



**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

St Joseph's Church, Carrickmannon

Open Sat & Sun 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

MASS

Sunday 9:00 am
Tuesday 10:00 am

CONFESSIONS

Before Vigil Mass

ALTAR SOCIETY

Saintfield – Group 3
Carrickmannon – Team 4

READERS 25/26 July

Vigil: Mary Davies

9am: Harry Murray

11am: Sharon Murray

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

25/26 July

Vigil: Gemma Magennis, Eileen Murray

9 am: Patricia Denvir

11 am: Patricia McMahon,
Anne Schollhammer

St Vincent de Paul

Contact: 07521463667

stmochai.saintfield@svpni.co.uk

LOUGH DERG ONE-DAY RETREAT

Saturday 5th September 2026

Please sign your name in the booklet in
Saintfield Church if you wish to go.

Admission including bus £57

“Come, Holy Spirit,
fill the hearts of the faithful
and kindle in them
the fire of Your love.”

Please remember in your prayers:

Annie Murray, Anna Clarke, Christine Ward, Gerard McCormick, Malachy Doran and Betty Murray, recently deceased.

Anniversaries: Charlie Magee, Brian McGreevy, Danny Miskelly, Rose McGreevy, Sarah Mageean, Annie Murray and all the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

Feast Days

Monday: St Apollinaris
Tuesday: St Lawrence of Brindisi
Wednesday: St Mary Magdeline
Thursday: St Bridget of Sweden
Friday: St Declan
Saturday: St James, Apostle

The Annual Pioneer Pilgrimage Mass at Knock Shrine will be celebrated in the Basilica **at 3pm today**. Pioneers extend a welcome to families and relatives of people who are undergoing treatment for addiction at this time. Further information prayer@pioneers.ie

Weekly Collection 12th July £1005

Catholic Men's Retreat: Standing in the Breach: Freedom in Christ, will take place in **Portglenone Monastery on Saturday 25th July from 9am-1pm**. All men are warmly invited to attend. Contact Thomas Carey 07967620435 or email Sean sean@catholicminute.co.uk



Hello children! In today's gospel, Jesus uses storytelling to explain what the Kingdom of heaven is like. Stories keep people interested in what Jesus has to say and help us to understand things that are complicated. Jesus wants us to learn from him so that we can know more about God.

This week, let's give thanks to God for all the people we learn from and let's try to learn more about Jesus and how he asks us to treat others.

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

6th World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly - Sunday 26th July 2026

Theme: **“I will never forget you” (Is 49:15)** reminds us that God's unwavering love is the ultimate answer to the isolation and neglect so often experienced by the elderly.

National Grandparents Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine – Sunday 26th July 2026

Celebrant Archbishop Eamon Martin, Anointing of the Sick 2:30 pm, Mass 3pm. See notice in church porch.

Crois Dharach CLG Club

Lotto Numbers 10 12 16 18

No Jackpot winner. Consolation prize winners: Isaac McGreevy, Caroline Leckie, Eamon Mullan. **New Jackpot £10500**. Tickets available on Klubfunder page and usual outlets.



Monday Social Club

**Next meeting
20th July 2026
12:30 – 2 pm**

The Rowallane and Slieve Croob Community Twinning Group is organising a **Full-day Coach Tour to the Ulster Folk Museum at Cultra, Belfast on Friday, 7 August 2026**.

Price of the trip is £15 and children under 5 will travel free of charge. A guided tour of the Folk Village is included along with light refreshments. Please contact Karen on 07979 304479 by Text or Phone or email RSCCTG@icloud.com

"Youth 2000 Summer Festival 13th–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. To register or find out more, visit youth2000.ie

Down and Connor Diocesan Trust are seeking to recruit into this exciting new role of ‘Youth Minister’, to work within St Colmcille's Parish, 191 Upper Newtownards Road, Belfast BT4 3JB We are looking for a person with a passion for deepening the faith of young people, who will focus on the personal, social & spiritual development of young people. If interested, full details and application forms can be found on the Diocesan website at: <http://www.downandconnor.org> and also at <https://www.nijobs.com>. Closing date Tuesday 28 July.

Today's Gospel offers us the parable of the wheat and the weeds. A farmer, who has sown good seed in his field, discovers that an enemy by night has sown darnel in it, a plant that looks very similar to wheat, but is a weed.

In this way, Jesus talks about our world, which in effect is like a *large field*, where God sows wheat and the evil one sows darnel, and therefore good and bad grow together. We see this from the news, in society, and even in the family and in the Church. And when, along with the good wheat, we see bad weeds, we want to tear them up immediately, to make a "clean sweep". But today the Lord warns us that to do this is a temptation: one cannot create a perfect world, and one cannot do good by hastily destroying what is bad, because this has even worse effects: one ends up, as we say, "throwing the baby away with the bathwater".

There is, however, a second field where we can clean up: it is *the field of our heart*, the only one where we can intervene directly. There, too, there is wheat and darnel; indeed, it is precisely from there that both of them expand into the great field of the world. Our heart, in fact, is the field of freedom: it is not a sterile laboratory, but rather an open and therefore vulnerable space. So let us look within and examine what happens a little, what is growing in me, what grows in me that is good and evil. There is a good method for this: it is the examination of conscience, which is seeing what happened today in my life, what struck my heart and which decisions I made. And this serves precisely to verify, in the light of God, where the bad weeds and the good seed are.

May the Virgin Mary help us to cultivate patiently what the Lord sows in the field of life, in my field, in the neighbour's, in everyone's field.

Pope Francis

WORDS OF SPIRIT AND LIFE: An evening with Jeff Cavins

Sunday 26th July 2026, 7pm - Voco Hotel Belfast

Spend an inspiring evening with Jeff Cavins, the internationally renowned Bible teacher, author, and creator of The Great Adventure Bible Timeline that shaped the hugely popular Bible in a Year podcast. Whether you're a catechist, a young adult, or simply drawn to Scripture, come to meet others who love the Word, share in a time of prayer led by Fr Conor McGrath, and be reminded that the words of Jesus are Spirit and they are life.

Register Online: <https://tinyurl.com/5h483c83>

24 Hours of Prayer for Vocations - 3-4 August On the Feast of St John Vianney, the patron saint of parish priests, we warmly invite the faithful from across the Diocese to join us for **24 Hours of Prayer for Vocations to the Diocesan Priesthood in the Parish of St Colmcille, 191a Upper Newtownards Road, Belfast BT4 3JB** Beginning with Holy Mass at 7pm on Monday, 3 August, and conclude with Holy Mass at 7pm on Tuesday, 4 August. St John Vianney once said, "The priesthood is the love of the Heart of Jesus." Join us for an hour, for Mass, or simply drop in to pray. Your presence & prayers will make a real difference. Email Fr Conor - c.mcgrath@downandconnor.org

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 - 1.30pm. Thursday 12 - 1pm. Please use the Parish Email outside of Office Hours.

Saintfield & Carrickmannon

Parish Bulletin

19th July 2026



16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Fr Michael Sheehan PP 028 9081 2238

Fr Anthony McHugh PE 028 9751 023

Email: saintfield@downandconnor.org

New Parish Family Website

www.carryduffsaintfield.co.uk