

**DOWNPATRICK PASTORAL AREA**  
**PARISH OF DOWNPATRICK**  
**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> December 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

**St. Malachy's:**

Sunday 10am  
Every 1<sup>st</sup> Friday at 7:30pm

**St. Brigid's**

Saturday 7pm (Vigil)

**Confessions:**

St. Patrick's, Saturdays 12:00pm to  
1:00pm & 4.45pm -5.20pm and  
Monday 6:30 – 7:25pm & 8:15 –  
8:40pm

**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 £1,940 Loose Plate £581  
Average Standing Order £190

**Receiving Communion:** Following  
a query from a parishioner. Any  
person who is ill and cannot attend  
the church must contact the Parish  
office on 44612084 if they wish to  
have a Eucharistic minister call to  
give them Holy Communion. The  
Parish will do their best to  
accommodate them.

**Altar Servers:**

We are looking for some new altar  
servers in all the churches in the  
Parish. If you have made your first  
Holy Communion, we would like to  
hear from you. Please contact  
Parish Office on 44612084 or  
[downpatrick@downandconnor.org](mailto:downpatrick@downandconnor.org)  
and we will get back to you

**Your Prayers Are Requested For:**

**Recently Deceased:** Fr. Chris Nellis, Maud Perry, David McKay (Ardglass),  
Noel Gilchrist (Ardglass), Marie McNamara,  
**Month's Mind:** Ann Dobbin, Claire Perry,  
**Anniv:** Fr. Hugh O'Donnell, Fr. Oliver McStravick, Fr. Gerard Brady,  
Fr. Gerard Brady, Fr. Alexander Connolly, Msgr. William Tumelty, Fr. George  
McLavery (Dpk), Sr. Mary Joseph, Sr. Brigid Quinn, Davy McMenamy,  
Rosemary Cunningham, Billy Laird, Harry Blaney, Mary & Jean Hamilton,  
Thomas & Sheila Perry, Darren Perry, Mary Hallaron, James & Susan Mills,  
Michael McAleese, Rosaleen Byers, Jim Mullan, Jean & Frank Connolly, Carol  
Magorrian, Patrick Ritchie, Rosaleen Fitzsimons, Bridgid Stuttard, Gerry  
White, Rea Pleasants, Jim & Paddy Hamilton, Teddie Tweedie, John Rooney,

**May They Rest In Peace**

**Baptisms: We Welcome Tom Arthur Rogan and Ella Maria Reid into Our  
Parish Family.**

**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, Monday, 10<sup>th</sup>, 7:30pm:** Margaret Whinnery, Rosaleen Fitzsimons  
**St. Patrick's, Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup>, 7.30pm:** Frank O'Connor, Herman McConvey,  
Patrick & Isobel Morgan, Elizabeth Sage, Lily Telford, John Rooney,  
**St. Patrick's, Friday, 14<sup>th</sup>, 7.30pm:**, Sandra Hillen, Thomas Kevin Vize,  
Jerome McVabe,  
**St. Patrick's, Saturday, 15<sup>th</sup>, 5:30pm,** Month's Mind: Seamus Mulligan,  
**St. Brigid's, Saturday, 15<sup>th</sup>, 7pm,** Harry & May Blaney

**The Evening Of Mercy:** Continues this Monday Evening 10<sup>th</sup> December

**St. Patrick's Church**

**6.30pm – 8:45pm.**

**6.30pm: Rosary,**

**7.30pm: Mass,**

**8.15pm: Rosary,**

**8:30pm Benediction,**

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

**Advent Prayer in Preparation for Christmas:**

For this season of Advent, Our Parish is offering an opportunity to pray our  
way to Christmas, with four evenings of prayerful reflection, to help us focus  
on the true meaning of Christmas in Patrick's Place (the old Crypt).

**Session 3: 'Joy', Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> Dec, 7pm,**

**Session 4: 'Saying yes to God', Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> Dec, 7pm,**

Each evening will last approx 1 hour. It will include: Song, Gospel reading,  
Reflections, Evening Prayer of the Church, Tea/Coffee, All are very welcome.

**Sunday Evening's in St. Patrick's at 5pm – This Advent:**

**December 9<sup>th</sup> –** Downpatrick Pastoral Area – Penitential – with several  
confessors in attendance

**December 16<sup>th</sup> –** Parish Carol Service – with participation by Parish and  
School choirs – and yourselves!

**All at 5pm – All Welcome**

**Saint Vincent de Paul:** Christmas appeal will be held  
this weekend in all churches. Someone will speak on  
behalf of the society.

**NURSES!** The Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes is currently seeking volunteers to join our nursing team to care for our pilgrims who will stay at the Accueil Notre Dame, during our 2019 Pilgrimage (10-15 July.) You will need to be a registered nurse, active on the NMC live register - newly registered nurses are welcome. For more information or to register your interest please email us to [lourdes@downandconnor.org](mailto:lourdes@downandconnor.org) with your contact details and we will get back to you.

**Bambinelli Sunday:** On Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> December, families are invited to bring the Baby Jesus from their home cribs to St. Patrick's for 12 Noon Mass – the figure will be blessed by the priest during Mass.

**Tobar Mhuire – Crossgar:** Tobar Mhuire has been privileged to host days of retreat for many schools over the years. Increasingly it has become clear that there is also a very real need for opportunities for teachers; principals and management to take time to reflect upon a Catholic teacher in an increasingly secular society, and an environment within the education sector that fails to cherish the ethos of Catholic schools. We are delighted to have developed a partnership with Mary Immaculate College, Limerick, that enables us to announce an innovative Post Graduate Certificate in Christian Leadership in Education. The course will run over five Saturdays, commencing on 19<sup>th</sup> January and subsequent sessions held on: 9<sup>th</sup> February; 9<sup>th</sup> March; 13<sup>th</sup> April; 11<sup>th</sup> May 2019. The programme will introduce students to key ideas, concepts and principles that underpin the characteristic spirit or ethos of faith-based education. Among the topics to be included are the following: **Jesus the Teacher; Nurturing Personal Faith and Spirituality; The Catholic School and Contemporary Culture; Leading and Managing a Catholic School in Ireland Today.** For further information please contact Tobar Mhuire Retreat Centre on 02844 830242 or 07825543055. By email: [brian@seedlingsireland.com](mailto:brian@seedlingsireland.com) Or Address: Tobar Mhuire Retreat Centre, 16A Downpatrick Road, Crossgar, Co. Down, BT30 9EQ Or visit their website [www.tobarmhuirecrossgar.com](http://www.tobarmhuirecrossgar.com) Closing date 14<sup>th</sup> December 2018.

**Carol Service:** St Mary's High School, Downpatrick and Nendrum College, Comber would like to invite you to join us at our annual Ecumenical Carol Service. It will take place in St Patrick's Church on Thursday 13th December at 7.30pm to mark 4 years of Shared Education between our 2 schools. We look forward to seeing you.

**'Do not let the downtrodden retreat in confusion, give the poor and needy cause to praise your name.' Psalms 74:21.**

Millions of people have had to flee conflict in South Sudan and Yemen. In one area alone in northern Uganda 33,000 mainly women and children from South Sudan have taken refuge. They have witnessed and experienced the worst kind of violence and have arrived traumatised and broken. Trocaire's Christmas Appeal will help these people and many others rebuild their lives. Visit [www.trocaire.org](http://www.trocaire.org) to find out more.

**Parish Website, Facebook and App:** The Parish Website is available at [www.parishofdownpatrick.com](http://www.parishofdownpatrick.com) We regularly update the site. You can also find us on Facebook 'Downpatrick Parish' or by visiting your phone / iPads app store and downloading our App 'Downpatrick Parish'. It's Free. You can also contact the parish by email at: [downpatrick@downandconnor.org](mailto:downpatrick@downandconnor.org)

**Downpatrick Parish Draw:** Many thanks to our promoters and our generous members. Congratulations to the winners. **The next draw will take place on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2018 at 7pm,** in the Parochial House. **Promoters' returns to be in by 7pm, Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2018.**

**Tea / Coffee & hot Toast!** You are invited to Patrick's Place after Mass, every Friday, for a Cuppa and a slice of toast – or two!

**The Priests In Concert: In St. Patrick's Church on Thurs 27<sup>th</sup> Dec 2018.** Tickets are available from the Parish Office Mon–Thurs 9:15 – 2pm. Tickets are £25 each. Tickets are also available at the Parish Shop after Mass.

**RGU:** The Numbers were 13, 19, 22, 23, No Jackpot winner. 3 people share £100. This week's jackpot £2,900

**Eucharistic Ministers:** The Parish is always looking for new Eucharistic Ministers but certainly we need some new ones at St. Brigid's Church – only four in operation there now. If interested please contact the Parish Office on 44 612084.

**Trocaire Gifts for Christmas:** Would you like to buy a goat or some chicks or a beehive? Yes – you can – do so for someone in Africa or Asia through Trocaire's special gifts for Christmas. Pick up a leaflet in the Church porches or tables at the back of each church.

**Sign Language Mass:** is available by webcam from Saint Vincent de Paul parish, lagoniel, Belfast. The website is <https://www.saintvincentdepauligoniel.com/webcam> or watch the recorded Mass (with subtitles) on Youtube at [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQJf\\_QN2zqPzwKx4p6PJ18A](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQJf_QN2zqPzwKx4p6PJ18A)

**Discovering Christ Course is back:** Downpatrick Parish is pleased to announce our second 'Discovering Christ' course, coming this January. 'Discovering CHRIST' is a 7- week course and will run on Tuesday evenings from 15 January to 26 February 2019, starting at 6:30 pm and finishing at 8:40 pm. Participants will: Gather one evening a week to share a meal (free but donation accepted). View an informative teaching video and then explore answers to some of the most important questions worth asking about God and finding purpose in life through small groups. And finally have a retreat day on Saturday 16th February. Twenty-six people took part in the first course this last autumn. In fact, there were more people at the last session than the first. Many had a deeply personal faith experience. We invite YOU to attend this life-changing encounter. It is an excellent way to revitalize or rediscover your faith. You can attend if you are 18+ and it will take place in Patrick's Place. You can register by contacting the Parish Office on 44612084 or online by clicking on the following link. [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/16XG-Z-ZeG\\_3\\_IGKjKHdhHJQIz1wpcwJGC1hz9pmrnkl/edit](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/16XG-Z-ZeG_3_IGKjKHdhHJQIz1wpcwJGC1hz9pmrnkl/edit)

**Apologies:** We understand that – of all the days – the webcam was not functioning on the evening of November 28<sup>th</sup>, when the Parish had the annual Mass for the Deceased. This fault was entirely beyond our control but we are sorry that people abroad and outside the Parish were not able to be part of the ceremony through the digital media.

**WANTED:** We are all aware of the increasing number of immigrants to our town and the parish area. Many have come from very difficult situations including Syria. They are most welcome. Upcoming Baptisms: For those who are Catholic there is another issue. Parents want their children baptised and to receive the other sacraments. We need some adults who will be willing to offer some catechesis to these new families. If you have some time to do this the parish would love to hear from you. Please contact the parish office – 44612084 – and give your details. The parish will then be in touch.

**Coffee Morning:** In aid of Dementia N.I at the SDLP offices 15B Scotch Street on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December 10am–12pm.