

Lecale Family of Parishes

Parish of Downpatrick

Sunday 15th December 2024



Your prayers are requested for

Recently Deceased: Sean Fitzsimons, Brigid Vaughan, Elizabeth Labrose,

Anniversaries: Maura Megahey, Jim Mullan, Terence Walsh, Sarah-Jane Digney, Teddie Tweedie, Gerard & Brigid Blaney, John Rooney (Kent), Aidan Hennedy, William Doc Morrison, Florence Carson, Frances O'Hanlon,

Weekly Collection: Offertory £1333, Loose plate £650, Direct Debits £1870. Thank you for your generosity.

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

Mon 16th: Month's Mind: Jean Groves,
Anniv: James McLhoney, Sarah-Jane Digney, Rosie Mulholland,

Wed 18th: Month's Mind: Eamon O'Donnell,
Anniv: Terence Walsh,

Fri 20th: Month's Mind: Bridie O'Neill,
1st Anniv: Darryl Wade, **Anniv:** Aidan Hennedy, Jean Smyth,



Advent Prayer by candle light will take place during the final Tuesday of advent. It will take place in St. Patrick's Church at 7:30pm this Tuesday: 17th Dec. All welcome to attend.

Mass Schedule December 24 / January 25

Date	Church	Time
Sat 14 th	St. Patrick's St. Brigid's	5:30pm 7pm
Sun 15 th	St. Patrick's St. Colmcille's	10:30am 10am
Sat 21 st	St. Patrick's	5:30pm
Sun 22 nd	St. Patrick's St. Malachy's	10:30am 10am
Thurs 26th & Fri 27th 9:30am – No Evening Mass		
Sat 28 th	St. Patrick's St. Brigid's	5:30pm 7pm
Sun 29 th	St. Patrick's St. Colmcille's	10:30am 10am
Wed 1st Jan 2025 12pm – No other Masses this day		
Mon 30th, Tues 31st Dec, Thurs 2nd Jan – Daytime Masses only (9:30am– No Evening Masses.)		
Fri 3rd Jan 9:30am and 7:30pm		
Sat 4 th Jan	St. Patrick's	5:30pm
Sun 5 th Jan	St. Patrick's St. Malachy's	10:30am 10am
Mon 6 th Jan	St. Patrick's	9:30am
Feast of Epiphany	St. Brigid's St. Patrick's	10am 7:30pm
Tuesday 7th Jan Normal Mass times from today		

Christmas Masses

Tuesday 24th December

St. Patrick's vigil 6:30pm and midnight 9:30pm
St. Brigid's vigil 7:30pm

Wednesday 25th December

St. Patrick's 10:30am
St. Malachy's 10am
St. Colmcille's 12Noon

Please note these changes from the bulletin of December 1st. This is because we will just have two priests for Christmas Masses.

'Evening of Mercy': Monday 16th Dec 2024

6:45pm Confessions,
7:00pm Rosary,
7:30pm Mass
8.10pm After Mass there will be a quiet time of prayer followed by prayers for those who suffer from addictions to alcohol/drugs. Then Benediction.

Invitation to Opening of Jubilee Year – 29th December: On Christmas Eve 2024, Pope Francis will open the Holy Door in St Peter's Basilica and the Jubilee of Hope will begin in Rome. The theme the Holy Father has chosen for this year of special graces is 'Pilgrims of Hope' and he invites the whole People of God – clergy and laity – to celebrate God's Gift of Grace through their expressions of Deep Faith, Lively Hope and Active Charity. The Holy Year in the Diocese will begin on the Feast of the Holy Family.

All parishioners are warmly invited to join Bishop Alan McGuckian at the Solemn Opening Mass of the Jubilee Year of Hope on Sunday, 29th December at 3pm in St Peter's Cathedral, Belfast. We encourage everyone to attend and be part of this celebration for the Jubilee Year. The webcam will allow for people to view the Mass from home: www.churchservices.tv/stpeterscathedral

Apostolic Raffle: 15th December after Mass, Patrick's Place. Tickets from Margaret Magee, Catherine McAleenan or any committee member.

Downpatrick Family of Parishes

Parish of Bright Masses/ Confessions

Christmas Eve, 24th December, St Patrick's, Legamaddy, 7.00pm
Christmas Eve, 24th December, St Joseph's, Killough, 9.00pm
Christmas Morning, 25th December, St Patrick's, Legamaddy, 10.00am

Confessions

Wednesday 18th December, St Joseph's, Killough, 8.00-9.00pm
Friday 20th December, St Patrick's, Legamaddy, 8.00-9.00pm
Tuesday 24th December, St Joseph's, Killough, 10.30-11.30

Parish of Downpatrick Masses/Confessions

Tuesday 24th December (Christmas Vigil)
St. Patrick's Vigil 6:30pm and 9:30pm
St. Brigid's Vigil 7:30pm

Wednesday 25th December (Christmas Day)
St. Patrick's 10:30am
St. Malachy's 10am
St. Colmcille's 12Noon

Confessions: St. Patrick's

Monday 16th December – 6.45pm -7.30pm
Friday 21st December 3.00pm – 4.00pm
Saturday 21st December 11.00am – 1.00pm (Two Priests available)
Monday 23rd December 6.45pm -7.20pm (Two Priests available)

Feast of the Holy Innocents: Mass in St Patrick's Downpatrick at 10am, Parents, Guardians and Friends who have lost a child, (regardless of age) are invited to bring a flower to remember their child, there will be a period during Mass for those flowers to be laid at the Crib.

Please note: The Christmas bulletin will be published on Sunday 22nd December. This will cover for two weeks and will include anniversary Mass dates for Mon 6th, Wed 8th, and Fri 10th January 2025. If you have an anniversary request, please have it in by Wednesday 18th December. The next Sunday bulletin, after the 22nd December, will be Sunday 12th January 2025.

****Could This Be You? **** With the arrival and induction of a new bishop (Bishop McGuckian, began in Down and Connor in April) the committees and various councils of the diocese must be renewed. This is taking place on a diocesan level. This also applies to similar bodies within parishes. Our current Parish Pastoral Council has served the parish for several years. Now is the time to renew its mandate and extend its service for a further period of years. Fr. John, our Parish Priest, is inviting passionate individuals to join a new Pastoral Council in the upcoming year. This group will support Fr. John in shaping and implementing a fresh pastoral plan for our parish.

Are you someone who feels inspired to help others come to faith? Do you envision a community that is welcoming, supportive, and full of life? Even if you're not heavily involved yet, Fr. John is looking for individuals with ideas and a heart for growth. Maybe you see something in the parish that is lacking or missing, and you would like to help. Maybe there is something that 'annoys' you and you would also like to do something about it.

If Fr. John's vision excites you and you'd like to lend your support, we invite you to take part in an initial training session before committing. To express interest, please place your name and contact details in an envelope in the box at the front of the church over the next few weeks. **The closing date for this will be January 14TH 2025.**

Fr. John would also like to extend his heartfelt thanks to the current and recent past members of the Pastoral Council for their dedicated service, wisdom, and support over the years. To borrow the phrase of Bishop Donal McKeown's pastoral letter in 2023 when he was apostolic administrator of our diocese: 'COME AND BE PART OF GOD'S DREAM.'

PARISHES OF SAUL & STRANGFORD: CHRISTMAS VIGIL MASSES

ST PATRICK'S, SAUL AT 5PM
ST MALACHY'S, KILCLIEF AT 7PM
ST JOSEPH'S, BALLYCRUTTLE AT 7PM
STELLA MARIS, STRANGFORD AT 9PM

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES
ST PATRICK'S, SAUL AT 9.30AM
ST MALACHY'S, KILCLIEF AT 11AM
ST TASSACH'S, CARLIN AT 12NOON

CONFESSIONS

ST PATRICK'S, SAUL – MONDAY 16TH AND TUESDAY 17TH AFTER 10AM MASS.
SATURDAY 20TH BEFORE 5PM MASS
STELLA MARIS – MONDAY 16TH AFTER 7.30PM MASS

PARISH OFFICES:

DOWNPATRICK – PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED FROM MONDAY 23RD DECEMBER, RE-OPENING TUESDAY 7TH JANUARY 2025.
SAUL & STRANGFORD: OFFICE CLOSSES AT 12 NOON ON FRIDAY 20TH DECEMBER, REOPENING MONDAY 6TH JANUARY AT 9.30AM

EMERGENCY CALLS:

DOWNPATRICK AREA – 07841101678 – STRICTLY FOR EMERGENCIES ONLY.
CALLS OUTSIDE OF DOWNPATRICK AREA – CONTACT YOUR PARISH OFFICE FOR INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO REACH YOUR PRIEST