

## Parish Notices

21<sup>st</sup> March 2021

### Your Prayers Are Requested for:

**Anniversaries:** Elizabeth McGarry, Gerry Doherty, Josephine McCann, Jimmy Curran, Cassie Bohill, Deirdre Robinson, Mary Gracey, Patsy Curran, Jack McGrady,

### We Also Remember Our Diocesan Clergy:

Fr. Brian Tomelty, Fr. Andrew McGrattan, Fr. John McPhilips, Fr. Liam Vaughan,

*May They Rest In Peace*

**Baptisms:** We welcome Larci-Rose Coleman into Our parish family. Baptism can be booked by contacting Mary on 02844612084 Mon – Thurs 9.15am – 2.30pm.

### Mass Intentions:

**St. Patrick's, Mon 22<sup>nd</sup>, 7.30pm:** Dermot & Gwen Fitzsimmons & Deceased members of the Fitzsimmons Family, Mary & Noel Gracey, Noel O'Hare, Dessie Savage,

**St. Patrick's, Fri, 26<sup>th</sup>, 7.30pm:** Margaret & Dominic Murphy, Maureen Sheppard,

**St. Patrick's Sat 27<sup>th</sup> 5.30pm:** Month's Mind: Sharon Deegan & Aniv Peter Deegan, Margaret Deegan, Elizabeth Woodfield,

**St. Patrick's, Sun 28<sup>th</sup> 12 Noon:** Month's Mind: Bobby Savage,

**Current Covid Restrictions:** The Church remains closed for Mass until Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March (See separate notice for Masses from Friday 26<sup>th</sup>). All of the Masses are available to view online at [www.churchmedia.tv](http://www.churchmedia.tv) or via the parish facebook page – 'Downpatrick Parish'. The **Church is open** Mon – Sat 1pm – 4pm & on Sundays from 2.30pm – 5pm for private prayer. Please follow social distancing and sanitizing guidelines at all times.

**Weekly Collection:** Offertory £971.50, Loose Plate £130, Our Sincere Thanks to everyone who contributed to the collections over the last week.

Because of the current covid restrictions, the obligation to attend Mass cannot be fulfilled, this of course, also means that we cannot receive the Blessed Sacrament. The Act of Spiritual Communion can be used during these times.

## Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,  
I believe that you are present in the most Holy Sacrament.  
I love you above all things,  
and desire to receive you into my soul.  
Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally,  
please come spiritually into my heart.  
I embrace you now as if you were already there  
and I unite myself wholly to you.  
Never permit me to be separated from you.  
Amen.

**Philip Course:** Online Course which continues each Thursday from 7.30pm – 8.30pm over the next number of weeks. With a series of talks from speakers including Fr. John Murray, Jackie Breen, Elaine Kelly & Martina Purdy. The Course consists of Scripture, Music, Talks and Prayer and is open to everyone. Why not join us and discover how to enrich and deepen your relationship with God and with those around you. Please join us for any or all of the remaining evenings.

**The Parish office** is operating on an appointment only system or via phone calls and email – contact us at 02844612084 Mon -Thurs 9am -2.30pm or email [downpatrick@downandconnor.org](mailto:downpatrick@downandconnor.org)

**Novena of Hope for God's People:** Will be held 'virtually' at Tobar Mhuire from March 19<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> and will be live streamed each evening at 7.00pm. The Novena will end on the Saturday before Holy Week. Petitions are available via the Passionist website or by writing, including an S.A.E. to the community at Tobar Mhuire. Visit [www.tobarmhuirecrossgar.com](http://www.tobarmhuirecrossgar.com) or on facebook search tobarmhuirepassionists.

**Trocaire Boxes:** Are available from the porch in St. Patrick's Church. Donations can also be made online at Trocaire.org Please ONLY return Trocaire Boxes via the Church or Parish Office – Trocaire DO NOT send people out to collect boxes.

**Living Church:** Each week, Living Youth will be posting an activity for young people to engage in, which will have a video outlining the activity, a task/guidance for those aged 11-14 to complete and a task/guidance for those aged 15-18 to complete. The themes for each week are:

- Week 1 - Fasting from Consumerism
- Week 2 - Mental Wellbeing with the 4 Corners Festival
- Week 3 - Social Awareness with Habitat for Humanity
- Week 4 - Digital Fasting for Mother's Day
- Week 5 - Praying with Your Parish
- Week 6 - Almsgiving to a Foodbank
- Week 7 - Praying for Our Church (Mass of Christm)
- Week 8 - Pilgrimage to Your Parish (Easter Week)

[www.livingyouth.co.uk](http://www.livingyouth.co.uk)

The full programme and resources for the programme can be found at <https://www.livingyouth.co.uk/lent-2021-resources> and the weekly activities for participants will be posted at <https://www.livingyouth.co.uk/lent-2021> and on the Living Youth [Facebook](#) & [Instagram](#).

**DIOCESAN VOCATION WEEKEND:** Have you ever considered the possibility that God is calling you to the priesthood? If so, take this opportunity to gather online with other men who are discerning their vocation. This virtual retreat will create the time and space to help you discern God's calling in your life. The retreat will take place from the evening of Friday 19th – Saturday 20th March 2021. If you wish to register your interest in joining this retreat or would like further information contact: Fr. Kevin McGuckien - Tel: 02890614567 or email: [vocations@downandconnor.org](mailto:vocations@downandconnor.org)

**Prayer for Priestly Vocations: Our Parish invites you to join Fr. Murray (former Diocesan Vocations Director) online from St. Patrick's on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> March from 7.30pm – 8.15pm**

**OFFERTORY ENVELOPES:** The envelopes are now available for collection from the Parish Office, Mon, Tues & Thurs next week from 9.15am – 2.30pm. We would appreciate it if parishioners could volunteer to help us with envelope distribution. If you can help, please call to the office.

## Readings for the Week beginning March 14<sup>th</sup>

**March 21<sup>st</sup>**

***Fifth Sunday of Lent (Year B)***

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Psalms 50: 3-4, 12-15

Hebrews 5: 7-9

John 12:20-30

**March 22<sup>nd</sup>:**

Daniel 13: 1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62

John 8: 1-11

**March 23<sup>rd</sup>:**

Numbers 21: 4-9

John 8: 21-42

**March 24<sup>th</sup>**

Daniel 3: 14-28

John 8: 21-30

**March 25<sup>th</sup> Feast of The Annunciation**

Isaiah 7: 10-14, 8:10

Hebrews 10: 4-10

Luke 1: 26-38

**March 26<sup>th</sup>**

Jeremiah 20: 10-13

John 10:31-42

**March 27<sup>th</sup>**

Ezekiel 37: 21-28

John 11: 45-46

## Arrangements for the Resumption of Masses in Downpatrick Parish

Following the announcement from the Irish Bishops on St. Patrick's Day, we are delighted to be able to open the Church for public Mass.

We would ask that those attending the Church remember to adhere to the current guidelines- Wear a Mask, Sanitise Hands and follow social distancing advice.

We have a fantastic team of unpaid volunteers and stewards who give very generously of their time in order to help us keep the church sanitized and safe for everyone to use. We are extremely grateful to these teams for all that they do.

### From March 26<sup>th</sup> Masses in the Parish are as follows:

Morning Mass Mon – Fri 9.30am, Sat Morning 10am (Open to the public)

Evening Masses: Monday & Wednesday 7.30pm (Open to the Public), Friday at 7.30pm are ONLINE ONLY.

### Sunday Masses:

Saturday (Vigil) 5.30pm - Open to the Public

Sunday 9am (ONLINE ONLY), 12 Noon – Open to the Public.

**EASTER MASS ARRANGEMENTS:** ALL THE EASTER CEREMONIES ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. TICKETS ARE REQUIRED FOR ALL OF THE EASTER CEREMONIES. PLEASE ONLY BOOK A TICKET IF YOU ARE SURE YOU WILL BE ABLE TO ATTEND!

**Morning Prayer of the Church** – 9.30am

**Holy Thursday** – Mass of The Lord's Supper at 7.30pm

**Good Friday:** Celebration of the Lord's Passion at 3pm, Prayer around the Cross at 7.30pm

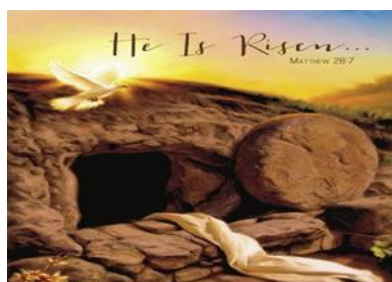
**Saturday** – Easter Vigil at 9pm

**Easter Sunday** – Mass at 9am and 12 Noon (The 9am Mass on Easter Sunday is open to the Public)

Tickets for the Easter Ceremonies are available from the Parish Office from Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> – Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> March between 9.15am and 2pm. Please phone to book - Tel 02844612084

**TICKETS CANNOT BE BOOKED BY VOICE MAIL OR EMAIL – TELEPHONE BOOKING ONLY**

**The Church will be closed immediately after each Mass and will open Monday – Saturday 1pm – 4pm and Sunday 2.30pm – 5.00pm for private prayer.**





Thank God and sincere thanks also to our many listeners and supporters as RADIO MARIA IRELAND continues to grow. As an Irish-run Catholic Talk-Radio Station we enjoy commercial free broadcasting - Prayer, Catechesis, Uplifting music, Talks, Interviews and Testimonies – do join our growing faith family! Here's how you can listen:

1. Via Digital TV - Saorview Channel 210/ Freeview TV (Channel number varies per location in Northern Ireland)
2. Download our FREE App “RADIO MARIA IRELAND”
3. Streaming on our WEBSITE - [www.radiomaria.ie](http://www.radiomaria.ie) (Subscribe and Donate here also)
4. Via our ‘Listen Live Radio’ link on our Facebook Page. (Like, Share and Follow us)
5. Via PHONE – get live radio feed by calling +353 (0) 1 437 3277 (no extra charges apply).

Why not drop a line to our Priest Director, Fr. Eamonn McCarthy, or send in your prayer or song requests to us at Radio Maria Ireland, St. Anthony's Business Park, Ballymount Road, Dublin 22.

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Welcome to our Family – tune in, listen and join in the faith conversation!

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**Defending the Faith**

Without raising your voice

An online talk by  
Editor of  
The Irish Catholic  
**Michael Kelly**

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March  
6.30 pm

For details email  
[council19.qub@gmail.com](mailto:council19.qub@gmail.com)

Brought to you by CK19  
Knights of St Columbanus at  
Queen's University Belfast

For more about us and what we do  
follow us on social media:  
@KSCQueens

CK19, The Knights of St Columbanus at Queen's University Belfast, is delighted to facilitate an online talk delivered by Michael Kelly, Editor of The Irish Catholic newspaper.

Michael will be speaking to us on the subject of 'Defending the faith without raising your voice'. This was the subject of a book which was co-authored by Michael in 2012 and should give us an insight into how we can respond to Catholic hot-button issues when they arise in our lives.

The talk will take place on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> of March at 6.30 pm. For details, please email [council19.qub@gmail.com](mailto:council19.qub@gmail.com) or message us on social media (@KSCQueens).