

Downpatrick Pastoral Area

Parish of Downpatrick

Sunday 25th February 2024



Your prayers are requested for:

Recently Deceased: John Crumley, Arthur Martin, Margaret O'Connor, Vincent Patrick Murphy, Gareth Smith, Mark Murphy,

Month's Mind: Colette McGrady, Jamie Marks,

Anniversaries: Patrick Gribben, Billy Burns, Rosaleen & Patrick McCambridge,

Weekly Collection: Offertory £970, Loose Plate £500, Direct Debits £1880. Thank you for your generosity

Mass Intentions, St. Patrick's @ 7:30pm:

Wed 28th Feb: Month's Mind: Colette McGrady,
Anniv: Brendan Burns,

Fri 1st March: Month's Mind: Jamie Marks



Baptisms: *We Welcome: Aoibhinn, into our Parish Family.*

Four weeks' notice required for all Baptisms. Baptism Courses are held on the 2nd Thursday of each month in Patrick's Place. Parents of children for Baptism are only required to attend the course on **one** evening, usually lasting just over an hour. Baptisms can **ONLY** be booked by calling, in person to the Parish Office, Mon – Thurs 9.30am – 2pm.

Lectio Divina: Prayer Meeting each Tuesday morning in the Parochial House at 11am. We would extend a warm welcome to anyone who wishes to join us – call in any Tuesday at 11am

* **Mass to commemorate La Salle High School** on Sunday 24th March at 12 Noon in St. Patrick's. This is open to all parishioners but especially to present and past pupils and staff of the School.

Vocations: Downpatrick Parish invites you to join our upcoming Novena for vocations between 11th to 19th March. Our Novena will be prayed before 9:30am Mass each day and uploaded to our Facebook page and website.

Parish Mass Schedule for February / March 2024:

Date	Church	Time
Sat 24 th	St. Patrick's	5:30pm
Sun 25 th	St. Patrick's	10:30am
Sun 25 th	St. Malachy's	10am
Sat 2 nd Mar	St. Brigid's	7pm
Sat 2 nd Mar	St. Patrick's	5:30pm
Sun 3 rd Mar	St. Patrick's	10:30am
Sun 3 rd Mar	St. Colmcille's	10am
Sat 9 th	St. Patrick's	5:30pm
Sun 10 th	St. Patrick's	10:30am
Sun 10 th	St. Malachy's	10am
Sunday 17th March St. Patrick's Day		
Sat 16 th	St. Brigid's	7pm
Sat 16 th	St. Patrick's	5:30pm
Sun 17 th	St. Patrick's	10:30am
Sun 17 th	St. Colmcille's	10am
Sun 17 th	St. Malachy's	10am
Palm Sunday		
Sat 23 rd	St. Patrick's	5:30pm
Sun 24 th	St. Patrick's	10:30am
Sun 24 th	St. Malachy's	10am
* Sun 24 th	St. Patrick's	12 Noon
Easter		
Sat 30 th	St. Patrick's	9pm (Easter Vigil)
Sun 31 st	St. Malachy's	10am
Sun 31 st	St. Colmcille's	10am
Sun 31 st	St. Patrick's	10:30am

'Evening of Mercy': Monday 26th February 2024

6:45pm Confessions,
7:00pm Rosary,
7:30pm Mass,
8:10pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament,
8:40pm Benediction & Quiet time of prayer,
All welcome for all or even part of the evening.

Prayer During Lent:

St Patrick's Church is open daily, after morning Mass, for private prayer. (From 8am to late)

Adoration: Each Friday from 11am to 4pm in St. Patrick's with Divine Mercy chaplet at 3pm and rosary. Confessions are also available.



EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR THE PERMANENT DIACONATE: The Permanent Deacon responds to the call of Jesus and his Church in three specific ways: through the ministry of Charity, the ministry of the Word and the ministry of the Altar with a particular focus on the ministry of charity. The Diocese invites expressions of interest from men, (married or single), who feel called to the Diaconate. Further relevant information can be found on the Diocesan website <https://www.downandconnor.org/living-church/diaconate/> There will be a meeting in St Patrick's Presbytery on March 7th at 7.30pm for anyone interested. It is hoped to commence a propaedeutic year of discernment in September 2024. Expressions of Interest forms will be issued by email to those who have responded to this announcement and the formal application and interview process will commence, with a view to completion in June 2024.

Lenten Reflection Week Two: My transfigured Lord, You gave Your apostles a small but most glorious glimpse of Your divinity. This gift strengthened them as they endured Your suffering and death, as well as their own. Please give me a glimpse of Your glory so that I will be able to hold onto that knowledge of Who You are when I need it the most. Jesus, I trust in You.

Safeguarding: Our parish safeguarding information is on the posters at the back of every church, in Patrick's Place and in the Parochial House. If you have any concerns, suspicions or wish to make an allegation of child abuse contact the Diocesan Safeguarding Office: Philip O'Hara, designated liaison person, 02890492798, Mob 07534992124 or email Philip.ohara@soddc.org

Parish Envelopes & GDPR: The Parish Envelope 'year' is coming to an end and the new envelopes are being prepared. Because of GDPR (Data Protection Regulations) we are unable to leave boxes of envelopes in the church for collection without Parishioner permission.

As in previous years, the envelopes will be delivered to parishioners by a small team of helpers designated by Fr. Murray. ***If anyone does not want this method of distribution, they need to contact the Parish Office to arrange collection of their own set of envelopes from the Parochial House.***

ENVELOPES ARE READY FOR COLLECTION FROM THE PARISH OFFICE MON – THURS FROM 10AM – 2PM

Copyright and Music Licensing: This topic has been on the agenda of the Diocese for some time, and arrangements have now been made to offer advice and guidance to parishes to help them overcome some of the difficulties they may encounter if they do not have compliant processes in place. Presentations covering - Copyright and Music Licensing will be held at the following venue from 7.30pm until 9pm. Tea/coffee will be served from 7pm.

- **Patrick's Place, St. Patrick's Church, Downpatrick on 5th March at 7.30pm**

The presentations will be particularly relevant to choir directors, choir members, cantors, psalmists, parish musicians and parish contemporary music groups. Those who are responsible for setting up or maintaining parish websites are especially welcome. This will be an invaluable resource for our parish that will help us to be compliant, and we would encourage as many participants as possible to attend one or other of these presentations.

SVDP ACKNOWLEDGEMENT Again as we say each year a big word of thanks to the Priests, Parishioners, Schools, local businesses and all who supported the Downpatrick SVdP 2023 Annual Appeal. Following the appeal from the altar your contributions realised in excess of £12,000 and, in light of the current cost of living crisis which has probably made everyone "tighten their belts", this is a very significant and generous amount! Furthermore we are all very aware of the flooding back in October which had such an impact on local businesses, not to mention the job losses which resulted from that. Every contribution, whether great or small, is appreciated. Thank you for your donations to the Red Box, your support to the SVdP shops and your prayers. Please continue to help, in whatever way you can, the individuals and families in the area who are in need. As ever you and your families are in our prayers. Thank you