

PASTORAL LETTER

Bishop Donal McKeown's letter to the people of the Diocese of Down and Connor, about the Pathways To The Future initiative along with the proposed grouping of Families of Parishes, is available to **pick up in the Church Foyer**, after Mass today.

LAUDATO SI PARISH GROUP

Laudate Deum, Pope Francis' new appeal for effective action on the climate crisis: Pope Francis has published a new letter building on his 2015 encyclical Laudato Si. Fr Timothy Bartlett will speak about Laudato Deum **next Thursday 9th November at 7.30pm in St Brigid's Parish Centre, Derryvolgie Avenue.** All are welcome.

LYNERGY & LUNCH

There is a **weekly lunch club**, for those **age 55 and over**, in the parish Centre **each Wednesday at 12noon.** You are invited to engage in some light exercise, that can be done standing or sitting. This is followed by **Lunch** in the Iona Room at **12.45pm.** Cost is **£5 per person for the activity including lunch, or £2 for lunch only.** We look forward to meeting everyone— just turn up on the day.

MASS FOR DECEASED TEACHERS

The Annual celebration of the Mass for Deceased Teachers of the Down and Connor Diocese, will be held **on Thursday 23rd November at 7.30pm** in the **Good Shepherd Church**, Ormeau Road, Belfast. There will be refreshments afterwards in the Parish Centre. Anyone who wishes to join in online can do so via the Parish Webcam.

SPARE WOOL?

Fr Stephen and Sr Oonagh along with the women in Hydebank will be knitting hats and scarfs for the homeless community in the run up to Christmas. If any parishioners have spare balls of wool to help them with this very worthwhile project, please leave the wool in the Parish Office.

BULLETIN: Please submit notes for the parish bulletin **NO LATER than Wednesday 8th November** by dropping a note into the Bulletin Box in church or sending an email: stcolmcilles@downandconnor.org



PARISH OF ST COLMCILLE

BALLYHACKAMORE

5th November 2023

Thirty First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Prisoners' Sunday

Very Rev Conor McGrath PP, Director of Vocations

Phone - 02890 654157

Website: www.st-colmcilles.net

Email: stcolmcilles@downandconnor.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/stcolmcilleschurch

READINGS: Sunday Cycle A; Weekday Cycle 1; Psalter Week 3

*"The greatest among
you must be
your servant.
Anyone who exalts
himself will be
humbled, and anyone
who humbles himself
will be exalted"*

Matthew 23:12

ADORATION

Tuesday: 6.00pm—7.00pm

MASS

**Saturday : 5.30pm,
Sunday : 9.30am & 11.30am.**

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday: 9.30am

CONFESSION

**Tuesday : 6.00pm to 6.45pm
Saturday : 5.00pm**

**Morning and Evening
PRAYER OF THE CHURCH
Monday & Friday 9.15am
Wednesday 7.00pm**

Missal Page No: 680

Response to the Psalm: Keep my soul in peace before you O Lord

NOVEMBER PRAYER FOR OUR DEAD

God our Father, Your power brings us to birth, Your providence guides our lives, and by Your command we return to dust. Lord, those who die still live in Your presence, their lives change but do not end. I pray in hope for my family, relatives and friends, and for all the dead known to You alone. In company with Christ, Who died and now lives, may they rejoice in Your kingdom, where all our tears are wiped away. Unite us together again in one family, to sing Your praise forever and ever. Amen

DECEASED

We pray for the repose of the soul of all those who have died recently, especially **Mel Tohill**, and also **Frances Reinhardt-Rutland** (nee Hanvey) a former parishioner. We also remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time of year, especially **Ita Hughes, Nan Kearney, Peter Loder, and Jim McConnell**

NOVEMBER IS THE MONTH OF DEVOTION TO THE HOLY SOULS

During the month of November Mass will be celebrated each day for the repose of the souls of those deceased whose names have been included in the November Dead Lists.

Blank lists are available for you to complete, on the tables at the back of the Church. If you wish to donate an offering for the Masses, please include it with the list in the envelope provided. Completed lists can be placed in the collection baskets or in the box at the front of the Church.

The ANNUAL MASS FOR THE DECEASED parishioners and their families will be held in St Colmcille's on **next Tuesday 14th November at 7.00pm**. There will be refreshments after Mass in the Iona Room. All Welcome.

PIONEER PLEDGE FOR THE MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

A short-term pledge gives spiritual support and encouragement to people and their families who are living under a shadow of addiction.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Parents should leave their children over to the Iona Room at the parish centre, **before the start of 9.30am Mass**, as we will no longer depart from the church to walk to the hall together. The children will arrive to Mass later with the leaders, for the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

APOSTOLIC WORK

The next meeting of the Apostolic Work group will take place in the Iona Room on **this Tuesday, 7th November about 7.30pm** (after 7.00pm Mass).

Our next fundraising event is our **annual sale on Saturday 2nd & Sunday 3rd December** in the Parish Centre, **after the weekend Masses**. If anyone else can help in any way, please let Patricia White or another member know.

PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE

Week 4. 5th to 11th November
31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Matthew 23: 1-12

"Anyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and anyone who humbles himself will be exalted."

We are all challenged by Pope Francis, clergy and lay alike, to set out as missionary disciples with **'Hearts on fire, feet on the move'** (Lk 24:13-35). Bishop Donal McKeown, Apostolic Administrator, has chosen today to write to all the faithful of the Diocese with a further missionary challenge for each one of us to step up to – to **actively participate in the renewal of the Church in Down and Connor**. He calls on us to be **"voices of hope"** for the Church and for the generations of faithful to come.

On Friday we celebrated the Feast of St Malachy with a Day of Prayer for the Mission of the Church in Down and Connor, and began a time of prayer, sharing, listening, and discernment. We ask you to respond to Bishop McKeown's call and **get involved in the conversations about the future of your parish** that will take place in the weeks ahead. We want you to share your hopes, your aspirations, and your concerns. We want you to think about what the suggested **Families of Parishes** (see Bishop's letter) that have been shared with you today means for your parish and what it means for you personally. **What role could and will you play as part of your Family of Parishes?**

A meeting on *Pathways to the Future* will be held in **St Patrick's Parish Centre, 71, Upper North Street, Newtownards BT23 4JD** on **MONDAY 20th November, 7.00pm—9.00pm**.

To register, please contact the parish office on 02890 654157 / stcolmcilles@downandconnor.org

This is your opportunity to join the conversation about the future of our Church in Down and Connor and to be a voice of hope for the future.

"... as soon as you heard the message that we brought you as God's message, you accepted it for what it really is, God's message and not some human thinking; and it is still a living power among you who believe it."

1 Thessalonians 2:13

To find out more go to www.pathwaystothefuture.org