

Downpatrick Family of Parishes

Parish of Downpatrick

Sunday 2nd November 2025

Parish Priest: Fr. Eugene O'Neill P.P., V.F.,

Email: downpatrick@downandconnor.org

Your prayers are requested for:

Recently Deceased: Rosaleen Traynor, Dodi (Dolores) Rooney,

Month's Mind: Roisin Perry

Anniversaries: Edward McGrady, Mabel Denvir, Annie Coughlin, May Mount, Betsy Vance, James McCrissican, Bridget Murphy, Mary Jennings, John & Veronica Molloy, Seamus Smyth, James Laverty, Stephen Hanna,

Mass Intentions Weekday's – St. Patrick's 7:30pm

Mon 3rd Nov: Anniv: Michael McMullan, Pamela McDowell,

Sat 8th Nov, 5.30pm St Patrick's: Anniv Rosaleen Burns & Rita O Callaghan

Sunday 9th Nov 10.30am St Patrick's: 1st Anniv Peter Vaughan

The Annual Bereavement Mass will be celebrated at 7.30pm on Wednesday November 5th in St Patrick's. All Welcome.

ANNOUNCEMENT FROM FR. EUGENE:

Dear Friends,

I've now been in the parish for almost two months and it has been a lovely experience to be here in Downpatrick. To be in such a vibrant, historical parish so deeply connected with our Patron Saint has been a wonderful privilege. Unfortunately, due to my dad's sudden illness and death, I had to be away for a while - but I'm so grateful to all of you for your sympathy and prayers during that difficult time, as well as your warm welcome since I arrived.

However, it's amazing how quickly things can change unexpectedly. When I was appointed to the parish, the hope was that Fr. John, Liam and Maurice would assist. But due to illness and retirement - and the very sad incident with Fr John - that picture has now changed to the point where, for the moment, I will be the only full-time priest in the parish. Obviously, it's hard for one person to do everything, so I am really grateful to priests who have been helping me, as well as

to the many generous lay-people in the parish who undertake so much responsibility and do so much work.

Obviously, I want to provide the best level of cover that I can. However, it's difficult as the only priest, especially when we have so many funerals in the parish. The Bishop is aware of the situation and he's trying to find solutions to help us out. In the meantime, I think it's necessary to make some slight changes to the parish mass schedule.

In the coming days, I will consult with the Parish Council and take soundings from as many parishioners as possible and will hopefully be in a position to outline a draft re-scheduling of masses by next weekend. Even at that point, nothing will be written in stone, and we will keep a close eye on things and see how it all works out.

In the meantime, I'm grateful for your understanding, your help and especially your prayers and as I said on my first weekend here- I am fully committed to always trying to do my best for the parishioners of Downpatrick. Please keep Fr. John, Fr. Maurice, Fr. Liam and myself in your prayers. With my deepest gratitude, Fr. Eugene.

NOVEMBER DEAD: November is the month of the Holy Souls – a time when the faithful departed are remembered and prayed for with great intensity. This reminds us of our ongoing connection with those who have gone before us in this life. We are still one family – those on earth, those in heaven and those being purified and awaiting paradise.

Mass is said each day, in every parish throughout the world for the dead – particularly remembering all those names included on the November Remembrance Lists. These lists and the November envelopes are available at Church porches. They can be dropped in the designated area in St Patrick's or placed in the collection baskets.

“In Christ the hope of blessed dawned, that those saddened dying might be consoled by immortality to come.”



resurrection has by the certainty of the promise of

COFFEE
MORNING

RADIO MARIA

IRELAND



*Join us in St Patrick's Centre on November 16th for Coffee & Treats
In Aid of Radio Maria
11.30am - 2pm
All Welcome!*

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