22th March 2026

PARISH OF ST COLMCILLE
BALLYHACKAMORE

Fifth Sunday in Lent Year A

Missal Pg 135



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

Entering Passiontide: Walking More Closely with Christ

This Sunday, we enter into Passiontide—the final two weeks of Lent, when the Church invites us to turn our gaze more intently towards the suffering and love of Jesus Christ.

You may notice that crosses and images in the church are veiled. This is not to hide them away, but to help us focus more deeply. The Church gently strips back what is familiar so that our attention rests firmly on the mystery of the Cross. These days are not simply about remembering events from long ago—they are about accompanying Christ, step by step, in His Passion.

Passiontide is a time to slow down, to pray more deliberately, and to allow the love of Christ crucified to touch our hearts again. It is a powerful opportunity to enter more deeply into Holy Week, not as spectators, but as disciples.

I warmly encourage you to join us for Evening Prayer this Sunday evening, a simple and beautiful way to mark the beginning of this sacred time together as a parish community.

And next Sunday, we will gather for Palm Sunday, as we accompany the Lord in His entry into Jerusalem and begin the solemn journey of Holy Week. Your presence and prayer will help make these liturgies truly prayerful and alive.

Let us walk these days together—with reverence, with gratitude, and with our eyes fixed on the One who loved us to the end.



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: 7:30am & 7pm.
Wednesday	Mass : 7:30am & 9.30am
Thursday	Mass : 7:30am & 9.30am
Friday	Morning Prayer: 9.00am Mass: 7:30am, 9.30am & 7pm
Saturday	Confession : 5.00pm – 5.20pm Vigil Mass: 5.30pm

MASS THIS SUNDAY

First Reading: Ezekiel 37:12-14

Psalm 129

O that today you would listen to his voice: 'Harden not your hearts.'

Second Reading: Romans 8: 8-11

Gospel Acclamation

Glory and praise to you, O Christ! I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord; whoever believes in me will never die. Glory and praise to you, O Christ!

Gospel: John 11: 1-45

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:
Norah Rogan, Marie Louise and John O'Donnell, Jose Luis Ballesteros, Jimmy Magennis, Gerry O'Flaherty and Joe McShane

ANNIVERSARIES

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

Evening Prayer across the Vicariate

The priests and deacons of the Vicariate will gather for Evening Prayer every Sunday in Lent across the Vicariate.

Parishioners are invited to join them in prayer if they can at 7.30pm.

5th Sunday Lent 22nd March St Malachys

6th Sunday Lent 29th March St Colmcilles

There will be **Penitential Services** in St Brigid's Church on Palm Sunday 29th March at 4.00pm

St Colmcille's Church on Tuesday 31st March at 7.00pm

MONEY MATTERS

Weekly Collection - £1324.01

Needy Parishes - £843.67

Parishioners are asked to collect their new Offertory envelopes after Mass this weekend. Those who requested boxes last weekend should also pick them up. If you did not receive a Financial Statement and would like one, please speak to Philomena in the porch after Mass or email her:

p.dawson@downandconnor.org

Many thanks to all those who so generously donated.

RCIA/Faith Formation Course

The course continues on this Thursday at 7 pm in the parish hall. All are welcome. Please email Ollie for more details.

Wednesday morning Scripture Course

After the 9:30am mass on Wednesday, there will be a short (20/30 min) video course on the book of Acts from the St Paul Center in the parish hall. Contact Ollie for more details.

Prayer & Praise

All are welcome to our Friday Prayer and Praise evenings. The night begins with an hour of adoration in the church accompanied by praise and worship music and finishes with a time of fellowship and food in the parish hall. It runs from 6.30-8.30 for ages 16 and up. We'd love to see you there!

What's Ignite?

Ignite is our weekly faith-based youth club for ages 14–17, held every Thursday from 6:30–8:00pm.

Enjoy games, discussion, and a chance to grow in your relationship with God while discovering the life of the Church.

Sensory Mass Invitation

Our monthly **Sensory-Friendly Mass** will be held on next **Saturday, 28th March at 12:00 noon**. This special shorter Mass is designed to help young people and adults, who experience sensory overload. It is especially helpful to some with autism, dementia and those who feel overwhelmed in crowded or noisy places. At this Mass lights are dimmed, the sound output is lowered, the sermon is short and the readings are simplified. Please consider who you could alert to this invitation. **Refreshments after Mass in the parish centre.**

Always the Same and Always New:
Holy Week Through Poets' Eyes
Belfast Jesuit Centre | Monday 30 March 2026 | 7:00–9:00 pm

Reflective exploration of Holy Week through selected poems.





BELFAST JESUIT CENTRE

FAITH & FILM

Thursday 26th March @ 7.00PM – 10.00PM

*Join us for an evening of reflection, conversation, and shared viewing as we explore Martin Scorsese's **Silence**—a powerful story of faith, doubt, and endurance set in 17th-century Japan.*

Through the journey of two Jesuit missionaries searching for their missing mentor, the film invites us to grapple with profound questions about God's presence, suffering, and the cost of discipleship.

Everyone is welcome to watch, reflect, and share in a spirit of attentive listening. Light refreshments provided. A small donation is suggested. No need to register, just come along and bring a friend.

SILENCE



KEEP AN EYE ON OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE FILM ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHOWING AT





YOUTH 2000

AGES 16-35

ULSTER RETREAT

27TH – 29TH MARCH 2026

ST. BENEDICT'S COLLEGE, RANDALSTOWN





VIGIL FOR PRIESTS AND VOCATIONS

Friday 27th March 7pm - 9pm

Holy Mass @7pm

- Word of God, Adoration
- Benediction & Healing Prayers
- Silent Adoration
- (Confessions & One to One sharing available)
- Prayers for priests

St Colmcilles Parish, BT4 3JB 191 Upper Newtownards road, Ballyhackamore

Night Vigil led by Anointing Fire Catholic Ministries

For more information, please contact: *Thomas Carey: 07967 620435*

Colette Mulholand: 07821 187964 *Chrispin Fernandez: 07733 623423*

STARS IN THEIR EYES

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The parish are keen to put on a "Stars in their Eyes" FUNdraiser in October! We would love it to be a whole parish event and with that in mind we need help/volunteers in any one or more of the following areas –

1. Solo or Group Music Acts
2. Technical-Sound-Lights-PowerPoint-Videos
3. Staging
4. Art Design
5. Back stage management
6. Front of House-tickets, posters
7. Costumes/Sewing
8. Makeup
9. Music Mentors
10. Choreography mentors

PLEASE COME ON BOARD FO WHAT IS SURE TO BE A FANTASTIC PARISH EVENT

Please contact Aurora on 0783668599 to express your interest.

Useful Contacts

Parish Secretary: Ciyana James - 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: Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri: 09:30 - 13:30, Wed: 13:00-17:00