



**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
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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 9:30am.
(Nov, Dec & Jan at 9:30am).

**PLEASE NOTE then that from November
Fri Mass is at 9:30am**

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

Weekly	£693.04
Monthly Stipend	£109
Dona Digital	£46
DONATE (website)	£

Privacy Policy. The Parish of St Anthony's 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.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT GAUDETE / BAMBINELLI SUNDAY Jubilee for Prisoners

WE REMEMBER OUR DECEASED LOVED-ONES
Recently Deceased: Malachy Connolly (brother of Monsignor Sean), Maureen Turnbill, Agata Szymánska
Anniversaries: Terence & Sarah McCartan, James Murray, Sally Watson, Peter Hughes

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Thurs 18th: St Flannan, bishop
Sat 20th: St Fachanan, bishop

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve: English 8pm; Polish 11pm
Christmas Day: Polish 9am; English 11:30am
St Stephen's Day: Polish 9am; No English Mass

Parish Pastoral Council. The current Parish Pastoral Council was commissioned in 2018, for a period of 4 years, but because of the Covid Pandemic, it continued for another term. Each parish is highly encouraged to have a Pastoral Council in place, consisting of elected and appointed members.

New members of the council have been approached, and the new Council will be undergoing training in the next few weeks. Many thanks to all who have worked on or will be working on the Council. Parishioners will be encouraged to support the work of the Council with their own volunteering. May God bless the work.

Bambinelli (Gaudete) Sunday. All children and families are invited to bring the Baby Jesus figure from their homes to be blessed during the 11:30am Mass. Please bring your Crib Figure of Jesus to be blessed, then wrap it and let it be the first gift you open on Christmas Day.

Christmas Fair. St Anthony's and the Polish Community are holding a Christmas Fair after the masses next Sunday 14th December. Christmas Crafts and Decorations will available for sale. Please come along and support us.

Penitential Service, Sunday 21st December, St Brigid's, Derryvolgie Avenue, Belfast, 4pm.

Trócaire:

Christmas Gifts of Change. Could you help share the true spirit of Christmas in your parish? Trócaire are appealing for volunteers to help sell their Gifts of Change to help make a real difference to families living in poverty around the world. For more information, please see the video below... Trócaire's Gifts of Change on "Vimeo"

Schools Volunteers Notice. Are you a retired teacher or someone who has experience presenting to groups of school children? Trocaire is looking for volunteers to support our Schools Talks Programme for Lent 2026 in the Down and Connor Diocese. If you think you have the right skills and experience and will have time to volunteer during Lent, there we would love to hear from you. Full training and support will be provided. For more information call Fionnuala on 028 9080 8033 or email fionnuala.mcguinness@trocaire.org

Misa de Gallo at St Vincent de Paul Parish. We at St. Vincent De Paul Parish, Ligoniel are delighted to welcome you all to our annual, "Misa De Gallo," (Mass

of the Rooster) - Christmas Novena in 2025. The annual celebration is beloved by our Filipino Community far and wide, but all are welcome.

Belfast Jesuit Centre - Upcoming Events

Faith & Film: Christmas Screening. We warmly invite you to a contemplative evening of cinema, prayer and conversation. Joyeux Noël, is a moving film based on the true story of Christmas Eve 1914, when soldiers from opposing sides laid down their arms and discovered one another's humanity. Through this powerful story, we'll reflect together on the mystery of Emmanuel - God with us, even in the darkest of nights. No need to register. Small donation suggested. Contact 077955282371, bjc@jesuit.ie. [Www.belfastjesuitcentre.co.uk](http://www.belfastjesuitcentre.co.uk)

Discover the Enneagram – A Tool for Growth. Join us at the Belfast Jesuit Centre for a gentle, insightful introduction to the Enneagram. Nuala Prince will lead us as we explore how the Enneagram can deepen self-understanding, strengthen relationships, and support spiritual and emotional wellbeing. Friday 23 Jan (7-9.30pm) & Saturday 24 Jan (10am-4pm) Suggested donation: £40-£55. Refreshments provided; bring lunch on Saturday. Registration essential. 07955282371 www.belfastjesuitcentre.co.uk bjc@jesuit.ie

Explore Your Enneagram Subtype. Already know your Enneagram type? Take the next step with this one-day workshop at the Belfast Jesuit Centre, exploring how instinctual drives shape your personality and relationships. Discover practical tools to support both emotional and spiritual wellbeing. Saturday 31 Jan 9.30am-5.00pm. Suggested donation: £35-£50. Refreshments provided; bring lunch. Ideal for individuals, educators, and teams. Registration essential. 07955282371 www.belfastjesuitcentre.co.uk bjc@jesuit.ie

Lenten Scripture Course with Fr Kieran O'Mahony: Learning from Matthew's Church. Tuesdays at 7pm | Begins 3rd February 2026. This Lent, the Belfast Jesuit Centre invites you to a six-week journey into the Gospel of Matthew; our liturgical Gospel for 2026. Led by Fr Kieran O'Mahony OSA of Tarsus Scripture School, the course explores Matthew's unique vision of church: a community navigating challenge, change, and mission. Each session will offer fresh insight into the Gospel's themes, including forgiveness, prayer, parables, and the call to discipleship. Whether you're new to scripture study or seeking deeper understanding, all are welcome. Weekly sessions: Feb 3, 10, 17, 24; Mar 3, 10. Suggested donation: £80-£120 (sliding scale; subsidised places available). Belfast Jesuit Centre, 193-195 Donegall Street, BT1 2FL. 07955282371. www.belfastjesuitcentre.co.uk bjc@jesuit.ie

Stella Maris, is a registered UK charity relying on voluntary donations to continue its work. Seafarers may spend up to a year at a time away from home, separated from their families and loved ones, often working in harsh conditions. Stella Maris' chaplains and ship visitors provide seafarers and fishers with pastoral and practical support, information and a listening ear. For more information visit www.stellamaris.org.uk. Those wishing to help this Christmas can make a donation at www.stellamaris.org.uk/christmas. Every contribution makes a difference.

Tuesday's Child - Following Yonder Star Christmas Appeal helping children exhausted by war, famine, and extreme hardship in: Gaza, Uganda, Kenya, India, Pakistan, Brazil, Tanzania. All donations received go to catholic missionaries and diocesan priests caring for children. Visit www.tuesdayschild.ie

Sycamore Training Day, Sat 10th January 2026, St Comgall's Centre (next to St Peter's Cathedral), 10-5pm. Called to Evangelise: Nurturing a Culture of Mission. Facilitated by Dr Susan Longhurst, Sycamore Mission Development Manager. Following the momentum of the Hearts on Fire conference earlier this year, this one-day Sycamore training event offers practical guidance, inspiration, and tailored support for those eager to spread the Gospel using Sycamore in their parish, school or community. Together we will explore: What it means to share faith in today's culture - the joys, challenges and the reality of mission; The distinctive ethos and culture of Sycamore; Concrete & practical ways to develop your networking skills and to build confident teams. Through talks, guided reflection, and practical workshops, participants will leave equipped and energized with a clear plan for launching the Sycamore Lent Pathway in their own setting. Join us to be nurtured and encouraged, with plenty of opportunities to connect with others, and to rediscover the joy of sharing our faith with others. Cost £30 pp (includes Lunch). To register email pathwaystothefuture@downandconnor.org. Cut off date Monday 15th December 2025. Form in the Sacristy.

Lay Funeral Ministers Leaders Training. Purpose to have a dedicated, trained team of lay people who will be able to lead families in a time of prayer in the family home or at a funeral home, lead liturgies at the graveside for bereaved families at the time of committal of the deceased, lead liturgies at the crematorium for bereaved families at the time of committal. **Training Dates:**

Thurs 22nd Jan 2026, 6:30pm - 8:30pm

Sat 31st Jan 2026, 10am - 4pm

Thurs 5th Feb 2026, 6:30pm - 8:30pm

Thurs 12th Feb 2026, 6:30pm-8:30pm

Sat 21st Feb 2026, 10am-4pm

At Diocesan Offices, 120 Cliftonville Road, Belfast, BT14 6LA. More information and Registration form in Sacristy. Applications to be returned by 12 noon Wed 17th December 2025.

Fostering Comes to Belfast. There are local children and young people in our community in need of safe and loving foster homes. Chat to us about fostering opportunities that can work with your life. For more information 0800 0720 137, visit <http://www.adoptionandfostercare.hscni.net>

Medjugorje Pilgrimage. 8th - 15th July 2026. £645 up to 30th Jan 2026, then £695. Full religious programme operated by Marian Pilgrimages. For more information please contact Mona 07880714113 or Mary 0778531096.

Down & Connor Job Vacancy. Parish Maintenance Operative for St Mary's on the Hill Parish, Glengormley. Visit Latest News or www.downandconnor.org or [nijobs.com](http://www.nijobs.com).