

Downpatrick Pastoral Community Area

Parish Of Downpatrick

2nd July 2023



LOVE GOD. LOVE OTHERS. MAKE DISCIPLES.

Your Prayers Are Requested for:

Recently Deceased: Anne Sloan, Roisin Ward,

Recently Deceased Other Parishes:

Danny De Largy (Bangor), Tommy McManus (Portaferry)

Anniversaries: Dermot McGrady, Niamh Evans, Mary Valentine, James Rooney, Seamus Holland, Isobel O'Hare, Monica Harris,

Weekly Collection: Offertory £1,661, Loose Plate £381, Direct Debits £1155. Thank you for your generosity.

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

Mon: 3rd July 7:30pm: Month's Mind: Olive McCashin,

Wed: 5th July 7:30pm: Month's Mind: Rosaleen Correia,
Anniv: Patrick McQuoid,

Fri: 7th July 7:30pm: 1st Anniv: Seamus Holland,
1st Anniv: Maureen McKinney, **Anniv:** Pat Keenan, Sean & Isobel O'Hare, Muriel & David Burns, Jennifer Deegan,

Confessions this week: Mon 6:45pm, Fri 3pm-4pm, Sat 12pm-1pm.

Cemetery Sunday in the Parish of Downpatrick:

Struell, Sunday 2nd July @ 3pm.

Visitors & Parishioners are invited to join us for readings, prayers and the rosary. Individuals, please bring Holy water for Blessing of graves. Service will be 30 mins approx.

Parish Office Closure Days: Please note that the Parish office will be closed on the following Friday's in July – 7th, 14th and 21st –. It will be back to normal from Monday 24th July.

Parish Draw: As you know the parish draw was due to be launched again in April 2020. But owing to the Covid pandemic it had to be suspended because our promoters would have been unable to make their returns. Recently, after a meeting with Canon Murray the promoters decided to re-launch the draw in October 2023. It was decided to have only one draw with 21 prizes on the basis of the returns that had been received by March 2020. If anyone still wishes to become a member the final closing date for receipts will be 31st August 2023. More details about the prizes and the method for choosing the winners will be issued in the near future. Owing to the fact that some of our promoters are ill and some are no longer collecting the draw in October will be the last one. Many thanks to all our promoters and members for helping to make a success of the draw over the last few years. The draw brought in a substantial amount for the parish.

Parish Mass Schedule for July 2023:

| Date | Church | Time |
|--|-----------------|--------------|
| Sun 2nd July – Cemetery Sunday – Struell 3pm | | |
| Sat 1 st July | St. Patrick's | 5:30pm |
| Sat 1 st July | St. Brigid's | 7pm |
| Sat 1 st July | Ardglass | 5pm |
| Sun 2 nd | St. Patrick's | 9am & 12Noon |
| Sun 2 nd | St. Colmcille's | 11am |
| Sat 8 th | St. Patrick's | 5:30pm |
| Sat 8 th | St. Brigid's | 7pm |
| Sun 9 th | St. Patrick's | 9am & 12Noon |
| Sun 9 th | St. Malachy's | 10am |
| Sat 15 th | St. Patrick's | 5:30pm |
| Sun 16 th | St. Patrick's | 9am & 12Noon |
| Sun 16 th | St. Colmcille's | 11am |
| Sat 22 nd | St. Patrick's | 5:30pm |
| Sat 22 nd | St. Brigid's | 7pm |
| Sun 23 rd | St. Patrick's | 9am & 12Noon |
| Sun 23 rd | St. Malachy's | 10am |
| Sat 29 th | St. Patrick's | 5:30pm |
| Sun 30 th | St. Patrick's | 9am & 12Noon |
| Sun 30 th | St. Colmcille's | 11am |

'Evening of Mercy': After 13th Sunday OT, Monday 3rd July

6:45pm Confessions

7:00pm Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:30pm Mass & sacrament of the sick

8:10pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament including prayers for Physical Healing.

8:40pm Benediction

All welcome for all or even part of the evening.

Ordination: Deacon Robert McMahan will be ordained to the priesthood on this Sunday, 2nd July at 3.00pm. Bishop Michael Router has kindly agreed to perform the ordination as I am already committed to an ordination in Derry.

Please keep Robert in your prayers during these final days of preparation. I would ask you also to remember him in the prayers of the faithful at Sunday Mass.



Credit:
Vecteezy

RESCHEDULING OF MASSES IN THE PARISH OF ST. PATRICK'S DOWNPATRICK - 2023

Recently Bishop Donal McKeown our apostolic administrator issued a pastoral letter on the feast of Pentecost. I hope you have been able to read it either as a copy in the church or online at the various parish platforms (Facebook, app, website)

Bishop Donal's letter was very positive but also challenging in terms of the future of our diocese and the provision of the sacramental occasions to which we have become accustomed.

Recently in our own parish over the last few months we have had to provide cover for neighbouring parishes for priests who were sick or who needed a break. This is something we are pleased to be able to do but it wasn't easy and it won't be possible to continue this indefinitely.

In order to be able to provide cover in a neighbouring vicariate parish (we are in the vicariate of Downpatrick and Lecale) I want to suggest a rescheduling of our own Masses times. To an extent we have been doing this already over the last year since Covid eased. But I wish to make further 'tweaks' to the schedule.

I propose this for two reasons –(a) to enable one of the priests of the parish to be more easily free to cover another parish should there be a need and (b) to maximise the attendance at our own parish Masses. So instead of having four or five local parish Masses with attendances of 120,100,47,200,35 as at present we could have two or three Masses with larger congregations. Our recent Mass survey showed that about 600 people in the parish attend Mass regularly.

This is the current situation St. Patrick's 5.30 Vigil 9.00 12.00

With St. Brigid's on two Saturdays and St. Malachy's and St. Colmcille's on two Sundays (all at the usual times)

This is the proposal I suggest we move to at the beginning of September.

St. Patrick's 5.30 (vigil) and 11.00 (Sunday)

With one Mass each Saturday/Sunday in either St. Brigid's. St. Colmcille's or St. Malachy's so as to allow access for parishioners who find the steps at St. Patrick's difficult.

The Mass schedule for each month is available in the Parish Bulletin, on our Facebook page, the website and via the Parish App.

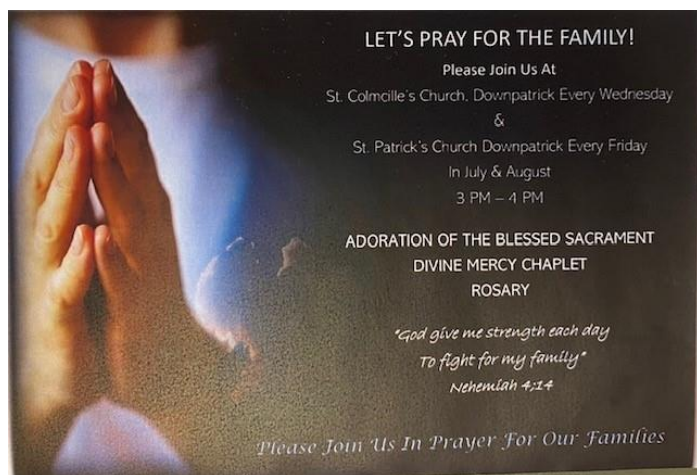
Change is never easy. Some people might be disappointed or annoyed that their preferred Mass time is not available but I hope you can appreciate the need for the change. I would welcome any feedback on the proposal.

You can give this either by email or by phoning the parish at 44-612084.

Thank you for your generosity and understanding.

Fr. John Murray

§ The Parish Leadership Team



Adoration: All day Adoration in St. Patrick's finishes for the summer on Friday 30th June at 7pm. During July and August there will be Adoration in St. Colmcille's every Wednesday from 3pm – 4pm and in St. Patrick's every Friday from 3pm – 4pm. Everyone welcome.

Local Cemetery Sunday Dates:

Downpatrick: Struell 2nd July at 3pm

Strangford: St Malachy's Kilclief Cemetery – Sunday 16th July at 3pm

Saul: Ballycruttle Cemetery – Sunday 30th July at 3pm
Saul Cemetery – Sunday 6th August at 3pm