

Parish Notices

28th February 2021

Your Prayers Are Requested for:

Recently Deceased: Bobby Savage, Rose Feenan (Rathkeltair Road), Imelda Millar, Rosaleen McCambridge (Belfast), Austin Kelly, Michael (Mickey) Tumelty (Bright), Brian Magee (London),

Month's Mind: Kash Wright, Francie Kearney, Aidan Vaughan,

Anniversaries: George & Jean Peacock, Oonagh Carson, James & Sarah Halpin, Liam Lynn, Henry Craig, Kieran Craig, Veronica Beattie, Robert McAllister, Alice Boyd, Brendan Burns, Charles Canavan,

We Also Remember Our Diocesan Clergy: Fr. Gerard Forrester, Fr. Brendan Mooney, Fr. Neil McCamphill, Fr Fergus Jordan

May They Rest In Peace

Baptisms: We Welcome Miley Clare McAuley, & Paul Flanagan McGreevy, Magee into Our Parish family.

Baptism can be booked by contacting Mary on 02844612084 Mon – Thurs 9.15am – 2.30pm.

Mass Intentions:

Wednesday 3rd March, 7.30pm: Peter, Ben, Sam & Mum,

Anniv: Gerard McAuley, James Perry

Friday 5th March, 7.30pm: 1st Anniv Doreen Fitzpatrick, **Anniv:** Cahal Brennan, Michael Fitzpatrick, Oonagh & Gerry Carson,

Sat 6th March, 5.30pm: Month's Mind: Eileen Kelly,

Sunday 7th March, 12 Noon: 1st Anniv Bridget Stewart & Anniv Ernest Stewart

Current Covid Restrictions: The Church remains closed for Mass until at least March 5th. All of the Masses are available to view online at 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 £2825, Loose Plate £433, Our Sincere Thanks to everyone who contributed to the collections over the last two weeks.

RGU LOTTO: Winning Numbers: 11, 12, 17, 24, two people matched three numbers. Jackpot now £3500

Philip Course: Online Course which continues each Thursday from 7.30pm – 8.3pm 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.

Apostolic Work: Are continuing to work in the background despite the current covid crisis. If you would like to learn more about their work please visit www.apostolicworkdc.com

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

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.

Lectio Divina: Looking for something to do this Lent? Something Prayerful? Aishling, Louise and the team from Living Church will be facilitating a five-week Lectio Divina programme written especially for Lent during Lockdown. On Mondays and Wednesdays at 7pm. Interested? Simply email livingchurch@downandconnor.org and the team will send you a zoom link.

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 Christ)
- Week 8 - Pilgrimage to Your Parish (Easter Week)

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](#).

Lent in Downpatrick Parish: Join us on Facebook daily for a series of reflections given by Elaine Kelly, Martina Purdy. We also have 'virtual' stations available, daily, and then from the Parish of Saul and Ballee & Downpatrick Parish, Deacons Jackie Breen and Paul McCormick take us through the Stations on Wednesdays and Fridays during Lent. We also have a weekly reflection from Fr. Murray, join us every day or even on just one day during Lent to pray and reflect.

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

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.

Readings for February 28th – March 6th 2021

Feb 28th 2nd Sunday of Lent (Year B):

Genesis 22; 1-2, 9-13, 15-18

Psalms 115

Romans 8:31 -34

Mark 9:2-10

March 1st

Daniel 9:4 – 10,

Luke 6:36-38

March 2nd:

Isaiah 1:10, 16 -20

Matthew 23:1-12

March 3rd:

Jeremiah 18: 18-20

Matthew 20:17 -28

March 4th

Jeremiah 17:5-10

Luke 16:19-31

March 5th (1st Friday)

Genesis 27: 3-4, 12 -13, 17-28

Matthew: 21:33-43, 45 -46

March 6th (1st Saturday)

Micah 7:14-15, 18-20

Luke 15:1-3, 11-32