



*Saint Nicholas'*

# Parish of Carrickfergus & Whitehead

Follow us on-line at  
[www.carrickparish.org](http://www.carrickparish.org)



*Our Lady of Lourdes*

**1st February 2026**

**4th Sunday of the Year**

**Cycle A Week 4**

**Fr. Peter Owens PP**

**Fr. Andrew Black**

**Tel: 028 9336 3269**

Parochial House,  
8 Minorca Place,  
Mount St. Nicholas, Carrickfergus,  
Co. Antrim, BT38 8AU  
Parish Email:  
[carrickfergus@downandconnor.org](mailto:carrickfergus@downandconnor.org)  
Website: [www.carrickparish.org](http://www.carrickparish.org)

## St Brigid, Abbess, Secondary Patron of Ireland Feast

**Baptisms**  
(one month's notice)  
Whitehead - 1st Sun of the month  
C'fergus - 2nd Sun of the month

**Weddings**  
(three month's notice)  
By arrangement  
**Funerals**  
By arrangement

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

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

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

## Requiescant in Pace



### Month Mind

Ciaran Smyth

### Anniversaries

Therese Wady  
Briege Torrans (1st)  
Edie McAuley  
Annie McCormack  
Sarah Smith

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

**Weekly Mass Times** (\*\* Streamed Masses - see parish website)  
Holy Days : As announced.

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

## CARRICKFERGUS AND WHITEHEAD PARISH CELL GROUPS

### FROM ENCOUNTER TO MISSION



The Lord has given me a disciple's tongue (Isaiah 50:4)  
Carrickfergus and Whitehead Parish Cell Groups are hosting  
the annual National Parish Cells Seminar in Drumalis  
Retreat Centre, Larne on Saturday, 28th and Sunday, 29th  
March 2026. We would greatly appreciate the prayerful  
support of our fellow parishioners as we prepare for the  
seminar. The seminar is open to non-cell members and all  
are welcome. For more information contact: Margaret Webb  
@ 07779 729 505 or Anne McFerran @ 07809 906 792

### **PRAYER FOR THE SUCCESS OF THE NATIONAL CELLS SEMINAR 2026**

Lord, we thank You for the opportunity to come together in  
faith and fellowship at our National Seminar in March. We thank You for the  
miracle of Your loving presence and Your light which burns in each of us. Bless  
and protect our endeavours in preparation for the seminar so that all who attend  
will be strengthened and encouraged in their work as missionaries. Let Your light  
shine brightly within us as we witness to Your infinite love and invite others to  
come and see. May we yield an abundant and fruitful harvest in Jesus' name.  
Amen. **Website: [parishcellsireland.ie](http://parishcellsireland.ie)**

**St. Patrick's Ceilidh Party**  
in Carrickfergus Golf Club  
7pm  
Saturday, 14th March 2026

Tickets cost £6 including supper.  
Tickets are now on sale from any  
member of the events team.

**ST PEREGRINE NOVENA**  
will be held on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February at 7pm in St Mary's, Greencastle.  
The Sacrament of Anointing of the sick will be given to all the sick who wish to  
receive it.

**Teas in Whitehead**  
Light refreshments will be available in the Pastoral Centre after 09.30 Mass **today**,  
1st February. Everyone is welcome.

**The second collection today is for Monthly Stipend.**



**Candlemas Mon 2nd Feb.**  
If you would like to purchase a candle for Candlemas please see Anne in the Parish Shop at St. Nicholas' or Gerardine in Our Lady of Lourdes. Candles will be blessed at the **Weekend Masses today.**



**Parish Shop**  
Cards & Gifts for all occasions.  
Open each Sunday.  
See parish website for more information  
[www.carrickparish.org/shop](http://www.carrickparish.org/shop)



**Liturgy Group Meeting** The next Liturgy Group meeting will take place on Monday 2nd February at 7.00 p.m. in the meeting room at the back of St. Nicholas' Church.

**Liturgical Calendar Meeting** A meeting to discuss the Liturgical Calendar will take place on Monday 2nd February at 8.15 p.m. in the meeting room at the back of St. Nicholas' Church. All those who co-ordinate ministries in the Parish are invited to attend. The meeting will be particularly useful for leaders of the following ministries - Eucharist, Word, Music, Sacristans and Sacramental preparation.

**Anam Cara**, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, will hold its monthly Parent Support Evening on Monday 9th February at 7.30pm in the Crowne Plaza, Shaws Bridge, Belfast. This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or how recent their death was. You do not need to register in advance. We also offer an online support group meeting. To find out more call 02895213120 or email [info@anamcara.ie](mailto:info@anamcara.ie)

**Divine Mercy Conference 2026 St Pauls** Sat. 28<sup>th</sup> Feb. 2026. Bus will leave St Paul's Church, Falls Road at 7.30pm Returning approx. 10.45/11.00pm. Travel cost is £25 (bus price only) when booking your seat. Travel confirmation, 1 week before departure. No refunds. Conference tickets to be bought at the venue £35 or Euros. Bring enough food for lunch and dinner – there are tea and coffee stations where hot drinks and snacks can be purchased. Telephone Tina McCrory – 07523824350 to book a seat on the bus.

**Recharge Forty** is a Lenten challenge for young men and women who desire more - more depth in prayer, more discipline in daily life, and stronger bonds of friendship. Throughout Lent, we will walk together in community, confronting vice, and intentionally cultivating virtue. Recharge Forty invites you to renew your relationship with God while supporting one another through encouragement and accountability. This Lent, don't journey alone-grow together in faith, character and friendship. Find details and sign up at: <https://forms.gle/ghMbVj9rzS6FAiCY7>

**YOUTH MASSES** will be celebrated next weekend on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> February at all Masses in the Loughshore Parishes.  
The dates for Youth Masses for the remainder of the academic year are below:  
7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> March; 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> May; 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> June

**DOWN and CONNOR DIOCESAN TRUST ST COLMCILLE'S PARISH BELFAST VACANCY 'VOCATIONS SUPPORT OFFICER'** An exciting opportunity has arisen for the recruitment of a Vocations Support Officer to be based within St Colmcille's Parish, 191 Upper Newtownards Road, Belfast, BT4 3JB. Reporting to the Director of Vocations, the role holder will be required to support, promote and sustain a culture of vocations across the Diocese by co-ordinating outreach, communications, events and relationships that encourage discernment and prayer for vocations. The role is mission-led, relational and outward-facing. Hours based 20 hours per week. Some flexible working patterns, including hybrid working. Salary: £15,600 gross p.a.  
Full details relating to the vacancy can be found on the Diocesan website at: <http://www.downandconnor.org> clicking on the tab: job vacancies and on the Community NI and nijobs.com websites. Application Packs are also available from St Colmcille's Parish Office.  
Closing date for applications will be 12.00 noon on Tuesday 10 February 2026

**Celebrating 70 years of Faith**

St Agnes' Parish Novena to Our Lady of Lourdes 2026 begins 10am Tues 3rd Feb  
The Call of the Good Shepherd  
*"I know my own and my own know me" (John 10:14)*  
Speakers: Jim Deeds, Bridget McNicholl, Paula & Joseph McKeown  
Sun. 9.30am & 12.30pm  
Mon. to Fri. 10am & 7pm  
Sat. 1pm & 6.30pm (Vigil)

**This Coming Week**  
**2nd Feb - 8th Feb**

**Mon**  
Presentation of the Lord



**Tues**  
St. Blaise

**Thurs**  
St. Agatha

**Sat**  
St. Mel

**Sun**  
5th Sunday of the Year

**Readings for Sun 8th Feb**  
Isaiah 58: 7-10  
1 Corinthians 2: 1-5  
Matthew 5: 13-16

**Contact details for the 'Stella Maris' Family of Parishes**

Parish	Website	Priests	Telephone No.
Carrickfergus	<a href="http://www.carrickparish.org">www.carrickparish.org</a>	Very Rev. Peter Owens, PP Rev Andrew Black	(028) 9336 3269 (028) 9336 3269
Glengormley	<a href="http://www.stmarysonthehill.online">www.stmarysonthehill.online</a>	Very Rev. Pat Sheehan PP Very Rev. Canon Aidan Kerr PE PM	(028) 9083 2979 (028) 9083 2488
Loughshore	<a href="http://www.loughshoreparishes.org">www.loughshoreparishes.org</a>	Very Rev. David Delargy PP	(028) 9037 0845