

Parish of Carrickfergus & Whitehead

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Saint Nicholas'

Our Lady of Lourdes

5th January 2024

2nd Sunday after the Nativity Cycle C Week 2

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

Website: www.carrickparish.org

Weekly Mass Times (** Streamed Masses - see parish website)
Holy Days : As announced.

St. Nicholas' Carrickfergus

Our Lady of Lourdes Whitehead

Sun 11.30am **

Sun 9.30am

Wed 7.00pm **

Wed 10.00am

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.

Epiphany of the Lord Monday 6th January

Mass at 10.00am in Whitehead

Mass at 7.00pm in Carrickfergus

Parish Cell Group Meetings

Tuesday, 7th Jan: There will be a Cell meeting in Carrick at 8.00 pm.

Contact: Margaret Webb: 07779729505 or Anne McFerran: 07809906792

Wednesday, 8th Jan: There will be a Cell meeting at 11.00 am in the committee room at
the back of Saint Nicholas' Church. Contact: Matt Monaghan: 07428247820 or Jim
Mullan: 07841428436 All are welcome. "Come and see."

Tuesday Mass

The Tuesday morning Mass for January will take place in St. Nicholas' on
Tuesday 14th January at 10.00 a.m.

Preparations for the Sacrament of Confirmation

Please note the following arrangements, which will all take place in St. Nicholas'
Church, as we prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation: -

Monday 13th January at 7.30 p.m. A meeting for parents and their children
being conferred with the Sacrament of Confirmation. Aisling Steen from the Pathways
to the Future team will be our guest speaker and Orla Corey will be the parent speaker.
Light refreshments will be provided.

Tuesday 21st January at 6.00 p.m. The Service of Light and Commitment will take
place. All parents and their children who will be conferred with the Sacrament of
Confirmation are invited to attend this service.

Wednesday 29th January at 11.00 a.m. The Sacrament of Confirmation will be
celebrated by our new Bishop, Alan McGuckian. Everyone is invited to attend this
special occasion in the lives of our parish children.

The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the
blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom. May your grace transform us into tireless
cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both
humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally. May the grace
of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven.
May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth.
To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen

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



Anniversaries

Barry Maxwell

Edward Maxwell

James Muir

Evelyn Brooks

Una Ryan (nee Kemp)

Bridie Rehme (nee Kemp)

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

Amen

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

Pilgrims of Hope, Jubilee Year 2025 Bishop Alan McGuckian, SJ Diocese of Down and Connor

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Peace! As we stand on the threshold of 2025, we begin a special Jubilee Year in our Church. Pope Francis has called this Jubilee Year ‘Pilgrims of Hope’. It’s an invitation to renew our hope, a hope which comes from knowing that God loves each one of us, whoever we are. My deepest prayer is that this year will draw us all closer to the Heart of Jesus, where we find the source of true peace and transformation. The dawn of this New Year brings with it not just the usual promise of fresh beginnings, but the extraordinary grace of a Jubilee – a time when we are called to renew our relationship with God and with one another in profound ways.

As we enter this Jubilee Year, I invite each of you to hear afresh the commandments of Jesus; ‘to love the Lord your God with all your heart and soul and strength’ and ‘to love your neighbour as yourself.’ We can make 2025 a year when people notice something different about us – not for our own glory, but for the glory of God. Imagine our parishes and wider communities transformed by the profound practice of Christian love. When we truly love God with our whole being, and genuinely love our neighbours as ourselves, we become catalysts for the renewal of our world.

Renewal in Prayer Renewal begins with our own journey toward holiness. Let me propose a regular spiritual practice:

Daily Prayer: Creating space each day to rest in the Heart of Jesus. There are many reasons and ways to pray, but at the root of prayer is always the desire to be open to God's presence and His offer of love. The daily prayer to the Sacred Heart of Jesus recommended by Blessed John Sullivan is one I encourage you to adopt for this Jubilee Year which is also the 350th anniversary of the apparitions of the Sacred Heart to St Margaret Mary in Paray-le-Monial.

Weekly Mass: Gathering as a community to be nourished by Word and Sacrament. Sunday Mass is the greatest single expression of our communion with Christ and his Mission in the world.

Monthly Confession: Experiencing God's mercy and beginning anew. To make a choice of regular Confession will be a great boost to our spiritual lives.

A pilgrimage. I encourage you to make a Pilgrimage of Hope with others from the Diocese. Whether joining our Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes or Knock, visiting the Lourdes Grotto in Moneyglass or St. Mary's Chapel Lane, participating in Saul Sunday, or making a thoughtful visit to St. Peter's our Diocesan Cathedral.

Renewal in Action

The Heart of Jesus has a special love for the poor, and so must we. This means not only contributing financially but also giving of our time and ourselves and simply being present to those who are lonely or struggling.

Love, flowing from our closeness to the Heart of Jesus, becomes a beacon of hope in our world. Here in our Diocese of Down and Connor, we have a unique opportunity to make this Jubilee Year truly memorable. Let us support one another on this journey, remembering that every small act of love brings us closer to the Heart of Jesus and closer to one another.

We will find in His Heart the strength, courage, and grace to love as He loves, to serve as He serves, and to bring hope where it is needed most. With every blessing for the Jubilee Year,

I gCroí Íosa, Bishop Alan McGuckian SJ

(Read the full letter from Bishop McGuckian on the Parish Website)

<p>Floral Donations</p> <p>We would like to thank all those who contributed so generously with donations towards the Christmas Flowers.</p> <p><i>Anne Quinn in St. Nicholas' and Margaret O'Neill in Our Lady of Lourdes.</i></p>	<p>Anam Cara</p> <p>supporting parents after bereavement, are hosting their first Online Bereavement Information Evening of 2025 on Tuesday 7th of January 2025. This online talk is for bereaved parents only.</p> <p>Date: Tuesday 7th of January 2025 Time: 7pm - 8:30pm Guest Speaker: Niamh Finucane Anam Cara Parental Bereavement Support Tel: 028 952 13120 www.anamcara.ie / info@anamcara.ie</p>	<p><i>This Coming Week</i> <i>6th Jan - 12th Jan</i></p> <p>Mon Epiphany</p> <p>Tues St. Raymond of Penyfort</p> <p>Fri St. William</p> <p>Sun Baptism of the Lord</p>
<p>The Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes is seeking Doctors, Nurses and Adult Volunteer helpers for the 40th Diocesan Pilgrimage in 2025.</p> <p>The pilgrimage is from 10-15 July and volunteers receive a subsidised fare. For more information or to register your interest, please visit www.downandconnor.org/lourdes or email lourdes@downandconnor.org</p>	<p>Forthcoming Event</p> <p>“St. Patrick’s Celebration - Carrickfergus Golf Club - Saturday March 15th 2025 - 8 til late - McStocker Ceili Band - £5pp”</p>	<p>Readings for Sun 12th Jan Isaiah 42: 1-4, 6-7 Acts 10: 34-38 Luke 3: 15-16, 21-22</p>

Contact details for the Belfast 16 Family of Parishes

Parish	Website	Priests	Telephone No.
Carrickfergus	www.carrickparish.org	Very Rev. Peter Owens, PP VF	(028) 9336 3269
Glengormley	www.stmarysonthehill.online	Very Rev. Pat Sheehan PP Very Rev. Canon Aidan Kerr PE PM	(028) 9083 2979 (028) 9083 2488
Loughshore	www.loughshoreparishes.org	Very Rev. David Delargy PP	(028) 9037 0845