

Downpatrick Pastoral Area

Parish of Downpatrick

Sunday 26th November 2023



Your prayers are requested for:

Recently Deceased: Most Rev. Dr. Anthony Farquhar, retired auxiliary bishop of Down and Connor, Ita Cunningham, Brendan Doyle, Sheila McGrady,

Recently Deceased Other Parishes:

Sean McCashin (Ballykinlar), Oliver Sloan (Killough),

Anniversaries: Mary & Joe McGuigan, Rosina Burns, Malachy Carson, Marian Fitzsimons, Margaret McCartan, Jim Ferguson, Kathleen Reilly, Bridie Rooney, Edward McCullough, Clara Annett, Philip Wallace, Sylvester Vaughan (Jnr), Frances Denvir, Patrick & Mary Hanna,

Weekly Collection: Offertory £1,536, Loose Plate £354, Mission Sunday £744, Direct Debits £1880. Thank you for your generosity

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

Mon 27th: Month's Mind: Robert Fennell,
1st Anniv: Marian Fitzsimons, **Anniv:** Philip Wallace, Denis & Eileen Halpin,

Wed 29th Nov: Annual Bereavement Mass

Friday 1st December: 1st Anniv: Mary Taggart,
Anniv: Sadie Savage, Frances Denvir,

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



Parish Mass Schedule for Nov / Dec 2023:

Date	Church	Time
Sat 25 th	St. Patrick's	5:30pm
Sun 26 th	St. Patrick's	10:30am
Sun 26 th	St. Colmcille's	10am
Sat 2 nd Dec	St. Patrick's	5:30pm
Sat 2 nd Dec	St. Brigid's	7pm
Sun 3 rd Dec	St. Patrick's	10:30am
Sun 3 rd Dec	St. Malachy's	10am
Sat 9 th	St. Patrick's	5:30pm
Sun 10 th	St. Colmcille's	10am
Sun 10 th	St. Patrick's	10:30am
Sat 16 th	St. Brigid's	7pm
Sat 16 th	St. Patrick's	5:30pm
Sun 17 th	St. Patrick's	10:30am
Sun 17 th	St. Malachy's	10am
Sat 23 rd	St. Patrick's	5:30pm
Sun 24 th	St. Patrick's	10:30am
Sun 24 th	St. Colmcille's	10am
Christmas Eve Evening – vigil Masses –		
Sun 24 th	St. Patrick's	6:30pm
Sun 24 th	St. Brigid's	8pm
Sun 24 th	St. Patrick's	9:30pm
Christmas Daytime Masses (to be confirmed)		
Mon 25 th	St. Patrick's	10:30am
Mon 25 th	St. Malachy's	10am
Mon 25 th	St. Colmcille's	10am
Tues 26th – Fri 29th St. Patrick's 9:30am (No evening Masses this week)		
Sat 30 th	St. Brigid's	7pm
Sat 30 th	St. Patrick's	5:30pm
Sun 31 st	St. Patrick's	10:30am
Sun 31 st	St. Malachy's	10am

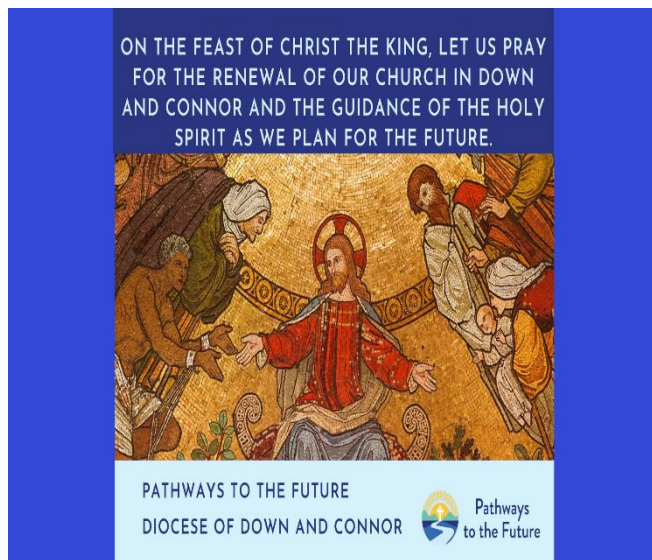
'Evening of Mercy': Monday 27th November 2023

6:45pm Confessions
7:00pm Rosary
7:30pm Mass.
8:10pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
8:40pm Benediction,
All welcome for all or even part of the evening.

The Annual Bereavement Mass will take place in St Patrick's Church on Wednesday 29th November at 7.30pm. All relatives and Friends of the deceased are welcome to attend.

A Journey With Mary. Please join us during the Tuesdays of Advent to reflect and pray in preparation for the Feast of the Nativity. **Tuesday 5th, 12th & 19th December at 7pm** in Patrick's Place (the room below St Patricks Church). Refreshments will be available after. All Welcome.

Pathways Week 7



Baptisms: We welcome Faith Maisie, Albie Paul, Molly Catherine & Saoirse Níamh into our parish family.

Primary 7 children reminder! Mass on Sunday 3rd December at 10:30am. Parents and children preparing for Confirmation are reminded and encouraged to attend 10:30am Mass in St. Patrick's on December 3rd as part of their Confirmation preparation. We look forward to seeing you there!



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*

Safeguarding: The safeguarding Committee continue to work to maintain good practice within our parish. Our mission is to recognise and uphold the dignity and rights of all children and adults. We are committed to ensure their safety and wellbeing. We have continued to work since the resumption of normal activities in the Parish after COVID. A recent parish audit carried out with 25 internal groups and 6 external groups using parish premises has been completed. All clergy, parish staff and volunteers who needed to have been re-invited. Training for all personnel is in the process of being completed. Information about parish groups is at the back of St. Patrick's Church (beside the stairs to the gallery) or on the parish app or may be obtained from the parish office. All information regarding safeguarding is on all the notice boards in each church. We would like to remind you, that if you enter the sacristy you must sign the attendance register. This includes Eucharistic ministers getting hosts before Mass.

Reminder for parish volunteers: The course for Adult Safeguarding awareness is on Monday 27th November, 2pm to 4pm in Patrick's Place.

SVP CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2023 We begin, as ever, to thank you for the regular and generous contributions you have made throughout the year. Christmas is almost here again and we will launch our Annual Appeal at the Masses over the weekend of 25/26 November. Following our Appeal last year we received donations of over £20,000! Your generosity enabled us to assist a great number of families and individuals struggling financially for many reasons - the cost of living crisis, bereavement, sickness and so on. As you know, many in the area too are facing hardship and job loss at this difficult time on account of the recent flood damage to businesses and homes. Any donation you can make, large or small, will be greatly appreciated. If you are a taxpayer please remember to use the Gift Aid envelopes whereby we can recover from HMRC 25p of every £1 you donate! Thank you all again for your support and prayers.