PARISH OF ST COLMCILLE

BALLYHACKAMORE

1st Sunday of Advent
Year A
Missal Pg 1



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

This weekend we light the first candle on the Advent wreath — a small but powerful sign that we are a people who wait in hope. Advent reminds us that light is coming into the world. Christ is that light, the One who enters our darkness and gently dispels it. Every year we pause to remember that truth, to rekindle our hope, and to prepare our hearts for His coming. In that same spirit of light and renewal, I want to share an important update about our church. Plans are now in place to completely re-light the interior of St Colmcille's.

Over the years, lighting technology has moved on significantly, and many of our current bulbs are increasingly difficult to source. Just as importantly, our care for creation urges us to steward energy wisely and responsibly. For these reasons, we are moving to a fully updated, energy-efficient lighting system.
Of course, this work comes at a cost — £39,254.40. It is a significant investment, but it is also an investment in the future: not only for us who worship here today, but for those who will come after us. Our aim is to ensure that the beauty of our church is honoured, and that our liturgical celebrations are enhanced by warm, thoughtful and sensitive lighting. The work will begin in January.

It is a large expense, but a worthwhile one — a step towards keeping our church radiant, welcoming, and ready to reflect the Light of Christ for generations to come.

Have a blessed week, Fr Conor



ST COLMCILLE'S PARISH
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PARISH OFFICE:
TUES & THURS 2PM-4PM,
WEDNESDAY 8AM-10.30AM

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: Isaiah 2:1-5

Psalm 121

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

Second Reading: Romans 13:11-14

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 24:37-44

DECEASED

We pray for the repose of the souls of all those who have died recently. We also remember in prayer all those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Chrissie Martin, James Irvine, Peter Kelly

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 "The Church and Papacy''.
Please do come along if you are interested.

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.

"Recharge" will meet on the following dates in October in St Colmcille's Church. All 18-35 year olds welcome!

Dates for your diary for December:
Tuesday 2nd December @7.30pm: Holy Hour with Adoration followed by drinks in the Hearth Bar.
Saturday 13th December @10am: Advent Day Retreat - Quo Vadis? Where are you going?

Tarsus Scripture School Advent Course

After the 9:30am mass on Wednesday, there will be the first of a three-part Scripture course looking at the Advent readings in the Iona room. All are welcome.

Parish Engagement Group

Members of our Parish Engagement Group will be present in the porch after all weekend masses this weekend (29th/30th November). We warmly invite all parishioners to take this opportunity to share any feedback, successes, suggestions, or anything else you would like to discuss.

Calling all Children's Liturgy members;

you are invited to take part in our annual Nativity play at 6.30 Mass on Christmas Eve! This open to all members from pre-school up. If you haven't already spoken to one of our leaders and given them your email address, then contact Fiona (fionamdonnelly@hotmail.com) to let us know that your child would like to take part.



If you would like to attend this event please book through Bronagh on 07938394790 by Monday 15th December.

Oh King of night and day?"







Tanzanian Africa Project

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."

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."