



St. Anthony's Parish, Belfast

part of the Family of Parishes
of
St Malachy's, St Matthew's,
St Colmcille's, St Anthony's, &
St Colmcille's, (Holywood)

Fr. Henry McCann PP (and Chaplain to the
Ulster Hospital, Dundonald),
3 Willowfield Crescent, Belfast, BT6 8HP.
Tel. 028 9045 8158. (no longer available)
Mobile 07740603643 (preferred)
Email: h.mccann@downandconnor.org,
stanthonys@downandconnor.org.
Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/stanthonysbelfast>.
Website: <https://www.saintanthony.co.uk>

MASSES:

Sunday Morning:

(in Polish): 9am, & 6:30pm.
(English Parish Mass): 11.30am

Weekdays:

Mon, Tues & Thurs at 9.30am, Fri 7pm.

All English Masses on Facebook.

Polish Weekday Masses:

Tues & Thurs 7pm, Sat 9am

Confessions: By Arrangement.

Baptisms: By Appointment

St Bernadette's SVP Conference. If you require assistance, please telephone SVP Regional Office at 028 90351561. Donate locally at www.svpni.co.uk

Parish Collections

Many thanks for your support. If you require envelopes, or if your address details have changed please contact Fr McCann. Dona Digital QR Code:

Weekly £545.85
Trocaire £860.00
Dona Digital £51
DONATE (website)£



New Boxes of Envelopes are available for collection. If you would like a box please give details to Fr McCann. It will be assumed that you consent to use of your details. And you may fill in a gift-aid consent form in order that the parish can claim 20% back on your donations. **NEW ENVELOPES BEGIN ON EASTER SUNDAY**

Privacy Policy. The Parish of St Anthony is part of the Diocese of Down and Connor and operates in accordance with the Diocesan Privacy Notice, copies of which are available on request.

Parish Safeguarding. Can you please ensure that all Children and Vulnerable Adults are accompanied at all times when entering the Sacristy / Toilet facilities. If you have any queries regarding the Safeguarding Policy please contact a member of the Parish Safeguarding Committee. Thanks. Fr Henry McCann PP.

4th SUNDAY OF EASTER GOOD SHEPHERD (VOCATIONS) SUNDAY

WE REMEMBER OUR DECEASED LOVED-ONES

Recently Deceased: James (Jim) Murray (father of Suzanne Hopkins), Brigid Donohue, Maureen Magee (mother of Fr Aelred Gerard OSCO)

Anniversaries: Marie Kane, Eileen Clifford, Sean Kelso, Robert Dunn jnr (Thurs 30th April at 9:30am), Daniel Szczepanski (1st Anniversary Fri 1st May at 7pm)

[PLEASE NOTE: If you would like your loved-one's name to be included in the Deceased Lists for Recently Deceased or Anniversary, and mentioned in the Prayer of the Faithful, or a mass be celebrated, please let Fr McCann know]

FEASTS THIS WEEK

Mon 27th: St Asicus, bishop
Tue 28th: St Peter Chanel, priest & martyr; St Louis Marie Grignon de Montfort, priest
Wed 29th: St Catherine of Siena, Virgin & doctor
Thur 30th: St Pius V, pope
Fri 1st: St Joseph, the worker
Sat 2nd: St Athanasius, bishop & doctor

PLEASE NOTE: THE BELFAST MARATHON WILL TAKE PLACE NEXT SUNDAY 3RD MAY. THE ROUTE AS BEFORE WILL TRAVEL DOWN THE CREGAGH ROAD. THIS MAY AFFECT THE ABILITY TO TRAVEL TO MASS. PLEASE TAKE THIS UNDER CONSIDERATION

St Anthony's Music Ministry. Freely received, now freely give. If God has blessed you with a musical skill, then St Anthony's Music Ministry is the place for you! We are looking for musicians of all instruments to support our singing group. Please contact our musical director Liam after mass.

Communications Officer. St Anthony's Parish Pastoral Council is seeking to appoint a Communications Officer. This is a unique opportunity for a young person to gain valuable experience in becoming the main media/community contact for St Anthony's. Duties will involve working closely with the Parish Priest on matters relating to the website and social media aspects of St Anthony's. Please contact Fr Henry after mass.

The Trócaire Lenten Campaign 2026. Any unreturned donations to the Trócaire campaign should be returned by parishioners themselves. Belfast Office is 60 Berry St, Belfast BT1 1FJ. Or donations can be made online: <https://www.trocaire.org/our-work/working-in-ireland/parishes/lent-2026/>

Cregagh Presbyterian Woman's group are having their Friendship Night on Wednesday 6th May at 7:30pm featuring Stormont Community Choir followed by Supper. In order to help them for numbers, if interested contact Suzanne Hopkins

Encounter Weekend Donegal, Radisson Blu Hotel, Letterkenny. 6.00pm - 10.30pm Friday 5th June. 9.00am - 10.30pm. Saturday 6th June. Expect to experience the presence of God through the celebration of the

Sacraments, Spirit-led worship, inspiring talks, healing service, and fellowship. Come and be refreshed and empowered by the Holy Spirit and learn from the Saints how to live the lifestyle God intended you to live. Keynote Speakers: Patrick Reis: co-founder and Executive Director of Encounter Ministries USA & Fr. Patrick Gonyeau who serves with the U.S. Province of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood in Ohio. Bookings at <https://encounterschoolofministrydonegal.com/encounter-conference-donegal> For more info, email donegal@encounterschool.org.

Diocesan Vocations Novena. The Diocesan Novena for Vocations finishes this Sunday. But feel free to continue to pray for Vocations to the Priesthood and religious life. Instagram: [downandconnor_vocations](https://www.instagram.com/downandconnor_vocations). Facebook: Down & Connor - Vocations. Booklets available in the church porch. Or visit <https://www.churchservices.tv/wp-content/uploads/2026/04/Vocations-Novena-Digital-Version.pdf>

Diocesan Vocations Prayer. God our Father, at the very beginning of your Church, your Son Jesus chose twelve apostles to continue the work he had begun. But the power of your Holy Spirit, they continued to bring the Good News of your love to our world. Send that same Holy Spirit into the hearts of those you are calling to serve as priests for your people in our diocese. Fill them with your gifts of wisdom, understanding, piety and knowledge as they discern your will. Give them the gifts of right judgement and courage in following their call. Through the outpouring of your grace may many come to the joy of knowing and responding to the invitation of Jesus to "Come, Follow Me!" Amen.

Sanctuary Singers - The Sound of the Celtic Soul. In aid of the charity, Cancer Fund for Children. Piano-Frasier Hickland, Fiddle-Bronagh McClean, Conductor-Loreto McAuley, Uilleann Pipes-Seamus McClean, Sunday 26th April at 7:30pm, St Patrick's Church, Lisburn. Suggested donations £15/10. For more information 00447979868152, www.thesanctuariesingers.org, loreto@thesanctuariesingers.org

Medical Missionaries of Mary visit. The Medical Missionaries of Mary have been invited to visit us in Down and Connor this year. Sr Mary Coffey will speak of their work, mainly in Africa and South America, and their mission to bring Christ's healing love to those most in need. Originally they had planned to visit St Anthony's the weekend of Sunday 10th May. They have had to reconsider a more appropriate date and will confirm that in the near future.

St Matthew's Parish Vacancy "Housekeeper". Part time Housekeeper within St Matthew's Parish, Full details relating to the vacancy can be found on the Diocesan website at: <http://www.downandconnor.org>
Closing date: 12.00 noon on Monday 27 April 2026

Belfast Jesuit Centre, As part of the Faith & Life Series, A Hidden Life (2019) will be shown at the BJC, on Thursday 30th April at 7pm. This is the true story of an Austrian farmer, whose quiet conscience leads him into a costly, luminous resistance during WWII. Booking not required, small donation welcome.

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

Down & Connor Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lough Derg: 19th—21st. June, £100 incl. Transport & island admission. Contact Claire at 02890690920, or email pathwaystothefuture@downandconnor.org. Also visit www.loughderg, for details of the 1 & 3 day retreats in the 2026 pilgrimage season.

Annual Parish Census 2026. A count of attendance will take place at all masses across the Diocese next weekend Sunday 3rd May. 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 a small counter for yourself and for each person in your family group and will be asked to place the counters in baskets labelled according to age. There will be red counters for females and blue counters for males. The baskets will be labelled with age bands and 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 co-operation.

Annual Novena To Our Mother Of Perpetual Help. In St Gerard's church, 11th -19th May, with the theme of "Living Our Baptism". For Mass times and information, please visit www.stgerardsparish.org.

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". By Fr John Verghese. Tobar Mhuire, 16a Downpatrick Road, Crossgar, Downpatrick BT30 9EQ E: secretary@tobarmhuire.com. Telephone 02844830242

Message From Pope Leo on The 1st Anniversary of the Death of Pope Francis. On the first anniversary of the death of our beloved Pope Francis, his memory lives on in the Church and throughout the world. ...

Death is not a wall, but a door that opens out onto the Mercy that Pope Francis tirelessly proclaimed. The Lord Pope Francis' resting place in Santa Maria Maggiore called him to Himself on 21 April last year, in the heart of the Paschal light. He concluded his earthly pilgrimage in the embrace of the Risen Christ, in that "joy of the Gospel" that inspired one of his most incisive Apostolic Exhortations.

He was the Successor of Peter and Shepherd of the universal Church at a time that marked, and continues to mark, an epochal change—a change of which he was fully aware, offering all of us a courageous witness that represents a significant legacy for the Church.

His teaching was lived as a missionary disciple as he liked to say. He remained a disciple of the Lord, faithful to his Baptism and to his consecration in the episcopal ministry, to the very end. He was also a missionary, proclaiming the Gospel of mercy "to everyone, everyone, everyone", as he often said. The good that came from his witness as a caring Shepherd touched the hearts of so many people, even to the ends of the earth, thanks also to his apostolic pilgrimages and especially to that final "journey" of his illness and his death.

In harmony with his predecessors, he took up the legacy of the Second Vatican Council and urged the Church to be open to mission, a guardian of the world's hope, passionate about proclaiming that Gospel which is capable of giving every life fulfilment and happiness.

We still hear his exhortations, expressed in eloquent words, to make the Good News more accessible: mercy, peace, brotherhood, the odour of the sheep, the field hospital and many others. Each of these expressions leads us back to the Gospel he lived out in a new language that proclaims the same Gospel as always.

Pope Francis nurtured a deep devotion to Mary throughout his life; indeed, we recall that he visited Saint Mary Major, the site of his burial, on many occasions, as well as numerous Marian shrines around the world. May the Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, help us to be, in every circumstance, tireless apostles of her divine Son and prophets of His merciful love.