8th March 2026

PARISH OF ST COLMCILLE
BALLYHACKAMORE

Third Sunday in Lent Year A

Missal Pg 122



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

Parish Update



Congratulations to the boys and girls who were confirmed and made their First Confession this week!

Over the past couple of years we have been very grateful for the help of Angelina, who stepped in to support us as Parish Secretary. Angelina's regular parish is Drumbo, where she has been serving for many years. She very generously helped us here during that time, ensuring that the practical and administrative life of the parish continued to run smoothly.

At the same time, I am pleased to welcome Ciyana, who joins us as our Parish Support Officer and will take on the secretarial responsibilities within the parish. Please take note of Ciyana's working hours and location listed in the bulletin so that you know when she will be available. We are very grateful to her for coming on board and working alongside us in the life of the parish.



Alongside this, I am also delighted to welcome David Goodwin, who joins the diocesan team as Vocations Support Officer. David may already be familiar to many as the captain of the Belfast Giants. David is a man deeply committed to his faith and has generously offered his time and gifts to help promote and support vocations to the priesthood.

If you happen to see Ciyana or David around the parish in the coming weeks, please be sure to say hello and make them feel very welcome.

Finally, I will be away this weekend at a Vocations Discernment Retreat. There will be 25 men from across the northern dioceses joining us as they take time to pray and reflect on whether God may be calling them to the priesthood. Please keep them in your prayers over these days.

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
Saturday	Confession : 5.00pm – 5.20pm Vigil Mass: 5.30pm

MASS THIS SUNDAY

First Reading: Exodus 17:3-7

Psalm 94

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

Second Reading: Romans 5:1-2, 5-8

Gospel Acclamation

Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God! Lord, you are really the saviour of the world' give me the living water, so that I may never get thirsty. Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!

Gospel: John 4:5-42

DECEASED

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

Geraldine O'Kane

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

Norma Loder, Leocadia Soriano, Brian Smyth, Kathleen McMahon

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.

3rd Sunday Lent 8th March St Brigids

4th Sunday Lent 15th March St Matthews

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: £1392.55

The collection for Needy Parishes will be taken up at all Masses next weekend.

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. We will be looking at the Mass. 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 14–17-year-olds. The club is on every Thursday night at 6:30 PM to 8 PM. We have games, discussion, and the opportunity to go deeper into your relationship with God . We want to encourage young people to love Jesus and embrace the life of the Church!

Catholic Men's Retreat - Standing in the Breach

A morning retreat for Catholic men will take place at Portglenone Monastery on Saturday 14 March from 9am to 1pm. The theme will focus on spiritual warfare and remaining steadfast in faith during Lent, with a talk by Fr Martin Graham, along with testimonies from Catholic laity. The morning includes the Rosary, Holy Mass, and refreshments.

To register or learn more, visit:
https://catholicminute.co.uk/mens-retreat/

Venture scout quiz

Come along to the St. Colmcille's venture scouts quiz for a great night's craic plus the chance to win prizes!

The ventures are holding the event to raise funds for our 2026 summer expedition to Poznań, Poland.

Come to the scout hall on the evening of the 21st March for a night of trivia-based fun. Costs are £20 per team (or £5 per person) and doors open at 6:30 for a 7 o'clock start.

The event is BYOB and we will also have some light refreshments. remember to bring cash for a raffle. We'll see you there!



Friday, 20th March 2026 | **Doors 7pm • Show 8pm**

Online Tickets: Skiddle.com
Local Outlets: Dunloy Parish Office • Mace Dunloy • Costcutter Dunloy
or **Contact Oran:** 07729686440

The Shroud of Turin

The Knights of St. Columbanus have organised a talk on the Shroud of Turin. An overview of scientific research followed by discussion.

The talk will be delivered by Ulster University Professor Emeritus, Dr. Pauric McGowan - A Postgraduate of Turin Shroud Studies at the Pontifical University, Rome.

It will take place on Sunday 22nd March at 7pm in the Church of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Carryduff

St Patrick's Way Pilgrim Walk

☘Don't miss a DIVINE invitation to come on St Patrick's Way Pilgrim Walk in Downpatrick with guides Martina Purdy & Elaine Kelly on Sat March 14 in honour of Ireland's patron saint and the 25th Anniversary of The Saint Patrick Centre. Includes the fabulous 180° IMAX film of St Patrick, with internal bus transfers, pilgrimage lunch, an authentic Camino passport and a 6 mile pilgrimage walk finishing at St Patrick's grave. A special 25% discount price is on offer of £40 (normally £55) To book ring 02844 61900 or www.thesaintpatrickcentre.com ☘

STARS IN THEIR EYES

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 would 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 FOR WHAT IS SURE TO BE A FANTASTIC PARISH EVENT! Please contact Aurora on 07833668599 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: Monday - Friday 09:30 - 13:30