

St. Anthony's Parish, Belfast

PARISH PRIEST: Fr. Henry McCann (and Chaplain to the Ulster Hospital, Dundonald)
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PUBLIC MASS TIMES IN THE COVID-19 ERA

(will be under assessment and review)

Saturday Evening at 6.30pm. (English Parish Mass)

Sunday Morning (in Polish): 9am, & 7pm. (English Parish Mass): 11.30am

Weekdays: Tues & Thurs at 9.30am. Fri at 7.00pm. **All Public English Masses on Facebook.**

Polish Weekday Masses: Tues & Thurs 7pm, Sat 9am

Private Mass (on Facebook Mon 9:30am)

Confessions: By Arrangement. **Baptisms:** By Appointment



FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

He came in the Spirit into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to perform the custom of the law in regard to him, he took him into his arms and blessed God, saying: "Now Master, you may let your servant go in peace. ..."

The Spirit called. Simeon and Anna came forth. Call us too, O Spirit.

Let us recognize Christ, our brother, the one object of our longing, and find him in all people, in all of creation, in our midst here and now.

Teach us above all else, how to love as you and the Father and the Son love.

Make each and every one part of your Holy Family.

Anne Osdieck

WE REMEMBER OUR DECEASED LOVED-ONES

Recently Deceased Kathleen Brankin, (sister of Fr Anthony McLaverty), Nuala Moore (sister of Dolores Mahoney), Brian Cassidy (brother of Fr Gerry), Veronica Neeson (sister of Fr Paddy)

Anniversaries: Dan McDonnell, Peter Hughes, Bro Peter Gallagher, Marie Matthews, Terence & Sarah McCartan, John O'Connor (Sun 27th Dec at 11:30am), Jim McCann (father of Fr Henry)

COLLECTIONS: Weekly £629.76, DONATE £100 **Online Donate Button on Website**

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.

Diocesan Masses and Services on webcams/online. See list at: www.downandconnor.org including link to **Parish of St Anthony, Belfast** Facebook page for Live broadcasting of Mass.

Coronavirus Regulations (Summary) :

The obligation to attend Mass is still suspended.

Anyone with an **underlying vulnerable disability** should **stay at home**, or **if showing symptoms** of a temperature, and/or a new persistent cough, and/or loss of taste or smell should **stay at home and book a test with NHS number 111**. **Face Coverings now mandatory** when entering or exiting the church and while in the church. **Track and trace.** StopCOVID-19 NI APP (Highly recommended). **Remain seated** throughout the Mass, and to **receive Holy Communion on the Hand.** **Follow directions** from our Stewards. At weekend masses, congregation for **Holy Communion starts from the back and moves forward row by row, following directions from stewards.**

6 WEEK POST CHRISTMAS LOCKDOWN details see Facebook Page or Parish Website. Churches can remain open. PLEASE NOTE: To limit the spread of Covid, please consider viewing on-line, but you would be welcome to be present if you wish so long as you are careful! People could also choose to attend Mass on one day over the Christmas season - up to the Solemnity of the Epiphany, January 6th.

In this extraordinary year, let us all celebrate the Christmas season safely.

Times of Masses at St Anthony's Church: The Times of Mass for Weekend and Weekday are: **English: Sat vigil 6:30pm, Sun 11:30am, Mon (Private), Tues & Thurs 9:30am, Friday 7pm (Facebook Live)**

Mary's Meals – Double the Love. From 2nd November until 31st January 2021, any donations made to the Double The Love campaign will be matched by the UK government, up to £2 million. Each little act of love will provide double the support for families in Liberia and the hope of a better future for their children. More information can be found at www.marysmeals.org.uk/doublethelove

Catholic Engaged Encounter. Preparing for Marriage? A 'Zoom' online Marriage Preparation course is planned for 27-28 March 2021. This 2-day course is a positive way of preparing for Marriage where you will discover how you can enrich your future relationship. Information/Booking: marriageencounter.ie or 028276 38512

The Saint Vincent de Paul can be contacted by anyone who feels they need assistance, financially or otherwise, and we appreciate a lot of people need material assistance over the winter. The contact number is 02890351561, and the local conference will contact you. You can also contact us online at <https://www.svp.ie/get-help/request-help-online.aspx>. Donations can be given online to the region at <https://www.svp.ie/get-involved/donate/single-donation.aspx> and by phone on **028 9075 0161**.

Prayers for Christmas. National Centre for Liturgy, Maynooth have produced some prayers as Christmas resource for the home. Copies available in church porch

12 Days of Christmas Resource. The Northern Pastoral Network have a resource for praying at home through the 12 days of Christmas. Available in the porch and online. The links are below: RESOURCE: <https://www.northernpastoral.network/news--resources/12-days-of-christmas> MUSIC: <https://www.northernpastoral.network/news--resources/12daysmusic>

Christmas Resources available see <https://www.downandconnor.org/blog/2020/12/15/resources-christmas-home/>

Diocesan Directories The 2021 Down & Connor Diocesan Directory is available from the sacristy. Price £4

A Christmas Prayer for the Family

God our Father, Bless our family as we pray before the scene of your new-born Son, lying in the manger,
Like the shepherds, enable to see with your guiding light the best of things to come,
Like the Magi, give us the openness of mind to see you in others,
And most of all like Mary and Joseph, give us faith and hope that you are walking with us every step of the way.
Amen.

Thank You to the many parish Volunteers

Many thanks to all parishioners who contribute to the life of the parish in so many ways - very often behind the scenes. We acknowledge the added burden, as a result of Covid-19, on the volunteers who clean the church, and on the stewards, who keep us safe. Thank you everyone for your contribution to parish life in this most challenging year. We wish every blessing for you and your families this Christmas Season.

**WISHING YOU ALL A SAFE,
BLESSED AND HAPPY NEW YEAR**