

MONEY MATTERS: Weekly collection: – £1590.25

The Bishops' Commission Collection—taken up at all Masses *this* weekend

ST. COLMCILLE'S LAUDATO SI' GROUP

Pope Francis has recently followed up his Encyclical on the environment, *Laudato Si'*, with a new letter, entitled *Laudate Deum*, in which he laments the inadequacy of humanity's response to combatting climate change. Over the coming weeks, the Parish Laudato Si' Group will set out briefly the main issues raised in the letter. To begin with, the Pope warns that: "it is indubitable that the impact of climate change will increasingly prejudice the lives and families of many persons. We will feel its effects in the areas of healthcare, sources of employment, access to resources, housing, forced migrations, etc." Pope Francis goes on to say that "Despite all attempts to deny, conceal, gloss over or relativize the issue, the signs of climate change are here and increasingly evident. No one can ignore the fact that in recent years we have witnessed extreme weather phenomena, frequent periods of unusual heat, drought and other cries of protest on behalf of the earth. Admittedly, not every concrete catastrophe ought to be attributed to global climate change. Nonetheless, it is verifiable that specific climate changes provoked by humanity are notably heightening the probability of extreme phenomena that are increasingly frequent and intense."

PHOTOGRAPHIC HISTORY OF ST COLMCILLE'S PARISH

A project is beginning for the publication of a photographic history of St Colmcille's. In addition to describing and illustrating the past twenty-six years of parish life (since 1997, when the original Parish History was published), it is hoped to include some photographs of the earlier years. We are looking for photographs of the church, the grounds, the parish hall, parish organisations and events. We would also like to reflect the contribution made to parish life by people who settled here from other countries. Your help is requested in digging out any photographs which you may have tucked away and which you think might be worth sharing. Any photographs which you provide will be scanned quickly and returned to you. For further information, or to offer help or expertise, please speak to Charles Friel, Patricia Kernaghan, or Leo O'Reilly.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

The **Parish Christmas Dinner** will be held at Shandon Park Golf Club at **3.00pm on Sunday 10th December**. More details will follow nearer the time.

BULLETIN: Please submit notes for the parish bulletin **NO LATER than Wednesday 22nd November** by dropping a note into the Bulletin Box in church or sending an email: stcolmcilles@downandconnor.org



PARISH OF ST COLMCILLE

BALLYHACKAMORE

19th November 2023

Thirty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

World Day of the Poor

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 1

Matthew 25: 14-30

The talents represent resources / gifts that God has placed in our care as His stewards.

Just as the master expects his servants to use the resources for serving their master and increasing his estate or "kingdom" so God wants us to use the resources / gifts He has given to us for building His kingdom.

How are you getting on?

ADORATION
Tuesday: 6.00pm—7.00pm

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

Tuesday: 7.00pm

Wednesday, Thursday: 9.30am

Friday: 7.00pm

CONFESSION
Tuesday : 6.00pm to 6.45pm
Friday during the Night Vigil
Saturday : 5.00pm

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

NIGHT VIGIL AT ST COLMCILLE'S

All are invited to a Night Vigil in Church **this Friday 24th November**.

The evening will start with **Mass at 7.00pm**.

Prayers will be led by **Anointing Fire Catholic Ministries**.

7.30pm–8.30pm: Prayers for **PRIESTS & VOCATIONS**

8.30pm–9.30pm: Praise, Adoration, Preaching

9.30pm–10.00pm: Benediction and Healing prayers – led by Fr Conor and Brother Colin McGurnaghan

10.00pm to midnight: Silent Adoration

Confessions during the evening, and One to One prayers are available.

Refreshments in the Iona Room from 9.30pm.

DECEASED

We pray for the repose of the soul of all those who have died recently.
And all those whose anniversaries occur at this time of year.

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.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

WELCOME to all the children and their families, attending the **ENROLMENT MASS FOR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION** at 9.30am Mass today!

PARENTS MEETING—for parents of the children preparing for **FIRST CONFESSION** will be held on **Wednesday 29th November at 7.00pm**

Children who are *not* prepared in their own school for the sacraments may be registered for classes held in the parish. Contact Noleen:
07879 498131 / colmcilleyouth@yahoo.co.uk

GREAT WOMEN OF PRAYER & FAITH: AN ADVENT JOURNEY

There will be three talks during Advent in our Parish Centre, at St Colmcille's on **Wednesday** evenings: **6th, 13th and 20th December at 7.30pm**. The talks will be given by Mary Cairns, Rev Paul Hutton and Paula McKeown respectively. All are welcome.

SLOW DOWN FOR ADVENT

Space and time for you and God to get ready for Christmas together.

Led by Breige O'Hare. **11.00am – 3.00pm, Saturday 25th November** in the Holy Rosary Parish Hall, Ormeau Road. Bring lunch. Tea/coffee provided. Donation £10. Very popular day, so booking is essential via-
breigohare@firststepwell.com or by ringing 07565 502662.

PARISH BIBLE STUDY GROUP - NEW!

Would you like to immerse yourself more deeply in God's word with the support and encouragement of others in our Parish?

As a Bible study group, we would aim to meet fortnightly on a weeknight from 20.00-21.00. Start date and location TBC

Please email Hannah Wroblewski : hwroblewski89@gmail.com to register your interest and for further information.

OPEN MORNINGS

St Joseph's Primary School : Thursday 30th November
St Colmcille's Pre School: Friday 8th December, 12.30pm-2.00pm

DOWN AND CONNOR DIOCESAN TRUST ST COLMCILLE'S PARISH BELFAST : VACANCY YOUTH & PASTORAL MINISTRY CO-ORDINATOR

An exciting opportunity has arisen where we seek to recruit a Youth & Pastoral Ministry Co-ordinator. The post holder will be required to assist the Parish Priest in the development of Youth and Pastoral Ministry within St Colmcille's Parish, through the delivery of various programmes and initiatives. Hours of work – 20 hours per week, flexibility will be required from time to time. Full details relating to the vacancy, including an application form can be found on the Diocesan website at: <http://www.downandconnor.org> clicking on the tab: job vacancies. An application pack is also available from the parish office.

PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE—WEEK 6: 19th—25th NOVEMBER

A talent was a huge sum of money, thought to equate to the pay for 15 to 20 years' of work. The Master in today's Gospel reading has, therefore, placed great trust in his servants, giving them stewardship of such vast riches. God, Our Father, has placed the same trust in each one of us. At our baptism, He gave each one of us a unique set of gifts and charisms, "each in proportion to [our] ability".

We received this lifetime of riches to equip us to continue God's work on earth, to build His Kingdom, to scatter on His behalf and to yield fruit for His harvest. Our lives as baptized Catholics are lives of service and mission, in our homes, our schools, our workplaces, and our parishes. We are called to use the baptismal gifts we have received, the talents we have been trusted to grow, in the service of God, the people we encounter in our daily lives, and the communities within which we live, work and study.

Our faith is not passive or individual to us. Our faith is active and to be shared and grown. God is calling each one of us to renew His Church in Down and Connor using the talents He has entrusted us with. How will you use yours?

APOSTOLIC WORK SALE

On **Saturday and Sunday 2nd and 3rd December** after Masses we are having our annual December sale in support of the Missions. There will be our usual cake stall, plant stall, books and toys, Tombola and, of course a ballot. A wonderful book on the history of Apostolic Work over 100 years, written by Patricia Kernaghan, will be available at £10 per copy. We welcome items suitable for these stalls books and toys but **no** bric a brac please. Toys should be **saleable**, in good condition and functioning. Help on the day will be very welcome.