PARISH OF ST COLMCILLE
BALLYHACKAMORE

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe
Missal Pg 968



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

This Sunday we celebrate the beautiful solemnity of Christ the King, the final Sunday of the Church's year. It reminds us that Jesus' kingship is unlike any other: He does not rule from a throne of gold, but from the Cross; He does not conquer with force, but with mercy; He does not demand service, but bends low to serve.

In a world that often measures success by power, popularity, or control, Christ shows us a different way — the way of the Shepherd-King whose crown is made of thorns and whose kingdom is built whenever love is chosen over fear, forgiveness over bitterness, and hope over despair. As we prepare to enter Advent, this feast calls us to let Christ reign more deeply in our hearts, our homes, and our parish.

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:
TUES & THURS 2PM-4PM,
WEDNESDAY 8AM-10.30AM

This weekend I will be in Maynooth with a group of young men who are discerning a call to the priesthood. I would be grateful for your prayers — for them, for their courage, and for all whom the Lord is gently inviting to consider serving Him as priests.

May Christ the King bless our parish with peace, faith, and many generous hearts

Have a blessed week, Fr Conor

THIS WEEK AT ST COLMCILLE'S

Sunday	Mass: 9.30am & 11.30am
Monday	Morning Prayer: 9.00am
Tuesday	Holy Hour & Confession: 6pm, Mass: 7pm
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: Samuel 5: 1-3

Psalm 121

I rejoiced when I heard them say: 'Let us go to God's house.'

Second Reading: Colossians 1:12-20

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David!

Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 23:35-43

DECEASED

We pray for the repose of the souls of **Sarah Mains** and all those who have died recently. We also remember in prayer all those whose anniversaries occur at this time: **Carmino Alfredo Fusco, Sean Mc Dermott, Tommy Murphy, Kathleen Stewart, Anna Zhang, Aileen Dowds**

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.

SACRAMENTS

Confirmation Registration & Information evening will be on Tuesday, 2nd Dec at 7.30pm in the Parochial Hall.

Holy Communion Registration & Information evening will be on Wednesday 3rd Dec at 7pm in the Parochiall Hall.

All children in Non Catholic Schools will be asked to sign up at the Registration evenings.

Grow in Love Programme will commence on Sunday 7th Dec at 9.30am Mass.

St Colmcille's Faith Formation/RCIA Course

The class is on Wednesday at 7pm as normal in the Iona Room in the Parish Hall. The topic will be "Jesus Christ: Incarnation and Redemption". Please do come along if you are interested.

Emmaus Breakfast

Join us on Wednesday mornings during the month of November for a period of adoration and reflection from 7:30-8:00am. After benediction, breakfast will be available from 8am in the hall. An opportunity for prayer, both for yourself and for the holy souls, and community before work.

Ignite

Faith & Fun for teens aged 14-17 years old
Every Thursday 6.30-8.00pm in the Parochial Hall

Men of Christ

Faith & Fellowship for men seeking God
Every Thursday 8.30-10.00pm in the Parochial Hall
For 18-40 year olds

Advent Spiritual Reading

For a bit of Advent spiritual reading, Ollie recommends
"The Shattering of Loneliness" by Bishop Erik Varden (available at Waterstones).
There will be a meeting to discuss the book later in December, perhaps over a spot of lunch and a glass of wine.
All will be welcome.

MONEY MATTERS

Weekly Collection: - £1, 579.19

Bishop Commission Collection: - £715.90

Many thanks for all those who contributed.

The Annual Parish Christmas Party

The Annual Parish Christmas Party will be held on Sunday 7th December at 3pm in Shandon Park Golf Club. Doors open at 2.30pm, finishing at 6.30pm. Strictly over 18's.

We need to confirm final numbers and meal choice by Sunday 30thNovember. If you want to attend, please leave your name, contact details and your meal choice at the back of the church on the specific form. Please make sure you check the menu and let us know of any allergies you may have.

You can contact either Mary Walsh on 07815 493463 or Roisin McMullan on 07854 140019 if you are unable to fill in the form and wish to attend. If your name is not on the list unfortunately you will not be able to attend. We look forward to seeing you there.

Apostolic Work Fundraiser

On Sunday 30th November, the Apostolic Fundraising Coffee Morning will take place in the Parochial Hall after the 9.30 and 11.30am Masses. Unlike the Parish monthly Coffee Morning, this occasion is to raise much needed funds for the Missions.

Unfortunately, we are no longer able to include cakes for sale but will have a range of plants and planters for sale plus a ballot.

The Contact Singers present
"Night of the Father's Love"
Monday, 22 December 2025 at 7:00pm
St. Colmcille's Church

Join us for a beautiful musical celebration of the Christmas story.
A retiring collection will be taken in support of the homeless.
All are warmly welcome.

Oh King of night and day?"

Representing the Tanzanian Africa Project (TAP) and in lieu of speaking to you at mass I would like to take an opportunity in print to launch our main annual fundraising activity in support of our twinned parish of St. Bakhita's in Moita Bwawani, Tanzania.

Many of you are very familiar with the story of how St. Colmcille's Ballyhackamore and St. Bakhita's have been twinned since 2007, supporting the SMA missionary priests there. Over a three-year period, our teams of volunteers built much needed water tanks, the St. Colmcille's Pre-School, a clinic as a base for the vital antenatal and postnatal care for the women of the parish, and an extension to the church.

Since our last building trip in 2010 our parish has continued to support St Bakhita's with annual fundraising. This is accomplished through the donations we make and most effectively through the purchase of the TAP Christmas Gift Cards.

The three themes remain the same each year. You are contributing to the building of faith in training Catechists to assist the mission priests in the expansive rural parish of Moita Bwawani; you are contributing to the building of foundations in children's education through funding the St. Colmcille's Pre School; and you are contributing to the life-saving work of the Mobile Clinic for Mothers and Babies.

The Christmas Gift Cards will be on sale after each weekend mass during Advent from next weekend (29th November).

We are very grateful for your continued generosity to our twinned parish. Asante Sana - which translates from Maasai as "thank you very much."

DOWN and CONNOR DIOCESAN TRUST

BISHOP'S RESIDENCE & CURIA OFFICE

VACANCY

ASSISTANT HOUSEKEEPER – JOB SHARE

An opportunity has arisen within our Housekeeping Team to recruit into the role of Assistant Housekeeper, as a Job Share arrangement. Working closely with our Head of Housekeeping, you will be required to provide a reliable and efficient housekeeping service to include cleaning, shopping and cooking duties.

This role will support the Head of Housekeeping to ensure a pleasant, welcoming and clean environment for all visitors to the residence and Curia offices.

This role is being advertised as a Job Share position. The terms are based on a permanent appointment of two individuals who will be required to work 16 hours each per week. Work pattern to be agreed with the Head of Housekeeping. Having a flexible approach to working hours will be a requirement within the role.

Rate of pay: £15.50 gross per hour x 16 hours per week (£12,800 gross per annum)

Full details relating to the vacancy can be found on the Diocesan website at: http://www.downandconnor.org clicking on the tab: **job vacancies** and on the Community NI and nijobs.com websites, where terms and conditions relating to the role can also be accessed by way of a Role Profile and Employment Application form.

We welcome applications from anyone who feels they meet the criteria as presented and are interested in playing an active role within the Diocese of Down and Connor.

Closing date for applications will be 12.00 noon on Tuesday 2 December 2025

St Joseph's Primary School

Open Morning

Our Open Morning will take place on Thursday 27 November, 2025.
This will begin at 10.30am with refreshments and a short address by the Principal, followed by a guided tour of the school. All prospective parents are very welcome.

Useful Contacts

Parish Secretary: Angelina Thomson - stcolmcilles@downandconnor.org.
Finance Officer: Philomena Dawson - p.dawson@downandconnor.org
Pastoral Assistant: Ollie Donaldson - o.donaldson@downandconnor.org
Parish Engagement Group - stcolmcillespeg@gmail.com
Webcam: https://st-colmcilles.net/web-camera/
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/stcolmcilleschurch/
Instagram: stcolmcillesballyhack

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