

Downpatrick Pastoral Area

Parish of Downpatrick

Sunday 24th March 2024



Your prayers are requested for:

Recently Deceased: Dean Dobbin, Shaun Fitzsimons, Charlie Fitzpatrick,

Recently Deceased Other Parishes:

Eugene Casement (Crossgar), Joanne Walsh (Bright),

Month's Mind: Patrick (Paddy) Hanna,

Anniversaries: Sr. Mary Kieran, June Hanna, Joseph Coughlan, Margaret Gilchrist, Elizabeth McGarry, Angela Bardon, Andrew Savage Kathleen Bohill, Ann McCoubrey, John Skeffington,

Weekly Collection: Offertory £1,000, Loose Plate £492, Direct Debits £1920. Thank you for your generosity

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

Mon 25th March: Month's Mind: Patrick(Paddy) 1st Anniv Bernadette (Bernie) Kelly, Anniv: Rory Walsh, Margaret & Dominic Murphy, Francie Kelly, Noreen McGreevey, Ann McCoubrey,

Wed 27th March: Anniv: Shane Robinson, Willie Philips, Claire-Louise Clarke, John Skeffington, Maureen Sheppard, Tony Keown, Brian McCabe,

BAPTISMS: We welcome Amelia, Lorcan, Grace & Thomas 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.

* De La Salle School Mass: There will be a Mass in St Patrick's on Sunday 24th at 12.30 to celebrate the life and history of La Salle HS before its merger in the Autumn into Lecale Trinity Grammar. – The Mass is open to all, and especially to Pupils, past pupils and staff of the school. Everyone Welcome at the school after Mass for a trip down memory lane and a catch up with a cuppa! We look forward to seeing you all from 1:30pm to 3pm.

Parish Mass Schedule for March 2024:

Table with 3 columns: Date, Church, Time. Rows include Palm Sunday (Sat 23rd, Sun 24th, Sun 24th, * Sun 24th) and Easter (Sat 30th, Sun 31st, Sun 31st, Sun 31st).

Holy Week Schedule – St. Patrick's Church. Normal weekly Masses Mon 25th to Wed 27th March. Mon & Wed 9:30am & 7:30pm (Tues 9:30am only). Wed 27th Mar 12Noon Mass of Chrism – St. Peters Belfast. Thurs 28th Mar 9:30am – Morning Prayer. Thurs 28th Mar 7:30pm – Mass of the Lord's Supper. Thurs 28th Mar 10pm – Night Prayer. Good Friday 29th Mar 9:30am Morning Prayer. Good Friday 29th 3:00pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion. Good Friday 29th 7:30pm Stations of the Cross. Holy Saturday 30th 9:30am Morning Prayer. Holy Sat 30th 9pm Easter Vigil & Mass of the Resurrection. Confessions during Holy Week in St. Patrick's. Holy Thursday 8:30pm – 10pm. Good Friday 4pm – 5pm. Holy Saturday 11:30am to 1pm.

Fr. Murray will be celebrating the ceremonies on Holy Thursday and Good Friday in the parish of Kilclief / Strangford.

'Evening of Mercy': Monday 25th March 2024. 6:45pm Confessions, 7:00pm Rosary, 7:30pm Mass, with Anointing of the Sick, 8:10pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, 8:40pm Benediction, with prayers, with Litany of the Blessed Sacrament, All welcome for all or even part of the evening.

Parish Office: The office will close from Good Friday 29th March and will reopen on Monday 8th April. The last date for bulletin notices is Wednesday 27th March. If you have an urgent need for a priest, ring 07841101678. If you wish to contact the parish (non-urgent matters) email downpatrick@downandconnor.org

Dawn Mass Easter Sunday morning at 6am, St. Patrick's mountain, Saul. Please wear suitable clothing and footwear.

Offertory Envelopes: There are a large number of envelopes in the Parochial House which we need help to deliver. If you can spare an hour over the coming days, we would be grateful for your help. Please call to the office Mon – Thurs 9:15am to 2pm.

Lay Led Funeral Ministry: Would you be interested in serving the parish in helping the priests in the funeral ministry? If so, a training course will take place in Newcastle Parish Centre after Easter. Please contact the Parish office to give your name at downpatrick@downandconnor.org or 02844612084. We will then be in touch with you with more details of the short course.

Eucharistic Ministers: There will be a short meeting of ALL parish Eucharistic Ministers in St. Patrick's Presbytery on Tuesday 26th March at 7:30pm. The meeting will look at three issues - Visitation of the sick and housebound in the parish - Visitation of the sick in hospital and homes - Recruitment of new ministers

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

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*

Marriage Enrichment: Marriage Enrichment Weekend, 26 – 28 April 2024, Co. Kildare: an opportunity to energise communication and romance in your marriage! Visit: www.marriageencounter.ie/marriage-encounter-weekend

Parish Liturgy Team: The Parish are developing a Liturgy Team to act as a resource to promote and enhance parishioner involvement in weekend Masses. If you would like to be involved in this exciting new initiative, please let us know, by email downpatrick@downandconnor.org or calling into the parish office, alternatively, We will hold our first meeting on April 16th at 7.30pm in the Parochial House – anyone interested is invited to come along to the meeting.

**32 County,
Holy Face Public Vigil,
12.00 noon – 1.00 P.M.
on Good Friday,
29th. March, 2024.**

Our Lord asked St. Peter :
(Could you not watch one hour with Me !)
"A Heaven revealed remedy for the ills of our times"...



Devotion to the Holy Face prayers for this devotion will be said outside St. Brigid's Church on Rathkeltair Road on Good Friday March 29th at 12Noon. All welcome

Celebration of St. Mary's High School: Mass in St. Patrick's Church on Tuesday 23rd April at 11am. We invite everyone, past pupils, friends, former staff and parishioners to join us for the Mass. Refreshments will be available in the school after Mass. Join us as we share memories of the school and pray for our new school going forward.

Computer Skills? Can you help? The parish is looking for people to help with the laptop in St. Patrick's for Masses and other services. We have a small very generous and dedicated team of helpers already but we do need more. If you can help please contact the parish. Tel: 44 612084 or email downpatrick@downandconnor.org Training will be provided.



Annual Good Friday Walk (March 29th): All Christians (Anglican, Catholic, Baptist, Presbyterian, non-subscribing) are invited to make the short walk on Good Friday as we honor Christ's sacrifice and love for us. Gather by 1pm behind the Down Recorder office – make the walk to St. Patrick's Centre along Market Street – join in the hymns and prayer. Thank you.