

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

Get into the Christmas spirit and join our Carol Service! It will be held on **Sunday 17th December from 5.00pm to 6.00pm** in the Church. Choirs from Our Lady & St Patrick's College Knock, St Joseph's PS choir and the Parish Choir. Light refreshments will be served afterwards in the hall. Everyone welcome.



SVP



QUIZ

St Vincent de Paul would like to thank all who so generously supported the recent Table Quiz in the Parochial Hall which raised the fantastic sum of £1,500 (plus gift aid). Particular thanks to Brian & Siobhan Kilfedder for organising the quiz.

THE LARDER FOOD BANK

Because of the great need, we have extended our appeal for provisions for our partner The Larder Food Bank **until this weekend, 2nd/3rd December**. Please support our appeal with donations of food and hygiene products. Particularly welcome are tinned meats, tinned fish, coffee, soap and shampoo, tooth-paste and toothbrushes, toilet tissue, and baby products (especially nappies). Donations can be left in the boxes provided in the Church porch. Thank you for your continuing support.



MONEY MATTERS

WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday 26th November: £1672.20 Many thanks to all who contributed so generously to the collection. The Monthly Stipend collection will be taken up at Masses this weekend.

PRE-SCHOOL OPEN DAY

St Colmcille's Pre School Open Day is **this Thursday 7th December, from 1.15pm—2.30pm**. From Wednesday 29th November 2017, the application form to apply for a pre-school place will be available at www.eani.org.uk/ admissions for those who wish to apply online. Paper copies of the application form will be available to collect from the Pre-school at our open day and until the closing date. The deadline for submission of forms is 12.00pm on Wednesday 10th January 2018.



PARISH OF ST COLMCILLE

BALLYHACKAMORE

3rd December 2017

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Fr. Tony Fitzsimons 191 Upper Newtownards Rd, Belfast, BT4 3JB.
Phone - 028 9065 4157. Website: www.st-colmcilles.net
Email: stcolmcilles@downandconnor.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/stcolmcilleschurch
Office open: Monday to Friday 10.00am—12.30pm.

Entrance Antiphon	To you I lift up my soul, O my God. In you I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame
1st Reading	Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down. Isaiah 63:16-17; 64:1. 3-8
Psalm	God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.
2nd Reading	We are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. 1 Corinthians 1: 3-9
Acclamation	Alleluia, alleluia! Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help. Alleluia!
Gospel	Stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming. Mark 13: 33-37
Children	Jesus tells a story about a master who is away and the servants need to keep a careful watch to see when he may return.
Communion Antiphon	The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

Reading: Sunday : Cycle B ; p 17, 452, 490.

Weekdays: 1st week of Advent, Psalter Week 1

Weekend Mass Times: Saturday: 6.30pm; Sunday: 9.30am, 11.30am.

Weekday Mass: Tuesday — Friday: 9.30am

Immaculate Conception Feast Day: Thursday: Vigil 7.00pm; Friday 9.30am

Mass Intentions: Saturday 6.30pm: Jimmy Irvine

Chapel of Adoration: Monday & Tuesday 2.00pm—9.00pm

DECEASED

We pray for the repose of the soul of all those who have died recently.

We also remember those whose anniversaries are at this time, especially : Annie Coulter, John Coulter, Jimmy Irvine, Bernadette Kane.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT– Tel: 07456 989458

ADVENT

PARISH ADVENT PROGRAMME

An Advent DVD programme, particularly aimed at retired people, ‘**Beloved Disciple**’, is being presented in the Iona Room on four Friday mornings in Advent. It continues **this Friday 8th December at 10.00am**, starting with refreshments. All are welcome.



WALK WITH ME ADVENT BOOKLETS

The season of Advent begins **this Sunday 3rd December**. Take part in a journey of prayer for Advent by using the little **Walk With Me** booklets that you will find on a table at the back of the Church, price £1. Please put the money in one of the boxes in the wall next to the candelabra.

ADVENT SERVICE

Gilnahirk Presbyterian Church is hosting the Belmont & District Churches Advent Service **this Sunday 3rd December at 7.00pm**. Parishioners are encouraged to attend.

PRAYER VIGIL

St Brigid's Church will have a Prayer Vigil for *The Sanctity of Life* on the feast day of the Immaculate Conception, **this Friday 8th December, 9.00am—9.00pm**. There will be a talk also, after the Thursday evening 7.00pm Vigil Mass. Schedule on leaflets at the back of the Church.

TALK

David Quinn, Director of the Iona Institute, will give a talk on **next Tuesday 12th December** in the Wellington Park Hotel at 8.00pm, on Marriage and the Family in Northern Ireland.

CHRISTMAS SEASON

FEAST DAY

This Friday 8th December is the feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary and is a Holy Day of Obligation. Feast Day Mass times: **Thursday 7th at 7.00pm and Friday 8th at 9.30am**.

DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME

The First Holy Communion children who are preparing for the Sacrament, are invited to their first DTIM Mass **next Sunday 10th December at 9.30am**.

BAMBINELLI SUNDAY

For several decades, an Italian tradition, has been to bring a Christ-child figure to St Peter's Square, to be blessed by the Pope on a Sunday in Advent. As part of our Advent celebrations, children and adults may bring their Christ-child figure from home, to be blessed at the **9.30am** Mass at St Colmcille's **next Sunday 10th December**.



CHRISTMAS OUTREACH

Ministers of Outreach will be starting to visit every home in the Parish this coming week with a pack containing: a Christmas Card from Father Tony detailing the times of Christmas services; the 5th edition of St Colmcille's Newsletter; a prayer card; an invitation to join with others in a journey of faith. The Outreach Packs are now available in the Church porch for the Outreach distributors to pick up.

TAP CHRISTMAS GIFT CARDS

Give a really worthwhile Christmas present this year - a Christmas Gift Card to support our twinned parish of Moita Bwawani in our Tanzanian Africa Project. Choose from 3 life-changing themes. Buy a year's School Uniform for a Masai Child for £10. Sponsor a Catechist to spread the Word of God, also for £10. Give pre-natal and ante-natal care to Masai mothers-to-be and with our Mobile Medical Clinic Appeal for £20. Cards on sale in the church porch this weekend and each weekend up to Christmas.

MARKET

The Ballyhackamore Christmas Market, is on **next Saturday 9th December, from 10.00am to 2.00pm**. Santa will arrive at 11.30am.

