

## Parish Notices

21<sup>st</sup> February 2021

### Your Prayers Are Requested for:

**Recently Deceased:** Margaret Carlin,

**Anniversaries:** Liam Lynn, Marie Breen, Seamus Murphy, Jim Rice, Brian Rice, Sean Lundy, Veronica Beattie, Patrick McQuoid, Patrick Magorrian, Alfie Murphy, Hugh McKee, Jimmy McDowell, Michael Kearney, Hugh McKee

**We Also Remember Our Diocesan Clergy:** Fr. Eugene Arthurs, Fr. Patrick McGarry, Fr. Daniel McBride, Fr. Joseph O'Hagan, Fr. Joseph McGurnaghan,

*May They Rest In Peace*

**Baptisms:** We Welcome Fionn Toner, Jaxson Joseph Magee into Our Parish family.

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

#### Mass Intentions:

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup>, 7.30pm:** Hugh McKee, Seamus Murphy, Patrick McQuoid, Oliver McMullan,

**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm:** Danny Gilmore, Harry (Henry) Russell, Hugh Finn,

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup>, 7.30pm:** Month's Mind: Kash Wright & Francie Kearney, Anniv: Kevin Keenan,

**Sat 27<sup>th</sup>, 5.30pm:** Month's Mind: Aidan Vaughan

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup>, 12 Noon:** 1<sup>st</sup> Anniv Brendan Burns

**Current Covid Restrictions:** The Church remains closed for Mass until at least March 5<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.

**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.

## LENTEN PIONEER PLEDGE

Many people choose to abstain from alcohol during Lent. Why not take this opportunity to perhaps help yourself or someone you know with an alcohol or drug problem by offering your sacrifice for freedom from addiction? Please consider taking the short-term Lenten Pledge and make a difference to someone's life and say the following daily prayer.

**PRAYER:"** *I promise in honour of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and with the help of the Blessed Virgin Mary to abstain from all alcoholic drink during Lent."*

**RGU LOTTO:** Winning Numbers: 10,17,27,28, four people matched three numbers. Jackpot now £3400

**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](http://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](mailto: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.

**Ask your MLAs to vote to stop abortion up to birth for disabilities including Down's syndrome, cleft lip and club foot**

You have likely heard of the new Severe Fetal Impairment Abortion (Amendment) Bill which has been launched in Northern Ireland to stop abortion up to birth for babies with disabilities including Down's syndrome, cleft lip and club foot. In response to the announcement of this bill, Right To Life UK has launched the [Equally Human](#) campaign to help build public support for this important law change. They are encouraging people in Northern Ireland to email their MLAs asking them to speak in support of and vote for the Bill at its Second Reading.

Right To Life UK has set up an easy-to-use tool that will enable members of the public to easily contact their MLAs. If you would like to contact your MLAs on this important issue, you can do so by visiting [equallyhuman.org](http://equallyhuman.org). It only takes 30 seconds!

**Trocaire Boxes:** Are available from the porch in St. Patrick's Church. Donations can also be made online at [Trocaire.org](http://Trocaire.org)

**Sick & Retired Priests Collection:** Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> February. This collection assists with the ongoing needs of priests in the Diocese who are either sick or retired. The money is used to help provide retirement grants, sickness grants, subsidising of care home fees and medical bills for the sick. Thank you for your support.

**The Popes Message for Lent:** Is available on our facebook page, and on our website.

**Parish Magazine:** The latest edition of the parish magazine is available now. Packed full of interesting articles -did you know St. Joseph is 'moving house' do you know where he currently resides in the parish? There are Lenten Reflections, Kids Corner, features on St. Patrick's Way, Sr. Claire Crockett, St. Andres Bessett as well as the regular 'Young Persons Blog' , Canon Law Corner and much more! Visit [www.stpatricksdowndpatrick.com](http://www.stpatricksdowndpatrick.com) and have a read!

**Readings for The First Week in Lent:**

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup>:**

Genesis 9:8-15,  
Psalm 24: 4-9,  
1 Peter 3: 18-22,  
Mark 1:12-15,

**Mon 22<sup>nd</sup>: *Feast of The Chair of Peter***

1 Peter 5: 1-4  
Psalm 23  
Matthew 16: 13-19

**Tues 23<sup>rd</sup>: *Feast of St. Polycarp***

Isaiah 55:10-11  
Matthew 6:7-15

**Wed 24<sup>th</sup>**

Jonah 3:1-10  
Luke 11:29 -32

**Thurs 25<sup>th</sup>**

Esther 14:3-11  
Matthew 7:7-12

**Fri 26<sup>th</sup>**

Ezekiel 18:21-28  
Matthew 5 :20-26

**Sat 27<sup>th</sup>**

Deuteronomy 26:16-19  
Matthew 5:43 -48