

Parishes of Saul & Ballee and Kilclief

Weekly Bulletin

The Baptism of The Lord, Sunday 12th January 2025

Mass Schedule for the coming week

Date	St Patrick's, Saul	Stella Maris, Strangford	St Joseph's, Ballycruttle	St Malachy's, Kilclief	St Tassach's, Carlin
Sunday 12 th January	9.30am			11am	12noon
Monday 13 th January	10am	7.30pm			
Tuesday 14 th January	10am				
Wednesday 15 th January	10am				
Thursday 16 th January					
Friday 17 th January	7pm			9.30am	
Saturday 18 th January - Vigil	5.30pm	6.30pm			
Sunday 19 th January	9.30am		12noon	11am	

Masses are available to view online at www.saulandballeeparish.com and www.churchmedia.tv

The Sanctuary Lamp in St Patrick's Church, Saul has been lit for private intentions. If you would like it lit for your intentions please contact the Parish office. The cost is £5 per week.



Eucharistic Adoration in St Patrick's Church, Saul each Tuesday from 10am to 3pm and 7pm to 8pm

Recently Deceased – Peggy Norris, Eileen Connor

Months Mind Mass – Saul & Ballee – Saturday 18th January – Betty Rice

Anniversary Masses – Saul & Ballee

Saturday 11th January – Molly Hynds, Rosie & Benny Higgins

Sunday 12th January – Christopher Keenan (9.30am)

Saturday 18th January – Donall Gibson

Tuesday 21st January – Marie McGreevy

Friday 31st January – Brian Leathem

Saturday 1st February – Sharon Deegan, Rose & Joe Craig

Sunday 2nd February – Margaret & Patrick Smyth (9.30am)

Anniversary Masses – Kilclief

Sunday 12th January – Kathleen Murphy

Saturday 18th January – Joe Magee

	Saul	Kilclief
Weekly Collection – 22/12/24	£1,848.00	£1,025.95
Christmas Collection	£2,360.00	£2,562.55
Weekly Collection – 29/12/24	£1,955.60	£996.60
We thank those who have contributed, your support is much appreciated in these difficult times	Please make cheques payable to “Parish of Saul & Ballee”	Please make cheques payable to “Parish of Kilclief”



FOUNTAIN FOODBANK ADVENT APPEAL

Fountain Foodbank would like to say a huge thank you to all our parishioners for their exceptional generosity and support towards the recent Advent Appeal. Your food and cash donations were gratefully received and helped provide food parcels to those in need in our local community and parish over the Christmas period. Thank you again for your kindness and generosity.

Down & Connor Charismatic Renewal Committee

To celebrate the Jubilee our theme for this years retreat is “Witnesses of Hope”

At Drumalis Retreat Centre, Larne from Friday 17th January to Sunday 19th January. The speaker will be Fr Darren Brennan. Join us for the weekend or for a day. An opportunity to grow in faith together. To book a place contact Margaret on 07716 288811

The Queen’s Chaplaincy reopens after Christmas break with Mass this Sunday, 12 January, at 8pm the University’s historic Lanyon Building. Our weekday Mass schedule resumes on Monday 13 January at our temporary premises, 42 University Road. For more information on the services we offer visit qubcatholic.org

Hymns for January - Saul

Awake from your Slumber	154
All that I am	122
Bind us together	169
God Forgave my sin	286.

300 Club January Draw

1st Prize of £250 – Alice McStravick
2nd Prize of £100 – Teresa Vint

Congratulations and thank you for your support.

The next draw is the final draw for 2024/2025. There will be an additional prize of £500.

The draw will take place on Monday 3rd February.

Inverbrena Draw January 2025 Winners

1st – Nancy Alexander
2nd – Michael Fitzsimons
3rd – Sally Hanna

Congratulations and thank you for your support.

St Malachy’s P.S. Kilclief, Grandparents, Parents and Toddler session on Monday 13th January 2025 from 11am to 12noon in School Hall. There will be tea & coffee, social, music and playtime. Everyone welcome, bring a friend.

Please Note – Change to Parish office hours

The Parish office in Saul will be open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9.30am to 12noon.

The office will be closed each Wednesday until further notice.

The Parish office hours in Strangford remain the same – Monday 1pm to 3pm.



PILGRIMS OF HOPE, JUBILEE YEAR 2025

BISHOP ALAN MCGUCKIAN, SJ DIOCESE OF DOWN AND CONNOR



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
 Peace! As we stand on the threshold of 2025, we begin a special Jubilee Year in our Church. Pope Francis has called this Jubilee Year 'Pilgrims of Hope'. It's an invitation to renew our hope, a hope which comes from knowing that God loves each one of us, whoever we are. My deepest prayer is that this year will draw us all closer to the Heart of Jesus, where we find the source of true peace and transformation. The dawn of this New Year brings with it not just the usual promise of fresh beginnings, but the extraordinary grace of a Jubilee – a time when we are called to renew our relationship with God and with one another in profound ways.

The idea of a Jubilee comes from the Old Testament and was known as a year of the Lord's favour. A Jubilee Year was a time for a fresh start; debts were cancelled, property was returned to its original owners, and because crops weren't planted, even the land was able to rest. It was also a time of freedom: prisoners and slaves were freed, and land was given to those who didn't have any. When Christ announced his mission he said that he had come to bring a Jubilee.

*"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; to proclaim liberty to the captives; recovery of sight for the blind and to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour."
 (Luke 4:18-19)*

Christ began his mission with the great hope of bringing the healing, justice and freedom of the Jubilee, a mission to which we are all invited to contribute to. In a troubled world that appears besieged with crisis after crisis and conflicts flaring up across the world, we could become downhearted and disappointed. It is precisely at times like this that we are invited to be full of hope, and to bring the love of Christ into the despair we find around us.

St Paul expresses it perfectly, writing to the Romans:

*"Hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us"
 (Rom 5:1-2.5).*

As people of faith, we hold a hope in our hearts that comes from God and not from ourselves. With that hope we can bring the love of Christ into our world.



As we enter this Jubilee Year, I invite each of you to hear afresh the commandments of Jesus; 'to love the Lord your God with all your heart and soul and strength' and 'to love your neighbour as yourself.' We can make 2025 a year when people notice something different about us – not for our own glory, but for the glory of God. Imagine our parishes and wider communities transformed by the profound practice of Christian love. When we truly love God with our whole being, and genuinely love our neighbours as ourselves, we become catalysts for the renewal of our world.

Renewal in Prayer

Renewal begins with our own journey toward holiness. Let me propose a regular spiritual practice:

- **Daily Prayer:** Creating space each day to rest in the Heart of Jesus. There are many reasons and ways to pray, but at the root of prayer is always the desire to be open to God's presence and His offer of love. The daily prayer to the Sacred Heart of Jesus recommended by Blessed John Sullivan is one I encourage you to adopt for this Jubilee Year which is also the 350th anniversary of the apparitions of the Sacred Heart to St Margaret Mary in Paray-le-Monial.
- **Weekly Mass:** Gathering as a community to be nourished by Word and Sacrament. Sunday Mass is the greatest single expression of our communion with Christ and his Mission in the world.
- **Monthly Confession:** Experiencing God's mercy and beginning anew. To make a choice of regular Confession will be a great boost to our spiritual lives.
- **A pilgrimage.** I encourage you to make a *Pilgrimage of Hope* with others from the Diocese. Whether joining our Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes or Knock, visiting the Lourdes Grotto in Moneyglass or St. Mary's Chapel Lane, participating in Saul Sunday, or making a thoughtful visit to St. Peter's our Diocesan Cathedral.



Renewal in Action

The Heart of Jesus has a special love for the poor, and so must we. This means not only contributing financially but also giving of our time and ourselves and simply being present to those who are lonely or struggling.

Love, flowing from our closeness to the Heart of Jesus, becomes a beacon of hope in our world. Here in our Diocese of Down and Connor, we have a unique opportunity to make this Jubilee Year truly memorable. Let us support one another on this journey, remembering that every small act of love brings us closer to the Heart of Jesus and closer to one another.

The recent Synod invites us to think of ourselves in new ways as disciples of Jesus, and of our parishes as centres for his ongoing mission. We live in a broken world that cries out to hear the Good News of salvation that Jesus brings us. Each one of us has his or her part to play as persons of prayer, as channels of reconciliation, and as 'artisans of a new humanity'.

We will find in His Heart the strength, courage, and grace to love as He loves, to serve as He serves, and to bring hope where it is needed most.

With every blessing for the Jubilee Year,
I gCroí Íosa,

+ Alan M c Guckian SJ

Bishop Alan McGuckian SJ

The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven,
may the faith you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of charity enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed hope
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.
May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos
in the sure expectation
of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.
May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth.
To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever.
Amen

Prayer of Blessed John Sullivan SJ

I believe in God, I hope in God, I love God

I am sorry for having offended God.

Sacred Heart of Jesus, I believe in your love for me.

Sacred Heart of Jesus, I believe you love me now.

Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in thee.



My Jubilee 2025 Commitment is to

