

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

**Seventeenth Sunday of Ordinary Time
Sunday 26th July 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 26 th July	9.30am			11am	12noon
Monday 27 th July	10am	7.30pm			
Tuesday 28 th July	10am				
Wednesday 29 th July	10am				
Thursday 30 th July					
Friday 31 st July	7pm			9.30am	
Saturday 1 st August	5pm	6.30pm			
Sunday 2 nd August	9.30am		12noon	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.

Eucharistic Adoration is held in St Patrick's Church, Saul each Tuesday from after 10.00am Mass until 8.00pm. Everyone welcome.

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.

There are a couple of My Day by Day books for sale priced at £1.20 each.

All bulletin notices should be with the Parish office by 12noon on Wednesday

Cemetery Sunday Saul – Sunday 2nd August at 3pm

A very special word of thanks to all involved in the Cemetery Sunday services in Ballycruttle and Kilclief. To the farmers who let visitors park in their fields, to the volunteers helping with parking, the sound engineers and every one of you who attended and who keep your family graves meticulous all through the year. Thank you for not parking on the road outside St Malachy's as it made traffic flow so much easier. Once again, thank you to everyone who helped and supported in any way.

Parish of Saul & Ballee

Anniversary Masses

Saturday 25th July – Ben Fitzsimons, Damien Feenan

Parish of Kilclief

Anniversary Masses

Saturday 25th July – Margaret Hynds

Sunday 26th July – Eleanor McGurnaghan, Dick Cull, Mary Kerr

Saturday 1st August – Elizabeth & Patrick Brankin

Sunday 2nd August – Pat Ward

Monday 3rd August – Patricia & Frank Fitzsimons

	Saul & Ballee	Kilclief
Weekly Collection	£1,367.46	£1,006.82
Diocesan Pastoral Needs	£809.80	£514.32

Hymns – St Malachy's, Kilclief

Entrance: 348v1 Praise to the Lord

Offertory: 183v1 I am the bread of life

Communion: 466v1, 2 You shall cross the barren desert

Recessional: 175v1 Go to the Mass is ended

Hymns - St Patrick's, Saul

Entrance – 604 Seek ye first

Communion – 194 Christ be beside me

Offertory – 362 In bread we bring you Lord

Recessional – 572 Peace is flowing

Catholic Men's Retreat - Standing in the Breach: Freedom in Christ, will take place in Portglenone Monastery on Saturday 25th July from 9am-1pm. The keynote speaker will be Dr Robert McNamara, and the morning will be an opportunity for men to come together for prayer, encouragement, fellowship and renewal in the Catholic faith. All men are warmly invited to attend. For further information or to book a place, please contact Thomas Carey on 07967 620435 or email Sean at sean@catholicminute.co.uk

National Grandparents Pilgrimage on 26th July at Knock Shrine. Celebrating World Day for Grandparents & the Elderly. Please see poster for further details. You can take part online at www.knockshrine.ie/watch

River of Roses 2026



Our annual River of Roses floral display in memory of our deceased loved ones will take place in the days preceding Cemetery Sunday on 2nd August.

Roses are now available to purchase from the Parish office or any member of the flower group priced at £1.50 each (same price as the last 3 years).

Due to the limited number of roses available we would recommend you purchase as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

All names included in the River of Roses Intention book will be remembered at a special Mass on **Saturday 8th August at 5pm in St Patrick's Church, Saul.**

Youth 2000 Summer Festival from 13th to 16th August - Calling all young people aged 16–35! Join us at the Youth 2000 Summer Festival in Newbridge College, Co. Kildare. This is a donation-only event, with free buses available across the country and all meals included. Expect inspiring talks and workshops, Mass, music, prayer, and plenty of opportunities to chill out and meet other young Catholics. Whether you are new to the faith or looking to be refreshed, all are welcome. To register or find out more, visit youth2000.ie or follow @Youth2000Ireland."

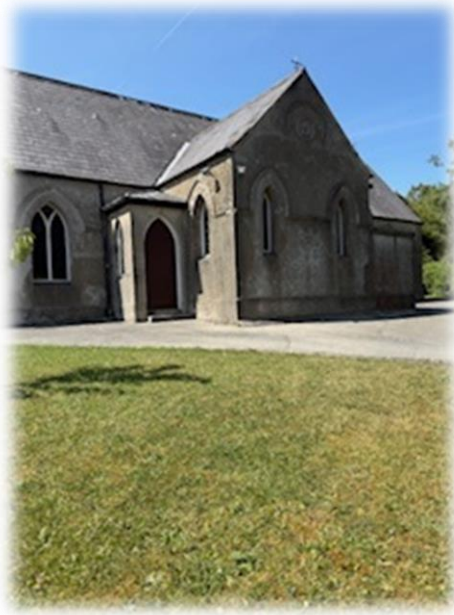
Pilgrimage to Fatima, flying direct from Belfast International, 7 Nights F/B Avenida Hotel 14th/21st August Spiritual Director Fr Andrew McMahon PP Convenient flight times. £845pps. For further information contact Joe 07776425631

Burren Outdoor Retreat, Friday 4th September to Sunday 6th September. Would you like to come with us on a journey through the Burren with its limestone pavements, rare flora and ancient sacred sites? Let the beauty of this place renew you in body and soul. Residential (people within easy reach may commute). Contact Mary at 087 970 1130 for information or Des at 085 161 4951 for bookings.

Abide in His Love Women's Conference. The Great Northern Hotel, Bundoran, 20–22 November 2026. Join women from across Ireland for a faith-filled weekend with inspiring speakers including Sarah Swafford, Danielle Noonan, Fr Mark Wharton, Fr Barry Braum, Fr Oisín Martin, the Dominican Sisters of Nashville, Bishop Fintan Gavin, and more. Register now: <https://abideinhislove.eventbrite.com/>

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>

A Brief history of St Tassach's Church, Carlin



St Tassach's Church, which bears a strong resemblance in design to the nearby Ballee Presbyterian Church, was built in 1777 by Rev O'Neill then finished by Fr Michael Morgan.

It serviced the people in the nearby estates.

In 1836 it was described as "being in the shape of a T and capable of holding 300 people", with an average attendance, at that time of 150 but having only a few seats.

A school was also held in the Church.

The Church was rebuilt in 1866. The Church has 2 separate entrances – one for ladies and the other for gents.



The "Naom Tassach", Irish for Saint Tassach, plaque on the gates was installed on behalf of Mr C J Fitzsimons of Toberdoney.

The stained glass window depicts St Tassach administering the last rites to St Patrick. The image in the circle at the bottom is of the old Church in Raholp.



Details sourced from online research, www.rosdavies.com

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

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

Website: www.saulandballeeparish.com

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