PARISH OF ST COLMCILLE

BALLYHACKAMORE

Fifth Sunday of Easter Year A

Missal Pg 310



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

It has been a real joy this past week to celebrate the Year 14 and Year 12 Leavers' Masses in Our Lady and St Patrick's, and also to return to my own alma mater, St Malachy's, for Mass. Moments like these are always special. They carry a sense of gratitude for all that has been, and a hope for all that lies ahead!

To stand again in those familiar places is a reminder of how quickly time passes, but also of how faithfully God walks with us through each stage of life. For our young people, these days are filled with anticipation, pressure, and big decisions. Exams can feel like everything depends on them, yet they are only one step in a much bigger journey.

As a parish, it is a simple but important invitation for all of us to keep these young people in our prayers at this time. Pray for calm minds, steady hearts, and a deep sense of their own worth, not based on results, but on who they are as sons and daughters of God. **At the back of the Church, there are cards - please write the first name of any young person sitting exams, and put it in the red box, and we'll remember them throughout our prayers and Masses.**

You might like to pray this prayer to the Holy Spirit for them:

Come, Holy Spirit,
fill the hearts of your faithful
and kindle in them the fire of your love.

Send forth your Spirit, and they shall be created, and you shall renew the face of the earth.

O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit they may be truly wise and ever rejoice in his consolation.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

May the Holy Spirit guide and strengthen all those sitting exams in these days, and may they know that they are never alone.



St Colmcilles Parish, 191 Upper Newtownards Road, Belfast, BT4 3JB
Parish Priest: Fr Conor McGrath PP,
Fr Anthony Curran PE
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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 6: 1-7

Psalm 32

May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 2: 4-9

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus said: "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me." Alleluia!

Gospel: John 14: 1-12

DECEASED

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

Rosemary Louise Clarke

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

Eleanor (Eileen) Vint, Joseph Mills, Sinead McCartney, Gretta Forde, Joe Forde, Adrian Forde, Fr Robert Fulleton, Seamus Diamond.

ANNIVERSARIES

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

Money Matters

Weekly Collection - £1320.68
Trocaire to date – £7151.66
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 Diocese will be taken up at all Masses this weekend.
Many thanks to all who kindly donated.

Ongoing Formation Course

Join us at 7pm Wednesday in the Iona room to explore the life of St Francis of Assisi. 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 9:30 am mass in the Iona Room. All are welcome.

Pray in May with Mary's Meals

Mary's Meals is currently feeding over 3 million children daily around the world. During May, Mary's Meals invites you to pray for children worldwide who rely on a daily meal to access education and for those still waiting. A range of free prayer resources, including themed prayers, rosary reflections and a prayer calendar for May, has been created to support parishes, prayer groups, schools, families and individuals to take part. They are available at:
www.marysmeals.org.uk/prayinmay
or contact **Caoimhe on 07394564065**.

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.



PEG Listening Ear

Members of the **Parish Engagement Group** will be at the back of the church after every Mass next weekend **(9th - 10th May 2026)** in red lanyards.

Please feel free to stop by, share your feedback, and chat about parish activities.



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.**

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

Standing in the Breach – Catholic Men's Retreat

A powerful half-day retreat for men centred on our call to holiness: **"Be holy, for I am holy"** (1 Peter 1:16).

Join other men for a morning of straight-talking teaching, prayer, and real-life testimonies, led by **Fr Andrew Black**. This is a call to step up, take responsibility, and live the faith with courage in today's world.

- **Saturday 9th May 2026**
- **9:00 AM – 1:00 PM**
- **Portglenone Monastery**

Includes prayer, teaching, testimonies, and tea & coffee with time to connect.

For more information or to attend:

Thomas Carey – 07967 620435

sean@catholicminute.co.uk

LOUGH DERG



Diocese of Down and Connor
Three Day Pilgrimage

LED BY BISHOP ALAN MCGUCKIAN SJ AND JIM DEEDS

Friday 19th – Sunday 21st June 2026

Cost: £100pp

(Includes Island admission and bus transfers)

For further information and bookings contact:

NAME: Claire

Tel: 028 90690920

Email: pathwaystothefuture@downandconnor.org



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