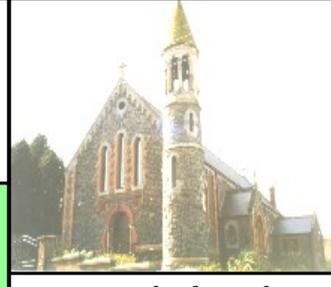




Saint Nicholas'

Parish of Carrickfergus & Whitehead



Our Lady of Lourdes

Follow us on-line at www.carrickparish.org

26th February 2023 1st Sunday of Lent Cycle A Week 1

Fr. Peter Owens PP,VF
Parochial House,
8 Minorca Place,
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 - Genesis 2:7 - 9, 3:1 - 7
Second Reading - Romans 5: 12 - 19
Gospel - Matthew 4: 1 - 11

Mass Times (** 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

The Rosary is held Every Wednesday at 9.30am in Our Lady of Lourdes and 6.30pm in Mount Saint Nicholas

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

The **Sacrament of Penance** is available this **Wednesday 1st March** from 6.00pm to 6.45pm in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel at Mount Saint Nicholas.

Requiescant in Pace

Recently Deceased
Michael Ferguson
Susan Toland
Anniversaries
Gerard McGivern
Bridget McGivern
Jeannie O'Hara
*Eternal rest grant unto them,
O Lord, and let perpetual light shine
upon them. May they rest in peace.
Amen*

Parish Lenten Services - Mondays at 7:30 p.m.
Please come along and join our Parish Lenten Services this Lent, as we wrestle to grow in love for Jesus our Saviour. The themes will be as follows: -
27th February - Stations of the Cross in Whitehead
6th March - Lectio Divina (Divine Reading) in Carrickfergus.
13th March - discussion on Lent – what is it, why do we do it and are you getting the best from your Lent? In Carrickfergus.
20th March - Visio Divina (Divine Seeing) in Carrickfergus.
Light refreshments will be provided after each service. The Liturgy Group

Offerings
Weekly Collections for the five weeks in Jan amounted to £4,842.91
Stipend Collection £1,291.00
Living Church £355.50
Many thanks for you generosity

There will be a social morning in **Lourdes Pastoral Centre** on **Monday 27th February**, from 11am - 1pm. Everyone is welcome. There will be a children's corner, a book exchange table, free tea and coffee and just time and space to catch up. Hope you can join us.

Collections for this Sun 26h February 2023
Weekly Collection (White envelopes) can be put in the marked Collection Boxes as you enter the Church.
Thank you.

Envelope Boxes, 2023 - 2024.
If you are new to the parish, or if you have not previously been using envelopes but now wish to do so, then please complete an "Envelope Registration Form" available at the back of the Church. If anyone would like to support the Parish financially through a Standing Order or to make their envelope donation in this way, then please contact the parish office for more information or speak with Patrick Quinn. Completed forms should be returned to the Parish Office. Could we also ask that you please notify the parish office of any change in personal details, such as address, before the new envelope boxes are issued, either by Tel: (028) 93363269 or email: carrickfergus@downandconnor.org

Accord NI Catholic Marriage Care Service is recruiting Marriage Education Facilitators to provide Sacramental Marriage Preparation for couples in your diocese. We are seeking individuals who are good communicators and have an enthusiasm for supporting couples as they prepare for the Sacrament of Marriage and future family life. This is an opportunity to formally train within a supportive, nurturing and inspiring community. For further details and an application form, please contact Brenda at 028 9023 3002 or email info@accordni.com



2023 Directories.
Diocesan Directories are now available from the parish repository. Price £4

World Day of Prayer
will be hosted this year by Whitehead Methodist Church on **Fri. 3rd March** at 8:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

PRO-LIFE RALLY - Be a voice for unborn babies at the Rally for Life in Belfast on **Sat. 11th March 2023** gathering in Custom House Square at 2pm A special Mass for Life will be offered in St Patrick's Church, Donegall Street at 12.30pm. Buses to the Rally leaving from various locations. For further information please contact Precious Life on 07592280522 / 02890278484 or email info@preciouslife.com



Gifts & Cards for all occasions including **St. Patrick's Day, Confirmation & Easter**, are available from the Parish Repository



Teas in Whitehead

Light refreshments will be available in the Pastoral Centre in Whitehead after Mass on Sunday, **5th March.** Everyone is welcome.

POETRY AND PRAYERS

A MONASTIC TRAIL AROUND LOUGH NEAGH

We are pleased to announce that we have two tours available for public booking for this new spiritual tour, led by Jim Deeds and Christine Doherty.

The dates are **March 4th 2023** and **March 25th 2023.**

Here's what Tourism NI say, "Escape the day-to-day and discover a series of fascinating stories along the shores of the mystical Lough Neagh. You'll be invited to ponder spiritual themes with poetry and prayer bringing a serenity to the journey."

This one day experience has 4 stop off points in total – Antrim Round Tower, Cranfield Old Church and Holy Well, Ardboe Stone Cross, Benburb Priory – and while participants will travel between them by coach, there will be a little walking so good shoes and clothes appropriate to the weather on the day are a must.

Cost per person is £80, inclusive of coach transfer to and between 3 Monastic sites, tea/coffee at the Lock Keeper's Cottage in Toomebridge, evening meal in Benburb Priory, historic information and spiritual guidance. Coach pickup is at Castle Mall car park, Antrim at 10am, returning by 6pm on Saturday March 4th and 25th 2023.

Email poetryandprayers@hotmail.com to book a place.

Nurses, Will you lend us a hand?

The Down & Connor Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes is seeking volunteer registered nurses for our pilgrimage from **12th to 17th July 2023.** Working with other volunteer doctors and nurses in a specially designed care setting, you will be part of a very special and faith filled community. For more info., please email your contact details to lourdes@downandconnor.org

Retreats at SMA DROMANTINE, NEWRY

LENTEN REFLECTION DAY

Sat 4th March 9.30am – 5.00pm. Kindfulness... a gifted way of living my life. An opportunity for time aside to reflect on the Season of Lent and to open our minds and hearts afresh to celebrate Holy Week and Easter. Led by Fr. Damian Bresnahan SMA
Cost (including lunch) £35/€40

DANCE OF LIFE RETREAT

Fri. 17th March (5.00pm) – Sun. 19th (2.00pm). In this retreat the opportunity to dance may bring a renewed awareness in your sense of self, connection with others and connection with God. Led by Sr. Mary Taylor OLA and Fr. Damian Bresnahan SMA
Cost £220/€250

Tel; 02830821964 email: admin@dromantineconference.com

This Coming Week

27th Feb - 5th Mar

- Mon**
St. Gabriel
- Tues**
St. Oswald
- Wed**
St. David
- Sat**
St. Casimir

Sun
2nd Sun of Lent

Covid Update - Good Practice

Many of you will have noticed that the wearing of masks/face coverings in closed surroundings has become the exception rather than the norm. It was never a mandatory requirement to wear a mask/face covering in church but Diocesan guidance **remains**, that all parishioners and visitors to our church services are **encouraged** to sanitise their hands as they enter the church and to wear a mask particularly while moving around inside the church. Our aim is always to keep parishioners safe, minimise the COVID risk and to promote confidence in coming to church. Thank you for your ongoing consideration.

Readings for Sun 5th Mar

- Genesis 12:1 - 4
- 2 Timothy 1: 8 - 10
- Matthew 17: 1 - 9