

**Downpatrick Family of Parishes  
Parishes of Saul & Ballee and Kilclief**

**Fifth Sunday of Easter  
Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2026**

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 3 <sup>rd</sup> May	9.30am		12noon	11am	
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> May	10am	7.30pm			
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> May	10am				
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> May	10am				
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> May					
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	7pm			9.30am	
Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> May	5pm	6.30pm			
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> May	9.30am			11am	12noon

Masses are available to view online at [www.saulandballeeparish.com](http://www.saulandballeeparish.com) and [www.churchmedia.tv](http://www.churchmedia.tv)

**Our Lady of Knock Novena** each Monday evening in Stella Maris, Strangford at 7.10pm

***“Could you not watch with me one hour?”*** is a famous question asked by Jesus to his disciples. Eucharistic Adoration is held in St Patrick's Church, Saul each Tuesday from after 10.00am Mass until 8.00pm to give everyone in the Family of Parishes an opportunity to spend one hour each week before the Blessed Sacrament, to pray for their own needs and the needs of others. If you can commit to spending time in Adoration please come along. To enable us to ensure there is always someone in the Church during Adoration we urgently need Adorers who can attend at 4pm, 5pm or 6pm. There will be no Holy Hour this Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May.

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.

**Prayer for exams**

Over the next few weeks many of our young people will be sitting exams at various levels in schools and colleges. If you wish to submit a petition for prayer support during these stressful times, a form is available at the back of St Patrick's Church, Saul. Please complete this form and place it in the brown box. The petitions will be included in all our Parish Masses. A Blessed exam candle will burn in the sanctuary for these intentions. A special student Mass will be held in **St Patrick's Church, Saul on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May at 7pm**. All students and their families are welcome to attend this Mass. There is also an Exam Prayer leaflet in the Church, please take one home with you.

**Please note – the Parish office will be closed on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May**

**Recently Deceased:** Bridgetta Savage

**Parish of Saul & Ballee**

**Months Mind Mass:** John Fitzsimons on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm

**Anniversary Masses**

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May – Gerardine McQuoid

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May – Madge McCormick

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May – Sylva Loughran (9.30am), Vera & Joe Hamill (12noon)

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May – Billy Joe Murphy

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May – Aidan Killen

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May – Patsy Holland, Barney Shields (12noon)

**Parish of Kilclief**

**Anniversary Masses**

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May – Jeannie Mullan

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May – Louis Fitzsimons, Betty, George & Kathleen Conway

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May – Vincent & Harry Fitzsimons

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May – Tom Sharvin

	<b>Saul &amp; Ballee</b>	<b>Kilclief</b>
Weekly Collection	£1,341.30	£1,136.45
Trocaire	£2,325.30	£4,205.20

**Hymns – St Malachy’s, Kilclief**

Entrance: 58v1 Bind us Together      Offertory: 243v1 Lord, accept the gifts we offer

Communion: 50v1, 2 & 3 Be still and know

Recessional: 405v1&5 The Lords my shepherd

**Hymns - St Patrick’s, Saul**

Entrance: 185 Bring flowers of the rarest      141 As I kneel before you

Communion – 360 Immaculate Mary      Recessional – 309 Hail Queen of Heaven

**Upcoming Sacrament Dates**

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May – Confirmation for St Joseph’s PS and St Malachy’s PS

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May – First Communion for St Patrick’s PS, Saul

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May – Frist Communion for St Malachy’s PS, Kilclief

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May – Confirmation for St Patrick’s PS, Saul

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June – First Communion for St Joseph’s PS, Strangford

We ask you to keep the children in your prayers over the coming weeks as they prepare for their Sacraments.

**Ordination to the Priesthood of Deacon Thomas Hampton** will take place on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June. Please keep Deacon Thomas in your prayers as he makes his final preparations for his Ordination.

### **Parish of Saul & Ballee 300 Club**

The first draw will take place on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June. This will cover April, May and June. There will be prizes of £250 and £100 for each month. We thank those who have renewed their membership for another year and welcome all our new members.

### **Annual Parish Census 2026**

**Parish of Kilclief – Census will take place on the weekend of 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> May**

**Parish of Saul & Ballee – Census will take place on the weekend of 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> May**

Parishioners are asked to take a counter (red for female, blue for male) and place it in the basket which corresponds to your age band. We thank you for your support.



### **Stella Maris St Vincent de Paul Strangford**

Do you need help? If you are a parishioner of the parish of Kilclief and Strangford, please contact Stella Maris Strangford St Vincent de Paul on the confidential helpline: 07590355462. All calls are treated with respect and complete confidentiality. We are here to help.

**Saul St Vincent de Paul Conference** – If you are a Parishioner of Saul & Ballee and need help please contact Caroline on 07928 346114 or Marie on 07801896229. All calls are confidential.

**St Vincent de Paul, Saul Conference Annual trip to Knock Shrine** will take place on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May. Cost will be £40 which includes breakfast on the way to Knock and dinner on the way home. Please note pre-booking is essential with priority given to those living in the Parish of Saul & Ballee. If you live outside the Parish and would like to go you can still get your name to be added to the list should there still be places available. Please contact Caroline on 07928 346114 or Marie on 07801896229 with your name, address and phone number ***before 15<sup>th</sup> May.***

**Slips, Trips and Falls** – a talk given by Kirsty Morgan from South Eastern Trust on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May at 11am in Inverbrena Hall. To book your place please phone 07846 718512 and leave a message. Refreshments provided.

**41<sup>st</sup> All Ireland Rosary Rally on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June at Knock Shrine.** The bus will leave St Patrick's Church, Downpatrick at 6.45am with pick up at Crossgar Chapel at 7am and Saintfield Chapel at 7.10am. Costs £30, please bring a packed lunch. To book your place leave your money along with your name and phone number in a sealed envelope into the Parish office.



Join us for our 1-day retreat at Tobar Mhuire Retreat Centre, Crossgar on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June from 10am to 4pm. Let go, let God, “surrender to Jesus”. Further information will be available in the coming weeks.

**Bishop Alan McGuckian SJ and Jim Deeds will lead the Three-Day Pilgrimage to Lough Derg.**

Date: 19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> June 2026. The bus will depart from St Patrick's Church Donegal Street. Cost £100. Places are limited early booking advised. To book contact Claire on 028 90690920 or email:

[pathwaystothefuture@downandconnor.org](mailto:pathwaystothefuture@downandconnor.org)

ENCOUNTER WEEKEND DONEGAL, Radisson Blu Hotel, Letterkenny. 6.00pm - 10.30pm Friday 5th June. 9.00am - 10.30pm. Saturday 6th June. Expect to experience the presence of God through the celebration of the Sacraments, Spirit-led worship, inspiring talks, healing service, and fellowship. Come and be refreshed and empowered by the Holy Spirit and learn from the Saints how to live the lifestyle God intended you to live. Keynote Speakers: Patrick Reis: co-founder and Executive Director of Encounter Ministries USA & Fr. Patrick Gonyeau who serves with the U.S. Province of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood in Ohio. Bookings at <https://encounterschoolofministrydoneg.regfox.com/encounter-conference-donegal> For more info, email [donegal@encounterschool.org](mailto:donegal@encounterschool.org).

**Cemetery Sunday Dates**

**Ballycruttle** – Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July Mass at 12noon and Blessing of the graves immediately afterwards

**Kilclief** – Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July at 3pm

**Saul** – Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> August at 3pm

Working with Youth Link, our Diocese are delighted to offer the opportunity to acquire an accredited qualification in youth work for parish volunteers. Up to 20 training places are available. Participants must be aged 17 years or above. The course will be delivered by Youth Link and will cover the full range of OCNNI Level 2 Certificate in Youth Work Practice. For further information please contact the Parish office. Alongside meeting the OCNNI learning outcomes, the programme will be framed within the wider vision of Catholic youth ministry. In particular, the course will connect with themes from *Christus Vivit*, such as the importance of accompaniment, listening to young people, participation, and recognising young people as active protagonists in the life and mission of the Church. The aim is to ensure that participants not only gain practical youth work skills but also reflect on how their ministry supports the faith development and leadership of young people within parish communities.

As the programme is primarily aimed at adult volunteers involved in Catholic youth ministry, a delivery model that works best for people balancing parish commitments, work and family life has been developed. This uses a hybrid format (online and in person), combining a small number of mid-week evening sessions with two Saturday training days, alongside practical youth ministry experience in participants' own parish contexts.

**Standing in the Breach – Catholic Men's Retreat** - A powerful half-day retreat for men centred on our call to holiness: *"Be holy, for I am holy"* (1 Peter 1:16). Join other men for a morning of straight-talking teaching, prayer, and real-life testimonies, led by Fr Andrew Black (Belfast). This is a call to step up, take responsibility, and live the faith with courage in today's world. Saturday 9th May 2026 from 9am to 1pm in Portglenone Monastery. Includes prayer, teaching, testimonies, and tea & coffee with time to connect. For more information or to attend: Thomas Carey – 07967 620435 [sean@catholicminute.co.uk](mailto:sean@catholicminute.co.uk)

SAFEGUARDING - If you have a concern, suspicion, or wish to make an allegation of child abuse, or abuse in relation to an adult at risk, please contact the Diocesan Safeguarding Office: Philip O'Hara, Designated Liaison Person, 120, Cliftonville Road, Belfast BT14 6LA. Mobile: 07534 992124 or Telephone: 028 90 492798. Email: [philip.ohara@soddc.org](mailto:philip.ohara@soddc.org) or visit <https://downandconnorsafeguarding.com>

Very Rev Fr Aidan Brankin, Parish Priest 02844 612525 (Saul) or 02844 260101 (Strangford)

Saul Office: 02844 612525, Office Hours: Mon to Fri 9.30am to 12noon 10 St Patrick's Rd, Downpatrick, BT30 7JG

Kilclief Office: 02844260101 Office Hours: Monday 1pm to 3pm 8 Shore Rd, Strangford, BT30 7NL

Website: [www.saulandballeeparish.com](http://www.saulandballeeparish.com)

Email: [saul@downandconnor.org](mailto:saul@downandconnor.org) [strangfordandkilclief@downandconnor.org](mailto:strangfordandkilclief@downandconnor.org)