

# ST COLMCILLE'S CHURCH, HOLYWOOD PARISH

Fr Stephen P McBrearty PP

2a My Lady's Mile, Holywood, BT18 9EW Tel: 028 9042 2167 Office Hours: 10.00am – 2.00pm

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## A great opportunity to begin the New Year! Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible.

The Bible is at the heart of our faith and our relationship with God. Reading the Bible should bring us closer to Christ, but many

people find it hard to even begin. Why not begin with the Living Church office to learn how to read the bible, understand it and so experience its life changing power. Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible includes 8 sessions (6 weekly online sessions and concluding with a retreat day in Belfast which will incorporate the final 2 sessions.) The programme will be facilitated by Fr Paul Byrne & Aishling Steen. Course participants will receive a resource pack and gather together online each week for a time of teaching, discussion and prayerful reflection.

Beginning **Monday 9th January @7pm for 6 weeks online via zoom.**

The Retreat Day will take place on **Saturday 18th February.** The cost of the program is £30. For further information or to book your place please contact [livingchurch@downandconnor.org](mailto:livingchurch@downandconnor.org) or Tele: 02890690920

## PPC NEWS

Former BBC correspondent Martina Purdy and former barrister Elaine Kelly are coming to share their faith journey on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January at 7.30pm in the church. Their journey has been an amazing adventure, with Jesus in the heart of the church. Each will share on the call to mission that is for all the baptised, and the path of hope that leads to the glorious freedom of the children of God.

On Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> January our electricity supply will be closed off between 9am and 4pm to enable Power NI to carry out necessary tree trimming of the trees on My Lady's Mile by professional tree surgeons. Therefore, the Church will be closed directly after Mass.

## MASS TIMES

Saturday vigil Mass  
6.30pm Sunday 10am & 12noon  
Weekday Mass  
Monday at 7.00pm  
Wednesday & Thursday  
at 9.30am  
Friday at 7.00pm

**Tuesday - St Anthony's  
Novena during the Mass.**

**Friday - Novena of  
Our Lady of Perpetual Succour  
during Mass.**

**Exposition of the Blessed  
Sacrament for 30 mins  
before each Mass**

**Eucharistic Adoration**  
Every Saturday  
12noon – 5.00pm  
And before weekday Mass  
For 30 Mins

*Confession is by appointment  
only – Please contact the parish  
office for further details*

**Church Opening Times  
For Private Prayer**  
Monday to Friday  
10am to 2pm.

Saturdays 12noon to 5pm  
and Sunday until 1pm.

**Children's Liturgy  
Sunday at 10am.**  
**All P1 to P7 children welcome  
Children's Liturgy  
Sunday at 10am.**  
**All P1 to P7 children welcome**

## REMEMBERING OUR DEPARTED

***We pray for those who have died recently and for those whose anniversaries occur around this time.***

**Recently Deceased:** Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, Sinead Mulholland Osborne, Caroline McDade, Margaret Stewart, Helen Jackson (Bangor), John Kane, Maureen Devine

**Months Mind:** Laurence Gavin, Maria Maloney

**Anniversaries:** Very Rev Gregory Cormican, Charlotte Thompson, Desmond McAuley, Patricia Dowling, John Mills (1<sup>st</sup>), Linda McLeod, Frank Tully, Helen Campbell, Martin Beegan (2<sup>nd</sup>), Joe McKeown, Patsy Coleman, Terry Diver, Brian and Anne Chilvers, Dennis & Pearl Maloney, Theresa Morgan (2<sup>nd</sup>), Wilmot Geddis, Mollie Barton, Marie Skeffington, Lola Hunt, Kay McKeown, Peter (Sr) & Elizabeth Fusco, V Rev Maurice McHenry, Rev Francis Toner, Rev Seamus Murray, V Rev Cyril Reilly, V Rev Noel Watson, V Rev Canon Malachy Murphy



## Baptism of the Lord Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2023



"Almighty ever-living God, who, when Christ had been baptised in the River Jordan and as the Holy Spirit descended upon him, solemnly declared him your beloved Son, grant that your children by adoption, reborn of water and the Holy Spirit, may always be well pleasing to you."

### Statement by Archbishop Noel Treanor on the Death of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI -31st December 2022

In response to the announcement this morning by the Holy See of the death of His Holiness Benedict XVI, Archbishop Noel Treanor has issued the following statement: "Together with the laity, religious, and clergy across the Diocese of Down and Connor, I am saddened to learn of the death of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI. Prior to his papal election, Pope Benedict was renowned as an accomplished and respected theologian. A gifted teacher and prolific academic theologian, he was appointed as Professor of theology in 1958, aged only 31. He exhibited a particular capacity to make difficult theological concepts accessible to his students and readers, a teaching charism that accounts for the popularity of his writings about Jesus, Christianity and faith. Having worked in several German universities, this young professor played a significant role as a theological advisor during the Second Vatican Council (1962-1965). In 1977, he was appointed as Archbishop of Munich and Freising in 1977. In 1981, Benedict XVI was asked to serve as Prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith and principal theological advisor to Pope John Paul II. His writings and interviews on the relationship between faith and reason in contemporary culture remain foundational for the presentation of Christian faith as the Church seeks to provide reasons for the faith that is within us. (1 Peter 3:15) Elected Pope on 19th April 2005, and following in the footsteps of his predecessor Pope Saint John Paul II, Benedict XVI initiated reforms within the Vatican Dicasteries which have been taken forward by Pope Francis. Pope Emeritus Benedict published many scholarly writings. In his papal encyclicals and his many theological texts, Pope Benedict has provided insight into the central teachings of the Christian faith. His first papal encyclical *Deus Caritas est* (2005) offered a profound reflection on the nature of human and divine love and encouraged the sharing of God's love with others through acts of charity. *Spe salvi* (2007) centred on the theme of Christian hope which is grounded upon faith in God. *Caritas in veritate* (2009) which emphasised the importance of Christian action in the world and integral human development. A prolific theological author, one of his more recent famous works is 'Jesus of Nazareth' which comprehensively provides a Gospel portrait of Jesus Christ. For all who live in the Diocese of Down and Connor, Pope Benedict's address at the Wednesday audience of 11th June 2008 on the figure of St. Columbanus was memorable. On that occasion he remarked: "The Irish Saint [Columbanus] truly incarnated these words in his own life. A man of great culture - he also wrote poetry in Latin and a grammar book - he proved rich in gifts of grace. He was a tireless builder of monasteries as well as an intransigent penitential preacher who spent every ounce of his energy on nurturing the Christian roots of Europe which was coming into existence. With his spiritual energy, with his faith, with his love for God and neighbour, he truly became one of the Fathers of Europe. He shows us even today the roots from which our Europe can be reborn." Pope Benedict's visit to the United Kingdom in 2010 was historic. Many travelled across from Northern Ireland to Scotland and England to meet with Pope Benedict and celebrate the Beatification of Cardinal John Henry Newman. In that same year 2010, Pope Emeritus Benedict issued a Pastoral Letter to the Church in Ireland, addressing the scandalous abuse of children by clergy. This provided an impetus to further strengthening the national safeguarding policies and procedures in Ireland to ensure that the church would be a safer place for children and adults at risk. Since his resignation in February 2013, Pope Benedict has sought to serve the Church through a life dedicated to prayer. In more recent years, Pope Benedict has also carried the personal cross of human suffering and illness. Together with parishioners and clergy of the Diocese of Down and Connor, I pray that the Lord will grant him eternal rest and welcome him into the eternal light and peace of God's Heavenly kingdom. Upon hearing of his death this morning, the following words from Pope Benedict's Prayer for the Church of Ireland (2010) came to mind: "God of our fathers, renew us in the faith which is our life and salvation, the hope which promises forgiveness and interior renewal, the charity which purifies and opens our hearts to love you, and in you, each of our brothers and sisters."



Living Church – Faith Development Conference The Living Church Office is hosting a Faith Development Conference in the Crowne Plaza

Hotel, Shaw’s Bridge, Belfast, on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2023. This course will equip you with the skills and resources to lead faith development programmes in your parish, with your prayer group or organisation. Five excellent Programmes are being showcased and there will be an opportunity to meet with the developers and presenters of the programmes in taster sessions that they will run. Our keynote speaker will be Mr David Wells. David is an international speaker and author and has worked with Dioceses internationally encouraging and inspiring people to be leaders and sharing the Joy of the Gospel in their local parish communities. Each delegate will receive lunch and will take home resources to support the delivery of five programmes that can be delivered in the Parish. For more information, or to book online, go to: [www.livingchurchevents.com](http://www.livingchurchevents.com). Or to request an application form, contact Claire at the Living Church Office, 02890690920 or [livingchurch@downandconnor.org](mailto:livingchurch@downandconnor.org)



**St Vincent de Paul Helpline Number:**  
07845 854671

To make a donation directly to our bank account, the details are as follows:

**Ulster Bank Springhill**  
**Account Number:** 10523499  
**Sort Code:** 98-07-60

If you would prefer to phone directly to donate money, please phone 028 90750161 and mention Holywood. Thank you for your continued support during these difficult times. If you can, please remember to Gift Aid your donation



TRÓCAIRE thanks you for your help. You can donate in the following ways:

1. Online at [www.trocaire.org](http://www.trocaire.org).
2. By phone: 0800 912 1200 (NI)
3. By post to Trócaire, 10 King Street, Belfast, BT1 6AD

The Rotas for weekly and weekend readers the of Word are now available behind the Altar and on the website. Please contact the parish office if you would like a copy of the readings

The **Donation** Button

Is available on our parish website.

<https://stcolmcilleshollywood.org>

This facility has been installed throughout the Dioceses to enable parishioners to donate remotely to their parish funds



The loss of a partner through death, separation or divorce is devastating. Beginning Experience is offering a programme of bereavement support in St Bride’s Hall, Derryvolgie Ave., Belfast on three Saturdays (January 21st; February 18th and March 18th 2023) Booking essential. Residential weekend in Drumalis, Larne, 10/12th March. To find out more, contact Phil: **02890 207645** or Marie **07896119669** or email [belfastbe@yahoo.com](mailto:belfastbe@yahoo.com)



**SAFE HOME IRELAND**  
EMIGRANT SUPPORT SERVICE

**Safe Home Ireland**

If you know someone living abroad who may want to return, or move to Ireland but who does not know how, or where to start. Please tell them about SAFE HOME IRELAND - the Emigrant Support Service - just go to [safehomeireland.com](http://safehomeireland.com) or Tel: +353 86 059 4538 for more information and where you can also donate to this registered charity.



We have some incredible news! From today until 31 January 2023, every donation made to our Double The Love appeal will be matched, up to £1.5 million.

Thanks to a group of generous supporters, your kindness will go even further at this critical time. In a world devastated by conflict, food insecurity and the cost-of-living crisis, bringing new hope to desperately hungry children with our life-changing school meals has never been more important. Your generosity is giving children hope for a brighter future. Together, through Double The Love, we can transform the lives of many more desperately hungry children waiting for Mary’s Meals.

**Requests for Masses for Deceased Relatives and Friends**

**In remembrance of loved ones –**

To request a Mass for an Intention of a family member or friend. Please give your request either by calling the office 028 90422167 (Option 2) or by sending an email to [holywood@downandconnor.org](mailto:holywood@downandconnor.org)

Although we cannot guarantee the date you request will be available, Fr Stephen will be offering a Mass for the Intention each day.

**Anam Cara Belfast**, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding its monthly Parent Evening for bereaved parents on Monday 9th January at 7:30pm in the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Belfast. This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or whether their death was recent or not. We also offer an online meeting taking place Monday 20th June at 7pm. To join please contact us on 028 95213120.

Maria's Gospel Hour Due to huge interest Maria will be starting a show on Youtube at 4pm on Sundays. Search "@mariadoherty" on Youtube to watch on Christmas Day and New Year's Day onwards..



#### **Down and Connor Lourdes Pilgrimage:**

We know that there are many people who would love to be travelling with us this year but for various reasons are unable to do so. We invite you to send your prayer requests and special intentions. We will bring these to the Grotto in Lourdes during our pilgrimage. Please follow the link <https://forms.office.com/r/TcEqtrYFqJ>

#### **A Call for Volunteers in St Colmcilles Holywood**

We're calling for new volunteers in our Parish. By becoming a volunteer, you join with likeminded people to assist in the life of our parish. If you feel you could volunteer in any of the aspects detailed below, please give your contact details to Claire in the Parish Office.

**Eucharistic Adoration:** The Blessed Sacrament is exposed on Saturdays from 12noon until 5pm. If you could commit to spending some time in Adoration, then please indicate your time preference in the registration book on the table at the back of the church. We would like to particularly encourage people to come along between 2pm and 4pm.

**Cleaners for the Church:** We're looking for more volunteers to help clean our beautiful Church once a month. If you could spare the time, please give your name to Veronica or Claire.

**The Vigil Choir** would like to welcome new members. They rehearse every Tuesday evening from 7.30 pm to 8.30pm. - New members welcome especially men!!!

#### **The Loyola Institute School of Religion,**

*Theology, and Peace Studies* TRINITY COLLEGE DUBLIN  
The Loyola Institute provides an opportunity to study theology within a thriving and prestigious academic setting. The institute offers a challenging context in which some of the fundamental questions of life and faith can be creatively addressed. Taught postgraduate degrees in Christian Theology in the Catholic tradition, at Masters, Diploma and Certificate level are available. Evening lectures (usually on Monday and Thursdays) allow for other commitments, and the Master's degree can be completed on a full time (one year) or part time (two year) basis. Assessment is by written assignment, not by examination. Modules offered for 2022/23 include Readings in Classical Theological Texts; Jesus of Nazareth: Son, Christ, Word; The First Words: Theology/ies of the Bible; Ministry & Church in a Challenging Era; Political Theology; Violence and Grace in the Human Narrative. A range of Scholarships are available. For further information please see our website: [www.tcd.ie/loyola-institute](http://www.tcd.ie/loyola-institute) Or contact Helen McMahon email: [Loyola@tcd.ie](mailto:Loyola@tcd.ie) or Phone : 01 896 4790

**THE BOSWELLIA PROJECT** are launching a donation campaign to the people of Tigray, to help them face the harsh consequences of the war that has been raging since 2021 in this peaceful region of northern Ethiopia. Your donation will be used for the purchase of medicines, infant milk and basic necessities for the direct benefit of various hospitals in the Tigray region. You can donate at:

<https://donate.stripe.com/28o3f39w6cbpf3q1aN>

**An Irish Pilgrimage Guide to the Holy Land** is a new book by Michael Kelly, Editor of The Irish Catholic newspaper which explores the places associated with the life of Christ. Michael, who has led many pilgrimages to the Holy Land, says he hopes the book can also act as an 'armchair retreat' for people who cannot travel to the Holy Land bringing the Gospel to life for them. It is available now from all good bookshops, [www.columbabooks.com](http://www.columbabooks.com) or by calling 00353.1.687.4096 price €16.99/£14.99



Blended Learning – Higher Diploma/Diploma in Pastoral Liturgy: Those interested in an accredited foundation programme in Pastoral Liturgy. Training to be involved with Liturgy at a diocesan and parish level. Better understanding the liturgical life of the Church, which is the highest expression of Theology in the Catholic tradition. Visit [maynoothcollege.ie](http://maynoothcollege.ie) to find out more.

A Prayer by Telephone-The Sisters of Mercy "Bethany"  
34 Point Road, Dundalk. Welcome any person who may wish to request prayer, especially during these difficult times. All requests are confidential.

Tel:00353429331602 9am – 9pm.DailyOne of the sisters will be happy to Listen and Pray with you

### **Rosary Intentions**

Fr Stephen has asked that the Rosary be prayed and dedicated to the following.

*Please consider this form of prayer in preparation before Mass and in your homes with your families.*

**Monday** – For Mothers carrying babies in the womb

**Tuesday**- For Children and Young People

**Wednesday** – For Vocations to the Priesthood

**Thursday** – For the Sick and Injured

**Friday** – For all deceased in our Parish and Families

Hollywood Manna Table: The cost of living is rising almost week on week. Families are finding it more and more difficult to make ends meet. Our Manna Table, which is available every Tuesday from 10am to 1pm outside High St Presbyterian Church is supporting many local families in Hollywood. Gray's Funeral Directors are appealing for donations of food, toiletries, cleaning supplies, anything that may help families in need within our community. Any items may be left with Barbara, any day during office hours and all help, no matter how small is vastly appreciate

Dear parishioners, if you would like to start to contribute via Standing Order or make a one-off Donation to the Parish our details are:

**Account Name: St Colmcilles Church**

**Account Number: 34952843 and**

**Sort Code; 90.21.27**

Please use either your Envelope Number, Name or a Reference. This will identify you to the parish. If you are a UK Tax payer, please don't forget to Gift Aid your donations. Once again, I thank you all for your prayerful support. Please let us continue to look after each other .Fr Stephen