

**DOWNPATRICK PASTORAL AREA  
PARISH OF DOWNPATRICK  
Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> March 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

**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 £2155 Loose Plate £696  
Weekly Average of Standing Orders  
£190

**Bethany Bereavement Group:**

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:** Marguerite Murray (Drumaness), Mary Leavy  
**Months Mind:** Maureen McKenna, Matthew Fleming, Gerry McMullan  
**Anniv:** Fr. Sean O'Neill, Archdeacon Daniel Murphy, Fr. James Dean, Fr. Patrick J O'Hare, Fr. Patrick McCrea, Sr. Mary Agnes, Sr. Margaret, Sr. Mary Perpetua, Marie Tumelty, Elizabeth & Gerard McComb, Rita Quinn (Ballynoe), Bernard Lennon, Colin McSheffrey, Oonagh Carson, James Galbraith, Charles Canavan, Iain Mackenzie, Ignatius McKeown

*May They Rest In Peace*

**Baptisms: 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, 12<sup>th</sup> March, 7:30pm:** Margaret Deegan  
**St. Patrick's, Wed, 14<sup>th</sup> March, 7:30pm:** Billy Murphy, Paddy Davey, Belle Magee, Charles Canavan  
**St. Patrick's Fri, 16<sup>th</sup> March, 7:30pm:** **Month's Mind:** Paddy Gracey  
**1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary** Austin Keating Jnr, **Anniv:** Walter Keating Snr,  
**St. Colmcilles, Sun, 18<sup>th</sup> March, 11am:** **Month's Mind:** Christopher Dobbin  
**St. Patrick's, Sun, 18<sup>th</sup> March, 12pm:** **1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary:** Pat Oakes

**The Evening Of Mercy:** Continues this Monday Evening 5<sup>th</sup> March 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 in solidarity with the suffering peoples of South Sudan and Congo. Trócaire boxes – to help us in our fasting – are available at all the churches.

**St. Patrick's Day Mass Times:**

**St. Patrick's – 7:30pm Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March (Vigil Mass)**

**St. Malachy's – 7:30pm Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March (Vigil Mass)**

**St. Patrick's – 10am Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> (Mass in Irish)**

**St. Brigid's – 9:30am Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> March**

**St. Colmcille's – 11am Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> March**

**Sunday vigil masses will be held at the same time on Sat.. Evening.**

**Shamrock Sale:** There will be a Shamrock sale outside all churches This weekend on 10<sup>th</sup> / 11<sup>th</sup> March. Shamrocks will cost £1 per pot. Proceeds are in aid of the Evangelisation.

**Eucharistic Ministers:** A New rota for the next few months will be available to pick up this weekend at St. Patrick's Sacristy.

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

**Lecale Gaelic Society Annual Collection:** There will be a collection outside all churches on Friday evening and Saturday morning 16<sup>th</sup> / 17<sup>th</sup> March.

**ALPS: SAINTS AND SCHOLARS CONCERT – Down Cathedral Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> March at 8pm.** A one off specially produced production to celebrate the bicentenary of Down Cathedral Downpatrick, the final resting place of our patron saint whilst marking St. Patrick's Day. The event has been produced by Peter Corry and PC Productions and promises to be a spectacular celebration of heritage, culture and St. Patrick through music, song poetry and dance. Hosted by Gerry Kelly with confirmed artists Malachy Cush, Plunkett McGartland, Brigid Shine, Ards CCE and Matthew Campbell this promises to entertain all in attendance. Tickets are priced at £15 and are available now via Down Cathedral, Downpatrick Tourist Office, contacting Ronan Gilchrist on 07801481013 or by visiting the website Eventbrite. Everyone Welcome.

**Downpatrick Parish Draw:** The New draw will take place on **Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2018, at 7pm** in the Parochial House. Promoters' returns **should be in by 7pm, Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2018.** Tickets are available from promoters or at the Parish Office.

**RGU Lotto:** Winning Numbers were 9, 14, 19, 20. No Jackpot Winner. Seven people shared £100. Jackpot now £2400.

**Killough Road:** Many will know there is a problem with people dumping used flowers and other items at the inner wall. The Parish is already spending £5300 a year in providing skips,( please note the amended amount – we forgot to include grass cutting last week!) cutting the grass and cleaning the pathways. If you are unable to leave waste in the skips can we ask you to take it home and put it into your brown bin. Thank you.

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

**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.' **Please note that this 'Day' will Now take place on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March from 9:30am – 4:30pm.** So as it's not to clash with the buses and Rally on 10<sup>th</sup> March in Dublin. **All Welcome.** Please bring a pack lunch and £3 to cover expenses.

**World Meeting of Families Dublin, August 2018** Below are the ticket options – if you wish to travel to the final Mass on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> 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 26<sup>th</sup>. **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.

**Motherhood: All love begins and ends there” - Robert Browning.** This Mothering Sunday we pray for mothers across the developing world who strive to create a better future for their children. Mothers like those in Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan and Ethiopia where a hunger crisis still grips the land. Mothers there are doing without food so their children can have a little more to eat. To find out more about Trócaire's Lenten campaign visit [www.trocaire.org](http://www.trocaire.org)

**SPRED:** Religious Education for Special Needs Adults and young adults – Our initial group has diminished due to changed circumstances of some people. **We still need some volunteers.** If you think you can give help here – or want more information – please contact the parish office on 44612084.

**Fountain Foodbank:** Please note that the Foodbank will be closed for the Easter Holidays on Good Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March and Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April. In case of an emergency you can still phone during the holidays. The contact number is 07444015883.

**NI Blood Donation Session:** The next blood donation service will take place at Down Parish Hall, Church Street, Downpatrick on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> March Between 2:30pm – 4pm and 5:15 until 8pm. New donors are welcome to give blood.

**Benedictine Retreat:** The Benedictine Monks, Rostrevor, Invite men (18–40) to an Easter Triduum Retreat from Holy Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March until Easter Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018. “*Prefer nothing to Christ, because he preferred nothing to you*” (St. Cyprian) Take time to reflect. Examine your life and consider your call. If interested, please contact: Br Thierry – [benedictinemonks@btinternet.com](mailto:benedictinemonks@btinternet.com) or telephone 02841 739979. Facebook: Benedictine Monks Rostrevor – Twitter: @rostrevormonks

**New Sacristans:** The Parish welcomes Hilary Burns, Tony Graham and Patrick Mooney as Sacristans for the churches of St. Colmcille's and St. Patrick's. All of them have completed their safeguarding training and also the training required for Sacristans. The Parish wishes to thank them for their generosity of time and wishes them all God's blessings in their new ministry. We also welcome James Tumelty to our Parish Office Staff. James works in the Parish office, and can assist with all queries, mass bookings etc.

**Voice Of The Family (VOF)** “The final battle between the Lord and the reign of Satan will be over marriage and the family.” Sister Lucy of Fatima Voice of the Family event: VOF is a coalition working to defend and promote Catholic teaching on the family. The event will discuss the current threats to life and family in Ireland, north and south, especially the upcoming referendum on the Eighth Amendment, and what we can do to overcome them. Come along, **Everyone welcome on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> of March at 7pm in St Michaels Parish Hall Downpatrick.**

**IONA Institute: Achieving Best Care at Life's End** by Baroness Naula O'Loan:- Caring for a loved one who is terminally ill is one of the greatest challenges any of us can face. Deciding on an appropriate plan of care can be confusing and stressful. This conference will explore the ethics of end of life care from a philosophical, medical, legal and pastoral perspective and will be of interest to all those who seek the best care as our life journey ends. It will take place on **24<sup>th</sup> March at St. Mary's University Belfast BT12 6FE**, or email [ionainstitute@gmail.com](mailto:ionainstitute@gmail.com) or visit <https://ionainstituteni.org>