PARISH OF ST COLMCILLE

BALLYHACKAMORE

Fourth Sunday of Easter
Year A
Missal Pg 306



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

Good Shepherd Sunday – Vocations Sunday

This Sunday, we celebrate Good Shepherd Sunday, when we hear again the voice of Christ who calls each of us by name. It is also Vocations Sunday, a moment in the life of the Church when we pray especially that many will have the courage to follow Him as priests, religious, and in all the ways He calls.

I want to say a very sincere thank you to you, the parishioners of St Colmcille's, for the way you have supported me in my role as Vocations Director for the diocese. Your encouragement, your interest, and above all your prayer mean more than you might realise. This is not a task I carry alone, it is something we share together as a parish, and I am deeply grateful for that.

Please continue to pray for our seminarians, that they may grow in holiness and perseverance, and for those who are discerning at this time, that they may be open, generous, and unafraid in responding to the Lord's call.



Your support strengthens me both as your parish priest and in this wider responsibility entrusted to me. Thank you for standing with me in this important work, and for helping to make this parish a place where the voice of the Good Shepherd can be heard and followed.

On a slightly more personal note, I will be "running" the first leg of the **Belfast City marathon on Sunday, 3rd May.** Any encouragement you can offer if you happen to see me along the route would be very gratefully received- especially given the distinct lack of training!



To add a bit more purpose to my "effort," I am also taking this on in support of **Mary's Meals,** that wonderful charity providing daily meals to children in some of the poorest communities in the world. If you would like to sponsor me, I would be very grateful- and it may help lessen the humiliation somewhat!

Thank you for any support you can offer.

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, : 6.00pm, Mass: 7.00pm.
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: Acts 2: 14, 36-41

Psalm 22

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 2: 20-25

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my own sheep and my own know me. Alleluia!

Gospel: John 10: 1-10

DECEASED

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

Aleyamma Mathew

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

Geraldine O'Kane, Dominic McClure, Fr Peter McCann, Joseph T George, Mary Ellen Tansey, Margaret Kerr, Gerry Hughes, Dermot Allister, Claire Mullaly (Snr), Molly McEvoy,

ANNIVERSARIES

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

Money Matters

Last Sunday's Collection - **£1,356.45**
Trocaire to date - **£6,111.25**
Please return your Trocaire boxes to the parish as soon as possible. Thank you.
The Monthly Offering Collection for the support of the priests in the parish will be taken up at all Masses next weekend.
Many thanks to all who kindly donated.

Ongoing Formation Course

Join us at **7 pm Wednesday** in the **Iona room** to watch a film on St Benedict of Nursia, the great father of western monasticism. The film is part of Bishop Barron's 'Pivotal Players' series, which looks at some of the key figures in the history of the Church. All are welcome, and **please contact Ollie** for more information.

Wednesday Scripture Course:

The Wednesday Scripture course will continue on Wednesday immediately after the 9:30am mass in the Iona Room. All are welcome.

ANNUAL PARISH CENSUS 2026

An attendance count will take place at all Masses across the Diocese on **9th - 10th May 2026.**

The annual parish census captures valuable information about the numbers, ages, and gender of people attending Mass. This information helps the Diocese and parishes to identify pastoral priorities, make plans to address them, and provide support to our faith communities.

When you arrive at Mass, you will be given counters for yourself and each member of your household. Please place them in the baskets according to age group- red for females and blue for males. The number of counters for each age band will be recorded after each Mass.

We look forward to seeing you at Mass this weekend, and thank you for your patience and cooperation.



Milltown Cemetery

Blessing of the Graves at Milltown Cemetery will take place on **Sunday, 10th May at 3:00 pm.**

Belfast City Marathon

A quick note to flag that **on Sunday, 3rd May, the Belfast City Marathon** will be taking place. As a result, access to the church grounds will be restricted, particularly for those attending the **9:30am Mass.** Please allow a little extra time for your journey and follow any steward directions on the day.

Tree Planting in Tullycarnet Park

Saturday 18 April

Around 40 people, parishioners from St Colmcille's and members of Stormont Presbyterian congregation, came together in Tullycarnet Park last Saturday morning to plant 50 more trees in the park and to tidy up around the 100 trees already planted by the two churches in previous years as part of our continuing commitment to work together to care for our common home. The trees include oak, sycamore, horse chestnut, willow, alder and birch. Those taking part ranged in age from 8 to 80 plus.

The parish Laudato Si group wishes to thank all the parishioners who helped, the members of the parish hospitality team who provided refreshments, our friends in Stormont Presbyterian church, and Belfast City Council who facilitated the event.



RECHARGE

HOLY HOUR

Of Eucharistic Adoration for Young Adults

With Guest Preacher

Bishop Alan McGuckian



Tuesday 5th May @ 7.30pm

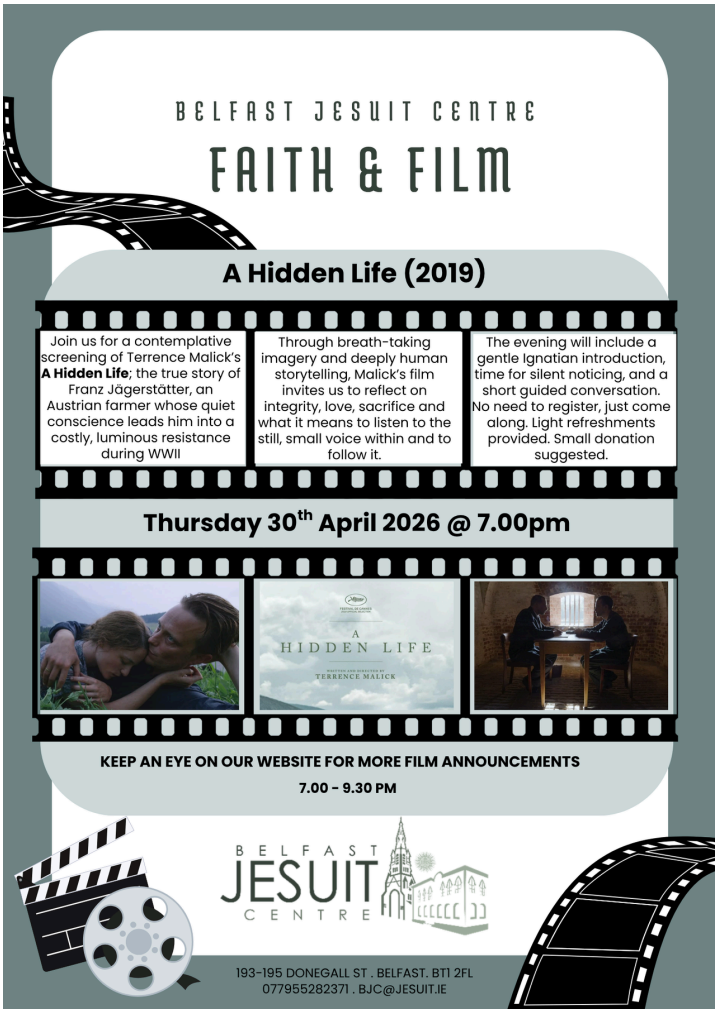
St Colmcille's Church, Belfast

Followed by social in the church hall

Adoration . Guided Payer . Confession . Praise and Worship

ADORATION CHAPEL

The Adoration Chapel is open throughout the day for private adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Please genuflect as you approach the tabernacle, and open the small round door to expose the Blessed Sacrament. When you have completed your prayer time, again genuflect to the Blessed Sacrament and close the small round door. **The exposed Blessed Sacrament must never be left unattended, so please ensure you close the round door as you leave if no one else is present.**



DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

1-DAY RETREAT TOBAR MHUIRE RETREAT CENTRE CROSSGAR

SAT 6TH JUNE 2026

10.00 AM – 4.00 PM

LET GO, LET GOD

"SURRENDER TO JESUS"

LOOK OUT FOR MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW IN THE PARISH NEWSLETTEROVER THE COMING WEEKS RE BOOKING PROCESS AND COST

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-Fri: 09:30 - 13:30