



Downpatrick Family of Parishes

Parish of Downpatrick

Sunday 2nd March 2025



Your prayers are requested for

Recently Deceased: Colin Jones, Mary O'Reilly, Bill Heron

Month's Mind: Canon Noel Conway, Fr. Brendan - Smyth, Margaret Theresa Rafferty, Anthony Blaney,

Anniversaries: Liam Lynn, Oonagh Carson, Jean Peacock,

Weekly Collections:

Offertory £806, Loose Plate £846, Direct Debits £2010. Thank You for your generous contributions to the Parish.

Mass Intentions – St. Patrick's 7.30pm

Mon 3rd March:

Month's Mind: Canon Noel Conway
Anniv: James Perry, Gerard McAuley,

Wed 5th:

Month's Mind: Margaret Theresa Rafferty,
Month's Mind: Anthony Blaney,
Anniv: Cathal Brennan,

Fri 7th: **Month's Mind:** Fr. Brendan Smyth,
1st Anniv: Keith Thompson,
Anniv: Kathleen Thompson, Gerry Tracey,

Rev Henry Blair was installed as Vicar for LAMP (Lecale Area Mission Partnership) by Bishop David McClay in St. Margaret's church on Wednesday 26th February. Canon Murray was in attendance on behalf of the parish. Rev. Blair will be installed as Dean of the cathedral on Sunday 2nd March at 3:30pm. The Catholic community of Downpatrick welcome Rev. Blair and his wife Helen to our area and hope to continue the very amicable ecumenical relations which were fostered by his predecessor Reverend Henry Hull every blessing in his retirement.

go bear fruit. **WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE ABLE TO SPEAK WITH CONFIDENCE TO OTHERS ABOUT YOUR FAITH?**

DOES THE IDEA OF DOING THAT INTIMIDATE YOU A LITTLE?

sharing CHRIST

a seven-week mission that will train parishioners in our **Community of Parishes** to share Jesus Christ with others and invite them to be part of the Church.

The mission will run on six Tuesday nights in Lent (starting 4 March) with a retreat day on Sat 12 April.

Venue - Parochial House Downpatrick
Time: 7.15 pm
To register or for further information call Mary on 028 4461 2084

See your parish bulletin and social media platforms for further details

Responding in Lent *Called to be Pilgrims of Hope*

Confessions St Patrick's Church:

Mon 3rd March 6.45pm – 7.20pm

Friday 7th – 3pm -4pm

Saturday 8th – 12 Noon – 1pm

'Evening of Mercy': Monday 3rd March
6:45pm Confessions,
7:00pm Rosary,
7:30pm Mass, including the sacrament of the sick,
8:10pm After Mass there will be a quiet prayer before Benediction

Men's Group Apologies for the short notice of cancellation on Tuesday. A new date will be given in the coming weeks.

Ash Wednesday:
Masses / service will be as follows:
St. Patrick's 9:30am & 7:30pm
St. Colmcille's 10:00am (Service)
St. Brigid's 10:45am (Service)
Ashes will be distributed during Mass or service and will also be available during the day – in the sanctuary of St. Patrick's for self application.

Stations of the Cross: During Lent the stations will be celebrated each Friday at 7:00pm. Parishioners can join either in the church or online.

Trocaire boxes will be available in the churches from March 2nd. Please bring your Trocaire box to the church at the end of Lent – preferably Holy Thursday. There is no other way for the Trocaire box to be collected – especially doorstep visitors!

Confession: During this Holy year of Hope we are all encouraged to go to – return to – the sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) – times in the bulletin.

Mass Schedule March 2025

| Date | Church | Time |
|--|--|------------------------|
| Sat 1 st March | St. Patrick's | 5:30pm |
| Sun 2 nd | St. Patrick's St. Malachy's | 10:30am 10am |
| Sat 8 th | St. Patrick's St. Brigid's | 5:30pm 7pm |
| Sun 9 th | St. Patrick's St. Colmcille's | 10:30am 10am |
| Sat 15 th | St. Patrick's | 5:30pm |
| Sun 16 th | St. Patrick's St. Malachy's | 10:30am 10am |
| Mon 17 th Feast of St. Patrick | St. Patrick's St. Brigid's St. Colmcille's | 9:30am 10am 10am |
| Sat 22 nd | St. Patrick's St. Brigid's | 5:30pm 7pm |
| Sun 23 rd | St. Patrick's St. Colmcille's | 10:30am 10am |
| Sat 29 th | St. Patrick's | 5:30pm |
| Sun 30 th | St. Patrick's St. Malachy's | 10:30am 10am |
| Sat 29 th – 'Day for the Lord' (Part of the Holy year celebrations) Confessions during the day. Details later | | |

Pilgrimage to Slemish: The Family of Parishes have organised a Pilgrimage to Slemish on June 14th 2025. Leaving St. Patrick's Church Car Park at 9.30am and returning for approx 5.00pm Those who are comfortable and able to climb Slemish are invited to do so, however, those with Motability issues or who are not comfortable with the climb, are welcome to join us for the day - the cost for the bus is £5 per person payable via the Parish Office to secure your seat. Please bring a packed lunch and wear suitable clothing/footwear. Booking through Downpatrick Parish Office Tel 02844612084 - Monday - Thursday 9.15am - 2pm. Cost is payable on booking.

Jimmy's 10K Run – Road closures notice:

Please note that there will be road closures around St. Patrick's, St. Colmcille's and St. Brigid's church to facilitate the 10K run on Sunday 16th March between 10:15am and 12:30pm.

Visits to Sick & Housebound: This week, the priests, (including Fr. Henry) will visit their sick and housebound parishioners.

Fountain Foodbank acknowledge with thanks, receipt of £165 in donations via St. Patrick's, last weekend.

Volunteering opportunities

Parish choir: Do you want to become part of the parish choir? There is a choir practice that takes place every Wednesday evening at 8pm to 9pm in Patrick's Place, at the top right of St. Patrick's church car park. There are various opportunities, from singing to playing the organ. For more information contact Mary on 07989273414 or speak to Mary after any Sunday Mass at 11:30am (after 10:30am Mass).

Laptop Operator: Are you good at computers? You can become part of the laptop operator's team. The laptop program is run by ProPresenter 7. You can test it out on your own computer at home. Just visit <https://www.renewedvision.com/propresenter> and download the free trial. Or you can watch videos of ProPresenter 7. Just type in 'ProPresenter 7' on YouTube. If you want to become part of the team you can email the parish at downpatrick@downandconnor.org

Ways to Contact Us: There are several ways to contact us and keep up to date with Parish Events - We have a Facebook page - Downpatrick Parish, our website:

www.stpatricksdowndpatrick.org

Emergency Calls - contact 07841101678 or Fr Murray on 07778580595 (Please only ring in an emergency Email is

downpatrick@downandconnor.org

We also have a parish app (Parish 365).

Conclave: Behind the Scenes at Vatican II (Drumalis, Larne – Wednesday, 12 March from 7-9 pm) An evening with Brian McKee, Director at Drumalis, as he takes you into the politics behind the closed doors and the conversations in the coffee shops of Rome that eventually led to the Second Vatican Council. Tea/coffee/refreshments will be served. Voluntary donation. To book a place(s), please contact Drumalis during office hours (Mon-Fri, 9 am – 5 pm) – 028 28276455/28272196 or email drumalis@btconnect.com Further information also available on Drumalis website: <http://www.drumalis.co.uk>

The loss of a partner through death, separation or divorce is devastating. Beginning Experience is offering 'a weekend away for a lifetime of change' at Drumalis Conference and Retreat Centre, Larne, Friday 21st – Sunday 23rd March 2025. To find out more, contact Pauline 07519289185 or Marie 07896119669 or email belfastbe@yahoo.com