

# St. Anthony's Parish, Belfast

Pastoral Area of South & East Belfast

PARISH PRIEST: Fr. Henry McCann (and Chaplain to the Ulster Hospital, Dundonald), 3 Willowfield Crescent. BT6 8HP.  
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Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/stanthonyvsbelfast>.

Website: [www.saintanthony.co.uk](http://www.saintanthony.co.uk)

**PUBLIC MASS TIMES—COVID-19 ERA (will be under assessment/review)**

Saturday Evening at 6.30pm. (English Parish Mass)

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

Weekdays: Mon, Tues & Thurs at 9.30am. Fri at 7.00pm.

All English Masses on Facebook. Polish Weekday Masses: Tues & Thurs 7pm, Sat 9am

Confessions: By Arrangement. Baptisms: By Appointment

Local SVP Conference contact details: 028 90351561



## EASTER SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S RESURRECTION

*They both ran, but the other disciple ran faster than Peter  
and arrived at the tomb first ...*

*An angel. Dazzling light. Boulders moved.*

*Burial head cloth rolled up.*

*Women running to tell disciples.*

*Disciples running to see for themselves.*

*The empty tomb proclaiming Good News.*

*He was not there. "Where is he?" "Mary!"*

*The one who has loved us into wholeness  
is alive, and with us now.*

*We say with her, "Rabbouni!" Anne Osdieck*

### WE REMEMBER OUR DECEASED LOVED-ONES

Recently Deceased: Brendan Doran, Rory Morgan

Anniversaries: Terence McCann, John & Florrie Guinness, Theresa McCann, Thomas Luck, Mairead Hughes (Sat 23rd April at 6:30pm),

COLLECTIONS: Many thanks for your support. Weekly £675.10,  
**Online Donate Button on Website £80**

We would appreciate that if you send in a cheque to pay for a number of different donations, that you itemise what amount should go to each collection. Also include all empty envelopes in the one envelope

NEW BOXES OF ENVELOPES FOR 2022/2023 are available for collection. If you wish to have a box please contact Fr Heury.

**Relaxation of Covid-19 Related Regulations & Restrictions.** The pandemic is not over, and we will continue to live with the risks and effects of COVID-19 for some time. As a result, it is important that, in a spirit of Christian solidarity, we all do what we can to care for each other. Therefore, the Diocese continues to strongly recommend a number of protective measures to ensure the safety and well-being of all.

1. **Face Coverings:** the Diocese strongly recommends that face coverings continue to be worn at all times in the church.
2. **Hand Sanitizers:** will continue to be provided at the entrances. Hand sanitizing when entering the church is strongly recommended.
3. **Social Distancing:** While we no longer have to observe social distancing in the church, we need to be distance aware, especially for the vulnerable present.
4. Those administering Holy Communion should continue to **sanitize their hands before & after distribution, & wear face coverings.**
5. **Communion in the hand** should remain the norm.
6. Here in St Anthony's we are to **return to the liturgical gestures of standing, sitting and kneeling**, as marked in the missalette.
7. At the Spring 2022 general meeting of the Irish Episcopal Conference, it has been decided that **"from Easter Sunday, the obligation on the Faithful to attend Mass on Sunday and Holy Days of Obligation is restored."** Though for anyone who is sick or vulnerable, the obligation does not apply

Please Note Mass Times on Easter Monday: 9am & 12 noon Polish, 11am English

**Trócaire Lenten Campaign 2022.** To return your donation we would ask that you convert any coins to notes, (you can do so e.g. by taking the coinage to Tesco's at Newtownbreda and place coins into the coin counting machine, and redeeming the voucher amount at customer services) and place into the envelope provided and return on Holy Thursday or as soon as possible after.

**Trócaire Gala Concert at Clonard Monastery** in Belfast at 7.30pm on Friday 20th May 2022 (doors will open at 6.30pm). Performers: Margaret Keys, The Priests and St Dominic's Girls School Choir and MC, Gerry Kelly. This event will support Trócaire's work in countries around the world, including projects in Zimbabwe which is the focus of this year's Lenten Appeal. Tickets will be available at a later date on a first come, first served basis and we will contact you again to let you know how to book them. Tickets will be free but there will be an option to make a donation on the night with all donations being matched as part of UK Aid Match funding in support of the Lent Appeal.

Bishop Treanor's Easter Message is available in the church porch and also available on the parish Facebook and website.

**Easter Raffle And Cake Fair in Aid of Mary's Meals.** Congratulations to all who supported and indeed were winners in the Easter Raffle taken last weekend. A phenomenal £525.40 for Mary's Meals. The list of winners forwarded to me was mislaid, but congratulations to all concerned.

**The Synodal Pathway.** For more information about the Synodal Pathway see [www.downandconnor.org/synod](http://www.downandconnor.org/synod). Also take home the **Synodal Prayer Card** available in the porch.

**Rosary at the Grottos.** The Rosary will be prayed each day during the month of May at hundreds of grottos around the island of Ireland. To see a list of locations, or to register a grotto (or other suitable location) simply visit [www.coastalrosaryireland.ie](http://www.coastalrosaryireland.ie). You can also register by texting 087 278 6552. (ROI) We are praying for Ireland and for peace in the world.

**Diocesan Pilgrimage to Fatima 2022:** Full board in hotel: 7 nights (8-15 September) from £689 per person sharing. For further enquiries and bookings contact Joe Catney 02890714001/0776425631

**The Knights of St Columbanus - Commemorating the Centenary Anniversary** of the death of its founder, local clergyman Canon James O'Neill (May 6th & 7th 2022), Marine Hotel Ballycastle. You are invited to join our event to mark this anniversary with guest speakers:

Friday 6th May 2pm: Bishop Noel Treanor Down & Connor

Followed by Dr. Eamon Phoenix-a talk on The Social, Political and Economic Times in Ireland of Canon O'Neill 100 years ago

Saturday 7th May 2pm: Mickey Harte, All Ireland Winning Manager-My Faith Journey. Please do come along to either event that are free to drop in and attend.

**Young Adult Catholic Conference (18 - 40) - St Patrick's College, Drumcondra.** Saturday April 30th, 10am - 5pm. Hear great speakers, meet new friends and discover more about your Catholic faith. Cost €25, includes lunch. Search: Young Adult Catholic Conference on [www.eventbrite.ie](http://www.eventbrite.ie) for more information and to book. See you there!

**"Come Away and Rest Awhile" CARA RETREAT.** Are you a parent of a young person with a disability? Would you like to take some time out to pray, reflect and meet other parents? If the answer is yes we would love you to join us for a parents retreat at Drumalis Retreat Centre beginning Friday 24th June, 6pm until Saturday 25th June, 4pm. For information or to register your interest contact: Louise McQuillan Tel: 07922437679 Email: [l.mcquillan@downandconnor.org](mailto:l.mcquillan@downandconnor.org)

**A Biblical walk with the Blessed Mother - Online Course & Retreat Day,** will take us through the Scriptures leading us into a deeper understanding of Mary's life. Although Mary is mentioned in only a few chapters of the entire Bible, these are filled with rich insight which will help us to understand Mary's humanity and the extraordinary mission to which she was called by God. The programme will begin on Monday 2nd May @7.00 pm for 5 weeks meeting online and then concluding with a Retreat day on Saturday 4th June 2022 10:00-4:30 pm. Venue: Parish centre, Parish of Maghera, Newcastle. The cost of the programme including your study materials and the retreat day (including lunch) is £35. To register e-mail [livingchurch@downandconnor.org](mailto:livingchurch@downandconnor.org)

**Meditating with Mary in the month of May.** Additionally, the Living Church office has prepared a resource for Parishes for the Month of May: Meditating with Mary in the month of May. A participants resource is designed to be delivered over three sessions and centres on the Annunciation, Visitation and Magnificat by reflecting on scripture, sharing our insights and closing in prayer. We will be holding a choice of two training sessions on Tuesday 26th April @7pm or Wednesday 27th April @7pm. If you have leaders in your Parish who you would like to run the programme they can book onto the training using the following link: <https://forms.office.com/r/0Vm8VHTzGT> It is a resource that is also easily adaptable should you wish to use it alongside May Devotions and we can make printed copies available for your parish on request.

**Job Vacancy For Parish Secretary.** St. Malachy's Parish, Alfred Street are looking to appoint a part-time Parish Secretary. If interested, contact St. Malachy's Parish Office directly or see the diocesan website at <http://www.downandconnor.org> and click on the link for JOB VACANCIES.

**Thank You and A Joyful Easter to you all!** I wish all our parishioners and those who visit our church, a very joyful and peaceful Easter. I take this opportunity to thank the members of the Pastoral Council, the Ministers of Word and Holy Communion, all who cleaned and prepared the church for the celebration of the Holy Week ceremonies. I, along with many who attend our church, are deeply grateful for all the time and effort that goes into the preparation of parish liturgies. None of this would be possible without the dedication of so many to St. Anthony's church. We owe them a great debt of gratitude. Fr. Henry McCann P.P.

**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. Many Thanks. Fr Henry McCann PP.



## EASTER — A TIME OF HOPE

**T**here is something very appropriate about celebrating Easter in springtime. Nature is in tune with our celebration. Over recent weeks we have seen our gardens come to life again, with spring bulbs in bloom and plants of all kinds showing signs of new growth. Our gardens may have looked somewhat bleak over the winter, but we knew the bleakness was only temporary. There would be

new growth before long. We lived in hope and knew our hope would not be disappointed.

Hope is one of the key qualities of Christian life. It changes the way we look at death and it also colours how we deal with the ups and downs of this earthly life. Christian rituals around death and funerals are permeated with hope, the conviction that the time of sorrow and pain is not the end of our relationship with a loved one who has died. As Jesus died into God, so do we and the love of God for us has no end.

### Next Sunday's Readings



Acts 5:12-16  
Psalm 117:2-4.22-27  
Apoc 1:9-13.17-19  
John 20:19-31

But the resurrection of Jesus also has meaning for us in this life. Christ's resurrection is not an event of the past; it contains a vital power which is present in the world now. Where all seems to be dead, signs of the resurrection suddenly spring up. Each of us has seen this happening: when someone recovers from illness; when we somehow get new energy after a period of disappointment in study or work; when reconciliation happens after a rift with a friend or partner. In so many ways life teaches us that there is always space for hope. This is movingly put into words by Pope Francis in a hope-filled creed at the end of his letter, *The Joy of the Gospel*:

'Faith means:

Believing in God

Believing that God truly loves us

Believing that God is alive

Believing that God is mysteriously capable of intervening

Believing that God does not abandon us

Believing that God brings good out of evil by his power and his infinite creativity.

Believing that God marches triumphantly in history.

Believing the Gospel when it tells us that the kingdom of God is already present in this world and is growing here and there, and in different ways.

Believing that Christ's resurrection everywhere calls forth seeds of that new world... for the resurrection is already secretly woven into the fabric of history.' (paragraph 278)

- John Byrne

## Reflection

What helps you to keep up hope in difficult times?

## Lesson

The resurrection of Jesus means we are never on our own — the Risen Lord is with us

## Prayer

Give thanks to the Lord for God is good, for God's love has no end.

## This Week (18-24 April)

18 M Easter Monday

19 T Easter Tuesday

20 W Easter Wednesday

21 T Easter Thursday

22 F Easter Friday

23 S Easter Saturday

24 S SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

