

BEGINNING EXPERIENCE

The loss of a partner through death, separation or divorce is devastating. Beginning Experience is offering a **programme of bereavement support** in St Bride's Hall, Derryvolgie Ave., Belfast on three Saturdays (27th January, 24th February and 23rd March 2024) Booking essential.

To find out more, contact **Marie 07896119669** or **07519289185** or email : belfastbe@yahoo.com

SACRAMENTAL CLASSES

The parish classes for children preparing for First Holy Communion (P4) and for Confirmation (P7 & above), will begin this month. If your child is not being prepared for the sacraments in their school, please contact the parish office to enrol your child for the parish sacramental preparation classes: stcolmcilles@downandconnor.org

For children attending Strandtown PS where a parish class is held, there will be a **First Communion Parents Meeting this Tuesday 9th January** after school.

There will be a **Confirmation Parents Meeting** for parents of the young people in all schools who will be preparing for the sacrament this year, on **next Tuesday 16th January at 7.30pm** in the Parish Centre.

OPEN NIGHTS

Primary 6 and Primary 7 pupils and their parents are invited to attend Post Primary School Open Days.

Aquinas Diocesan Grammar School Open Morning on this coming Saturday 13th January, 9.00am to 1.00pm. Principal's address: 9.30am and 11.00am

Our Lady & St Patrick's Open Morning on next Saturday 13th January, 9.00am to 12.30pm. Principal's address: 9.00am and 11.00am

St Joseph's College Open Night: 7pm-9pm on next Wednesday, 17th January. Principal's address 7pm and 8pm.

PARISH CLUBS & GROUPS

The **55+ Exercise and Lunch Club**—Wednesdays , new start time of 12.15pm. Concludes with lunch. You are welcome to come just for lunch !

Bowls Club : Thursday at 7.15pm.

Parents / Carers & Toddlers Group: Wednesdays at 10am—11.30am



PARISH OF ST COLMCILLE

BALLYHACKAMORE

7th January 2024

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Very Rev Conor McGrath PP, Director of Vocations

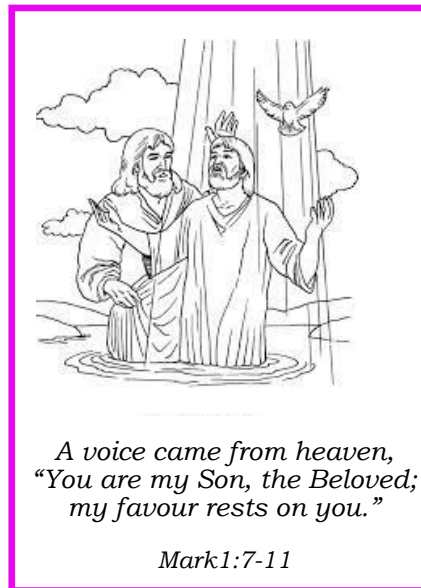
Very Rev Anthony Curran PE

Phone - 02890 654157 Website: www.st-colmcilles.net

Email: stcolmcilles@downandconnor.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/stcolmcilleschurch

READINGS: Sunday Cycle B; Weekday Cycle 2; Psalter Week 1
Missal Page : 97



*A voice came from heaven,
"You are my Son, the Beloved;
my favour rests on you."*

Mark 1:7-11

ADORATION & BENEDICTION
Tuesday 6pm

MASS

Saturday : 5.30pm

Sunday : 9.30am & 11.30am

Tuesday : 7.00pm

Wednesday — Friday : 9:30am

CONFESSION

Tuesdays : 6.15pm—6.45pm

Saturdays : 5.00pm—5.20pm

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

Almighty ever-living God, who, when Christ had been baptised in the River Jordan and as the Holy Spirit descended upon him, solemnly declared him your beloved Son, grant that your children by adoption, reborn of water and the Holy Spirit, may always be well pleasing to you.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

DECEASED

We pray for the repose of the soul of all those who have died recently, especially **Jean Dixon**.

We also remember in prayer all those whose anniversaries occur at this time : **Ella Kerrigan, Molly O'Flaherty, John Tansey, Grace Bowman and Teresa Strain**

NEW ROLES/CHANGING ROLES

We welcome **Francis** to the parish as he begins his new role of **Youth and Pastoral Coordinator**. We are excited to have Francis with us and look forward to the contributions he will make.

Noeleen will now be administering the **Parish Office** which will be open **Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday 10am to 2pm**.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

For young people in year 9 & 10—an evening of fun : **this Saturday 6th** January 6.30pm to 8.30pm in the Iona Room.

For post primary year 8 to year 10 students—a recreational evening **next Saturday 13th** January 6.30pm to 8.30pm in the parish hall.

MONEY MATTERS

Weekly collection - £1118.49

Standing Orders for December - £3623.06

The Monthly Stipend Collection for the support of the priests in the Diocese will be taken up at all Masses *this* weekend

NOW ACCEPTING CONTACTLESS DONATIONS

You will find our new DIGITAL COLLECTION PLATE, contactless terminal in the church foyer. Just use your contactless debit/credit card or smart phone/device to make a donation.

Simply choose the amount you wish to donate and hold your card onto the reader. You can also opt-in for Gift Aid to increase your donation by 25%. If you are a UK taxpayer then donating with Gift Aid means that we can claim an extra 25p for every £1 received. Contactless donations are simple to administer, secure and convenient.



STANDING ORDER / OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

Please contact Philomena at p.dawson@downandconnor.org if you wish to contribute by Standing Order or Offertory Envelopes.



ALPHA

A new Alpha programme will begin on **Wednesday 17th January 2024, at 8.00pm** in the Parish Centre!

Curious about Faith?

Join conversations that explore the basics of the Christian faith in an open, friendly environment.

In small groups we watch an episode on questions of faith each week – then share our thoughts and hear what others think. You can say anything, or nothing at all. You're invited, no matter your background or beliefs.

It's free and there's no pressure to come back!

Supper served each evening!

Pick up a Flyer this weekend in the church foyer to register your interest, or take one or more to pass on to others

Also: enquiries, and to register - contact the parish office by email: stcolmcilles@downandconnor.org or send a message to 07879 498131

I have made life-long friends through Alpha, who are sincerely interested in me, and continue to support my prayer intentions

I listened to questions I had never thought of asking, and it made me contemplate things more deeply

I especially loved the Alpha Away Day, it was a very powerful experience that I will never forget

I was deeply struck and enriched by others' input in our group