



Saint Nicholas'

Parish of Carrickfergus & Whitehead



Our Lady of Lourdes

Follow us on-line at www.carrickparish.org

3rd Dec 2023 First Sunday of Advent Cycle B Week 1

Fr. Peter Owens PP, VF
Parochial House,
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Mount St. Nicholas, Carrickfergus,
Co. Antrim, BT38 8AU
Tel: **028 9336 3269**
Parish Email:
carrickfergus@downandconnor.org
Website: www.carrickparish.org

Readings for this Sunday First Reading - Isaiah 63: 16 - 17, 19
Second Reading - 1 Corinthians 1: 3 - 9 Gospel - Mark 13: 33 - 37

Mass Times this week (** Streamed Masses - see website for details)

St. Nicholas' Carrickfergus	Our Lady of Lourdes Whitehead
Sun 11.30am **	Sun 9.30am
Tues 10.00am	
Wed 7.00pm **	Wed 10.00am

Bulletin Notices
to be submitted to the parish
Email Address
by **12 noon Wednesday**

The **Rosary** is held before Wednesday Services at
9.30am in Our Lady of Lourdes and 6.30pm in Mount Saint Nicholas.

Requiescant in Pace


The **Sacrament of Penance** is available on the first Wed of the month from
6.00pm to 6.45pm in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel at Mount Saint Nicholas.

Eucharistic Adoration is available every Saturday between 11:00 a.m. and 12:00
noon in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel at Mount St. Nicholas.

Anniversaries
Christopher Curran
Peter Quinn
Margaret O'Dornan (1st)
Kenny Davidson
Patsy Neeson Snr
Danny McGowan

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



SVP Christmas Appeal

Saint Vincent de Paul is planning for Christmas 2023 along similar lines to recent years. The increased cost of living and rising energy and food bills are putting a lot of pressure on the individuals, couples and families we help. Instead of collecting toys through the Giving Tree Appeal, we will be providing gift vouchers for families, which enables parents to choose the presents their children wake up to on Christmas morning. To support our Christmas Appeal this year, please leave donations of cash or gift vouchers in the Red Box by Sunday 10th December. Thank you for your very generous support throughout the years. Have a peaceful Christmas and a happy New Year.

Parish Advent Services

Please come along and join in our Parish Advent Services as we prepare as a parish family for the great feast of Christmas. Dates as follows: -
Monday 4th December - Lectio Divina
Monday 11th December - Lectio Divina



We will be meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the committee room at the back of St. Nicholas' Church, with each service lasting up to 1 hour. Please note the entrance is the one by the back door. Everyone is welcome. The Panel of Catechists.

PARISH BETHANY BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP
Annual Mass for the Bereaved
Wednesday 13th December
at 7.00 pm in St Nicholas' Church Carrickfergus
All very welcome especially those who have been bereaved this year.
Light Refreshments will be served after Mass

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of BVM

Vigil 7.00pm Carrickfergus (Thurs 7th Dec)
10.00am Whitehead (Fri 8th Dec)



Christmas Flowers - Carrickfergus and Whitehead

If you would like to donate towards dressing the churches with flowers for Christmas, 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.

Today's second collection is for the Monthly Stipend.



Trócaire Christmas Appeal & Gift Cards.

This Christmas, Trócaire will deliver life-saving support to thousands of families across the developing world. You can purchase one of the special **gifts** for families, or make a **donation** to the Trócaire Christmas Appeal.

Gift cards are available from the Parish Shop or contact Patrick Quinn



St. Nicholas' Parish Shop

Check out our latest Christmas stock.

Call inside today before and after mass.

Check out the Christmas catalogue at www.carrickparish.org/shop for more information.



St Nicholas' Primary School

Invite you to our Open Days on Sat 2nd December 10am-12Noon & Wed 6th December 10am-12Noon

Visit and experience our state of the art facilities in a warm, family atmosphere.

For any further information, phone 028 93351149

Teas in Whitehead

Light refreshments will be available in the Pastoral Centre in Whitehead after 09.30 Mass next Sunday, 10th December. Everyone is welcome.

A Festive Christmas Concert Voices and Brass

St Mary, Star of the Sea Whitehouse
Friday 8th December at 7.30pm
Tickets £15 Phone 028 90370845

All proceeds to Whitehouse Parish Restoration Fund



Parish Family Advent Celebration Our Lady of Lourdes Whitehead Sunday 17th December 5pm Refreshments and mulled wine in Lourdes Pastoral Centre All welcome to attend this fantastic festive family event.

Children's Christmas Art Displays

The Parish children have been asked to create some artwork for Advent and Christmas on the theme of Peace and Inclusion. The finished pieces will be presented during the Masses on 10th December and then put on display in the churches until the New Year. We would like to invite all the parents and family members along to Mass on 10th December to support the children.
The Liturgy Group.

Great Women of Prayer & Faith: An Advent Journey.

There will be three talks during Advent in the Parish Centre at St Colmcille's Church, 191 Upper Newtownaards Road Belfast on Wed. evenings: 6th, 13th and 20th Dec at 7.30pm. The talks will be given by Mary Cairns, Rev Paul Hutton and Paula McKeown respectively. The evenings will conclude with supper.

Anam Cara Belfast, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding it's monthly Parent Evening for bereaved parents on Monday 11th Dec at 7:30pm in the Balmoral Hotel, Belfast, BT10 ND. This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or whether their death was recent or not. We also offer an online meeting which takes place 2nd Thursday To join please contact us on 028 95213120.

Spiritual Preparation for Christmas - For Adults

Sat 16th Dec - St John the Baptist PS, Finaghy Road North Belfast

Hosted by the Legion of Mary and Fr Darren Brennan PP

Registration 9:30am - 3pm
Finish

Talks and Testimonies followed by Confessions, Adoration and Holy Mass.

Cost is £10 - Includes Lunch.

For more info. please contact Luke on 07955386288

This Coming Week 4th Dec - 10th Dec

Mon

St. John Damascene, Priest

Wed

St. Nicholas, Bishop

Thurs

St. Ambrose, Bishop

Fri

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Sun

Second Sunday of Advent

Readings for Sun 10th Dec

Isaiah 40: 1 - 5, 9 - 11

2 Peter 3: 8 - 14

Mark 1: 1 - 8

The West Belfast Historical Society is meeting on Friday the 8th of December at 7.30pm in St. Michael's Parish Centre on Finaghy Road North (Access via Church Gateway on Finaghy Road North, just before the garage opposite the Church at junction with Andersonstown Road). The December talk is entitled: **'IT STARTED ON DIVIS MOUNTAIN'** A Talk by: Mr MARK DOHERTY

Contact details for Loughshore Pastoral Community

Parish	Website	Priests	Telephone No.
Carrickfergus	www.carrickparish.org	Fr Peter Owens, PP VF	(028) 9336 3269
Glengormley	www.stmarysonthehill.online	Fr Pat Sheehan PP Fr Aidan Kerr PE PM Fr Brendan Beagon PE PM	(028) 9083 2979 (028) 9083 2488 (028) 9084 1507
Loughshore	www.loughshoreparishes.org	Fr David Delargy PP	(028) 9037 0845
St Gerard's	www.stgerardsparish.co.uk	Fr Patrick O'Keefe CSsR Adm. Fr Denis Luddy CSsR	(028) 9077 4833