

**St Clare's Hall, What's on?— Monday** Bootcamp with CM Fitness 6am – 7.20am, Table Tennis 7pm – 8pm, Pilates 7pm – 9pm, Bowls 8pm – 10pm **Tuesday**, Brazier School of Dance 4.45pm – 7.45pm, Pickle Ball 8pm – 10pm **Wednesday** Bootcamp with CM Fitness 6am – 7.20am, Friendship Group 10.30am – 12.30pm, Yoga 5.45pm – 7.45pm, Bowls 8pm – 10pm (Matches) **Thursday** Pilates 10am – 11am, Judo 6pm – 7pm, Bingo 8pm – 9.30pm **Friday** Bootcamp with CM Fitness 6am – 7.20am, Mums & Tots 9.30am – 11.30am, Coffee Morning 10 – 11.30am, **Saturday** Slimming World 7.45–11am, Flip Fusion 5pm–7pm **Monthly Events** Book club 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday 7.30pm – 9pm, Traditional night 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday 7pm – 9pm, Whist Last Friday 7pm – 9pm. **St Clare's Bowling Club** We welcome new members, young or old on Mondays & Wednesday at 8pm. Come along and have fun! Also available for private, community & business functions, including birthday parties, fund raisers and funeral's **Contact 07517779334** or [stclareshallbooking@hotmail.com](mailto:stclareshallbooking@hotmail.com) **Northern Ireland Blood Transfusion Service** will be in St Clare's Hall on 2 May 2025, 12.30pm -7pm. To donate see [www.NIBTS.org](http://www.NIBTS.org) **Parish Easter Whist** on **Sunday 27th April @ 7pm** in St Clare's Hall. Scorecards £6 (includes supper) and there will also be a ballot. Everyone welcome.

**GH Tyres and Auto Services:** 40a Glenavy Road, Crumlin. Punctures repairs, Wheel Balancing, Wheel Alignment, Batteries, General Service and repairs Tel: 0289 4423 113. **Crumlin Resident Collective (CRC)** based at 17c Main Street, Crumlin (old post office) opening times Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 10am – 1pm. This is nonprofit, community-based organisation, local people helping others less fortunate in our community. Donations gratefully accepted e.g. school uniforms, clothes, food, furniture etc.

**St. Joseph's GAC:** Lotto Results **Thursday 10 April** Winning Numbers; -8-9-11-21. Jackpot £3,900 - No Jackpot winner. 2 Lucky Dip Winners £25 each, Joanne Brazier. Orla McClenaghan. Next Week's Jackpot is worth £3,950. The members of St. Joseph's GAC thank you for your support.

**Mary's Meals** is built on a foundation of prayer and the many little acts of love offered by those who believe in our mission. During the month of May, dedicated to Our Lady, we invite you to join us in praying for the 2.6 million children in 16 of the world's poorest countries who receive our nutritious school meals daily and for all the children and families around the world living in poverty. For free prayer calendars & resources for individuals, families, schools, prayer groups or to sign up to our fortnightly prayer email for May, [www.marysmeals.org.uk/prayinmay](http://www.marysmeals.org.uk/prayinmay).

**ALPHA** St Colmcille's Parish Belfast is inviting you to their next ALPHA programme. It begins on **Thursday 8 May 2025 at 7pm** in The Lampost Café, 19 Upper Newtownards Road BT4 3HT. All welcome. Contact Noeleen to register or make enquiries: [n.dunn@downandconnor.org](mailto:n.dunn@downandconnor.org)

**St. Pio Relics to visit Holycross Abbey** (E41PH01): **24 & 25 May**. Veneration & ceremonies 10am - 8pm & 9am - 8pm (incorporating our annual St. Pio Pilgrimage on Sunday from 1.30pm). All welcome. More information 0504-43124 or [hbparishof-fice@gmail.com](mailto:hbparishof-fice@gmail.com)

**Parish Bingo**  
IN ST CLARE'S COMMUNITY HALL  
EVERY THURSDAY AT 8.00PM SHARP-9.30PM APPROX.  
JACKPOT £1,000 IN 50 NUMBERS



## Second Sunday of Easter Divine Mercy Sunday 27 April 2025

**Very Rev Canon Colm McBride PP:** St Joseph's Presbytery, 59 Chapel Road, Glenavy, BT29 4LY Tel: 94 422278 (If unavailable and in an emergency only, contact Fr Declan Mulligan P.P. Aghagallon 92 651214)  
**Parish Office at St Joseph's Glenavy:** Monday- Friday 10am - 3pm Secretary: Joan McShane Tel: 94 422278  
Email: [glenavy@downandconnor.org](mailto:glenavy@downandconnor.org)  
Parish Website: [glenavyandkilleadparish.com](http://glenavyandkilleadparish.com)  
[www.facebook.com/glenavyandkilleadparish](http://www.facebook.com/glenavyandkilleadparish)  
**A member of Lisburn Pastoral Community**

### Only Faith

Jesus spoke in short sentences and summed up a lot of life in a few words. His final beatitude is in the gospel today - '*Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe.*' You can unpack that little phrase and in it you realise that faith is about things that cannot be proved, that it is not easy and that it brings a blessedness to life. It also includes ourselves - the ones of this year who still believe.



Something is only by faith when everything else fades off. Our loved ones die and only faith assures us that they are '*alive with God*'. Only faith assures us that Jesus is present in the mystery of the bread and wine at our Mass. Only faith assures us that he is with us when two or three gather and only faith assures us that what we do for others we do for him. Faith assures us of some of the best things of life; finally that we come from God and go to God.

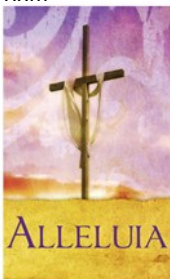
Thomas found difficulty with all this. Jesus dealt gently with him, pointing out the wounds of his body and inviting him to touch them. But Thomas never needed to touch the holes in Jesus' hands and feet. He was told that an even better happiness was to believe without touch or sight. He found faith now in the risen Lord, and the faith itself was Jesus final gift to Thomas.

We need to take time and let faith grow within us. This can be in prayer, in faith-conversation and in allowing ourselves sit quietly and be in the presence of God. In the busy world, this may be difficult, but no day is diminished by time spent in silence and in quiet, knowing we are richly blessed when we grow our faith in God.

**CatholicIreland.net**

Bishop Alan will celebrate a solemn Requiem Mass for the happy repose of the soul of Pope Francis on **Wednesday 30 April 2025 at 7pm in St Peter's Cathedral Belfast. All are welcome.**

## 28 April — 4 May Mass Intentions

	St Joseph's	Mater Dei	St James
Mon	9.30am Communion Service		Monday
Tue		7pm Desmond Quinn (Anniv) Joseph McCann (Anniv) Rosary at 6.30pm Divine Mercy Chaplet 7.30pm Adoration 7.30—8.30pm	Adoration 7pm—8pm 
Wed		9.30am Holy Souls Adoration 10am—12pm	
Thurs	9.30am Brendan Devlin (Anniv) In Honour of St Joseph		
Fri	9.30am For the happy repose of the soul of Pope Francis 6pm Sacrament of Reconciliation		Feumore Mass
Sat	11am Sacrament of Baptism	6pm Bess McCleave (Anniv) Fr Anselm CSO (Anniv)	Sun Adoration 6.30pm—7.30pm Divine Mercy Chaplet, Chaplet for Holy Souls & Rosary afterwards starts at 6.15pm Mon Adoration 11am—12pm
Sun	9.30am Do This in Memory P.P. 12pm William Patrick Lavery (1st Anniv) Kathleen Mooney & Therese Brankin (Anniv)	10.45am Do This in Memory John McNally (Anniv)	

**Recently Deceased** Rose Mary Bleakley (*formerly Landgarve*)

**Anniversaries** Phylis Brankin, Kathleen Mulholland, Ciaran Heffron, Geraldine Kerr, Teresa McAlister (2nd), Sean Henry, Desmond Quinn (2nd), Joseph McCann, Brendan Devlin, Martha Fitzpatrick (nee Heatley), Gerald Crossan, Kathleen Magee, Bess McCleave, Fr Anselm OCSO, Louis Courtney.

### Collection 20/04/25

Weekly Offering: £3,588  
Easter Collection: £1,960  
Catholics in the Holyland £1,056

**Thank you for your generosity**

**Thank you** to the couple who generously donated £500 towards the renovation of Mater Dei church.

**Trocaire Lenten campaign 2025** Please return your Trocaire box to the churches as soon as possible.

**Do This in Memory Programme** The children and their families who have joined the Do This in Memory Programme are invited to attend the Mass next Sunday 4 May at 9.30am in St Joseph's or 10.45am in Mater Dei.

**Divine Mercy Sunday:** Devotion in Mater Dei commencing at 2.30pm with confession, followed by The Mercy Chaplet at 3pm, veneration of the Divine Mercy image and Adoration.

**Rosary Rally:** You are cordially invited to a special rosary for the conversion of Ireland in co-ordination with over 500 other rosaries across Ireland, on Saturday **10 May at 4pm** at the St Joseph's Grotto with tea and coffee afterwards in the annex. All welcome, please spread the word.

**Divine Mercy Sunday:** The conditions for receiving this great grace, including going to confessions, can be fulfilled by attending any of the following Churches on Divine Mercy Sunday, 27 April this year. St Peter's Cathedral @ 2pm, St Paul's, Falls Rd @ 2pm, Sacred Heart, Oldpark Rd @ 2.15pm, St Patrick's, Lisburn at 3pm and All Saints Ballymena @ 2pm, (huge crowds at Ballymena, come early!).

**Queen of the May** A gentle invitation to reflect on Mary's journey through the Annunciation, the Visitation and the Magnificat and consider Her surrender, trust and faithfulness. Please come and join us for 3 guided weekly sessions throughout May, rooted in contemplation and prayer. All are welcome at Mater Dei Presbytery, on 8, 15 & 22 May 7pm. Refreshments to start.

**Sacrament of First Holy Communion** Please keep the girls and boys of Gaelscoil Ghleann Darach in your prayers as they prepare to receive the Sacrament of First Holy Communion on 3 May 2025.

**In December 2024 89 Lay Funeral Ministers** were commissioned representing 35 parishes. The Lay Funeral Ministers work closely with their parish priest and deacons and help support funeral ministry within the parish. They are trained to assist the family in the preparation of a meaningful funeral liturgy, lead a family in prayer at key moments in the home, at the graveside and at the crematorium. This ministry is proving to be a valuable service to parishes, & we are blessed with 3 Lay Funeral Ministers in our parish. Enrolment for the next Lay Funeral Minister—Training is now open & closing date for applications is **Friday 2 May @ 12 Noon**. For more information, please contact Canon McBride.

**Deacons** Those who are discerning a vocation to the permanent diaconate are encouraged to make contact with the Diocesan Director for the Permanent Diaconate, Rev Brett Lockhart on [b.lockhart@downandconnor.org](mailto:b.lockhart@downandconnor.org)

**New Parish Draw 2025/26** The Parish Draw is a valuable source of income for our parish, especially as we begin renovations of Mater Dei Church. The new Parish Draw for 2025/26 begins on 5<sup>th</sup> May, just £10 per month and generous prizes to be won. Renewal forms are being distributed to existing members, and we hope you will continue to support the Draw. New members are encouraged to join. If you haven't been a member before, please pick up a form from the back of the Churches or the Parish Office. For further information about joining and the options on how to pay, please contact the Parish Office on 02894 422278.

**Web Camera's** Mater Dei Church and St Joseph's are both equipped with web-cameras. All Liturgies are broadcast. The cameras are live 24/7 and are focused on the Sanctuaries and first three seats at the front of each Church. To access the broadcasts, go to: [www.churchservices.tv/stjosephglenavy](http://www.churchservices.tv/stjosephglenavy) or [www.churchservices.tv/materdeicrumlin](http://www.churchservices.tv/materdeicrumlin). The web-cams enable us to attend Mass, however they do not allow us to receive the Eucharist, the Body of Christ. When possible, we should attend Mass in the Church whenever our circumstances permit in order to receive Holy Communion.

**Making your offering to the church** Parishioners are encouraged to make donations to the parish either by using the parish envelopes or by means of bank transfer. It is of great benefit to the parish when we can record donations so that gift aid can be claimed, if applicable. If you would like to donate using envelopes, please contact the parish office. Alternatively, if you are able, you are encouraged to make a monthly offering to the Church by means of a Bank Transfer to: Parish of Glenavy and Killead Sort Code 98 04 60. Account 10654677. The relevant forms are available at the back of the Churches. Both forms need to be completed with one sent to your Bank and the other to the parish office. If you have any queries, please contact in confidence the parish secretary or Canon McBride.. There is a separate account for the Parish Draw.

**The Legion of Mary** is currently visiting homes in the parish promoting devotion of the Divine Mercy.

**CCTV Camera's** Please be aware that St Joseph's Church and graveyard and Mater Dei Church and grounds are monitored by CCTV.

**Sanctuary lamp intentions:** A Sanctuary Lamp burns for a week in each of our two churches. If you would like to dedicate a lamp for a loved one or a special intention please contact the Parish Office. There is a suggested offering of £5.

**Drumalis Retreat and Conference Centre, Larne The Passion Story: "A Work of Infinite Love"** (Sat 12 April, 9:30am - 4 pm) A Day of Prayer and Reflection with Fr Aidan Troy CP. To book a place(s) or for further details, please contact Drumalis during office hours (Mon-Fri, 9 am – 5 pm) – email [drumalis@btconnect.com](mailto:drumalis@btconnect.com) or 028 28276455/28272196. For more information : <http://www.drumalis.co.uk>

**Saint Vincent De Paul—Crumlin Conference (St James)** Emergency helpline 07754427088. Donations can be made via the Crumlin SVP conference bank account. Account number 41965035, sort code 980460. **St Joseph's Glenavy Conference SVP** Emergency helpline 07784955647. Donation can be made to our bank account, Sort Code 98-04-60. Account Number 41966009. Your support is very much appreciated as we support those most vulnerable in your local community.

**A Blessed statue of Our Lady of Fatima** is available through The Legion of Mary to any sick parishioner for one week. If you would like to avail of the statue, please contact **the** parish office.

**The Legion of Mary is back in the parish.** We meet on Thursdays at 7.30pm in the Annex of St Joseph's church, Glenavy for further info call or text 07581292226 (Emma). Join us.

**Down & Connor Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2025:** Celebrating the Jubilee Year and our 40th Annual Diocesan Pilgrimage: 9/10 – 15/16 July. 7 Night s. Please visit [www.downandconnor.org/lourdes](http://www.downandconnor.org/lourdes) for more information or call the Pilgrimage Office on (028) 9077 0162 or email [lourdes@downandconnor.org](mailto:lourdes@downandconnor.org) Youth Team (9-16th July): applications now open (see website for details).

**'Sing for Joy!' - A Day of Music & Ministry Are you involved, or keen to become involved in Church Music in your Parish, School, University ?** We invite you to join us for **'Sing for Joy!'**. Saturday 26 April 25 at Lough Derg. This day is open to young people aged 18-35 & is free to attend (supported by the Knights of St Columbanus). Registration <https://bit.ly/SingforJoy> . For Further information [info@knightsstcolumbanusomagh.co.uk](mailto:info@knightsstcolumbanusomagh.co.uk) or +447759496677.

**Action for children** There is a desperate shortage of foster carers across the UK. For more information in becoming a foster carer please see <https://www.actionforchildren.org.uk/fostering/why-choose-us/faith-in-fostering/>

**Lenten Challenge & Invitation** Pope Francis has invited us this Lent to "journey in hope together". A short-term pledge is available via [www.pioneerassociation.org](http://www.pioneerassociation.org) for parishioners who wish to become a "pilgrim of hope" for people who are living under the shadow of addiction.

**St. Ignatian Spiritual Exercises for Men** Fri 2 – Mon 5 May (bank holiday) in An Tobar Retreat Centre, Ardbraccan Navan, C15 T884. Cost €190 - includes all meals & en-suite single rooms. Call 087 - 348 2148 or [iveireland@ive.org](mailto:iveireland@ive.org)