donating one or more of the following items for our Christmas present boxes for seafarers and fishers

Woolly hats Small notepads Pens Biscuits Chocolate
Gloves Socks Combs Toiletries

For more information, please contact

Name: Brian Rances

Phone/Email: 07860685907

brian.rances@stellamarismail.org

Scan to find out about our work

Thank you for supporting seafarers and fishers around the world

Registered charity in England and Wales (1069833) and Scotland (SC043085). Registered company number 03320318.

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