



*Saint Nicholas'*

# Parish of Carrickfergus & Whitehead

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*Our Lady of Lourdes*

**2nd March 2025**

**Eighth Sunday of the Year Cycle C Week 4**

**Fr. Peter Owens PP,VF**  
Parochial House,  
8 Minorca Place,  
Mount St. Nicholas, Carrickfergus,  
Co. Antrim, BT38 8AU  
Tel: **028 9336 3269**

Parish Email:  
[carrickfergus@downandconnor.org](mailto:carrickfergus@downandconnor.org)  
Website: [www.carrickparish.org](http://www.carrickparish.org)

## Mass Times for Ash Wednesday 5th March

St Nicholas' Carrickfergus 10am  
Our Lady of Lourdes Whitehead 7pm

### **Teas in Whitehead**

Light refreshments will be available at the back of the church in Whitehead after 09.30 Mass **today**. Everyone is welcome.

The **Rosary** is held before Wednesday Masses at  
9.30am in Our Lady of Lourdes and 6.30pm in Mount Saint Nicholas.

The **Sacrament of Penance** is available on the first Wed of the month from  
6.00pm to 6.45pm in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel at Mount Saint Nicholas.

**Eucharistic Adoration** is available every Saturday between 11.00 and 12.00 noon  
in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel at Mount St. Nicholas.

### **Tuesday Mass**

The Tuesday morning Mass for March will take place in St. Nicholas'  
on Tuesday 11th March at 10.00 a.m.

**First Confession** Our Parish First Confession this year will be in St. Nicholas'  
church on Tuesday 4th March at 11:00 a.m. All family and friends are welcome.  
Please keep these young parishioners in your prayers on Tuesday.

### **Step forward as a Pilgrim of Hope this Lent.**

As we journey through the Jubilee Year, Pope Francis invites us to be Pilgrims of Hope – people who walk in faith, supporting one another and deepening our relationship with Christ. We invite you to join us for our new Lenten program, Pilgrim Hearts – Walking in the steps of Jesus this Lent, a 4-week Lenten journey inspired by the Sunday gospels and the lives of the Irish Saints who embraced faith in times of challenge. From St Patrick's prayers on the mountain to St Brigid's acts of compassion, their lives remind us that holiness is lived in simple, everyday choices. They were the great evangelisers of the Christian faith in Ireland. Evangelisation begins with an invitation. Who in your life might need this journey? Invite a friend, a family member, or someone who perhaps has been away from Church for a while. Your invitation could be the start of their pilgrimage of hope. Everyone is welcome. Details as follows: -

**Venue:** St. Nicholas' Church Carrickfergus

**Dates:** Wed. 19th March; Monday 24th March; Monday 31st March, Monday 7th April

**Time:** 7.30 p.m.

### **Annual World Day of Prayer**

will be hosted this year by the Church of Ireland, Islandmagee, on Friday 7th March at 8:00 p.m. The service for this year has been prepared by the Christian women in the Cook Islands. Everyone is welcome.

### **Day of Prayer for Victims and Survivors of Abuse - March 7th 2025**

Within Down and Connor to mark this important event mass will be celebrated on Fri 7th March in Saint Patrick's Church, Donegall Street, Belfast at 1:00pm to pray for and remember victims and survivors of abuse within our Church.  
At this mass the Candle of Atonement will be lit.

**Today's second collection is for the Monthly Stipend.**

## Bulletin Notices

to be submitted to the  
parish Email Address by  
**12 noon Wednesday**

### **Baptisms**

(one month's notice)

Whitehead - 1st Sun of the month

C'fergus - 2nd Sun of the month

### **Weddings**

(three month's notice)

By arrangement

### **Funerals**

By arrangement

## Requiescant in Pace



## Recently Deceased

Sarah Collins

### Month Mind

Bridget Brady

Eamon Newell

## Anniversaries

Terry Maginn

Tommy Maginn

Gerry McGivern

Bridget McGivern

Donard Haveron

John (Jackie) Nicholl

*Eternal rest grant unto them,  
O Lord, and let perpetual light shine  
upon them. May they rest in peace.  
Amen*

**Recharge** is a young adult group based in Down and Connor for those aged 18 to 35. The group meet twice monthly on the first and third Tuesday of each month to “recharge” the spiritual batteries through Adoration, intellectual formation and social gatherings. Meeting on Tues 4th and 18th March at 7.30pm in St Colmcille’s Church, Ballyhackamore.

**Anam Cara**, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, will hold its monthly Parent Support Evening on Mon 10th March at 7.30pm in the Crowne Plaza, Shaws Bridge, Belfast. This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or how recent their death was. You do not need to register in advance. To find out more call 02895213120 or email [info@anamcara.ie](mailto:info@anamcara.ie)

**LIFE-SKILLS TRAINING**

In response to concerns raised by several parishioners, the Parish Pastoral Council has decided to offer a series of presentations on some of the fundamental challenges of daily life and the corresponding life-skills. Topics that will be addressed include self-care, social justice, anger management, domestic abuse, financial management, assertiveness and coping with change. These presentations will be given by parishioners and professionals from elsewhere. The first presentation will be about self-care and will take place on Monday 10th March at 7.30pm at Mount St Nicholas. It is hoped that these presentations will occur regularly throughout the year. On Sunday 9th March, Fr Peter and Janet Barr-Crandles will speak at both Masses about what the PPC is hoping to achieve in offering this programme of life-skills training and extend an invitation to all parishioners to participate. All of us struggle with daily life in various ways at least some of the time. This new feature of our life together as a parish is intended by the PPC as a support and help in improving our quality of living and our own general well-being.

**Temperance Sunday** Pope Francis has invited us this Lent to “journey in hope together”. A short-term pledge is available via [www.pioneerassociation.org](http://www.pioneerassociation.org) for parishioners who wish to become a “pilgrim of hope” for people who are living under the shadow of addiction

**Don’t just give up sweets this Lent.** Come along to the Legion of Mary Bible Study, St. Paul’s Pastoral Centre, 125 Falls Road. Starting Tuesday 4 March at 7.30pm and continuing every Tuesday of Lent. Light refreshments provided.

**Inter-Church Service** Ash Wednesday, 5th March 2025, at 7.30pm, Inter-Church Service, St John’s Church, 444 Falls Road, All are welcome.

**“He has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor” Lk.4:18)**  
**DAY RETREAT Sat. 8th March** St Paul’s Parish Centre Fall Road 10.00am-4.00pm  
 Speaker Fr Darren Brennan. Contact Collette on 07791078453  
 Please bring a packed lunch, tea will be provided.

**‘Sing for Joy!’ - A Day of Music and Ministry**

Are you involved, or keen to become involved in Church Music in your Parish, School, University etc.? We invite you to join us for ‘Sing for Joy!’ - A Day of Music and Ministry. Sat 26th April at Lough Derg, Pettigo, Co. Donegal. Boat departs at 9:30am. There will be various inputs as well as time to pray, connect with others and explore this Sacred place. The day will conclude with the Celebration of the Eucharist at 5pm (open to the public). This day is open to young people aged 18-35 and is free to attend. Registration is essential via <https://bit.ly/SingforJoy> . Contact [info@knightsofstcolumbanusomagh.co.uk](mailto:info@knightsofstcolumbanusomagh.co.uk) / +447759496677.

**Fostering** There is a desperate shortage of foster carers across the UK. Visit <https://www.actionforchildren.org.uk/fostering/why-choose-us/faith-in-fostering/>

Month’s Mind Mass for Joan McNeice will take place on Sun 9th March 1130am

**Cemetery Sunday** in the parish will take place this year on **1st June** as follows: Islandmagee - immediately after 9.30am Mass in Whitehead; Mount St. Nicholas’ - immediately after 11.30am Mass in Carrickfergus; Victoria - 2.00 pm; Prospect - 3.00pm

**Lenten Envelopes now available**

**Parish shop.**  
 Open before and after Sunday Mass.



See [www.carrickparish.org/shop](http://www.carrickparish.org/shop) for more info.

**Beginning Experience**  
 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, Larne, Fri 21st – Sun 23rd March. To find out more, contact Pauline 07519289185 or Marie 07896119669 or email [belfastbe@yahoo.com](mailto:belfastbe@yahoo.com)

**St. Patrick’s Celebration Caelidh Sat 15th March**  
 Carrickfergus Golf Club  
**SOLD OUT** Now starting at 7.00 with The Barley Hill Folk providing entertainment. Irish Stew served at 8.00 pm. Dancing commencing at 8.30pm. Irish Themed raffle! Sincere thanks for the great support!

***This Coming Week***  
***3rd Mar - 9th Mar***  
**Tues**  
 St. Casimir  
**Wed**  
 Ash Wednesday  
**Thurs**  
 St. Colette  
**Fri**  
 St. Perpetua  
 St. Felicity  
**Sat**  
 St. John of God  
**Sun**  
 1st Sun. of Lent

**Readings for Sun 9th Mar**  
 Deuteronomy 26: 4-10  
 Romans 10:8-13  
 Luke 4: 1-13

Contact details for the Belfast 16 Family of Parishes			
Parish	Website	Priests	Telephone No.
Carrickfergus	<a href="http://www.carrickparish.org">www.carrickparish.org</a>	Very Rev. Peter Owens, PP VF	(028) 9336 3269
Glengormley	<a href="http://www.stmarysonthehill.online">www.stmarysonthehill.online</a>	Very Rev. Pat Sheehan PP Very Rev. Canon Aidan Kerr PE PM	(028) 9083 2979 (028) 9083 2488
Loughshore	<a href="http://www.loughshoreparishes.org">www.loughshoreparishes.org</a>	Very Rev. David Delargy PP	(028) 9037 0845