



Parish Directory



This Parish Directory provides information on the many things going on in our parish. You are very welcome to get involved!

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Please leave this Parish Directory in the church. Thank you.

Welcome to the Parish of Larne

A very warm welcome to our Parish. Here in Larne, we have a thriving Catholic community worshipping in our two churches – St MacNissi's in the town centre and St Anthony's in Craigyhill. You can find here the details of our many parish groups and activities, our sacraments and life of prayer. Whether you are a regular, newly arrived or a passing visitor, you are always welcome to join in the life of the Parish.

Our Lord Jesus Christ showed us the way to the Father that our joy may be complete. By supporting one another in witnessing to our faith in God and walking the journey together, we form a community of faith. We share our highs and our lows. We share our celebrations and our struggles. And we place them all in God's hands, knowing that He is our constant companion and guide, and that His plan is greater for us than any we could imagine for ourselves.

Parish Contact Information

Phone: (028) 2827 3230

Website: www.larneparish.co.uk



St MacNissi's Parish, Larne



@Macnissis

New to the Parish?

***Please get in touch
through one of these!***

Society of St Vincent de Paul HELPLINE: 07784 038838

(Please leave a message and a member will be in touch)

Enquiries about St Anthony's Parochial Hall: (028) 2826 0130

Weekly Schedule

PARISH OF LARNE

Our community giving praise to God



ST MACNISSI'S CHURCH
(TOWN CENTRE)

MASS TIMES:
Monday 10.00am
Wednesday 7.30pm (Novena)
Friday 10.00am
Saturday 10.00am
Saturday 7.00pm (Vigil)
Sunday 10.00am

CONFESSIONS:
Wednesday 7.00 – 7.15pm
Saturday 12.00 – 12.30pm



ST ANTHONY'S CHURCH
(CRAIGYHILL)

MASS TIMES:
Tuesday 7.30pm
Thursday 10.00am
Saturday 5.30pm (Vigil)
Sunday 11.30am

CONFESSIONS:
Saturday 5.00 – 5.15pm

ADORATION:
Tuesday 8.00am – 7.00pm

** The usual practice for **Holy Days** is to hold the Vigil at 7pm in St Anthony's
and a morning mass at 10am in St MacNissi's.*

Please consult the bulletin or parish website (larneparish.co.uk) in advance.

PARISH TEAM AND ADMINISTRATION



Parish Priest:
Fr Aidan Kerr



Curate:
**Fr Conor
McCarthy**

Parish Secretary: Michelle Oakes

Sacristan (St MacNissi's church): Terry McCaughan

Sacristan (St Anthony's church): Martin Wilson

Within our parish community, the following form an important part in managing our everyday life, planning for the future and providing a safe and nurturing environment for all.

- Parish Pastoral Council
- Finance Committee
- Safeguarding Committee
- Parish Hall
- Parish Schools

More information is provided in the next pages.

Parish Pastoral Council

Larne Parish Pastoral Council shares responsibility with the Parish Priest for the development and living out of our baptismal faith. We aim to ensure that every individual and group in the parish feels welcome and rooted in parish life. We believe that when we share our giftedness the Holy Spirit builds the Kingdom of God among us.

The Pastoral Council in its present formation came into existence in 2013 with the guidance of Jim Deeds from the Diocesan Living Church office. It meets once per month to discuss new initiatives that would benefit the mission of our parish and help projects ongoing. Their work is a valuable contribution, helping the priests of the parish greatly and engaging the wider community.

Chairperson: Noel Wilson

Secretary: Gerry Campbell

Members: Fr Aidan Kerr (Parish Priest), Fr Conor McCarthy (Curate), Paul Reilly, Rosaleen Campbell, Ricky Looney, Debbie McAllister, Aidan Murray



Finance Committee

The finances of our parish are managed by the Parish Finance Committee, who meet once per month.

Chairperson: Paul Fitzpatrick

Secretaries: Patricia Brennan and Anne Taylor

Members: Fr Aidan Kerr (Parish Priest), Fr Conor McCarthy (Curate), Liam Kelly, Billy Breen

Safeguarding Committee

In order to make our parish a safe place for children and vulnerable adults, a Safeguarding Committee oversees the implementation of necessary legislation and the Code of Conduct. It is a requirement of all parish staff and volunteers who work with children or vulnerable adults to work accordingly and comply with statutory vetting procedures.

Chairperson: Coirle Oakes

*If you suspect that someone may be suffering abuse, **tell someone** by contacting one of the following:*

- your local social services office / PSNI
- Diocesan designated officers: Barbara McDermott or Andrew Thomson at the Safeguarding Office (028 9049 2783)

Parish Hall

St Anthony's Parochial Hall stands beside St Anthony's Church at Craigyhill, and is used for a wide array of activities including Irish dancing lessons, meals for senior citizens, the GIFT programme for youth faith development and parish catechesis courses. It includes a kitchen, and is often used to host families following church services such as funerals or sacraments.

For any **enquiries** about the use of the hall, please phone (028) 2826 0130.

Manager: Martin Wilson

Parish Schools

Our parish is proud to boast two excellent primary schools: **St MacNissi's Primary School** in the town and **St Anthony's Primary School** at Craigyhill. Both schools continue to maintain a strong Catholic ethos, whilst welcoming those of other backgrounds as well. Their model is found in the beautiful words:

“Be it known to all who enter here
that Christ is the reason for this school,
the unseen but ever present Teacher in its classes,
the model of its staff,
the inspiration of its students.”

St MacNissi's Primary School

St MacNissi's Primary School first opened in 1993, bringing together the boys' (St Joseph's) and the girls' (St Mary's) primary schools into one establishment, with the latter having been run for almost a century by the Sisters of the Cross and Passion. A new school building was opened on 1st September 2000.

Principal: Mrs Bibiana McCavera

Address: 23 Agnew Street, Larne, County Antrim, BT40 1RF

Telephone: 028 2827 3571

E-mail: info@stmacnissisps.larne.ni.sch.uk



St Anthony's Primary School

St Anthony's Primary School opened in 1964 to alleviate the overcrowding in the schools in the town centre, after inspiring fundraising efforts among the local Catholic population. Over the decades it has seen the area around it develop significantly, with new residential areas being built across Craigyhill.

Principal: Mrs Áine Fleming

Address: 43 Fairway, Larne, County Antrim, BT40 2BG

Telephone: 028 2826 0444

E-mail: info@stanthonysps.larne.ni.sch.uk



Beside St Anthony's Primary School is **St Anthony's Nursery School**, the details of which follow:

Principal: Mrs Catherine McDonald-Anakaa

Address: 43 Fairway, Larne, County Antrim, BT40 2BG

Telephone: 028 2827 8645

PARISH OUTREACH

Our faith community is one which reaches out in many ways, from those who come through our doors on a Sunday morning, to the wider community and being attentive to those parts of the world in greater material need than ourselves. We also continue to invest in our youth ministry in the parish.

On the following pages, more information is provided on each of these ministries of outreach.

- Ministry of Welcome
- Society of Saint Vincent de Paul
- Apostolic Work
- GIFT Programme

Ministry of Welcome

The Ministry of Welcome was formed officially in January 2016 after guidance from the Living Church Office. The committee meets monthly to help introduce initiatives into the parish to help cement the sense of community we have among our weekend congregations and to help create a welcoming atmosphere to newcomers and those who join us occasionally.

This work is still in development, though guided by the eight members of the committee and involving many other volunteers. If anyone would like to lend a hand with anything from greeting those who come into the churches to volunteering to make teas and coffees when we have opportunities to mingle after mass, you would be more than welcome. Please speak to a member of the committee or leave your contact details with the Parochial House.

Chairperson: Michelle McGoogan

Secretary: Anne Marie McGoran

Members: Diane Antonis, Michael Antonis, Eileen Polley, Debbie McAlister, Eileen Looney, Fr Aidan Kerr, Fr Conor McCarthy



Society of Saint Vincent de Paul

The Society of St Vincent de Paul is found in parishes across Ireland and internationally. The Society follows the example of the French priest St Vincent, who was renowned for his compassion, humility and generosity and whose motto was “let all things be done with charity.” The Society is supported by the generous and much-needed offerings of parishioners, and its voluntary members then work **to help those who are in material need.**

There is a dedicated Society in the Parish of Larne. Should anyone wish to request assistance, **the number to phone is 07784 038838.** Please leave a message and your call will be returned as soon as possible.



Some of the members of the parish Society of Saint Vincent de Paul

Apostolic Work

It was in Down and Connor that Apostolic Work was founded in 1923 in response to the needs of the missionaries who had started to travel abroad at beginning of that century. The work involved **supplying both material and financial assistance to missionaries** working in all the mission fields of the world. Hundreds of letters asking for help arrive at Headquarters every year; likewise hundreds of very grateful letters arrive from nuns and priests who receive help. It is sad that in this age of consumerism and materialism there are still people in some countries in the world who are desperately in need of the necessities of life. The apostolic Workers in our parish and throughout the diocese endeavour **to ensure that people in the developing world are not forgotten.**

The Apostolic Work in our parish began more than eighty years ago, and has accomplished a tremendous amount over the decades. Our Parish can rightly be proud of such generous work, donations and prayers for those less fortunate than ourselves by all within the group, and of all those who support them.

The group meets normally on the second Tuesday of the month in St Comgall's Recreation Club, and new members are always welcome.

President: Mena McFaul

GIFT Programme

‘Growing In Faith Together’

The GIFT (Growing in Faith Together) programme was originally designed by Maura Hyland to help nurture the faith in our secondary school children. Picking up from the great input offered at Confirmation level at the end of primary school, the GIFT programme offers young people a chance to engage with, share and celebrate their faith together. The sessions involve fun activities, praying together, discussion and food, and facilitated by a core group of adult volunteers.

In Larne parish, the GIFT programme began in 2013, and has been enjoyed by the many young people who attend. From one group at the beginning, we now have three GIFT year groups which meet for programmes of six to seven Sunday evenings in St Anthony’s Hall. The sessions run from 6.30 – 8.30pm, and the programme concludes with a liturgy that the young people organise themselves.



MINISTRIES FOR THE LITURGY

At the heart of our community is the celebration of our faith together in our Sunday celebration of the Eucharist. Our liturgies are greatly enriched by our choirs, St MacNissi's Choir and St Anthony's Folk Group, and by those who volunteer for ministries during the mass – Altar Servers, Ministers of the Word and Eucharistic Ministers.

We are also indebted to those who generously give their time to prepare the churches: those who arrange the flowers and those teams of parishioners who clean the churches every week. New volunteers are always greatly appreciated – many hands make light work!

More information on each of these is available on the following pages.

- Parish Choirs
- Altar Servers
- Ministers of the Word
- Eucharistic Ministers
- Flower arrangers and cleaning the churches

Parish Choirs

The provision of sacred music by our two parish choirs is a great blessing to our community, helping the prayer and praise of our worship. Each choir is always open to new members who would like to join.

St MacNissi's Choir

St MacNissi's Choir rehearses on Thursday evenings at 7pm until approximately 8pm in St MacNissi's Church and provides music there for the 7pm Vigil Mass on Saturday evenings. It is led by sisters Pat McKillop as conductor and Anne Carmichael on the keyboard.



St Anthony's Folk Group

The Folk Group rehearses on Wednesday evenings at 8pm until approximately 9.30pm in St Anthony's Church and provides music at the 5.30pm mass on Saturday evenings. It is led by husband and wife team, Richard and Marie Barnes.



We are also very grateful to our young musicians who provide music at the 11.30am mass on a Sunday morning in St Anthony's Church, led by Catherine Hamilton.

Altar Servers

Every weekend, a number of generous young people from our community act as altar servers in either St Anthony's or St MacNissi's church. **It is a great way to get involved, discover how the mass and parish work and to be a big help to the priests and the hundreds of people who come to mass.**

At the start of each academic year, we invite new people to apply from Primary 5 and older. Many of our servers, both boys and girls, continue acting as altar servers for several years.



What do you do as an altar server?

The altar server comes to mass at the weekend and sets the altar, lights the candles, rings the bell during mass and helps the priest. You also have to focus during the mass and help set a good example of being still and prayerful. With a few practices, you'll pick it up in no time!

How often do you have to be there?

You would commit to being at a particular mass every week: 5.30pm on Saturday or 11.30am on Sunday in St Anthony's church or 7pm on Saturday or 10am on Sunday in St MacNissi's church. It becomes part of your weekly routine, and is a great help to the parish.

'I don't feel confident getting up in front of people'

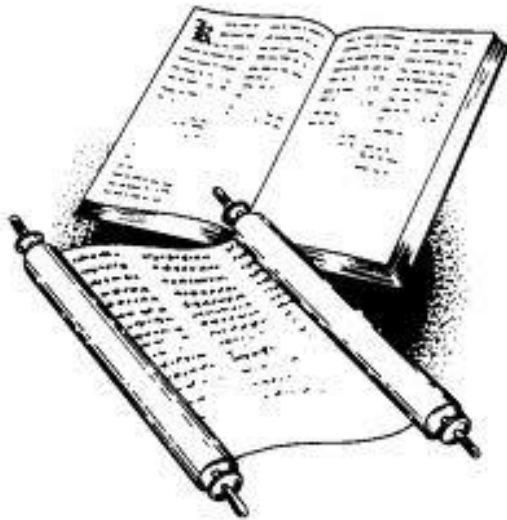
Don't worry! There will always be a more experienced altar server there to help you as you learn. In no time it'll seem very comfortable.

** Please note that all persons working with our altar servers do so in accordance with strict child safeguarding procedures.*

Ministers of the Word

At each celebration of mass, men and women in the parish step forward to proclaim the Word of God. The scriptures are integral to the liturgy, and when proclaimed well can touch the hearts of those who hear, and lead them to know God better and understand His plan for us. As Saint Jerome said, “ignorance of the scriptures is ignorance of Christ.”

If anyone is interested in becoming a Minister of the Word, please speak to one of the priests.



Eucharistic Ministers

Men and women parishioners also volunteer to help the priest distribute Holy Communion to the faithful. This ministry begins with a deep reverence for and love of the Eucharist, in which is the real presence of Christ Himself – body, blood, soul and divinity. A small number of these ministers are also vetted to bring Holy Communion to the sick and housebound.

If anyone is interested in becoming a Eucharistic Minister, please speak to one of the priests.



Flower Arranging

Displaying God's creation, reflecting the celebrations of the liturgical year and marking the beauty and reverence we have for the liturgy, the flowers in our churches are an important part of how we prepare. Some talented flower arrangers in our parish generously give their time to create these arrangements. Donations for flowers from parishioners are greatly appreciated.



Cleaning the Church

Two teams of parishioners generously clean our churches each week: on Mondays at 10.30am in St MacNissi's Church and on Thursdays at 10.45am in St Anthony's Church. New helpers are always welcome – many hands make light work! Simply turn up at the right time with willing heart and hands to join the team.

PRAYER AND SACRAMENTS

As a parish, we continue to foster our prayer life together. The rosary is prayed after each weekday morning mass, and again on a Monday evening with the particular intention of peace. There is also Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Tuesdays in St Anthony's Church.

Our Lord Jesus Christ instituted seven sacraments to provide grace that would sustain us and transform our lives in particular ways. We are delighted to help anyone prepare for the sacraments.

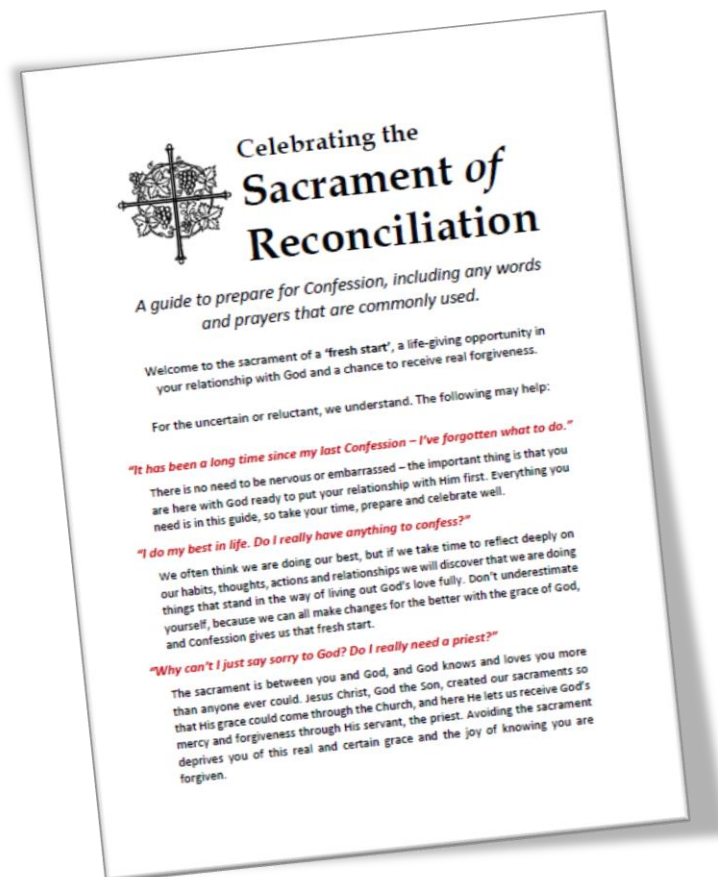
Information on these follows on the coming pages:

- Baptism of infants and children
- Sacrament of Marriage

Please also note the following:

- Adults who wish to prepare for Baptism and Confirmation are welcome to speak to one of the priests.
- First Confession, First Communion and Confirmation are arranged through our parish primary schools and Corran Integrated Primary School. If a child attends another school, they can be linked to one of these for their preparation.
- The sacrament of Confession is available through the weekly scheduled times or on request.
- The anointing of the sick is given on request and during the priests' visitation of the sick and housebound at the start of each month. Please contact the parish office should you wish to arrange this.
- Any man who is considering a vocation to the Priesthood or to the Permanent Diaconate is welcome to speak to one of the priests, or to speak to the diocesan Vocations Director (for those considering priesthood) or the Director for the Permanent Diaconate programme.

Guides to the Sacrament of Reconciliation are available in both churches near the confessional, and from the parish website (larneparish.co.uk) as well. It contains answers to some common questions, an examination of conscience and all the words and prayers that are normally used.



Please feel free to pick up a copy and take the stress out of the sacrament! It is designed to be of use to everyone – those who go every week just as much as those who haven't been in years. Feel free to bring it into the confessional as well if that helps, and remember: God's mercy is infinite! There is nothing He cannot forgive.

Rosary Group

The Rosary is one of the great gifts of Our Lady, allowing us to reflect on the mysteries of Jesus coming to earth, His ministry, death and resurrection and God's plan that Mary be the Mother of the Church. Whether we focus on the words of the prayers that we say or whether we meditate on the mysteries themselves, it is a fruitful spiritual exercise and is an invaluable method of prayer.

Each Monday evening the Rosary is prayed in St Anthony's Church with the particular **intention of peace**. It begins at 7.30pm, and all are welcome to attend.

ROSARY *for* PEACE

Mondays 7.30pm in St Anthony's

All are welcome to join us in praying for peace

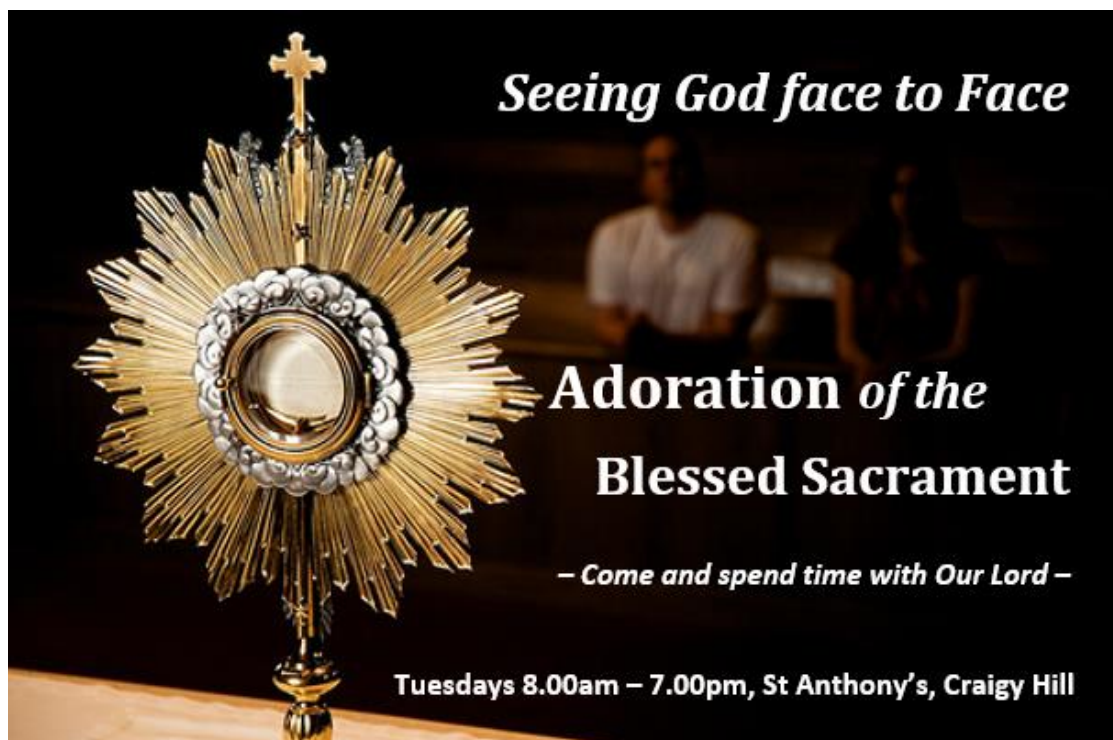


Eucharistic Adoration

Adoration is where we come to spend time with Jesus, aware of His real presence in the Eucharist that is shown to us there. It is a time for contemplation, reflecting on the scriptures, praying devotions and listening to God, but most important is that we spend time with Jesus Christ, who is our Lord and Saviour, our companion and our friend.

Eucharistic **adoration** takes place on **Tuesdays from 8am to 7pm**, organised by a committee and relying on volunteers to sign up to stay with Our Lord for a particular time every week. New volunteers are always welcome and needed to keep this heart of prayer in our parish.

Committee members: Ann Brennan, Tony Henry, Joe McRandal and Maria Polley



Sacrament of Baptism

At the conclusion of the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus tells his followers: *“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit”* (Mt. 28:19). Baptism is the first sacrament. Through it, we become children of God with the promise of eternal life, and are offered a share in the redemptive sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

The Sacrament of Baptism takes place twice a month in the parish:

2nd Saturday of the month in St MacNissi’s Church at 11am

4th Saturday of the month in St Anthony’s Church at 11am

Before registering for Baptism, parents and Godparents are invited to attend the pre-baptism course, which is held on the first Monday of every month in St Anthony’s Hall, 7.30-8pm. Registration for the date of Baptism takes place during this meeting, as well as discussion on what happens in the sacrament. Please bring the long version of the baptismal certificate with you.

Baptism course members: Noel Wilson, Bernie Regan, Rosaleen Westland and Gerry Campbell



Marriage in the Church

Any couple who would like to be married in the Church is required to give at least **six months' notice**. They will meet with their priest to discuss in advance, and also be required to take a **pre-marriage course** through a recommended organisation to help them prepare. The nature of the Sacrament of Marriage is one that is lifelong, indissoluble and between one man and one woman. Such a commitment can bear tremendous joy, love and the grace of God, and needs careful reflection before it begins.

It is worth spending some time considering the spirit and prayerfulness of the wedding ceremony itself. This will include choosing scripture readings from a given selection that you find give inspiration for the marriage that is about to be created. It will also include selecting appropriate music, which must be religious music that gives praise to God and sees marriage and love in the context of the love of God. If you have any queries regarding what music is appropriate or what musicians are available, your priest will be very happy to help.



LOCAL INFORMATION AND SUPPORT

Although the following are not run by the parish and are not endorsed as such, they provide important services to this local community and when people are in need.

Useful Contact Numbers

Local Authorities

Citizen's Advice (Larne)	028 9600 1333
Larne Police Station	0845 600 8000
Mid & East Antrim Borough Council	0300 124 5000

Confidential Helplines

Addiction NI	028 9066 4434
Alcoholics Anonymous	0800 9177 650
Aware Defeat Depression	028 9032 1734
Gamblers Anonymous	028 9024 9185
Nexus NI (survivors of sexual abuse)	028 9032 6803
Samaritans	028 9066 4422

Funeral Directors in Larne

E.W. Ramsey and Sons	028 2826 0189
Michael McSparron Funeral Director	028 2827 5255
Mulhollands of Larne	028 2827 3333

Mid & East Antrim Borough Council

Cemetery Prices – Commencing 1st May, 2015

	Resident	Non Resident
Grave Purchase	£ 230.00	£ 460.00
Interment	£ 215.00	£ 430.00
Cremation/Ashes	£ 76.00	£ 150.00
Stillborn Infant	£ 60.00	£ 120.00
Interment (Under 5)	£ 215.00	£ 430.00
Stranger Grave No Title	£ 80.00	
Permission for Erection of a Headstone	£ 40.00	£ 80.00
Erection of Surround	£ 40.00	£ 80.00
Erection of Headstone and Surround	£ 70.00	£ 140.00
Grant of Title and registration (Transfer)	£ 30.00	£ 60.00
Issue of Duplicate Certificate	£ 30.00	£ 50.00
Search of Extract from Register	£ 15.00	£ 30.00
Additional Comments	<p>Saturday an extra charge of £125.00 will be applied, Sunday and Bank Holidays an extra charge of £165.00 will apply.</p>	