



**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.**

Mobile 07740603643 (preferred)

Email: h.mccann@downandconnor.org,

stanthonys@downandconnor.org.

**Facebook Page: [https://www.facebook.com/
stanthonysbelfast](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 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 £593.70

Maintenance £218.30

Dona Digital £66

DONATE (website)£80

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.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

WE REMEMBER OUR DECEASED LOVED-ONES

Recently Deceased: Joan Ejialode Uhomoibhi
(mother of newly ordained deacon James). Malachy
Connolly (brother of Monsignor Sean), Maureen
Turnbill

Anniversaries: James Curran, Terence & Sarah
McCartan, James Murray, Sally Watson (Sun 30th
Nov)

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Wed 3rd: St Francis Xavier, priest

Thurs 4th: St John Damascene, priest

Sat 6th: St Nicholas, bishop

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.

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](mailto:fionnuala.mcguinness@trocaire.org)

**Cantiunculae - A Concert of Christmas Music and
Readings,** Sunday 7th December 2025, 8pm, St
Comgall's Church, Brunswick Road, Bangor. Tickets
£5 (children free). Available through Bangor parish
office, T: (028) 9146-5522
E: bangor@downandconnor.org W: [www.
bangorparish.com](http://www.bangorparish.com), McMullan's Shop, Brunswick
Road, or from any member of the choir. All proceeds
to Bangor Parish Funds.

Recharge Young Adult Group - Advent Retreat. Aged
18-35? Join us this Advent to prepare well for Christmas
but also for the future. Take some time to ask yourself:
Where are you in life? Where are you going? Have you
found your vocation? How can you live your vocation out
more faithfully? Saturday 13th December 10am-6pm, St
Colmcille's Church, Belfast. Free Event - Register via
Eventbrite

[https://www.eventbrite.com/e/quo-vadis-a-retreat-by-
recharge-tickets-1758337688359](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/quo-vadis-a-retreat-by-recharge-tickets-1758337688359)

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.

Special Mass for Mothers and Grandmothers. Catholic
Mothers Ireland are hosting a special Mass on Tuesday, 9th
December at 6:30pm in St Malachy's Church, Armagh to mark
the end of their 10-year Anniversary celebrations. The Mass will
be celebrated by Archbishop Eamon Martin. All are warmly
invited to attend and join in prayer for mothers and
grandmothers. For more information, please email:
catholicmothers@outlook.ie

Stella Maris a Catholic seafaring charity is looking for
volunteers across Northern Ireland. Volunteering comes in
many forms at Stella Maris but in the first instance we are
looking for anyone who can knit woolly hats, an essential and
welcome piece of clothing for seafarers. We also need parish
contacts who could speak at the Mass (parish priest discretion)
or simply lay out information in regard to the charity in the
church. Further to this, ship visitors are also required to assist
the port chaplain. For further information or if you are
interested, please contact peter.mullen@stellamarismail.org.
Thank you.

Lay Led Funeral Ministry. Enrollment for the next Lay
Funeral Minister Training is now open. There are 24
training places available allocated on a first come basis. If
anyone is considering this Ministry please make contact
with Fr. McCann who will discuss this Ministry with you.
The closing date for applications is Wednesday 17th
December at 12 Noon. Candidates must be available for
all training sessions.

Mary's Meals Cake Sale. Many thanks to all who
supported the Cake Sale last weekend. £434 was raised
with more to be added.

St Vincent de Paul Sale of Christmas Cards will on sale
this weekend. Stephen Murphy will be selling Christmas
Cards in the church porch in support of the SVP charity.
Please support them in their work.

D&C Equip. Calling all young adults. Are you a young adult
with a passion for leadership and mission? D&C Equip is
designed to empower you to lead in your parish, your youth
group, and your community, raising up disciples and
transforming the Church around you. Join us for three dynamic
workshops and take the next step in our journey of faith
leadership. Workshop Overview: Nov 2025 - Foundation in
prayer. Jan 2026 - To win and build. March 2026 - The Send.
Retreat June 2026. For more information and to register, email
shannon@downandconnor.org.

**Belfast Homeless Services, Christmas Shoebox Appeal
2025.** A list of items needed for the Shoe Boxes: toothbrush/
toothpaste, deodorant, socks, hats, baby-wipes, scarves,
gloves, shampoo/conditioner/body wash, sweets/chocolates.
Donations can be dropped off Monday - Thursday 2-10pm.
Drop off point location, 35a Kings Street, Belfast, BT1 1HU. Cut
off date for donations, Monday 8th December 2025.

St Matthew's Parish Christmas Sip & Paint. Friday 5th
December from 7pm, in St Matthew's mobile hub. Drinks &
Snacks, tickets £15. More information [https://www.facebook.
com/share/p/1KZWuxboq8/?mibextid=wwXlfr](https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1KZWuxboq8/?mibextid=wwXlfr)

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 0 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. Discover
how you can make a difference and give a child a
brighter future. HSC NI foster carers receive training
and development, 24/7 support, financial allowances.
For more information 0800 0720 137, visit [http://www.
adoptionandfostercare.hscni.net](http://www.adoptionandfostercare.hscni.net)

School Open Mornings.

HOLY ROSARY P.S. We welcome all prospective
parents to our Open. Morning on Thursday 4th
December from 9:15 – 10:30 am. Please contact us if
your require further information: 028 9049 1817.
ST MICHAEL'S P.S. Open Morning for parents
considering admissions to Year 1 in September 2026.
Thursday 4th December 9:15am. Welcome and
information session from Principal, Mrs McCann
followed by tour of the school.

ST MATTHEW'S P.S. AND NURSERY. Seaforde
Street, Belfast, BT5 4EW. Monday 8th December 9am
- 12noon. We warmly welcome you to visit our school
and nursery, where learning begins with care, inclusion
and community spirit. A chance to meet staff, guided
tour of learning spaces, insight into our family-oriented,
all-inclusive educational approach. 028 9045 7885