DOWNPATRICK PASTORAL AREA PARISH OF DOWNPATRICK Sunday 18th February 2018

Emergency Mobile: 07841101678
Parish Office:

Tel: 02844612084

PARISH MASS TIMES: St. Patrick's:

Sat: 10am, 5.30pm (Vigil) Sun: 9am, 12 Noon, Mon- Fri: Daily Mass at 9.30am Mon, Wed & Fri, 7.30pm

St. Colmcille's:

Saturday 8pm (vigil) (75 Mins) Sunday 11am 7:30pm (Thursday's at Lent)

St. Malachy's: Sunday 10am

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St.Brigid's

Saturday 7pm (Vigil) 7:30pm (Tuesday's at Lent)

Confessions:

St. Patrick's, Saturdays 12:00pm to 1:00pm & 4.45pm -5.20pm

Telephone Numbers:

Fr. J. Murray : 44612443 Fr. M. Henry : 44616224 Fr. L Toland: 44613430 Saint Vincent de Paul: 44616557

Parish Office:

Open Mon - Thurs 9.30am – 2:45pm Priest on Duty: Mon & Tues 6.15pm – 7.15pm Tel: 44612084 St. Michael's Parish Centre: 07518436591 Hospital Switchboard 02844613311

Weekly Collection:

Offertory £1965 Loose Plate £675
Weekly Average of Standing Orders
£190

Bethany Bereavement Group: Is a Parish based voluntary ministry

Is a Parish based voluntary ministry which aims to support the bereaved and those suffering loss of any kind. Many of the group have themselves been bereaved; they are trained to listen with compassion and understanding. A Bethany group member is available by calling 07407172174

Requests for Baptism/Confirmation/Marriage Certificates:

In line with new Diocesan Policy on Data protection, all requests for Certificates MUST be made in writing to the Parish Office. A request form is available to download at parishofdownpatrick.org. We can no longer accept email or telephone enquiries.

Your Prayers Are Requested For:

Recently Deceased: Helena Fitzsimons, Gerard McMullan, Christopher Dobbin, **Month's Mind:** Oliver McNulty,

Anniv: Fr. Charles Bready, Fr. Donal Kelly, Fr. Eugene Arthurs, Fr. Patrick McGarry, Sr. Bridid Fitzsimons, Michael Fitzsimons, Mary & Paddy McKee, Kathleen Rooney, Mary Crane, Veronica Stockdale, Sydney Vaughan, Eileen McVeigh, Sean McShane,

May They Rest In Peace

Baptisms: We welcome Elise Hull, Noel Blaney, Charlie Woodside & Joshua Murphy into our Parish. **Please note:** Four week's notice required for Baptism. An information sheet is available in the porch of St. Patrick's Church. This sheet should be filled in and brought to the Parish Office, Mon – Thurs 9.30am – 2.15pm or Mon & Tues Evenings 6.15pm – 7.15pm.

Mass Intentions:

St. Patrick's, Mon, 19th Feb, 7.30pm: Sarah Smith, Hugh Smith, Billy Burns St. Patrick's, Wed, 21st Feb, 7:30pm: James Hampton Jnr & Deceased relatives Rosena & Peter Johnston.

St. Patrick's Fri, 23rd Feb, 7:30pm: Hugh McKee, Hugh Finn, Patrick McQuoid, Kathleen Reid, Jim Rice, Danny Gilmore, Marie Breen,

St. Patrick's, Sat, 24th Feb, 5:30pm: 1st Anniversary: Henry Russell,

The Evening Of Mercy: Continues this Monday Evening 19th February 2018 in

St. Patrick's Church 6.30pm – 8:45pm. 6.30pm: Rosary, 7.30pm: Mass,

8.15pm: Rosary & Benediction,

Join us for all of the evening or part of it. Everyone Welcome!

Lent Masses:

During lent we encourage parishioners to attend daily Mass at 9:30am or 7:30pm or at least to try to attend The 'Evening Of Mercy' Mass in St. Patrick's. In addition to the usual Wednesday schedule of masses there will be Two extra evening masses:

Tuesday's: 7:30pm – St Brigid's Thursday's: 7:30pm – St. Colmcilles

Pope Francis has asked in particular that the faithful of the world should Fast and do penance on Friday 23rd February in solidarity with the suffering peoples of South Sudan and Cango. Trócaire boxes – to help us in our fasting – are available at all the churches.

Lent Reflection / Prayers Every Wednesday of Lent after 9:30am Mass in St. Patrick's church, followed by discussions and refreshments in Crypt.

Talks on prayer: The fourth session of 'Lord, Teach Us To Pray' will take place on **Tuesday 20th February at 7:30pm** in St. Patrick's Church. This session – led by Fr. Murray – will be on the 'Pater Noster – using its letters to help us pray.' **All Welcome** – even if you missed other sessions.

OLSP – First Confession: Our Lady & St. Patrick Irish Unit will be celebrating their First Confession at St. Brigid's Church on Monday 26th February at 1:30pm.

St. Joseph's Young Priests Society: Meeting in St. Michaels Parish Centre on Wednesday 21st February at 8pm. New members always welcome.

WMOF Collection: There will be a World Meeting of Families Collection Next Weekend 24th / 25th February.

Find Us: On Facebook 'Downpatrick Parish' or visit www.parishofdownpatrick.com email downpatrick@downandconnor.org

Downpatrick Parish Draw: The next draw will take place **on Thursday 29th March 2018, at 7pm** in the Parochial House. Promoters' returns **should be in by 7pm, Sunday 14th January 2018.**

RGU Lotto: Winning Numbers were 1, 21, 22, 25. No Jackpot Winner. One Lucky person Matched 3 Numbers. Jackpot now £2,100.

Renewal of Marriage vows: As part of our parish celebration of the World Meeting of Families (Dublin August 2018) couples will be invited to renew their wedding vows at the Sunday masses on February 24th/25th (2nd Sunday of Lent). Please note this change from the original date: ALL COUPLES at the Mass they normally attend. The priest saying that Mass will lead the couples in their renewal of vows. Texts will be provided.(from 1 year married to 70!) are invited on that occasion to renew their wedding vows at the Mass. If you would like a certificate to honour the occasion please let the Parish know. Just ring up (44-612084) and give your names and year of your wedding as well as the church in which you were married.

SPRED: Means 'Special Religious Education' We have started a group recently in the parish to involve our young adults with learning difficulties in a fun-filled and energising way of learning about their faith. If you would like to be a part of this and have one hour a week to spare – please contact the parish office at **02844612084**.

Beginning Experience Weekend Away: 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, Friday 2nd to Sunday 4th March 2018. To find out more, contact Phil on 02890 207645 or Marie on 07896119669 or Email: bebelfast@hotmail.com. Support group continues Wednesday evenings at 8pm in St. Bride's Hall, Derryvolgie Ave, Belfast

Exposition: Due to the generally inclement weather at this time of year the Friday and Saturday Exposition will take place in the small chapel at the stream street side of the church at least until the end of February.

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. Register your pledge with local Pioneers and say the 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 until the end of Lent."

Lourdes Pilgrimage: The 'Downpatrick Nurses' will be celebrating their 44th Annual pilgrimage to Lourdes. They will be staying at the Hotel Agena with full board accommodation. Travel Insurance, airport taxes, Lourdes City Tax and transport to Belfast International airport are included. Travelling from date 26th June to 1st July. For further Information contact Eddie after 7pm on 07834325885.

8th Amendment Rally:

A bus to go to Dublin, to attend the 8th Amendment Rally will leave St. Patrick's Church car park on March 10th at 9:30am. See Posters in Church for further details.

Joy Of The Gospel: The name of the Pastoral letter of Pope Francis of 2013.

Have you ever wanted to be able to share your faith with someone else but get tongue-tied or didn't know what to say? Would you love to be able to share your faith with your family or friends? 'Joy of The Gospel' is a one day course on 'learning how to share your faith.' It will take place on Saturday 10th March in the crypt at St. Patrick's from 9:30am – 4:30pm. All welcome. No need to book – just show up – bring a packed lunch. See you there.

World Meeting of Families Dublin, August 2018 Below are the ticket options – if you wish to travel to the final Mass on Sunday 26th August, you must purchase at the very minimum a one day congress pass which costs £38 – this guarantees a ticket to the Mass on Sunday 26th. If you wish to travel as part of the Parish of Downpatrick Group, you must reserve your place with full payment £38 (Ticket) + £12 (Bus) as soon as possible at the Parish Office. We have two buses travelling to the final Mass. Seats will be allocated on receipt of full payment made through the Parish Office.

Set Top Boxes: Some parishioners who ordered and received a set top box (Kodi or Roku) may not be receiving the church webcam now. This is a technical issue – beyond the control of the parish. We are informed that the authorities who deal with the copyright issues are 'freezing' these boxes out apparently because people in Britain and elsewhere were illegally downloading films – to give one example.

MCN Media who provide our webcam streaming also have a box which is specifically geared to receive the church stream. MCN are offering it to the parish for £80 – at a reduced price – if we get enough orders. If you are interested, ring the Parish office – No money needed yet – just place an order. Once we have enough orders we will contact you.

Third World: Downpatrick Third World would like to express their sincere gratitude to all the parishioners for their very kind donations in support of their St. Brigid's crosses. They very much appreciate your contribution. The Total amount raised was £1,372.

St. Patrick's Coral Society: St. Patrick's Choral Society proudly present 'Calamity Jane' from Wednesday 21st to Saturday 24th February in The Great Hall, Downshire Estate, Downpatrick. Tickets are on sale now and available to purchase from Downpatrick Tourist Information Centre (The St. Patricks Centre) or by calling 02844 612233.

Lent in Tobar Mhuire: You are warmly invited to a Talk Back evening in Tobar Mhuire on Wednesday 7th March at 7.30pm to explore signs of hope and challenges facing the church and our community today. The panel includes Fr. Brian D'Arcy and Gary Donegan from the Passionist community, along with Alan McBride (CEO – Inspire) and Rev Caroline McAfee (former chaplain NI Hospice). Voluntary donation. Join the Passionist community for Taize style Prayer Around the Cross each Friday night during Lent, beginning at 7.30pm. All welcome. For further information visit: www.tobarmhuirecrossgar.com