

The Medical Missionaries of Mary have been invited to visit us in Down and Connor this year and will be with us here at Glenavy Parish on the weekend of 9 & 10 May 2026. They will speak of their work, mainly in Africa and South America, and their mission to bring Christ's healing love to those most in need. Our parish and our diocese has supported MMM generously in the past, both in finance and in prayer, and MMM wishes to express gratitude for that support and to emphasise that we here at home are the body of mission, and those who are sent to faraway places are the hands and the feet. When they speak to us and share their story they serve as a connection between us and those whom they serve.

Mobility aid for Mater Dei church A foldaway rollator is urgently needed for Mater Dei Church. If any parishioner has a spare collapsible rollator that they could donate to the church, please contact the parish office.

New Parish Draw 2026/27 The Parish Draw is a valuable source of income for our parish, just £10 per month and generous prizes to be won. Renewal forms have been 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.

A special Mass will be held for the Lough Neagh fishing community on Sunday 10 May 26 at 3pm in the Fishermen's Co-operative Building, Toomebridge. Fr. James O'Reilly will officiate, this gathering offers a chance for fishermen, their families, and wider community to come together in prayer, seeking a safe & productive season, and continued healing for Lough Neagh in the face of ongoing challenges such as blue-green algae. All are very welcome.

Blessing of the Graves at Milltown Cemetery will take place on Sunday 10 May at 3pm

Parish of Aghagallon & Ballinderry. Blessing of Graves, Sunday 10 May 26.

The main liturgy for Cemetery Sunday will be included within the 11am Mass directly followed by the Blessing of the Graves and Rosary in St Patrick's Graveyard, Aghagallon. We invite families whose burial grounds are in Maghernagaw and Old Aghagallon to also join us in this Mass offered for our beloved dead. There will be a gate collection for the upkeep of the graveyards. Blessing of the Graves in Maghernagaw will be at 2.30pm and Old Aghagallon at 3.30pm.

Standing in the Breach – Catholic Men's Retreat half-day retreat for men centred on our call to holiness: Join other men for a morning of straight-talking teaching, prayer & real-life testimonies, led by Fr Andrew Black. Saturday 9 May 26, 9am – 1pm, Portglenone Monastery. More information Thomas Carey – 07967 620435

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. Joseph's GAC: Lotto results 23.04.26. Winning No's 1-10-24-25 Jackpot £6,600 No Jackpot Winner. 2 Lucky dip Winners £25 each-Nicola Burns & Oonagh Philips. Next week's jackpot is worth £6,650. The members of St. Joseph's GAC Thank you for your support.



Fifth Sunday of Easter 3 May 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

Annual Parish Census

Thank you to everyone who took part with our volunteers in the count of attendees at each of the Masses last weekend, Saturday 25 & 26 April 2026. The total numbers with the comparison of last year's figures are detailed below.

2025		2026	
Age Range	Number	Age Range	Number
0 - 11	106	0 - 11	88
12 - 18	52	12 - 18	42
19- 29	27	19- 29	24
30 - 39	39	30 - 39	61
40 - 49	84	40 - 49	83
50 - 59	114	50 - 59	111
60 -69	165	60 -69	165
70 - 79	102	70 - 79	96
80 - 89+	47	80 - 89+	59
Total	736	Total	729

The Annual Blessing of Graves

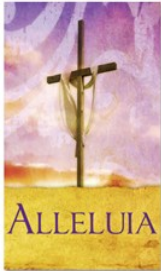
St Joseph's, Sunday 28/06/26 @ 3.00pm

St James, Sunday 5/07/26 @ 3.00pm, Crumlin Cemetery Sunday 5/07/26 @ 4.15pm

There will be a gate collection for the upkeep of the graveyards.

Parish Office will be closed on Monday 4 May 2026

4– 10 May 2026 Mass Intentions

	St.Joseph's	Mater Dei	St James
Mon	9.30am Communion Service		Monday Adoration 7pm—8pm
Tue		7pm Rosemary Bleakley (1st Anniv) Rosary at 6.30pm Divine Mercy Chaplet 7.30pm Adoration 7.30—8.30pm	
Wed	11am Funeral	9.30am School Mass Adoration 10am—12pm	
Thurs	9.30am Gerard Faloon (Special Intention) 7pm—9pm Adoration		
Fri	9.30am P.I.		
Sat	10.30am First Holy Communion Ballymacricket PS	5.30pm Sacrament of Reconciliation 6pm John & Bridie Kerr (Anniv) Deceased members of The Lavery	
Sun	9.30am P.P. 12.00pm Charles McAlister (Anniv) John McNally (Anniv)	10.45am Brendan Bradley (1st Anniv)	

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

The Future of Feumore Mass Centre The Parish Finance Committee have prepared a Consultation document on the Future of Feumore Mass Centre. The document is available at the back of the church for your perusal. The Parish Finance Committee invites you to respond to the options by completing the form attached to the back of the Consultation document. Please return your completed response to the Parish Office no later than 12noon on Friday 29 May 2026.

Sacrament of Confirmation Congratulations to the girls and boys of St Joseph's PS and Ballymacricket PS on receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation on 28 April with Bishop Alan McGuckian SJ.

Sacrament of Holy Communion Congratulations to the girls and boys of Gaelscoil Ghleann Darach on receiving the Sacrament of First Holy Communion on 2 May. Please keep the girls and boys of St Joseph's PS and Ballymacricket PS in your prayers as they prepare to receive the Sacrament of First Holy Communion on 9 and 16 May 2026.

Prayer for those in our parish who are doing Examinations This month of May going into June, is a very important time for many people. It is exam time! It can be a time of anxiety and worry. Much depends on these few weeks the outcome of which can have a huge effect on the direction of the rest of their lives. During the month of May, at the back of each Church in our parish a book is available in which the names of those taking exams may be entered. You can also add the name of their school, college, university, or company, if you wish. This book will be placed in the sanctuary of the Church during each Mass when we will acknowledge all those listed in the book and pray for their success and peace of mind. Our Lady seat of Wisdom, pray for them.

Novena to Mary The Mother of God Mary is the mother, and a mother's main concern is the health of her children ... Our Lady guards our health ... helps us grow, face life and be free. (Pope Francis 4th May 2013) **Please** join us in praying a Novena to Mary the Mother of God (Mater Dei) during the month of May in honour of Mary, our refuge and help in times of trouble. We will offer our prayers in thanksgiving for our newly refurbished church of Mater Dei in Crumlin, for peace in our troubled world and for all our personal intentions. The Novena will begin on **Wednesday 13 May at 3.30pm** and end with a celebration of Mass on **Thursday 21 May** in Mater Dei Church at **3.30pm - 4.30pm**. You are also invited to join us on **Thursday at 7pm** in Mater Dei Pastoral Centre for a **Movie Night** to watch The Miracle of Our Lady of Fatima. (Popcorn will be provided)

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 16 May @ 4pm** at the St Joseph's Grotto with tea and coffee afterwards in the annex. All welcome, please spread the word.

St Gerards Novena Annual Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help will run from Monday 11 May to Tuesday 19 May see poster for times.

Recently Deceased Raymond McDonald (Glendarragh)

Months Mind: Letitia Kearney

Anniversaries Dolores Greig (1st), Rosemary Bleakley (1st), Kathleen Mooney, Teresa Brankin, William Patrick Lavery, Alec & Tess Burke, John McNally, Kitty Auld, Frank Auld, Ryan Brankin, Patsy Morgan, Pat O'Rourke (25th), Paddy McGarry, Gerry & Mary McCaffrey. .

Baptisms We welcome to God's family Cora Elizabeth McLoughlin, Maeve Frazer, Isabella Rose Heatley, Leo Love

Sanctuary Lamps S.M., Special Intention

Rosary at the Grotto. St Joseph's Church, Glenavy at 7pm every evening in May in Honour of Our Lady. Everyone welcome.

Collection 26/04/26

Weekly Offering: £3,428

Thank you for your generosity

PARISH EASTER WHIST

Thank you all those who attended the Easter Whist. A total of £400 was raised towards Parsh funds.

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

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

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.

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 Canon McBride in confidence

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, and if you exhibit flu-like symptoms, you are encouraged to remain at home.

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

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.

Mater Dei Children's Liturgy We would welcome more helpers. We have a very flexible rota, and it is just during term time. So, if you can help, even one Sunday in the year, we would be delighted. Call or email the parish office if interested.

Web Camera's Mater Dei Church & 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 of each Church. Please go to www.churchmedia.tv to access the live stream. The webcams 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 and don't already do so, 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 the parish secretary or Canon McBride in confidence. Please note that there is a separate account number for the Parish Draw and this should not be used when making a weekly donation.

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, b.lockhart@downandconnor.org

Can you spare half an hour per month? The St. Martha's cleaning team in Mater Dei would like your help, if you can help by joining this important team, please leave your name & number at the parish office.

Church Webcam The church webcam for live stream of Masses can be accessed via the Parish Website www.glenavyandkilleadparish.com Go to the top line and click on webcams and pick either **Mater Dei** or **Glenavy**. It can also be accessed at www.churchmedia.tv. Select **Antrim** & search for **St Joseph's, Glenavy or Mater Dei, Crumlin** and the churches will appear. Click on the play button to view live stream. The webcams 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.

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

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

Knock Pilgrimage to Pray for Peace in the Holy Land on Saturday 16 May. For more information www.acnireland.org