

Parish of Carrickfergus & Whitehead

Follow us on-line at
www.carrickparish.org

Saint Nicholas'

Our Lady of Lourdes

22nd December 2024

4th Sunday in Advent

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

Website: www.carrickparish.org

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

Roisin McMahon

Con O'Donnell

Christina McCoy (nee McConnell)

John Foley

Mary Mulvenna

Sara Booth

Robert McAuley

Patrick Armstrong

Thomas Mullan

James Daly

Hugh Daly

Sarah McVeigh

Bridie Murray

Margaret McGonigle

Simon Mellon (1st)

Eternal rest grant unto them,

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

Amen

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

Christmas Message from Bishop Alan McGuckian SJ

As we celebrate the joy of Christmas, I send heartfelt greetings to all the faithful of our diocese, embracing the hope that Christ brings into our world. In this Jubilee Year of Hope, may the tender love of God shown by the birth of Jesus guide us, inspiring renewal and deepening our faith. I extend my deep gratitude to the clergy and our dedicated parish volunteers whose selfless service brings the warmth of God's love to life in our community.

May God's abundant blessing be with you and your loved ones this Christmas and throughout the coming year.



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

**A Happy Christmas and Peaceful New Year
to all our Parishioners .**

The next bulletin will be on Sun 5th January 2025



Masses for Christmas and the New Year

Christmas Eve

Tuesday 24th December
Vigil Mass at 5.00pm in Whitehead
Vigil Mass at 7.00pm in Carrickfergus

Christmas Day

Wednesday 25th December
Mass at 9.30am in Whitehead
Mass at 11.00am in Carrickfergus

Thursday 26th to Saturday 28th December - No Masses except funerals

Sunday 29th December

Mass at 9.30am in Whitehead
Mass at 11.30am in Carrickfergus

Monday 30th December to Saturday 4th January - No Masses except funerals

Sunday 5th January

Mass at 9.30am in Whitehead
Mass at 11.30am in Carrickfergus

Epiphany of the Lord

Monday 6th January

Mass at 10.00am in Whitehead
Mass at 7.00pm in Carrickfergus
NORMAL SCHEDULE RESUMES THEREAFTER



Christmas Flowers - Carrickfergus and Whitehead

If you would like to donate towards flowers for Christmas in our churches, please see Anne Quinn in Carrickfergus or Margaret O'Neill in Whitehead. Alternatively, leave your offering in the boxes provided in the church porches. Thank you.



Trocaire Gifts of Change

Bring real hope and opportunity to at risk families and communities around the world with a Trocaire Gift of Change. There's a gift for everyone. For further information please contact Patrick Quinn, in the Parish Shop, or check the Trocaire noticeboard in the porch.



"Follow the Star"

Christmas cards, gifts, candles, nativity decorations and children's books & cribs available from our parish shop.



The Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes is seeking Doctors, Nurses and Adult Volunteer helpers for the 40th Diocesan Pilgrimage in 2025.

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

This Coming Weeks

23rd Dec - 29th Dec

Wed

Nativity of the Lord

Thurs

St. Stephen

Fri

St. John

Sat

The Holy Innocents

Sun

Holy Family



30th Dec - 5th Jan

Wed

Mary, Mother of God

Fri

The Holy Name of Jesus

Sat

St. Elizabeth

Sun

2nd Sun after Nativity



Thanks

Thanks to everyone for their support last Sunday and to everyone who contributed so generously. It was a very successful Parish Community Day. Next event is the St. Patrick's Day Celebration on 15th March. More details next year.

The Christmas Offerings will be collected at the Christmas Eve/Day Masses.

Give blood in Carrickfergus on Thursday 2nd January, you could save 3 lives. Book now for your local community blood donation session! Town Hall Carrickfergus Thurs 2nd & Fri 3rd Jan 12:30 to 19:30 Book your appointment by the web link - <https://bit.ly/GiveBloodNI>

Readings for Sun 29th Dec

Sirach 3: 2-6, 12-14

Colossians 3: 12-21

Luke 2: 41-52

Readings for Sun 5th Jan

Sirach 24: 1-4, 8-12

Ephesians 1: 3-6, 15-18

John 1: 1-18



Parish Bethany Bereavement Group are here to support you through your grief, if you would like to speak to someone a member of the Group can be contacted on the Confidential mobile **07598825187**

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