

PARISH OF ST COLMCILLE

BALLYHACKAMORE

3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Pg 372 Year C

Psalter Week 2



To know the joy of
God's *love*
and make the *love* of
God known to all

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

The Church dedicates the month of May in a special way to Our Blessed Mother, Mary. It is a time of grace, beauty, and devotion, when the blossoming of nature around us reflects the life and joy that Mary brings to the heart of the Church. During this month, we are invited to renew our love for her and to grow closer to Jesus through her motherly care.

One simple way to honour Mary in our homes is by creating a small Marian altar or shrine. This could be as easy as placing a statue or image of Our Lady in a quiet corner, adding some flowers, a candle, or a Rosary. It becomes a gentle daily reminder of her presence and a prompt to pause, reflect, and pray.

The Rosary itself is one of the most beautiful prayers we can offer during this month. If a full Rosary seems too much, why not begin with just a single decade each day? Even five minutes of quiet prayer can bring immense peace. As we meditate on the mysteries of Jesus' life through Mary's eyes, we allow her to teach us how to follow Him more closely.

When we ask Mary to "pray for us sinners," we are not placing her between us and God, but rather alongside us—our faithful mother and companion on the journey. She prays with us and for us, always pointing us toward her Son.

Let us take this May as an opportunity to renew our devotion, however simply, and to entrust ourselves and our families to Mary's maternal care. As St. John Paul II once said, "To be Marian is to be Christian."

ST COLMCILLE'S PARISH

191 Upper Newtownards Road,

Belfast, BT4 3JB

Fr Conor McGrath PP

Parish Priest

Fr Anthony Curran PE

Phone: 02890 654157

Website: www.st-colmcilles.net Email:stcolmcilles@downandconnor.org

PARISH OFFICE:

Monday & Friday 2pm-4pm, Wednesday 8am-

10.30am

Have a blessed week, Fr Conor

"Alone with none but Thee, my God, I journey on my way;"

THIS WEEK AT ST COLMCILLE'S

Sunday	Mass: 9.30am & 11.30am
Monday	Morning Prayer: 9.00am
Tuesday	Mass: 7.00pm Adoration, Confessions & Benediction: starting at 6.00pm
Wednesday	Mass at 7pm only (9:30am Mass in St Matthews)
Thursday	No Mass in St Colmcilles (9:30am Mass in St Matthews)
Friday	Morning Prayer: 9.00am Mass: 9.30am
Saturday	Confession : 5.00pm – 5.20pm Vigil Mass: 5.30pm

MASS THIS SUNDAY

First Reading: Acts 5:27-32 40-41

Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 29

Response: I will praise you, Lord you have rescued me.

***Second Reading* Apocalypse 5:11-14**

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Christ has Risen; he who created all things, and has granted his mercy to men.'

Alleluia!

A Reading from the Holy Gospel, John 21:1-19

DECEASED

We pray for the repose of the soul of all those who have died recently and whose months mind occurs. We also remember in prayer all those whose anniversaries occur at this time

Sinead McCartney, Claire Mullaly, Liam McGivern, Peter Stobart, Dominic Mc Clure

Parish Bereavement Support Group Contact: 077 2981 6256.

ANNIVERSARIES

If you would like an Anniversary Mass booked please contact the Parish Office on 90654157 or email stcolmcilles@downandconnor.org.

“What need I fear when Thou art near,

A Prayer for the Election of a New Pope

O God, who in your wondrous love watches over your Church, fill the cardinal-electors with your Holy Spirit to strengthen and inspire them as they choose a new Holy Father to lead us.
May they choose a shepherd for your Church who will please you in his holiness and guide his flock with love and watchful care, especially for the sick, the poor and the vulnerable.
We pray that your Holy Spirit will hover over the one who is chosen to strengthen him to be a messenger of love, peace and unity in our world.
We offer our prayer through our Lord, Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.
Amen.

ALPHA

The next parish ALPHA programme begins on THURSDAY 8th MAY at 7pm, in The Lampost Café, 19 Upper Newtownards Road BT4 3HT.

Meet new people and explore the Christian faith together. Each session unpacks a big question of life, faith, and purpose.

Come along, and see what you think.

All welcome. Contact Noeleen to register or make enquiries: n.dunn@downandconnor.org

Please share with family, friends, and work colleagues. Your prayers for the programme are much appreciated.

HOUSE QUIZ

All past Alpha Guests are invited to gather next WEDNESDAY 7th MAY for a pot-luck supper and Alpha House Quiz. The evening begins with Mass in Church at 7.00pm, followed by supper and a quiz evening in the hall between the current House Groups.

PRAISE AND PINTS

All are welcome to come along to a time of Adoration, Praise and Worship in the Church at 7.00pm this Thursday 8th, and next Thursday 15th May. This is followed by some social time together in the local pub.

MONEY MATTERS WEEKLY COLLECTION

20th April £1718.99

27th April £1034.84

CATHOLICS in HOLY LAND £1086.31

TROCAIRE TO DATE £4987.63

Many thanks for your generous donations

PAROCHIAL HALL BOOKINGS

If you would like to book a Party in the Parochial Hall we now require 1 MONTHS notice by emailing the Parish

Office at

stcolmcilles@downandconnor.org.

ANNUAL PARISH CENSUS

A count of attendance will take place at all Masses across the Diocese NEXT weekend, 10th and 11th May 2025. The annual parish census captures valuable information about the numbers, ages, and gender of people attending Mass. This information helps the Diocese and parishes to identify pastoral priorities, make plans to address them, and provide support to our faith communities. When you arrive at Mass, you will be given a small counter for yourself and for each person in your family group and will be asked to place the counters in baskets labelled according to age. There will be red counters for females and blue counters for males. The baskets will be labelled with age bands and the number of counters for each age band will be recorded after each Mass.

We look forward to seeing you at Mass NEXT weekend and thank you for your patience and co-operation.

PHILIP COURSE

Join the Koinonia John the Baptist Catholic community in parish, on Saturday 10th for an opportunity to experience the Holy Spirit and deepen your relationship with God.

This will be a time of simple, inspiring but profound talks, as well as prayer, praise and healing. Contact Noeleen for more information: n.dunn@downandconnor.org

Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine

Sunday 25th May 2025

The Knights of St. Columbanus are organising a Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine on Sunday 25th May, leaving St. Malachy's College 36 Antrim Rd Belfast @ 7.45am sharp. Secure parking in the grounds of the college has been arranged. Cost is £25 per person to include coach, tea/coffee and scones in Enniskillen on the way to Knock. To keep the cost to a minimum, people are asked to bring a packed lunch to cover arrival at Knock and again before leaving Knock in the evening. To book a place please email charlie@saintkillians.ie or phone Charlie on 07850203835. Places will be allocated on a first come first serve basis.

Save the Date!

Join us for St. Colmcille's Feast Day Fun Day on **June 8th!** Mark your calendars and get ready for a afternoon filled with joy, community spirit, and celebration. There will be activities and festivities for everyone to enjoy. Don't miss out on this special occasion to honour St. Colmcille and be part of the parish family. We look forward to seeing you there!

NET MINISTRIES SURVEY

We have been incredibly blessed to have the NET Ministries team with us this year, and your feedback is invaluable as we reflect on this transformative experience. We invite you to take a few moments to complete our survey. By sharing your thoughts, you're contributing to a legacy of faith, fellowship, and service that will benefit countless others. Thank you for being a part of this journey with us! Please scan the QR code. Print copies available in Church porch



Friday 30th May 2025 - A Night at the Camel Races & Disco

£5 entry fee - Doors Open 7.30pm

First Race 8.00pm - 6 races and you can have a bet for as little as £1, so bring some cash.

Camels can also be purchased before the event for £10 with the winner receiving £20.

Grab a few friends along with your own drinks & snacks for a fun night out.

For more information contact Roisin 07854 140019 or Mary – 07815 493463

ANNUAL NOVENA TO OUR MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP

Our theme will be "Pilgrims of Hope" ST GERARD'S PARISH CHURCH, ANTRIM ROAD MONDAY 12TH - TUESDAY 20TH MAY
Monday to Friday 9.30am and 7.30pm
Saturday 9.30am and 6.30pm
Sunday 9.30am 11.30am and 7pm
You warmly invite you to participate in our Annual Novena in honour of Our Mother of Perpetual Help.

Visit www.stgerardsparish.org for more info

THE WEST BELFAST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The May meeting will take place on Friday 9th of May at 7.30pm in St. Michael's Parish Centre, Finaghy Road North

The May talk is entitled:
"ITALIAN MIGRANTS TO IRELAND"
The guest speaker will be Mr PETER VANNUCCI

Refreshments will be provided.

Useful Contacts

Parish Secretary: Angelina Thomson - stcolmcilles@downandconnor.org.

Pastoral Assistant: Noeleen Dunn - n.dunn@downandconnor.org

Finance Officer: Philomena Dawson - p.dawson@downandconnor.org

Parish Engagement Group - stcolmcillespeg@gmail.com

NET Team: colmcille@netministries.ie

Webcam: <https://st-colmcilles.net/web-camera/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/stcolmcilleschurch/> **Instagram:** [stcolmcillesballyhack](https://www.instagram.com/stcolmcillesballyhack)

"More safe am I within Thy hand, Than if a host did round me stand."