

GH Tyres and Auto Services: 40a Glenavy Road, Crumlin. Punctures repairs, Wheel Balancing, Wheel Alignment, Batteries, General Service and repairs Tel: 0289 4423 113.

St Clare's Hall, What's on?— Monday Bootcamp with CM Fitness 6am – 7.20am, Flip Fusion 5.30pm—6.30pm, 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 7pm – 8pm, Bowls 8pm – 10pm (Matches).

Thursday Pilates 10am – 11am, Irish earners Class (all levels) 10am—12 noon in the café. Tel 07476 828442, 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, Little Show Stoppers 9am—10am, Flip Fusion 5pm—7pm. **Monthly Events** Book club 3rd Tuesday 7.30pm – 9pm, Traditional night 1st Sunday 7pm – 9pm, Whist Last Sunday 7pm – 10pm. Also available for private, community & business functions, including birthday parties, fund raisers and funeral's **Contact** stdareshallbooking@hotmail.com or **07517779334**

St Joseph's GAC Glenavy would like to thank all those who supported our Annual Christmas Charity Quiz. The amount raised for Marie Curie was £1,033. Thanks to everyone for their generosity.

St. Colm's High School Dunmurry. Open Night Thursday 8 January at 7pm. P6 & P7 pupils and parents most welcome. Enquiries for Post 16 courses welcome.

St Louise's College Open Night Thursday 8 January 2026. Principal's Address at 4pm and 6.30pm.

St Dominic's Grammar School Open Day Saturday 10 January 2026, 9am—1pm. Principal's Address at 9.30 am and 11.30am. Primary 6 & 7 pupils welcome.

St Malachy's College Belfast will be holding Open Nights on Wednesday 14 & Thursday 15 January 2026 from 7 – 9.30pm, Principal's address @8pm.

St Patrick's Academy, Ballinderry Road, Lisburn BT28 1TD, Telephone: 028 92664877, www.stpatsni.co.uk. We look forward to welcoming you to our Open Night on Thursday 15 January 2026, 6.30 – 8.30pm, Principal's address at 6.30pm.

Rathmore Grammar School Open Day Saturday 17 January 2026, 9.30am 1pm. Principal's Address at 9.30am and 11.15am

Music at St Joseph's There is an urgent need to recruit an organist, if you or someone you know would be interested in this position please contact Canon Mc Bride as soon as possible.

Youth Alpha Course, Wednesday's: 7 & 21 January 2026, 4 & 18 February. St Joseph's Annex. All 16 - 20-year-olds welcome for Fun, Friendship and Food, while exploring the love of God.

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 Christmas

4 January 2026

Very Rev Canon Colm McBride PP: St Joseph's Presbytery, 59 Chapel Road, Glenavy, BT29 4LY Tel: 94 422278
Parish Office at St Joseph's Glenavy: Monday- Friday 10am - 3pm Secretary: Joan McShane Tel: 94 422278
Email: glenavy@downandconnor.org
Parish Website: glenavyandkilleadparish.com
www.facebook.com/glenavyandkilleadparish
A member of Lisburn Pastoral Community

The Epiphany of the Lord 6 January 2026

Holy Day of Obligation

St Joseph's Monday 5 January at 7pm (Vigil Mass)
Tuesday 6 January at 9.30am (Primary School will be in attendance)

This man was born to die

A fifteenth-century painting on the Epiphany illustrates others are born to live, Jesus was born to die.

A quite beautiful painting, attributed to a fifteenth-century Peruvian artist, Benedetto Bonfigli, presents the visit of the Magi in unusual circumstances. The painting on wood is entitled The Adoration of the Magi and Christ on the Cross. The infant Jesus is shown seated on a cushion on the Virgin's lap, and he assumes a position of authority as he accepts the gifts and homage of the Magi, who are shown as kings. The eldest of the three kings has taken off his crown and laid it at the feet of the Virgin and child as a gesture of submission. He holds the infant's feet in his right hand, perhaps intending to kiss them with reverence and devotion. Acceptance of the Magi's homage was understood as Christ's prophetic acknowledgement of his destiny to die on the cross. Bonfigli shows the crucified Christ in the middle distance among the hills, his head bowed and blood trickling from his wounds. The painting illustrates the point that Christ was born to die for humanity. The two episodes in the one painting illustrate the beginning and the end of the earthly life of Jesus.

The faithfulness of the Magi in following 'their star' and discerning that something more than a mere secular event was here is important. They set out to where they didn't know; to see what, they weren't sure. They were willing to take the risk. They were willing to let go of reputation, security and home to follow the hunch that God was speaking to them and inviting them to come. When Jesus said 'Come follow me' to the disciples, their positive response was fraught with uncertainty. To follow Jesus is to be willing to walk the path of uncertainty without an insurance policy under one's arm!

CatholicIreland.net

5 – 11 January Mass Intentions

	St Joseph's	St James	St James
Mon	9.30am Communion Service 7pm Vigil—The Epiphany of The Lord		Monday Adoration 7pm—8pm 
Tue	9.30am The Epiphany of The Lord No evening Mass		
Wed		9.30am P.I. Adoration 10am—12pm	
Thurs	9.30am Holy Souls		
Fri	9.30am Holy Souls		
Sat	6.00pm P.P.		Feumore Mass Centre 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 Grow in Love Patricia Cormican (Months Mind) & Danny Heatley (Anniv) 12.00pm Dermot Doran (Anniv) Rosaleen McClean (Anniv)	10. 45am Joseph Kane (Anniv)	

Recently Deceased Christopher Hickland (*Crumlin Rd, Upper Ballinderry*)

Month's Mind Patricia Cormican

Anniversaries Rosemary Mallon (1st), Vincent McKavanagh, Mary Feeney, Julia McKavanagh, Bridie McCotter, Gus McCotter, , Brenda McCloy, Mikey McCloy, Annie McCloy, Gerard Cormican, Daniel Johnson, Jean Johnson, John Johnson, Malcolm Condie (1st).

Sanctuary Lamps Rosemary Mallon, Joseph & Mary Heaney

Weddings Congratulations to Clare Kane & Aidan Burns and Sarah Crawford & Neil Brannigan who were married in Christ.

Baptisms We welcome to God's family Nancy Marie Ferran, Pearse Paul Roche, Lylah Miera McLarnon, Rónan Joseph Mulvenna

Collection 25 & 28/12/25

Weekly Offering: £3,346

Christmas Offering £6,431

Thank you for your generosity

Extract from New Years Message - World Day of Peace 2026

Bishop Alan McGuckian, SJ Diocese of Down and Connor

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

"One year older and still no wiser!" was the rueful remark of an old priest friend every year when I wished him a happy birthday. I am reminded of my old friend now as we usher in another New Year. Each New Year's Day, the Pope calls on us to pray for peace and Pope Leo reminds us: "Goodness is disarming. Perhaps this is why God became a child. The mystery of the Incarnation, which reaches its deepest descent even to the realm of the dead, begins in the womb of a young mother and is revealed in the manger in Bethlehem." In this beautiful paradox — God choosing vulnerability over power, an infant's cry over triumphant declaration — we discover the true nature of divine peace.

Throughout the Gospels, the words "peace be with you" echo like a sacred refrain, marking the profound peace that has entered our world. The angel Gabriel came to Mary, declaring "Peace be with you." On that first Christmas night, the angels sang "Peace on earth" to shepherds keeping watch. When he rose from the dead Jesus' first words to the disciples were: "Peace be with you" (John 20:19), offering hope, victory over death, and a peace the world cannot give.

Like the rueful old priest, I look on a world that is no wiser. I am conscious that we in Ireland live in what are called "peace times," yet the reality is far more complex.

We have much work to do in our own place to support people in our communities to experience both the love of Christ and the transforming love of Christ's disciples — those who will help people transform their lives from ones marked by violent acts to acts of love that build up our communities.

Even if the evidence of our eyes tells us that we are no further forward on the way to peace, Christ calls us to be people of undying hope for peace. Finally, please listen to the words of Pope Leo and let him inspire us to be carriers of hope and peace: "Just as on the evening of Easter Jesus entered the place where his disciples were gathered in fear and discouragement, so too the peace of the risen Christ continues to pass through doors and barriers in the voices and faces of his witnesses." (World Day of Peace message 2026)

Peace be with you! Síocháin libh!

The well-known Alpha Course unites all Christian Churches and will be taking place in the Glenavy area. The three local churches taking part will include our parish of Glenavy & Killead, St Aidan's, Church of Ireland, Glenavy and St John's, Church of Ireland, Stoneyford. It is an opportunity to unpack Christian faith together, meet new people and explore the Christian faith. Alpha is for anyone who's curious. No judgement, no pressure. Each session unpacks a big question of life, faith and purpose, and is designed to spark conversation. Come along, see what you think. Starting on Wednesday 21 January @ 7.30pm in St Aidan's Hall, Glenavy.

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 or 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.

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.

Saturday Vigil Mass. Due to the dark evenings and for safety reasons, and until Mater Dei Church reopens, the Saturday night Vigil Mass will be celebrated at 6pm in St Joseph's Church, Chapel Road, Glenavy.

Church Webcam The parish has changed provider. The church webcam for live stream of Masses can be accessed via the Parish Website (as normal), or on your laptop/ mobile phone/ tablet using Google Chrome in the browser. Type in www.churchmedia.tv. Once in the site select **Antrim** and search for **St Joseph's, Glenavy** and the church will appear. Click on the play button to view live stream.

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 SVDP 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.

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.

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.

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

Anam Cara, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, will hold its monthly Parent Support Evening on **Monday 12 January at 7.30pm** in the Crowne Plaza, Shaws Bridge, Belfast.

Liturgical 'Sign of Peace' The Sign of Peace remains an integral part of the celebration of the Eucharist and has been reintroduced as a normal practice across the Diocese. The customary expression of the Sign of Peace in Ireland is a handshake. However, other non-contact forms of the sign of peace such as a nod, a bow or a smile are also legitimate expressions of the Sign of Peace. No offence should be taken if someone prefers to express a non-contact Sign of Peace. The Diocese encourages all to continue to exercise good hygienic practices, particularly over the Christmas season, and if you exhibit flu-like symptoms, you are encouraged to remain at home.