



**Mary, Mother of the Church
Saintfield**

Open Sun. Tues. Wed. Thurs. 10 am – 4 pm
Mon. Fri. Sat. 10 am – 8 pm

MASS

Saturday 6:30 pm

Sunday 11:00 am

Monday, Friday 7:30 pm

Friday is the First Friday of the Month

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Monday & Friday 7:00 pm

Saturday 12 noon - 6:30 pm

St Joseph's Church, Carrickmannon

Open Sat & Sun 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

MASS

Sunday 9:00 am

Tuesday Mass

CONFESSIONS

Before and after Vigil Mass

ALTAR SOCIETY

Saintfield – Group 2

Carrickmannon – Team 2

READERS 2/3 May

Vigil: Mary Davies

9am: Harry Murray

11am: Philomena Miskelly

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

2/3 May

Vigil: Lizzie Jones, Anne Murray

9 am: Brian Mullan

11 am: James Mullan

George Kerr, Damian Mulholland

Weekly Collection 19th April £2761

St Vincent de Paul

Contact: 07521463667 or email

stmochai.saintfield@svpni.co.uk

**Adoration of the
Blessed Sacrament**



Mary, Mother of the Church

Saturday 2nd May, 12 noon – 6:30 pm

“Can you not watch one hour with me?”

**Recently Deceased
Martin McMullan
May he rest in peace**

Please also remember in your prayers

Mary McMullan, Sean Lonergan, Michael Campbell, Fionn Brannigan and Kathleen McGreevy recently deceased.

Anniversaries: Harry, Murray, Patricia Donnelly, Eileen Murray Winnie McGreevy, James Darragh, Thomas Martin, Ambrose Martin, Mark Walsh and all the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

Months Mind Mass for Kathleen McGreevy will be offered in Saintfield Church at 6:30 pm. (Vigil Mass 25th)

Months Mind Mass for Fionn Brannigan will be offered in Saintfield Church on Monday 4th May at 7:30 pm.

Feast Days

Tuesday: St Louis de Montfort

Wednesday: St Catherine of Siena

Thursday: St Pius V, Pope

Friday: St Joseph the Worker

Saturday: St Athanasius



11 am Mass

Hello children. In today's gospel Jesus tells us a parable in which he is the gate which takes us to God. At the end, he says, "I have come so that you might have life – life in all its fullness." Living life to the full means being the best person that we can be, living our lives well and having the chance to use all our gifts and talents.

Our prayer for this week: **God of life, be with us as we try to be the best people we can be. Inspire us to help one another to use the gifts and talents you have given us, so that the world may be a better place. Amen.**

Worksheets and the Kids Bulletin to support this week's Gospel are available in both churches. Pick up copies for your children/grandchildren.

More volunteers are needed to help with our Children's Liturgy. If you are interested, please speak to one of the leaders any Sunday following 11 am Mass, leave your name and contact details into the parish office or email: saintfield@downandconnor.org and we will get in touch with you.

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR 1-DAY
RETREAT Tobar Mhuire Crossgar
Sat 6th June 2026 10.00am – 4.00pm
LET GO, LET GOD -
“SURRENDER TO JESUS”**

**Please return the contents of your
LENTEN TROCAIRE BOXES**



**Monday Social Club
Next meeting
27th April 2026
12:30 – 2 pm**

**Crois Dharach CLG Club
Lotto Numbers: 9 28 29 31**

No Jackpot winner. Consolation prizes were won by Caroline Leckie, Christopher McClements and Michael Monan. **New Jackpot £9300.** Tickets available on Klubfunder page, Oaks Bar, Chestnut Bar, Vivo Shop, Dufferin Bar, International & Central Bars.

**Belfast Jesuit Centre
193-195 Donegal Street, Belfast
Faith & Film *A Hidden Life***

Join us in the BJC on **Thursday 30th April at 7.00pm**, for a screening of Terrence Malick's *A Hidden Life*, the true story of Franz Jägerstätter's courageous witness of conscience. There will be a short Ignatian introduction before the film and group conversation will follow. All welcome. Light refreshments provided. Small donation suggested.

Bookings for Mass, Month Minds, Anniversaries, Baptisms and Weddings are to be made through the Parish Office **02897510237** or Parish email address at: saintfield@downandconnor.org. Office Hours: Monday & Wednesday 11.00am - 1.00pm. Thursday 12 – 1pm. Please use the Parish Email outside of Office Hours and we will respond as soon as possible.

Parish Financial Statement
will be available at all Masses
next weekend 2/3 May 2026.

The Interior Discovery of God's Gift

Guided and protected by the Risen Jesus, we celebrate today, the fourth Sunday of Easter also called "Good Shepherd Sunday" the **63rd World Day of Prayer for Vocations**. It is an occasion of grace in which we share some reflections on the interior dimension of vocation, understood as the discovery of God's free gift that blossoms in the depths of our hearts. Let us explore together the truly beautiful path of life along which the Shepherd guides us.

In the Gospel of John, Jesus describes himself as the "good shepherd". This expression refers to a shepherd who is perfect, authentic and exemplary, inasmuch as he is ready to give his life for his sheep, thus revealing God's love. He is the Shepherd who draws us to himself, whose gaze reveals that life is truly beautiful when one follows him. Neither the eyes of the body nor aesthetic sensibilities alone are sufficient to recognize this beauty; rather, contemplation and interiority are required. Only the one who pauses, listens, prays and welcomes the Shepherd's gaze can say with confidence: "I trust him; life with him can truly be beautiful. I want to walk this path of beauty." What is most extraordinary is that, in becoming his disciple, one truly becomes "beautiful"; his beauty transforms us. The distinctive trait of the saint is the luminous spiritual beauty that radiates from his or her life in Christ. In this way, the Christian vocation reveals itself in all its depth as a participation in the life of Jesus, by sharing in his mission and reflecting his beauty.

"Do not go outside yourself. Return within yourself. Truth dwells in the inner person." **Saint Augustine reminds us how important it is to learn to pause and to create space for interior silence, so that we may hear the voice of Jesus Christ.**

Dear young people, listen to this voice! Listen to the voice of the Lord who invites you to a full and fruitful life, calling you to put your talents to use and to unite your limitations and weaknesses with the glorious cross of Christ. **Make time, then, for Eucharistic adoration;** meditate faithfully on the word of God, so that you may put it into practice each day; and participate actively and fully in the sacramental and ecclesial life of the Church. In this way, you will come to know the Lord. Through the intimacy of his friendship, you will discover how to give of yourselves, whether through marriage, the priesthood, the permanent diaconate, or consecrated life. Every vocation is an immeasurable gift for the Church and for those who receive it with joy. To know the Lord means above all learning to entrust oneself to him and to his providence, which is abundant in every vocation. **Pope Leo XIV**

Prayer to St Joseph

Blessed St Joseph, You listened in the depth of your heart
to the call of God for you to participate in his plan
for the salvation of the world.

You responded with faith to that invitation.

Help me listen for the call of God in my life.

Help me understand what the Holy Spirit is asking of me,
and help me be open to follow that invitation, with courage and a trusting heart.

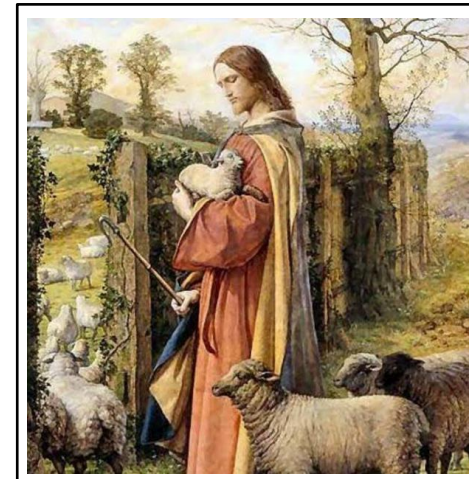
May your fatherly hand guide me and keep me safe.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen

Saintfield & Carrickmannon

Parish Bulletin

26th April 2026



Fourth Sunday of Easter

Good Shepherd Sunday

Day of Prayer for Vocations

Fr Michael Sheehan PP 028 9081 2238

Fr Anthony McHugh PE 028 9751 0237

Email: saintfield@downandconnor.org

New Parish Family Website

Now that Carryduff and Saintfield are a Parish Family we have adopted one new website for the family. This will contain details and contacts for both Parishes and the three Churches. To access the web please use this new website www.carryduffsaintfield.co.uk