

Parish of St MARY'S on the HILL 18th Oct 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

Archie Laverty, Boghill Rd

Fidelma Lee, Hollybrook Manor

Michael (Mike) Barnett, Church Rd

MONTH'S MIND

Stella McCracken, Amelia McKernon

ANNIVERSARIES

Brian & Catherine McLaughlin, Margaret Hughes,

Joseph & Matthew Short, Cora Murphy,

Bawn Cochrane, Michael McKegney, Daniel Moore,

Felix Madden, John & Lilly Darragh, Linda Hill,

Joseph & Matthew Short, Terry Bradshaw,

Gerry Hobbs, Martin O'Neill, Amy Craffigan,

Molly, Jack & Raymond Russell, Martina Roper,

Martha Lynch, Harry (Henry) Press, Johnny Maguire,

Patrick & Charlie McDonnell, Mary Begley,

Nuala & Johan Hirgh, Sam Dunlop.

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Sat 17 th	6.00pm	Linda Hill & M/M Stella McCracken
Sun 18 th	9.00am	Gerry Hobbs
SMOTH	10.00am	John & Lily Darragh & M/M Amelia McKernon
	11.00am	Brian & Catherine McLaughlin, Margaret Hughes
	12.30pm	Felix Madden
Mon 19 th	9.45am	Daniel Moore
Tues 20 th	9.45am	Bawn Cochrane
Wed 21 st	9.45am	Cora Murphy & 1 st Anniv Terry Bradshaw
Thurs 22 nd	9.45am	Michael McKegney
Fri 23 rd	9.45am	Joseph & Matthew Short
Sat 24 th	9.45am	Molly, Jack & Raymond Russell



We welcome

Farrah Schulz, Zosia Schulz, Ruaidhri Mallon, Eimear Young, Cameron Clarke

recently baptised in the parish.

ROSARY FOR PEACE

13th-21st October at 7pm

St. Mary's on the Hill



Parish Developing World Group Cake Sale

24/25 October

After all the Masses.

Calling all bakers - thank you for all your continuing help, it really makes a difference. **Donations of baking may be left in St Malachy's Room on Saturday 24th October from 2.30pm – 4.00pm.** All proceeds go to helping children and young people in Africa.

Kitchen Assistant wanted -

St Catherine's Dominican Convent

Maternity cover from November (Thursday and Sunday evening suppers), plus flexible zero-hours lunch and supper cover, as needed. Preparing and serving meals for the Sisters and kitchen cleaning; must work well independently.

Enquiries: amcatamney.ds@outlook.com

TAIZÉ PRAYER AROUND THE CROSS

You are warmly invited to Taizé Prayer Around The Cross on Friday 23rd October from 8-9pm in Holy Family Church, Limestone Road. This is an opportunity to take time out to pray with the beautiful Taizé chants and to be still. Everyone is very welcome, please come along and bring your friends. Refreshments will be served afterwards in the Gathering Space.

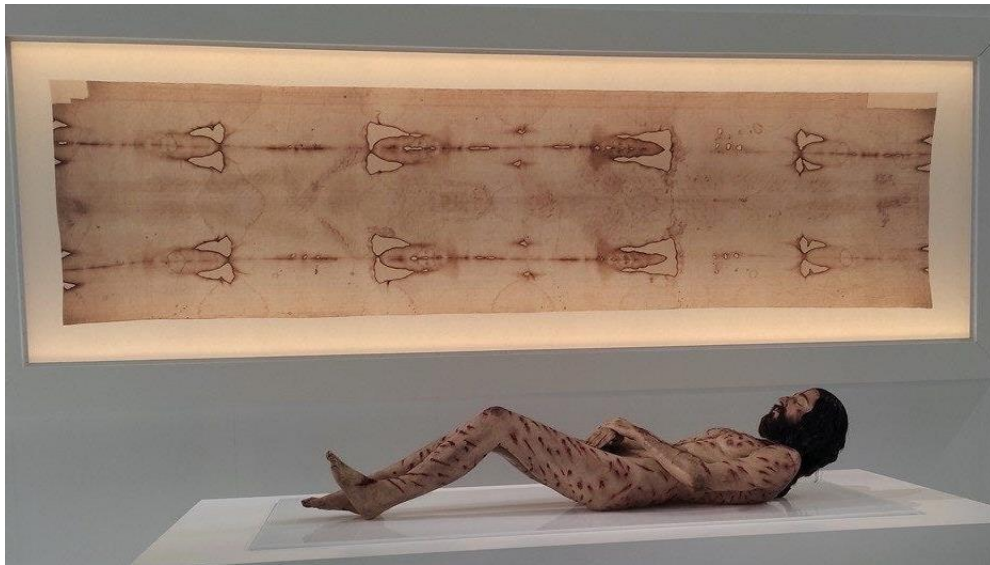
THE SHROUD OF TURIN: FORGERY OR MYSTERY?



A talk by Fr Pat Sheehan
in St Bernard's
Pastoral Centre
on Wednesday 28th October
at 7pm

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Email the parish office to register giving just your name and surname.
We just need to know the numbers attending

or use the QR code

The Shroud of Turin: forgery or
mystery? Talk by Fr Pat Sheehan





DOWN and CONNOR DIOCESAN TRUST

BISHOP'S RESIDENCE & CURIA OFFICE

VACANCY

“ASSISTANT HOUSEKEEPER”

The Diocese of Down and Connor is seeking to appoint an **Assistant Housekeeper** who is a conscientious individual with a positive approach to work, excellent attention to detail and the ability to work effectively as part of a team.

As the Assistant Housekeeper you will help to create a welcoming, comfortable and professional environment for the Bishop, clergy, visitors, staff and guests. Reporting to the Head of Housekeeping, the successful candidate will undertake a wide range of housekeeping, hospitality and domestic support duties and, when required, provide cover for catering and meal preparation activities.

This position would suit someone who takes pride in maintaining high standards, enjoys working as part of a team, has excellent attention to detail and understands the importance of discretion and confidentiality

The terms are based on a permanent appointment for 30 hours per week.
Monday to Friday from 9.30 am – 4.30 pm.

Salary: Will be considered within the range of £24,500 to £26,500 gross per annum – commensurate upon experience.

Full details relating to the vacancy can be found on the Diocesan website at: <http://www.downandconnor.org> clicking on the tab: **job vacancies** and on the Community NI and nijos.com websites, where terms and conditions relating to the role can also be accessed by way of a Role Profile and Employment Application form.

We welcome applications from anyone who feels they meet the criteria as presented 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 Tuesday 27 October 2026

Down and Connor Diocesan Trust is an Equal Opportunities Employer



**DOWN and CONNOR DIOCESAN TRUST
HOLYWOOD PARISH**

VACANCY

‘ASSISTANT PARISH SUPPORT OFFICER’

Would you like to play a key role in supporting parish life and helping to ensure the smooth day-to-day running of a busy parish office?

Hollywood Parish is seeking to recruit an **Assistant Parish Support Officer** to provide confidential, efficient and effective administrative support to the Parish Support Officer and Parish Priest, while offering a welcoming and professional service to parishioners and visitors.

The terms are based on a permanent appointment requiring 20 hours per week.
Work pattern: Monday to Thursday from 10.00 am to 3.00 pm.

Rate of Pay - £14.04 gross per hour

Full details relating to the vacancy can be found on the Diocesan website at: <http://www.downandconnor.org> clicking on the tab: **JOB VACANCIES** and on the Community NI website, where terms and conditions relating to the role can also be accessed by way of a Role Profile and Employment Application form.

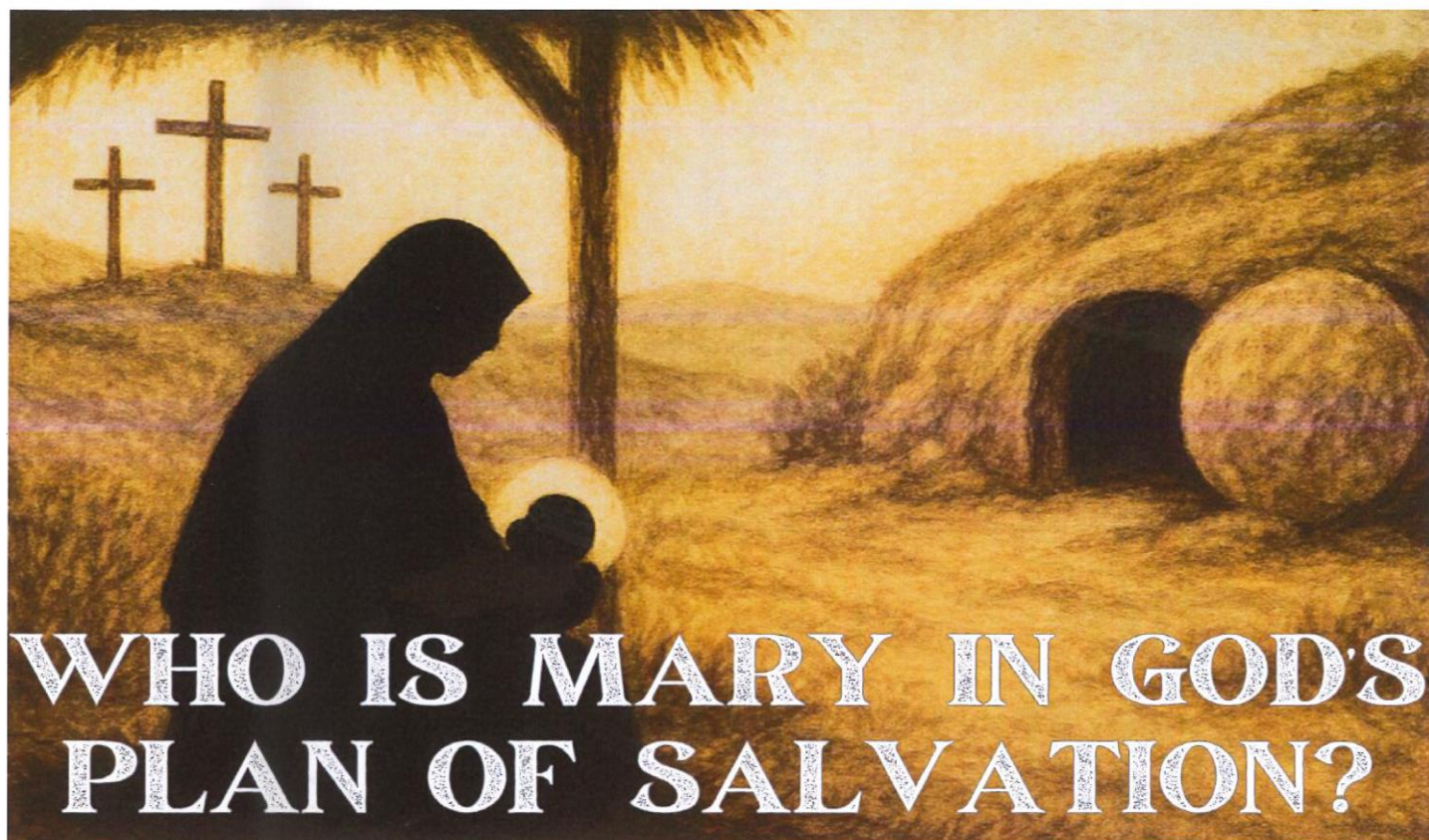
Application packs can also be obtained from Hollywood Parish Office.

We welcome applications from anyone who feels they meet the criteria and are interested in playing an active part in the Parish.

Closing date for applications will be 12.00 noon on Tuesday 27 October 2026

Down and Connor Diocesan Trust is an Equal Opportunities Employer





WHO IS MARY IN GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION?

**An exploration by representatives of Christian churches
with audience questions chaired by Alf McCreary**

Rev Dr Patrick McGlinchey (Church of Ireland) • Martina Purdy (Catholic)

Rev Dr Janet Unsworth (Methodist) • Fr Toma Puiu (Romanian Orthodox)

Rev Prof Stephen Williams (Presbyterian) • Fr Angelos (Egyptian Coptic)

"an opportunity to listen ... towards understanding"

**WEDNESDAY, 2 DECEMBER 2026
CORR'S CORNER HOTEL • 7PM**



Refreshments will be served

All welcome! This event is free to attend but to help with planning please indicate your intention to come via qr code or email ecumenical@downandconnor.org by 30 October 2026



ARRANGED BY THE ECUMENICAL COMMISSION OF THE DIOCESE OF DOWN AND CONNOR

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



PIPS[®]

Suicide Prevention Ireland

Weekend Crisis Hopeline (NI)

Friday 9pm - 10am Saturday
Sunday 9pm - 9am Monday

028 9080 5850

freephone **0800 088 6042**

Planting the seeds of hope.

Please note: This is exclusively a telephone helpline and not a walk-in service.