

PARISH OF ST COLMCILLE

BALLYHACKAMORE

4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Pg 377 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,

What a Week! Some weeks are full of grace—and this past one was overflowing. It began with the Alpha Conference in London on Monday and Tuesday, where I joined 5,000 Christian leaders from across denominations and across the world. It was two days of powerful worship, inspiring speakers, deep prayer, and a sense of real hope for the Church. One moment that really stood out was hearing about the dramatic growth in faith among young people. In 2018, just 4% of 18–24 year-olds in the UK attended church. Now, in 2024, that number has jumped to 16%. Among young men, the figure has risen from 4% to 21%; among young women, from 3% to 12%. It's not just national data—it reflects what we're seeing here in St Colmcille's too. Young hearts are opening to God. The Spirit is moving.

Then, in what can only be described as a moment of joyful madness, I booked a last-minute flight and flew to Rome for the day on the hunch that we might have a new pope elected on Thursday. And we did! I found myself in St Peter's Square surrounded by thousands of Catholics from every corner of the world as the white smoke rose and the name Pope Leo XIV was announced—the first American pope in history, and with Irish roots too! The atmosphere was electric: cheers, hymns, flags, prayers, tears, and smiles all around. It was a moment I will never forget, and an honour to have been there for it.

God is so good. The Church is alive and full of surprises.
Viva il Papa

Have a blessed week, Fr. Conar

“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 : 9.30am. Evening Prayer: 7pm
Thursday	Mass : 9.30am
Friday	Morning Prayer: 9.00am Mass: 9.30am
Saturday	Confession : 5.00pm – 5.20pm Vigil Mass: 5.30pm

MASS THIS SUNDAY

First Reading: Acts 13:14. 43-52

Responsorial Psalm: Psalms 99

Response: We are his people, the sheep of his flock.

Second Reading *Apocalypse 7:9, 14-17*

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia!

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my own sheep and my own know me.

Alleluia!

A Reading from the Holy Gospel, John 10:27-30

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

DECEASED

We pray for the repose of the soul of **Brian Smyth** all those who have died recently and whose months mind occurs. We also remember in prayer all those whose anniversaries occur at this time **Noelle Magennis, Peggy Mc Crarren, Gretta, Joe & Adrian Forde, Michael Kelly, Fr Michael Dempsey**

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,

ANNUAL PARISH CENSUS

A count of attendance will take place at all Masses across the Diocese this 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 this weekend and thank you for your patience and co-operation.

ALPHA

The ALPHA programme is on THURSDAY evenings 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.

PRAISE AND PINTS

All are welcome to come along to a time of Adoration, Praise and Worship in the Church at 7.00pm Thursday 15th May.

This is followed by some social time together in the local pub.

HEALING SERVICE

“There will be a Healing Service in St Matthew’s Church, Short Strand, East Belfast on Thursday May 15th at 7pm. Focussing on the healing power of the Rosary followed by a Eucharistic healing blessing and benediction.

The service will be led by Fr Peter Carlin, PP, and Music Ministry will be provided by Fionnuala O Neill and family.”

MONEY MATTERS

Last week’s collection - £639.04

Digital plate collection for April - £544.50

Standing Orders for April - £4104.46

Trocaire to date - £5210

The collection for the Education of the Diocesan Students to the Priesthood will be taken up at all Masses next weekend

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.

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

LOUGH DERG
2025 PILGRIMAGE SEASON
SANCTUARY OF SAINT PATRICK



DOWN AND CONNOR DIOCESAN Three Day Pilgrimage

LED BY BISHOP ALAN MC GUCKIAN SJ
& JIM DEEDS

Friday 4th – Sunday 6th July 2025

Cost: £100

(Includes Island Admission & Transport)

For further information and bookings contact:

NAME: Claire

Tel: 02890690920 or Email: pathwaystothefuture@downandconnor.org



Sanctuary of Saint Patrick
Pettigo, County Donegal
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www.loughderg.org



"For everyone, may the Jubilee be a moment of genuine, personal encounter with the Lord Jesus who is our hope."

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.

HOLY MASS • CONFESSIONS • ADORATION • TALKS • WORKSHOPS
FELLOWSHIP • PRAYER MINISTRY • PRAISE & WORSHIP • HEALING



Ablaze

PENTECOST IRELAND

2025 – Jubilee Year of Hope – 2025

Join us for an exciting and anointed weekend – don't miss the outpouring!

SCHEDULE

SAT 7TH JUNE
10AM – 10PM

SUN 8TH JUNE
10AM – 8PM

**FOOD
DRINKS
PARKING
AVAILABLE**

**7TH JUNE PENTECOST
WEEKEND 2025**

£25

ST OLIVER PLUNKETT CHURCH TOOME BT48 3PE

A CELEBRATION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CANONIZATION OF **SAINT THÉRÈSE OF LISIEUX**

1925-2025



RENOWNED SPEAKER AND
SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR OF
MOTHER TERESA OF CALCUTTA
FR. PAUL MURRAY, OP

**Blessing
with the Relic of
Saint Thérèse of Lisieux**

**Thursday 22nd May 2025
7:00 PM
Holy Family Church
Belfast**



Join us for the
Down and Connor Diocesan
Pilgrimage to Knock
Sunday 8th June 2025

Cost £45.00pp - Bus Departs at 7.30am,
Living Church Office, 120 Cliftonville Road,
Belfast BT14 6LA

For more information or to book your seat contact Claire:
Tel: 028 90690920
Email: pathwaystothefuture@downandconnor.org

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.”