

Downpatrick Pastoral Area

Parish of Downpatrick

Sunday 12th November 2023



Your prayers are requested for:

Anniversaries: Louis Curran, Catherine Curran, Helen Curran, Susan Savage, Daniel Gilmore Snr, Thomas Savage, Hugh Flynn Jnr, Pat Crowe, Eithne Carville, Thomas Reynolds, Brendan Goley, Brigid Skeffington,

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

Mon 13th: Anniv: Elizabeth Wade,

Wed 15th: Anniv: Deceased Members of Legion of Mary,

Friday 17th: Anniv: Brigid Skeffington, Pat Crowe, William Lennon, The McMahon Family, Margaret McKee,

Weekly Collection: Offertory £1,733, Loose Plate £422, Mission Sunday £744, Direct Debits £1880. Thank you for your generosity

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

November Dead Lists are now available at the back of the church. Once completed, please return to the Church, All envelopes are opened, offerings removed and ALL intentions are placed before the Altar, the Clergy will offer 30 Masses during the month of November for the Happy Repose of their souls.

Bishops Commission: This collection helps defray the contributions from the Diocese for the work of the various National Episcopal Commissions. To help it fulfil its aims more effectively, the Irish Catholic Bishop's Conference has established various commissions, agencies, councils, and other bodies which focus on specific tasks and areas of responsibility within the mission of the Church. The Diocese is obligated to pay an amount levied by the Bishop's Conference each year and this annual collection helps cover part of the levy.

This year's collection will be taken up on the 19th Nov 2023.

Baptisms: The Parish welcomes Molly, Donnacha, Croia, Pippa, Clodagh, Aaliyah and Jack who with their parents did the pre baptism course on Thursday 9th November. These children will be baptised over the next few weeks.

Parish Mass Schedule for November 2023:

Date	Church	Time
Sat 11 th	St. Patrick's	5:30pm
Sun 12 th	St. Patrick's	10:30am
Sun 12 th	St. Colmcille's	10am
Sat 18 th	St. Patrick's	5:30pm
Sat 18 th	St. Brigid's	7pm
Sun 19 th	St. Patrick's	10:30am
Sun 19 th	St. Malachy's	10am
Sat 25 th	St. Patrick's	5:30pm
Sun 26 th	St. Patrick's	10:30am
Sun 26 th	St. Colmcille's	10am

'Evening of Mercy': Monday 13th November 2023

32nd Week in ordinary time

6:45pm Confessions

7:00pm Rosary

7:30pm Mass

8:10pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament followed by prayer for addictions

8:40pm Benediction,

All welcome for all or even part of the evening.

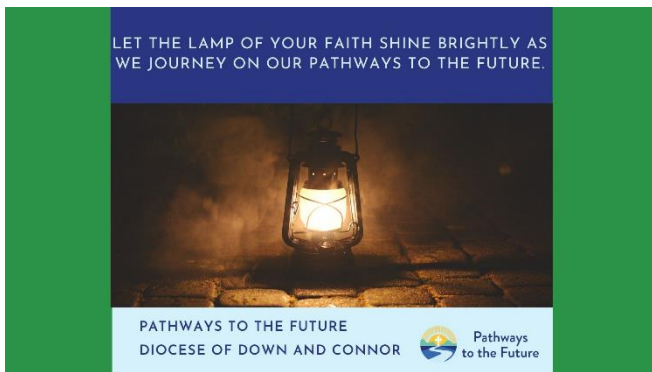
Holy Land Christians: Dear Parishioners we are all sadly aware of the terrible events in the Holy Land since the massacre on October 7th. I am sure we are praying for peace in this situation. I am sure also that many of you – as I have – already have contributed something – however small – to the humanitarian aid needed in Gaza. However there is a third group in that land which is also suffering and that is the small Christian population – roughly 1% of the entire Israel population.

All pilgrimages to the Holy Land have ceased for now and the foreseeable future. This is the lifeblood of many of these communities of Christians in the area of Bethlehem and Tiberias. There is talk of many of the younger Christians leaving the land of their birth and emigrating.

If anyone would like to give something for the Christians of the Holy Land please put it in an envelope marked 'Holy Land Christians' and leave it in the church boxes or the presbytery.

I will ensure this reaches a group called 'Friends of the Holy Land' which supports all Christians in the Holy Land. Please continue to also pray for them. Thank you in anticipation for your generosity.

Fr. John Murray



Week 5. 12th to 18th November

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Matthew 25: 1-13 – The Ten Bridesmaids

“The bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him.”

PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE

In his Pastoral Letter “Voices of Hope”, our Apostolic Administrator, Bishop Donal McKeown said that “this is an exciting time to be Church in Down and Connor and in the world”. This is an exciting time because this is a time of change and of opportunity when Jesus is calling us to renew and rebuild His Church. Like the wise bridesmaids in today’s Gospel, we must stand ready to respond to that call. God will send His Spirit to prompt and to guide us. His Spirit is the oil to light our lamps of faith and service so that they may shine brightly for all to see. Lamps of faith that burn brightly, drawing others to the warmth and comfort of God’s love, guiding them to a personal relationship with Christ. We each have a part to play, we each have a lamp to light the way. Respond to Christ’s call to renew His Church in Down and Connor and in our parishes. Play your part in building our new Families of Parishes and communities of faith. Let the lamp of your faith and your love of God and neighbour shine brightly as we journey on our Pathways to the Future, guiding others along the paths with us with hearts on fire and feet on the move. “Wisdom is bright and does not grow dim ... be on the alert for her and anxiety will quickly leave you.”

Wisdom 6:12,15

To find out more go to www.pathwaystothefuture.org

Pathways to the Future Prayer

God of Love, You are with us in every transition and change. As we enter into this new era with excitement and even some anxiety, we recall your deep compassion, presence, and abounding love. We thank you for the gifts, talents, and skills with which you have blessed us. We thank you for the work of others that gives breadth and depth to our own work. Be with us as we move forward, rejoicing with you and supporting one another. We ask this in your Holy Name. Amen.

Parish Choir: New members invited to join our parish choir. The choir sing at 10:30am Mass each Sunday in St. Patrick’s, if you are interested, please speak to any choir member after Mass or contact Mary at 02844 612084

SVP Senior Citizens’ Christmas Party– After some years of absence the Downpatrick SVP Conference is pleased to announce the 2023 Senior Citizens’ Christmas Party will be on Sunday 26th November at 2pm in Murphy’s Restaurant, 78 Market Street, Downpatrick. To book please contact us on 07596972093, leaving your name, telephone number and the number of guests who would like to come along. Do also pass on this invitation to anyone you think may not have seen the notice. We look forward to seeing you then and thank you for all the support you have extended throughout the year! Please note numbers are limited so call as soon as possible to book.

