



ST. PATRICK'S, BALLYPHILIP

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

7th MARCH 2021

Fr Feargal McGrady PP Tel: 028 427 28234 Web: www.portaferryparish.com
Email: portaferry@downandconnor.org
Parish Office: 028 427 28373, Monday – Friday 9.00am – 1.00pm

St. Vincent de Paul Helpline 07508549701 Leave a message or Text

This Weeks Diary:

Monday 8th March: St John of God, Religious. St Senan, Bishop
Tuesday 9th March: St Frances of Rome, Religious
Thursday 11th March: St Aengus, Bishop & Abbot

Our prayers are requested for the following whose anniversaries occur around this time:

Rosina McGrattan, Marie Thompson, Elizabeth Baller, Elizabeth Rogers, Val Dynes,
Mary Gilmore, John Joe O'Reilly, Maryanne Magee, Elizabeth Lennon, Thomas Smyth,
Marian Fealey, Tommy Curran, Charles Mageean, Adrian McGrattan, Catherine Donaldson,
Nancy Donaldson, Jack Palmer, Leo Byers, James & Sarah Moreland, Colum Magee.

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace, Amen.

MASS TIMES St Patrick's Church, Portaferry via Webcam @ www.churchmedia.tv

Sunday: 11.00am Mass
Monday: 7.00pm, Rosary, 7.30pm Novena Mass
Tuesday 9.00am, Rosary, 9.30am Mass (Ballygalget Webcam)
7.00pm Lenten Mission (Ballyphilip Webcam)
Wednesday: 7.00pm Rosary, 7.30pm Mass
Thursday: 9.00am Rosary, 9.30am Mass
Friday: 9.00am Rosary, 9.30am Mass
10.00am Divine Mercy Chaplet
Saturday: 9.30am Mass, 10.00am Rosary
6.30pm Vigil Mass

"WALKING WITH JESUS ALONG THE VIA DOLOROSA"

**A Short Liturgy programme for Lent,
Live streamed each Tuesday evening in Lent at 7.00pm.**

Tuesday 9th March, St Patrick's Portaferry Webcam
Tuesday 23rd March, St Patrick's Ballygalget Webcam
Tuesday 30th March, Penitential Service for both parishes live streamed
from St Patrick's Portaferry

Churches will remain open for Private Prayer Only, All Masses will be live streamed and can be viewed from www.churchmedia.tv

Eucharistic Adoration will continue on Fridays 11am – 6pm in St Cooley's Oratory.



2021 Trocaire Family Lenten Appeal

Trocaire boxes are available in the Church porches.

Weekly collection envelopes are due to be distributed in the next few weeks. If you are not registered and would like a box, please contact the Parish Office. We are including a letter from the Parish Finance Committee and a form giving you the option of paying your contributions by Standing Order.

Standing Order forms will be available from the Church Porches.

Parish collection envelopes can be left through the letter box at the Parish Office 15, Church Street, or the Parochial House, Windmill Hill. Thank you so much for your wonderful support in these difficult times, deeply appreciated.

If you would like to contribute via Standing Order, please contact the Parish Office Tel 028 427 28373, Mon – Fri 9am – 1pm

Diocesan Directories A few are still available from Parish Office, Price £4. Includes updated list of Priests, City & Country Parishes, Church Services, Diocesan Bodies, Religious Orders & Pastoral Organisations, Schools & Colleges, Index of deceased bishops and priests 1960 – 2019.

Anniversary Masses can be booked through the parish office. If you want an anniversary mentioned at Mass please ring the office or send the name via email:

portaferry@downandconnor.org

DIOCESAN VOCATION WEEKEND

Have you ever considered the possibility that God is calling you to the priesthood? If so, take this opportunity to gather online with other men who are discerning their vocation. This virtual retreat will create the time and space to help you discern God's calling in your life.

The retreat will take place from the evening of Friday 19th – Saturday 20th March 2021. If you wish to register your interest in joining this retreat or would like further information contact: Fr. Kevin McGuckien - Tel: 02890614567 or email: vocations@downandconnor.org

Pause for Prayer

Dear Friends

I hope this finds you well and you are coping with the continuing pressures and difficulties brought about by the current pandemic. On a positive note, an opportunity that has opened up for many of us is that we have more time to reflect on what and who is important in our lives. Let us use this time to focus more on our relationship with God and allow Him to sustain us in our present trials.

Every week during Lent we are going to choose a short piece of scripture for you to meditate on and allow to touch your heart.

1. Make a quiet sacred space in your home. Have a holy picture / image / statue as a focus and maybe light a candle.
2. Before beginning take a few moments to pause and set aside distractions / concerns.
3. Take the time to remember you are in the presence of a loving God who is interested in every single detail of your life.
4. Begin by thanking God for His presence and for a blessing [could be something as simple as the sunshine]
5. Read the scripture quote slowly [maybe several times] and allow it to penetrate your innermost being. Stay with it for 2/3 minutes.
6. Finish with “ Glory be to the Father.....”

Words of scripture.

Psalm 46 1-3

God is our refuge and strength,
a very present^[a] help in trouble.

² Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;

³ though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

1 Chronicles 16:11

Seek the LORD and his strength,
seek his presence continually.

Psalm 62 5-6

For God alone my soul waits in silence,
for my hope is from him.

⁶ He alone is my rock and my salvation,
my fortress; I shall not be shaken.

Romans 15:13

³ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Psalm 16:8

I keep the LORD always before me;
because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.

Jeremiah 29: 11-13

¹ For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. ¹² Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. ¹³ When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart.

LENTEN PIONEER PLEDGE

Many people choose to abstain from alcohol during Lent. Why not take this opportunity to perhaps help yourself or someone you know with an alcohol or drug problem by offering your sacrifice for freedom from addiction? Please consider taking the short- term Lenten Pledge and make a difference to someone's life and say the following daily prayer.

PRAYER: " I promise in honour of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and with the help of the Blessed Virgin Mary to abstain from all alcoholic drink during Lent."

Suggestions for watching Mass via Webcam

- Dress as you would for Mass.
- Have your technology ready and be on time.
- Turn off any technology that might distract you during Mass.
- If possible, join in the Mass as a family and have a member light a candle before Mass begins, perhaps beside a cross or another sacred image.
- Share in the responses, prayers and gestures of the Mass.
- Stand for the Gospel and Our Father; kneel as appropriate if you can.
- Join in the singing.
- At the time of Holy Communion, make an act of spiritual communion.
- And finally, when Mass is ended go in peace from this prayer to live what you have prayed.

In these darkest of days, our keeping of Sunday can give us exactly the light, sustenance and grace we need to carry us through the rest of our week. Sunday is God's gift to us. It's up to us to do the unwrapping.

Prayer to Saint Joseph

Blessed Joseph, husband of Mary, be with us this day.

You protected and cherished the Virgin;

loving the Child Jesus as your Son,

you rescued him from danger of death.

Defend the Church, the household of God,
purchased by the blood of Christ.

Guardian of the holy family,
be with us in our trials.

May your prayers obtain for us

the strength to flee from error

and wrestle with the powers of corruption

so that in life we may grow in holiness

and in death rejoice in the crown of victory. Amen

SEND YOUR HOLY ANGEL TO MASS

O Holy Angel at my side, go to the church for me, kneel in my place at Holy Mass where I desire to be. At Offertory in my stead, take all I am and own, and place it as a sacrifice upon the Altar throne. At Holy consecration's bell, Adore with Seraph's love, My Jesus hidden in the host, come down from Heaven above. Then pray for those I dearly love and those who cause me grief, that Jesus's blood may cleanse all hearts and suffering souls relieve. And when the priest communion takes, oh bring my Lord to me, that his sweet heart may rest on mine and I his temple be. Pray that this Sacrifice Divine, may mankind's sin efface Then bring me Jesus's blessing home the pledge of every grace.

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my Soul.

Since I cannot at the moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen

Living Youth are hosting weekly Lenten Challenges for young people aged 11-18 and their families. We will be exploring different themes throughout Lent and will have a host of engaging activities to get involved with. www.livingyouth.co.uk/lent-2021 for more information and to register

GETTING MARRIED THIS YEAR? ACCORD CLG SERVICES DURING COVID-19

Marriage Preparation Programmes During this health emergency, an interactive marriage preparation programme will be delivered via video link by trained Accord facilitators to couples preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage. The final module requires the couple to meet in person with the priest or deacon from the parish of the Bride.

<https://www.courses.accord.ie/booking/listing/all> Couples preparing for marriage are advised to contact Accord/Book online as soon as possible as many of these courses are already booked up. Since they are delivered online you are not restricted to booking in one particular geographical area.

Pilot Scheme relating to Online Ministry with Children and Young People

The Diocese are undertaking a Pilot Scheme in relation to online ministry with children and young people. Whilst this is an exciting opportunity for children and young people there are Safeguarding challenges that need to be considered and managed.

At this stage only parishes participating in the Pilot Scheme can undertake online ministry with children and young people.

A review of the Pilot Scheme will be undertaken.