PARISH OF ST COLMCILLE

BALLYHACKAMORE

The Baptism of the Lord
Year A
Missal Pg 92



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

A NEW BEGINNING

Today we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord, the moment that marks the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. Standing in the waters of the Jordan, Jesus is revealed as the Beloved Son, and from that moment he steps out to proclaim the Good News, to heal, to teach, and to draw people into a living relationship with God.

This feast is not only about something that happened to Jesus long ago; it is also about us. It invites each of us to see our faith as a living journey. For some, it may be a gentle encouragement to take the next step. For others, it may be the beginning of a completely new chapter — a fresh start in trusting God, rediscovering prayer, or reconnecting with the Church. Through our own baptism, we are called to be witnesses in the world, allowing the love of God to be seen in our words, our choices, and our care for one another.

One very simple and welcoming way to take that step — or to invite someone else onto the journey — is through the Alpha Course. Alpha is a relaxed space to explore life, faith, and meaning together, beginning with a shared meal, good conversation, and time to reflect on God's great love for us. You are warmly invited to join us on Wednesday 14th January at 7.30pm. Whether you are curious, returning, searching, or simply wanting to go a little deeper, you will be very welcome. And if you know someone who might benefit from an invitation, please don't hesitate to pass it on. As Jesus began his ministry with courage and trust, may this feast inspire us to begin again — and to walk together on the journey of faith.

St Colmcilles Parish, 191 Upper Newtownards Road, Belfast, BT4 3JB
Parish Priest: Fr Conor McGrath PP, Fr Anthony Curran PE
Phone: 02890 654157 Website: www.st-colmcilles.net
Email: stcolmcilles@downandconnor.org

THIS WEEK AT ST COLMCILLE'S

Sunday	Mass: 9.30am & 11.30am
Monday	Morning Prayer: 9.00am
Tuesday	Holy Hour, Confessions, : 6pm, Mass: 7pm.
Wednesday	Mass : 9.30am.
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 42:1-4, 6-7.

Psalm 28

The Lord will bless his people with peace.

Second Reading: Acts 10:34-38

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The heavens opened and the Father's voice resounded:

'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.'

Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17.

DECEASED

We pray for the repose of the souls of all those who have died recently: **Hugh Bradley**

We also remember in prayer all those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

John Tansey, Ella Kerrigan, Mary Opadijo, V.G. Varghese, Raymond & Colette O'Neill, Nicola Feenan

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.

Save The Date: CEILI

Join us for a Parish Social Community Night on Friday 30th January, from 7.30pm – 11.30pm, at St. Colmcille's Parochial Hall.

Admission: £10.00 (pay at the door)
Bring Your Own drinks and snacks.
Enjoy an evening of dancing, craic, and fun for everyone. No experience is needed! Before each dance, there will be a short practice where the caller will explain the steps. During the dance, she will continue to call out the moves — half the fun is learning them together.

We will also be holding a Ballot/Raffle on the night.
One envelope containing 5 tickets costs £5.
Come along, bring friends, and be part of a great night of community and entertainment!



Money Matters

Weekly collection - £707.30
The Faith & Pastoral Development Fund Collection 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.

St Joseph's Pre School Playgroup

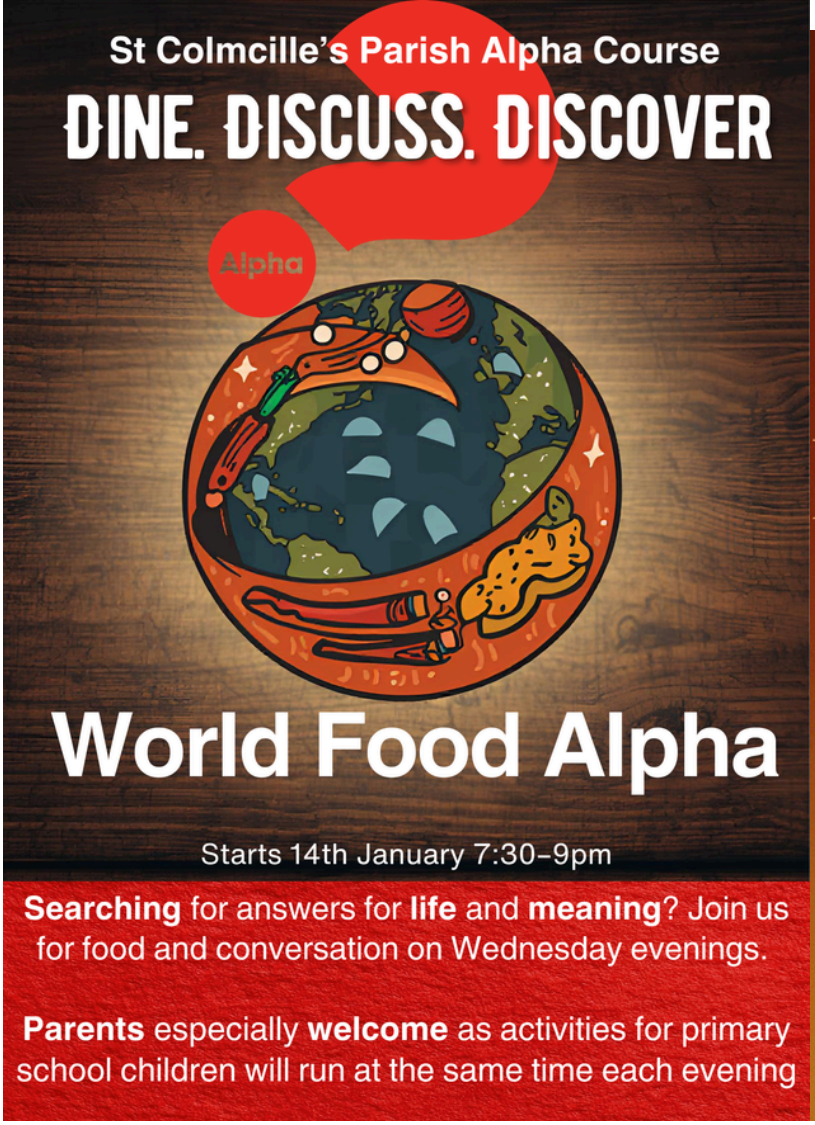
Online applications for the preschool are open now for children starting in September 2026.

60th Anniversary Dinner Celebration in the Stormont Hotel Saturday 7th February

The 11th Belfast Scout Group, St. Colmcilles, will celebrate the 60th Anniversary of the re-establishment of the Scout Group in the parish with an Anniversary Dinner in the Stormont hotel on the 7th February. ALL ex members, supporters, ex-fundraisers, parents of current members, and friends of the Group are warmly invited to attend. Tickets are priced at £40 per person inclusive of a wine reception and may be secured by contacting the organisers by email as follows:

11thbelfastscoutgroup @gmail.com

We hope to see you there!





Down and Connor Safeguarding Office
Training Dates

14 & 21 Jan 2026- 2 evenings face to face St John's Parish Hall Child Level 2 – Fill in form
19 January 2026- Introduction to Adult Safeguarding Virtual Awareness Session – Fill in form
20 Jan 2026 Child Level 1 VIRTUAL SESSION – Fill in form
10 Feb 2026 Child Level 1 VIRTUAL SESSION – Fill in form

To book go to the Safeguarding website https://downandconnorsafeguarding.com/

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
Parish Office: Tues & Thurs 2pm-4pm, Wednesday 8am-10.30am