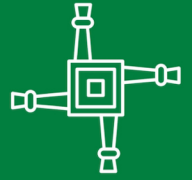


# SAINT BRIGID 1500



FEBRUARY 2024 - FEBRUARY 2025



St. Brigid's  
Camino Passport



# St. Brigid's Camino



If St. Brigid was alive today, she would surely visit the important sites and churches in the Archdiocese of Armagh. St. Brigid invites you to visit the Holy sites listed in this Camino Passport and as you do log the details of your visit.

Photo



Name:

\_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth:

\_\_\_\_\_

Parish and  
School:

\_\_\_\_\_

Issue date:

\_\_\_\_\_

I'd like to go on a pilgrimage  
to:

\_\_\_\_\_

## Camino Pass

NAME: St. Brigid

FROM: Faughart TO: Kildare

TICKET NO: 001 SEAT NO: 001

DATE: 1st Feb 525 DEPARTURE TIME: 9am





## Prayer to St. Brigid

St. Brigid,

You were a woman of peace.

You brought harmony where there was conflict, light to the darkness, hope to the downcast.

May the mantle of your peace cover those who are troubled and anxious, and may peace be firmly rooted in our hearts and in our world.

Inspire us to act justly and to reverence all God has made.

Brigid you were a voice for the wounded and the weary. Strengthen what is weak within us. Calm us into a quietness that heals and listens.

May we grow each day into greater wholeness in mind, body and spirit.

Amen



# St. Brigid and Her Holy Places

## **St. Brigid and Her Holy Places**

St. Brigid, who is a special saint here in Ireland, was born in 450 AD in a place called Faughart near Dundalk. Her life story is full of miracles, good deeds and stories which have shaped Ireland's culture and spirituality.

## **Early Life and Calling to Help Others**

Imagine being the daughter of a tough chieftain and a kind Christian mother who was once a slave. That was Brigid's life. While she helped out a lot on her father's farm, she always knew she wanted to do something more meaningful. At eighteen, instead of getting married as her father wished, St. Brigid chose to dedicate her life to God and helping people who were poor, sick, and old.

## **Kildare: A Place of Light and Learning**

In a place called Kildare, St. Brigid set up a famous monastery right beside an old oak tree—this is actually how the town got its name! This wasn't just any monastery; it became a beacon of hope and learning. St. Brigid and her nuns kept a sacred fire burning there, which was a symbol of their faith and a continuation of an older tradition from the area.

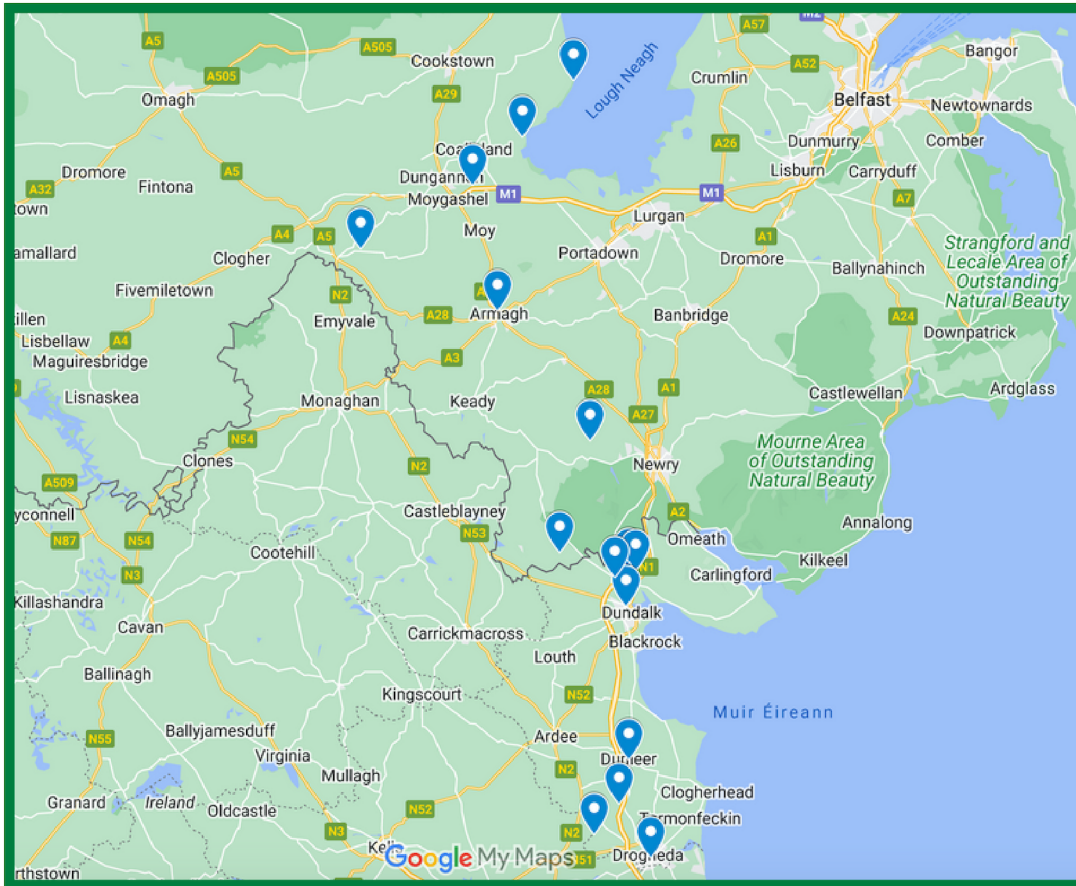
## **The Miracle of St. Brigid's Cloak**

There's a cool story about how St. Brigid got land for her monastery. She asked a king for land, and he jokingly said she could have as much land as her small cloak could cover. But guess what? When her friends stretched out the cloak, it magically grew and covered enough land for her monastery!

## **Her Legacy Lives On**

Today, the places where Brigid walked and worked still feel her influence. From Faughart to Kildare, her spirit of kindness lives on in these communities. People remember her for her charity and how she brought people together.

# Camino Map



- St. Patrick's Cathedral Armagh
- Ardboe Cross and Abbey
- Old Mellifont Abbey
- Monasterboice - Old monastic Site with High crosses and round tower
- Shrine to Saint Oliver Plunkett, Saint Peter's Church, Drogheda
- St. Brigid's Shrine, Faughart
- St. Brigid's Well and Old Graveyard
- St. Brigid's Church, Brocagh
- St. Brigid's Church, Killyman
- St. Brigid's Church, Aughnacloy
- Saint Brigid's Church, Carrickananney
- Saint Brigid's Church, Glassdrummond
- St. Brigid's Church, Kilcurry
- St. Brigid's Shrine in St. Nicholas Church, Dundalk
- St. Brigid's Church, Dunleer

# St. Patrick's Cathedral

41a Cathedral Road, Armagh City, BT61 7QY

Welcome to St. Patrick's Cathedral in Armagh, a special church built on a hill where tradition says St. Patrick himself once walked. Tradition also says that St. Patrick chose this place for a church because it was very peaceful. When he arrived, a gentle deer jumped out, which he saved and carried up the hill, showing how kind he was.

The building of this beautiful cathedral started in 1840 and took many years to finish. People from all over the world helped, by sending gifts of money from faraway places. Inside, you can see stunning windows and a special altar that has a carving of Jesus, St. Patrick, St. Brigid, St. Malachy and St. Oliver Plunkett.

Today, St. Patrick's cathedral stands tall, watching over the city and the Archdiocese of Armagh, reminding everyone of the kindness and courage of St. Patrick. It is a place where you can feel calm, pray, and learn about history all at once!

## Record of Pilgrim's Visit

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

PRAYER ACTIVITY COMPLETED:

FUN ACTIVITY COMPLETED:





# Prayer to St. Patrick

St. Patrick,  
May the Strength of God guide us.  
May the Power of God preserve us.  
May the Wisdom of God instruct us.  
May the Hand of God protect us.  
May the Way of God direct us. May the  
Shield of God defend us. May the Angels  
of God guard us against all evil.

May Christ be with us!  
May Christ be before us!  
May Christ be in us and over all!  
May Your Grace, Lord  
Always be ours.  
This day and forevermore.

Amen



# Ardboe Cross and Abbey

Ardboe Rd, County Tyrone, BT80 0HU

Welcome to Ardboe Cross, one of the tallest and oldest crosses in Ireland! It stands at about 18.5 feet high, overlooking the beautiful Lough Neagh. This special cross was made around the 10th century.

The Cross tells stories from both the Old and New Testaments in its carvings. You can see scenes like Adam and Eve, Daniel in the lions' den, along with stories about Jesus like his baptism. Even though it's very old and a little weather beaten, it is the only cross like this in Northern Ireland that's still in its original form.

This cross marks the spot where St. Colman built a monastery back in 590 and legend says this place got its name, which means "hill of the cow," from a magical cow that could make lots of milk!

When you visit, you can explore the old ruins and imagine the monks who lived here long ago. You can also take in the wonder of Lough Neagh and the beauty of God's creation. This is a perfect place for adventure and learning!

## Record of Pilgrim's Visit

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

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# Old Mellifont Abbey

Tullyallen, Drogheda, Co. Louth, A92 K682

Welcome to the ruins of Mellifont Abbey, near Drogheda in County Louth. This place has a special story that starts back in 1142 when it was founded by St. Malachy, a very important church leader. Mellifont was the first abbey built by the Cistercian monks in Ireland, who came from France to live and pray here.

Mellifont Abbey was so grand that it inspired other abbeys in Ireland. It had lots of monks and brothers who followed strict rules and spent their days in prayer. The abbey even hosted a big meeting in 1152 called the Synod of Kells-Mellifont, where important church and royal leaders came together.

After many years, the abbey was closed in 1539 and turned into a big house. It even became a special spot during battles and peacemaking.

Today, all remains of Mellifont Abbey are its beautiful ruins. It is a peaceful place now, where you can walk around and imagine the bustling life of monks long ago.

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# Prayer to St. Malachy

St. Malachy,

You were a gentle and loving shepherd.  
We ask for your help and protection as we  
Help bring peace to our hearts and to our  
world.

St. Malachy, help us to find harmony and  
friendship in our lives and may we have the  
courage to admit when we are wrong.

Bless our church leaders, that they may  
guide us with wisdom and love. May they  
help us to be strong in faith, constant in  
prayer, full of charity and devoted to God.

St. Malachy, your heart was filled with  
God's love, light our way and lead us to  
Heaven.

Amen.

# Monasterboice High Crosses

Monasterboice, Co. Louth, Ireland

Welcome to Monasterboice, a special place with old ruins that tell stories from long ago. Monasterboice was once a bustling early Christian monastic settlement founded by St. Buithe in the late 5th century.

Monasterboice is famous for its amazing high crosses. The biggest and most beautiful one is called St. Muiredach's High Cross, standing at about 5.5 meters tall. It's named after Abbot Muiredach who led the monastery a long time ago. This cross is covered in carvings that show different stories from the Bible, like the story of Adam and Eve. There is also a really tall round tower which is 28 meters high! It was built to be a lookout and a safe place for the monks if there was ever any danger.

Although the old monastery isn't active anymore you can still feel the history all around you. Walking around, you can imagine what life was like here over a thousand years ago. It's a special place where you can explore, learn about history, and enjoy some quiet moments in prayer just like the monks did!

## Record of Pilgrim's Visit

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# Shrine to St. Oliver Plunkett

St. Peter's Church, West Street, Drogheda

Meet St. Oliver Plunkett, a brave and kind man who was born on November 1, 1625, in Loughcrew, County Meath. When he grew up, he became the Archbishop of Armagh.

St. Oliver loved teaching and helping people learn about God. He worked hard to make schools better and helped many people during tough times. Even though it was dangerous for him he never stopped trying to help.

Sadly, St. Oliver was caught up in a very unfair plot called the Popish Plot, where people told lies about him. He had to hide and even dress up in disguises to avoid being caught! Despite everything, he stayed brave and continued to look after the people who needed him.

In 1681, St. Oliver was unfairly put on trial and sentenced to death. He died bravely, still caring about others more than himself. Many years later, people realized how good and kind he was, and he was made a saint in 1975.

You are invited to visit St. Oliver Plunkett's shrine in St. Peter's church, Drogheda,

## Record of Pilgrim's Visit

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Prayer to St. Oliver

St. Oliver,

You willingly gave your life for your faith,  
help us to be strong in our faith.

May we be loyal just like you and share the  
message of Jesus in the world.

Dear Saint and Martyr, please watch over  
those who are persecuted, hurting or in  
need, bring them comfort and hope, and  
help us to offer them our help and care.

By your intercession and example may all  
hatred and bitterness be banished from  
the hearts of all.

May the peace of Christ reign in our  
hearts, as it did in your heart, even at the  
moment of your death. Pray for us and for  
Ireland. Amen.

# St. Brigid's Shrine Faughart

Monascreebe, Faughart Upper, Co. Louth

Saint Brigid's Shrine at Faughart is just a short drive from Dundalk in County Louth. This special spot is believed to be the birthplace of Saint Brigid, one of Ireland's most loved saints, born way back in 452!

Saint Brigid is famous for her kindness and miracles. She helped the poor, healed the sick, and cared deeply for animals and the land.

In 1934, this spot was chosen to be the National Shrine of St. Brigid for all of Ireland. Imagine this: the very first big gathering here had 10,000 people, including two Irish presidents!

The shrine is not only a place with an amazing history but also a spot of natural beauty. There are modern Stations of the Cross that follow a little stream. As you walk you will pass tall beech trees and come to some very old stones known for their healing powers. These include the Head Stone, the Knee Stone, the Waist Stone, and the Back Stone.

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# St. Brigid's Well, Faughart

Faughart Upper, Hill of Faughart, Co. Louth

Faughart as we have said is the birth place of St. Brigid, Ireland's mother saint and on the hill of Faughart stands the ruins of a 12th century church, an ancient graveyard, St. Brigid's Holy Well, St. Brigid's Pillar, possibly the base for a high cross and St. Brigid's Bed, a horse-shoe shaped enclosure which may have been a small building and was used until recent times as a penitential station.

The graveyard is a site of pilgrimage all year round, but particularly at the feast day of St. Brigid on February 1st, when people come from far and wide to pray, honour the saint, leave an offering on the Well Tree and collect water from St. Brigid's Well.

Ireland's holy wells are enchanting places filled with history and spirituality. These sacred spots date back to ancient times and offer peace and are believed to have healing powers. Holy wells are found across the country, with over 3,000 scattered from mountains to seashores. Each well is unique. Perhaps there is one in your Parish?

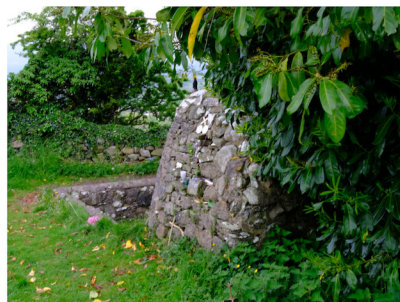
## Record of Pilgrim's Visit

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# St. Brigid's Church, Brocagh

Mountjoy Rd, Brocagh, Dungannon BT71 5EA

St. Brigid's Church was built in 1834 and is nestled on Mountjoy Road, just south of the village of Brocagh, near the historical ruins of Mountjoy Castle.

This area is also notable as the birthplace of Venerable Mother Angeline McCrory. Born Mary Angeline Teresa McCrory, she was baptised in the Church of St. Brigid and emigrated as a young child to Glasgow and then to the United States where she founded the Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm, dedicating her life to caring for the impoverished and the elderly.

Her early life in the townland of Clintycracken was a challenging one that paved the way for a life that was so significant that her cause for canonization and the path to Sainthood has been opened.

As you visit St. Brigid's can you imagine the young Mother Angeline's life amidst these peaceful surroundings. How might your life be inspired by Mother Angeline? How might you care for others in your family and your community?

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NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

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# St. Brigid's Church, Killyman

Cavan Rd, Killyman, Dungannon BT71 6QW

Saint Brigid's Church Killyman is the oldest church in Dungannon parish and it was built in 1786 before St. Patrick's Dungannon. Killyman or *Kill na Mna* means *Church of the Women* and it is thought that there would have been a small convent or abbey in the area at some point.

Saint Brigid's in Killyman was one of the main places of worship in the area before Saint Patrick's Church Dungannon was built. Whilst the Church is only open for Sunday Mass which takes place at 11am each Sunday morning the Church is an important one as it is one of the oldest Churches in the Archdiocese of Armagh.

There is a beautiful statue to St. Brigid in the Church and pilgrims are invited to join the local community for Mass and offer a prayer and petition to St. Brigid During their visit.

**St. Brigid's Church Killyman is only open for Sunday Mass which takes place at 11am Each Sunday**

## Record of Pilgrim's Visit

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# St. Brigid's Church, Killens

Lisconduff Road, Aughnacloy BT69 6EP

St. Brigid's Church was founded in 1826 and is one of three churches found in the Parish of Aghaloo and Carnteel. It was built one year after Catholic emancipation and the church, which was originally cattle shed, was gifted to the local Catholic community by a local protestant businessman.

The church is about five miles from Aughnacloy and those early parishioners often walked to the Church barefoot. In the absence of a resident priest the local community looked after the upkeep of the church and continue to do so today.

Given its humble beginnings the parish community has a deep affection for its simple beauty which can be appreciated most during the celebration of Christmas morning Mass, when the community welcomes Jesus birth in a church building that once housed cattle just like the stable that Jesus was born in.

**St. Brigid's Church Killens is only open for weekly mass at 9am each Sunday morning.**

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# St. Brigid's Church, Carrickanney

84 Tullyah Rd, Belleeks, Armagh BT35 7QP

St. Brigid's Church is located in Carrickananny in County Armagh. It was built in the 1850's and it is the second oldest Church in Loughgilly Parish.

The Church of St Brigid lies between Whitecross and Belleeks and was originally built beside a working mill. The only remains of the mill now is the stream which flows beside the Church.

St Brigid's, while being the smallest Church in the Parish, had in the year 1838 an average congregation of 700 people, making it the largest congregation in the Parish.

The remains of Fr John McMahon PP who purchased the land and built the current Parochial House in Whitecross are buried within the grounds of St Brigid's Church. During renovations to the Church in 2016 a window was installed with the image of Saints Louis and Zelig Martin, who were the parents of St. Therese of Lisieux (the Little Flower)

As you visit the you might wish to pray for your Parents and Family.

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# St. Brigid's Church, Glassdrummond

Glassdrumman Rd, Newry BT35 9DY

St. Brigid's Church in Glassdrummond is an historical gem that was shaped by the vision of Canon Peter Sheerin. Starting his ministry in 1909, Canon Sheerin quickly realized that the existing church from the 1770s no longer met the community's needs. By 1922 he started building a new church. The church, designed by the Dublin firm W.H. Byrne, used local labor and materials, including stone from the dismantled Ravensdale House.

The church was completed in 1932 and features twelve red granite columns from Aberdeen along with beautiful altars from Favilla, Italy, showcasing the craftsmanship of Carlo Lombardi. The community's dedication is highlighted by local involvement in its construction, such as the sacristan Willie Battern assisting Lombardi and the local farmers transporting materials. Canon Sheerin oversaw its completion just before he passed away in December 1932. Today, St. Brigid's Church stands as a reminder of the importance of community in our lives.

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# St. Brigid's Church, Kilcurry

Kilcurry, Co. Louth, Ireland

St. Brigid's story isn't just about tales from the past; it's about a journey of faith and the importance of real values like bravery, kindness, and respect for nature—things that matter just as much today. Her stories inspire us to be better and help others, just like she did.

St. Brigid's Church, Kilcurry is one of three churches located in the modern parish of Faughart. The Church stands at the centre of a modern catholic community founded on the legacy of St. Brigid. The church was built in 1896 replacing the church of St. Patrick which was located close to the current Church's site.

Through exploring St. Brigid's holy places and reflecting on her life, we see how one person's good deeds can light up a whole country. Her story encourages us to keep doing good things and to care for the world and people around us. As you visit might you personally ask St. Brigid to help you follow in her footsteps by caring for others and the environment.

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# St. Brigid's Shrine, Dundalk

Bridge St, Townparks, Dundalk, Co. Louth,  
A91 FK19

A small shrine to St. Brigid can be found in St. Nicholas' Church Dundalk which provides a quiet place to escape the hustle and bustle of the busy main street of Dundalk town.

St. Nicholas' church was built in 1859 and consecrated in 1860. Part of St. Patrick's Parish Dundalk, the church serves the lower part of Dundalk. An interesting fact is that In 1903 the tower become unsafe and was lowered. The church was partially rebuilt at this time and enlarged in 1938. The interior of St. Nicholas Church has been renovated many times, most recently in 2001 and again in 2008.

At the entrance to St. Nicholas Church on Bridge Street you will find the striking mural to St. Brigid that was created by the talented Belfast artist Friz. As you enter St. Nicholas' church, perhaps you might remember the many local people who would have passed the church as they walked to the annual St. Brigid's Day celebrations at Faughart. Perhaps you might pray for them and take a photo of you and your family with the mural to St. Brigid!

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# St. Brigid's Church, Dunleer

Upper Main St, Dunleer, Co. Louth, A92 KX90,

St. Brigid's Church, Dunleer is a beautiful and historic place that has been at the heart of Dunleer for many centuries. This church is not just a building; it's a treasure trove of stories and a symbol of faith for the parish community. Built in the 1884, it has seen many changes and improvements over the years. One of its most notable features is its stunning stained glass windows that tell various biblical stories in vibrant colours.

The history of Dunleer parish is rich and fascinating. Did you know that the area was originally called Lannléire? This name means "church of the district of Léire" and dates back to the sixth century when two brothers, Furudran and Baothan, founded a monastery here.

Since then, Dunleer has been a place of worship and a community for over 1,400 years! The parish has grown and changed a lot since then. Might your visit to Dunleer Parish inspire you to find out more about your home parish?

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