

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

**Pentecost Sunday
Sunday 24th 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 24 th May	9.30am			11am	12noon
Monday 25 th May	10am	7.30pm			
Tuesday 26 th May	10am				
Wednesday 27 th May	10am				
Thursday 28 th May					
Friday 29 th May	7pm			9.30am	
Saturday 30 th May	5pm	6.30pm			
Sunday 31 st May	9.30am			11am	

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

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.

Rev Thomas Hampton will be ordained for the Diocese on Sunday 28th June in St Patrick's Church, Downpatrick. His Mass of Thanksgiving will be here in St Patrick's, Saul on Monday 29th June at 7pm. It is a very special celebration and “Fr Thomas” will be giving his first Blessing after the Mass. St Patrick's Primary School have kindly offered the use of their hall for refreshments after the Mass. So many of our Parishioners have asked if there was anything they could do for the celebration, and I thought back to my own where families made sandwiches while others baked and others helped with the serving. I was going to bring in caterers but remember just how special it was at mine, as a Parish celebration. If you would like to be involved in any way please give your name and phone number to Amanda in the Parish office.

Please keep Thomas in your prayers over the coming weeks. Thank you all.

Fr Aidan

The Parish office will be closed on Monday 25th May

Recently Deceased: Thomas Henry Kearney (America)

Parish of Saul & Ballee

Anniversary Masses

Saturday 23rd May – Patrick Black, Paul Black, Paula McGoldrick
Sunday 24th May – Margaret Mullin (9.30am), William Curran (12noon)
Friday 29th May – Vera Smyth
Saturday 30th May – William McCormick

Parish of Kilclief

Months Mind Mass: Bridgetta Savage on Saturday 23rd May at 6.30pm in Stella Maris
Ann Smith on Sunday 31st May at 11am in St Malachy's

Anniversary Masses

Saturday 23rd May – Nathaniel Brownlee
Sunday 24th May – Paddy Murphy
Saturday 30th May – Daniel Somers
Sunday 31st May – Joan Deegan

	Saul & Ballee	Kilclief
Weekly Collection 10/5/26	£1,251.30	£881.52
Weekly Collection 17/5/26	£1,634.10	£966.20
Education of Diocesan Students	£678.60	£361.52

Hymns – St Malachy's, Kilclief

Entrance: The Bells of the Angelus
Communion: 152v1&2 God's spirit

Offertory: 243v1 Lord, accept the gifts we offer
Recessional: 410v1 The spirit lives to set us free

Hymns - St Patrick's, Saul

Entrance: 185 Bring flowers of the rarest
Communion – 360 Immaculate Mary

Offertory - 141 As I kneel before you
Recessional – 309 Hail Queen of Heaven

Upcoming Sacrament Dates

Saturday 6th 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.

Sunday 28th June - Ordination to the Priesthood of Deacon Thomas Hampton. Please keep Deacon Thomas in your prayers as he makes his final preparations for his Ordination.

Monday 29th June at 7pm – Mass of Thanksgiving in St Patrick's, Saul

Annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Slieve Patrick

Sunday 7th June (Saul Sunday)

Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Alan McGuckian at 3pm

Everyone welcome.

Parish of Saul & Ballee 300 Club

The first draw will take place on Monday 1st 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.



We congratulate our P4 children from St Patrick's PS, Saul who received their First Holy Communion last week.

We congratulate our P7 children from St Patrick's PS, Saul who received the sacrament of Confirmation this week.



We congratulate our P4 children from St Malachy's PS, Kilclief who received their First Holy Communion on Saturday.

We would like to thank everyone who helped the children prepare for their Sacraments and made their day so special.



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 28th May. Bus will leave the Church car park at 7am sharp.

Legion of Mary 41st All Ireland Rosary Rally on Saturday 6th 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 6th 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: 19th – 21st June 2026. The bus will depart from St Patrick's Church Donegall Street. Cost £100. Places are limited early booking advised. To book contact Claire on 028 90690920 or email: pathwaystothefuture@downandconnor.org

Cemetery Sunday Dates

Ballycruttle – Sunday 19th July Mass at 12noon and Blessing of the graves immediately afterwards

Kilclief – Sunday 19th July at 3pm

Saul – Sunday 2nd August at 3pm

Down & Connor Diocesan Novena to The Sacred Heart June 4th to June 12th, the feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

It is with great joy as a Diocese we celebrate the Novena to The Sacred Heart. The Sacred Heart Novena invites you to nine days of prayer, cumulating in the celebration of the Feast of the Sacred Heart. Come to Me. These words of Jesus are among the most tender in all of the Gospels. They are not a command but an invitation - offered freely, offered personally, offered to each one of us.

To set aside time each day for prayer is to say yes to that invitation.

It is a simple act, yet a profound one. In the busyness of our lives - with all their demands, their joys, and their anxieties - to pause and turn our hearts toward Jesus is itself a form of love.

The prayers will be available in a booklet you can pick up at Mass or read online; it will also include a piece of scripture and a reflection for each day for those who wish to go a little deeper. The images used in this year's Novena book are by students from our schools from across the diocese. Bishop Alan's hope is that this novena will be prayed either individually or together by parishes, groups, schools or families. Even young children can join in with the short prayers!

The Belfast Jesuit Centre invites you to join our next **Faith & Film** gathering. After last month's screening of *A Hidden Life*, we continue our Terrence Malick journey with, *The Tree of Life* — a poetic, visually stunning meditation on family, creation, loss, and the search for meaning. Screening on **Thursday 28 May at 7pm** - followed by a short, reflective discussion. Everyone welcome. Small donation suggested.

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.

Daneo Human & Spiritual Development Services Belfast, are organising a four-day Institute looking at Psychological and Spiritual understandings of Post Traumatic Growth and Transformation through Turmoil. The event takes Place at Tobar Mhuire Retreat & Conference Centre, Crossgar on 7th - 10th July. The Speakers are Dr. Melinda Moore Eastern Kentucky University and Dr Steve Taylor Leeds Beckett University.

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 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

Email: saul@downandconnor.org strangfordandkilclief@downandconnor.org