



# St. Anne's Parish

**Pastoral Community of Derriaghy & Colin**

Fr. Peter O'Hare, PP  
 Rev Pat McNeill, Deacon  
 Sr. Mary Murray, Parish Sister

Parish Office: 02890610112  
 www.saintannesparish.net

Parish Centre: 07745169205  
 Email: stannes@downandconnor.org

## 28<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

15<sup>th</sup> October 2023



### This Week in St. Anne's

**Sunday Mass: 5pm Vigil & 11am**

**Masses this week: Tues, Wed & Thurs 10am.**

**Confessions: Sat 4.30pm & before masses.**

**Parish Office:** Mon to Fri 9am to 1pm.

**Parish WhatsApp Group** – Keep up to date with what is happening in our parish community. Text your name and number to 07714691281 to be added to our WhatsApp group.

**Your Giving** This w/end - **Weekly Offering**

**Last w/end: Weekly Offering Env £2055.80 Loose £258.95**

Why not set up a **Standing Order**. You can download the forms from our website...or **Donate Online** to St. Anne's Parish **A/C No. 07707787 Sort Code 93 83 00**

A **"Digital Collection Plate"** for those who wish to donate using Credit or Debit Cards is now available. It is located in the main porch of the church. It is "contactless", and you can also Gift Aid your donation. It's so simple!

**Recently Deceased:** Noel O'Boyle, Mary McCabe.

**Month's Mind:** Philip Gribben.

**Anniversaries:** Mary McAleenan, Betty Mulholland.

### Pathways to the Future Prayer

God of Love, you are with us in every transition and change. As we enter into this new era with excitement and even some anxiety, we recall your deep compassion, presence, and abounding love.

We thank you for the gifts, talents and skills with which you have blessed us. We thank you for the work of others that gives breadth and depth to our own work. Be with us as we move forward, rejoicing with you and supporting one another. We ask this in your Holy Name. Amen

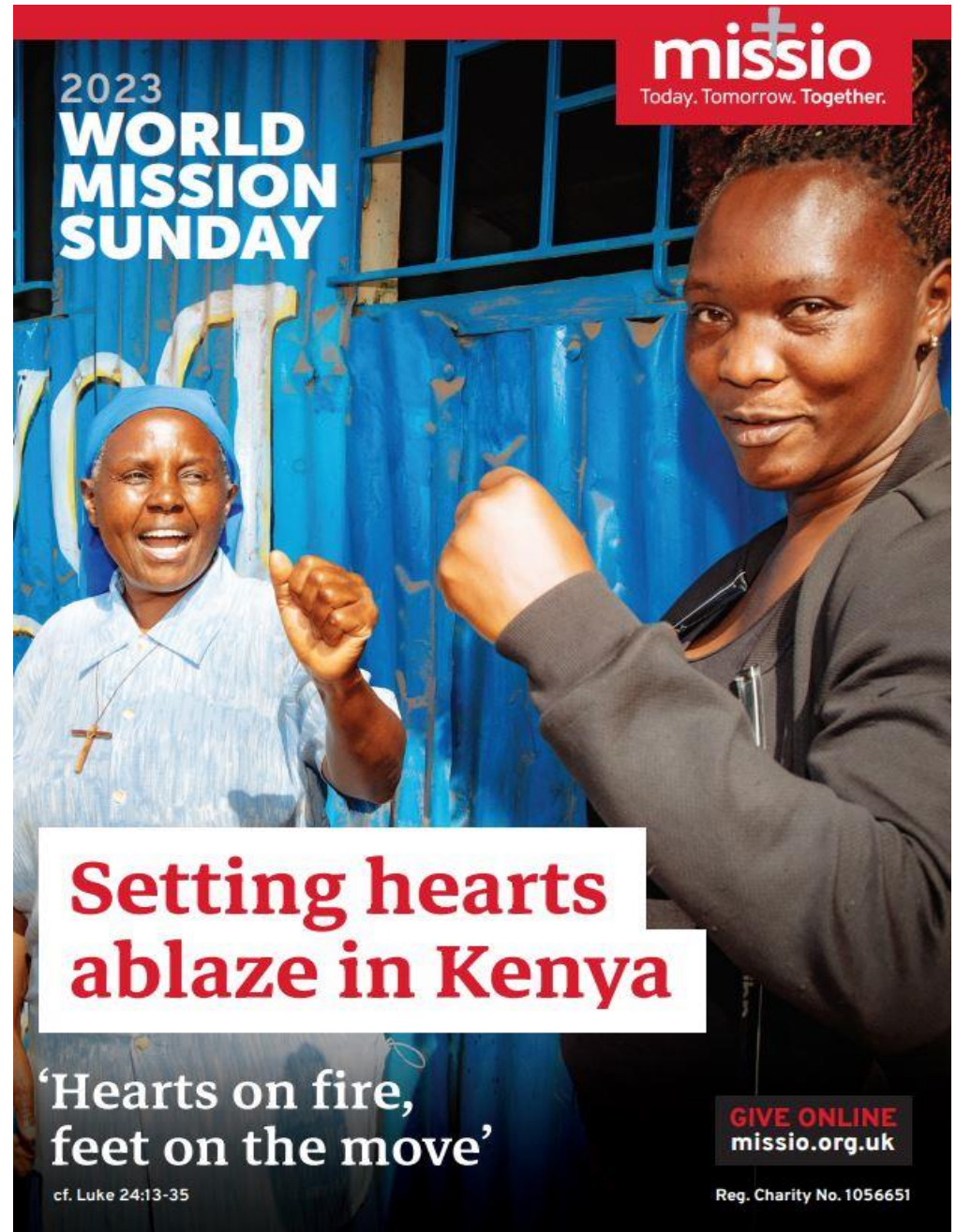
## Seeing your life through the Gospel

There are two parables here that Matthew has joined together. Looking at the first one:

1. Scripture often speaks of the kingdom of God as a banquet. The image of people being at a meal where everyone is happy and welcome and where all hunger and thirst is satisfied gets across the idea that God loves, accepts, and welcomes us and wants us to make that experience available to one another. Think of times in your life when you have had 'banquet' experiences and when you have felt accepted and loved?
2. The host enlists the help of his servants to invite people to the banquet. We are commissioned by the Lord to invite people to the banquet of the kingdom, to the fullness of life – as parents, teachers, friends, etc. What has it been like for you to play a part in leading others to a fuller life?
3. As in the parable last week there is a message about being alert to invitations that offer a fuller life and the danger of losing out if we neglect to respond to such invitations. Perhaps there have been opportunities offered to you that you missed, and now regret. Think also of the blessings you received because you seized the moment and took an opportunity that presented itself.
4. The second parable puts the focus on how we respond to invitations. Some invitations are ones that challenge us to change, to conversion, to put on a 'wedding garment.' What has been your experience of changing in response to an invitation you received?

John Byrne OSA Email [jbyrneosa@gmail.com](mailto:jbyrneosa@gmail.com)

**Foodbank** - The collection box will be outside the church each day from 10am to 4pm. Your continued generosity is very much appreciated.



2023  
**WORLD MISSION SUNDAY**

**Setting hearts ablaze in Kenya**

**'Hearts on fire, feet on the move'**

cf. Luke 24:13-35

**missio**  
Today. Tomorrow. Together.

**GIVE ONLINE**  
[missio.org.uk](https://missio.org.uk)

Reg. Charity No. 1056651

**The West Belfast Historical Society** is meeting on Fri 13<sup>th</sup> Oct at 7.30pm in St. Michael's Parish Centre. The October talk is entitled: 'MATILDA TONE' (Wolfe's Wife) by Mr. Larry Breen All are welcome.

### **Cleaner Required**

St Anne's PS are looking for a new member of cleaning staff to join our team.

Hours per week: 12.5hrs Working pattern: 2.15pm – 4.45pm daily

Grade / Scale: NJC pts 2 - 3 | £10.8894 - £11.0871 per hour

Please contact the school office for more details.

### **Ethics of War and Peace:**

#### **Conversations for the Common Good at QUB**

For the next in its series of 'Conversations for the Common Good', the Catholic Chaplaincy at Queen's University will host eminent theologian and ethicist, Professor Tobias Winright of Maynooth and Oxford, who will address the Catholic understanding of just war and peace in light of the Ukraine War. The talk, delivered in partnership with QUB Order of Malta, takes place in Riddell Hall on Tuesday 17 October at 7pm, with light refreshments afterwards. Everyone is welcome.



## 28<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Matthew 22:1-14 - Parable of the Wedding Feast

*"Go to the crossroads in the town and invite everyone you can find to the wedding."*

### **PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE**

Like the king in today's Gospel, God sends us out as his servants to the towns and the crossroads of our daily lives to invite guests to His wedding feast. We share His invitation to join Him in our communities, our workplaces, our schools, and wherever we meet and engage with others. Through the witness of our lives, our faith, and our love, we draw and attract others to the banquet feast and to a personal relationship with God and with Christ, His son.

A few months ago, every Parish counted the number of people attending Mass as part of a Diocesan Census. It recorded that almost 37,000 people gather each week to celebrate the Eucharist and be in the presence of Christ in the parishes across our Diocese. We should be thankful for that, but we want more people to join us and to experience the love of Christ.

Each one of us has a part to play in building the Church of today and tomorrow in Down and Connor. We are God's church. May we work with our clergy and with each other to make our faith communities vibrant, welcoming, and joyful. Through the invitation of the witness of our lives, may we attract others to join us each weekend as we gather in the presence of Christ to celebrate Mass and clothe ourselves in His love and mercy for the week ahead.

"See, this is our God in whom we hoped for salvation ... We exult and we rejoice that he has saved us" Isaiah 25:9