

Parish of Carrickfergus & Whitehead

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Saint Nicholas'

Our Lady of Lourdes

22nd February 2026

1st Sunday of Lent

Cycle A Week 1

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

Website: www.carrickparish.org

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.

Eucharistic Adoration is available every Saturday between 11.00 and 12.00 noon in Mount St. Nicholas' (please enter via the back door of the church).

Mass Times this week from Sun 22nd Feb

(* ** Streamed Masses - see parish website for link)

Holy Days : As announced.

St. Nicholas' Carrickfergus

Our Lady of Lourdes Whitehead

Sun 11.30am **

Sun 9.30am

Mon 8.00am

Tues 8.00am

Wed 7.00pm **

Wed 10.00am

Thurs 8.00am

Fri 8.00am

Please take note of changes in Mass times above, for this incoming week.

St Nicholas - Confessions are available before

Sunday Mass 11.00am to 11.25am

Parish Lenten Talks

Please come along and join us for 2 Parish Lenten Talks this year, where we will look at the tender mercy and love Jesus has for us, as revealed in the Scriptures. The talks will help us in our preparation for the Penitential Service, which will take place just before

Easter. Details as follows: -

Venue: St. Nicholas' Church Committee Room, on

Wednesday 4th March after 7.00 p.m. Mass

Wednesday 25th March after 7.00 p.m. Mass

Light refreshments will be available after each talk, when we will have time to chat and discuss what we have just heard. Everyone is welcome.

The Liturgy Group/Panel of Catechists

INTRODUCTION TO THE IRISH LANGUAGE

Carrickfergus Library will be holding a taster session for those with an interest in learning a little about Irish Gaelic.

Saturday 7th March 1-2pm in Carrickfergus Library

Numbers are limited so please book your spot by calling the library on 028 9336 2261

PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA FLYING DIRECT FROM BELFAST INTER

7 nights F/B Avenida Hotel 14th/21st August Spiritual Director Fr Andrew McMahon PP

Convenient flight times. £845pps. For further information contact Joe 07776425631 or

Joe Walsh Tours 0035312410800.

Bulletin Notices

to be submitted to the
parish Email Address by
12 noon Wednesday

Requiescant in Pace



Recently Deceased

Joe Mulvenna

Anniversaries

Sarah Collins (1st)

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



Lenten Trocaire Boxes

are available
at the back of the Church

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.

Don't miss a DIVINE invitation to come on **St Patrick's Way Pilgrim Walk** in Downpatrick with guides Martina Purdy and Elaine Kelly on Saturday March 14 in honour of Ireland's patron saint and the 25th Anniversary of The Saint Patrick Centre. Includes the fabulous 180° IMAX film of St Patrick, with internal bus transfers, pilgrimage lunch, an authentic Camino passport and a 6 mile pilgrimage walk finishing at St Patrick's grave. A special 25% discount price is on offer of £40 (normally £55) To book ring 02844 61900 r www.thesaintpatrickcentre.com



Cards & Gifts for all occasions.



Open each Sunday.
See parish website for more information
www.carrickparish.org/shop

Sensory-Friendly Mass Invitation St Colmcille's Parish (Ballyhackamore Belfast BT4 3JB) warmly invites you to our monthly Sensory Mass on Saturday, 28th February at 12:00 noon. This special Mass is designed to be inclusive and welcoming for individuals and families who may benefit from a quieter, more relaxed worship environment. Whether you or a loved one experience sensory sensitivities, or you simply wish to attend a short peaceful and reflective service, we would love to see you there. Refreshments after Mass in the parish centre, with supervised activities for all.

Foodbank Donations.
A typical food parcel includes:
Breakfast cereals, Soup, Pasta, Rice, Pasta sauce, Tinned Beans, Tinned meat, Tinned vegetables, Tinned fruit, Tea or coffee, Sugar, Biscuits, Snacks.

World Day of Prayer Service on Friday 6th March at 8.00 p.m.
It is the turn of Our Lady of Lourdes Church to host the annual World Day of Prayer service this year for our area, as part of our place in the circuit of churches covering Whitehead, Islandmagee and Ballycarry. The service for this year has been prepared by the Christian women in Nigeria, with the theme "I will give you rest, come". Do please come along and join us that evening, if you are available.

Down & Connor Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2026:
8th/9th – 14th/15th July. 5 & 7 Night options available. Please visit www.downandconnor.org/lourdes for more information or call the Pilgrimage Office on (028) 9077 0162

Discernment Retreat for Diocesan Priesthood
They left everything at once and followed him.
6th – 8th March 2026 Drumalis Retreat House, Larne
For further details, contact Fr Conor McGrath
c.mcgrath@downandconnor.org

World Day of Prayer Rehearsal
There will be a rehearsal for the World Day of Prayer service on Friday 27th February at 7.30 p.m. in Our Lady of Lourdes Church. Any singers in the congregation are welcome to come along and join in the practice for the hymns, even if you're not in the choir, and that will boost the congregational singing on the night. We are also appealing for help with some logistics for the service and providing refreshments in the Pastoral Centre afterwards: - buying some cakes/buns/biscuits - we can only accept wrapped foodstuffs which detail the product ingredients cash donations, which will be used to buy items for the supper setting up tables/chairs in the Pastoral Centre on 6th March during the day help with serving the supper help with washing and tidying up afterwards Please contact Eileen Vance (07942 921654), Ann Woods (07859 078151) or Gerardine Stewart (07747 114419) if you are able to help with any of the above. Foodstuffs or cash should be donated by Wednesday 4th March.

Lenten Challenge 2026 Abstaining from alcohol. **Daily prayer** I promise in honour of the Sacred Heart of Jesus to abstain from alcoholic drinks during Lent. www.pioneers.ie/lent2026

PARISH CELL GROUP MEETINGS
There will be a Cell meeting at 7.30 and 8.00pm on Tuesday, 24th Feb. For more information, please contact Margaret Webb: 07779729505 or Anne McFerran: 07809906792 There will be a meeting at 11.00 am on Wed, 25th Feb. Contact Matt Monaghan: 07428247820 or Jim Mullan: 07841428436. "Come and see" (www.parishcellsireland.ie)

This Coming Week
23rd Feb – 1st Mar
Mon
St. Polycarp, Bishop
Fri
St. Gabriel
Sat
St. Oswald
Sun
2nd Sunday of Lent

Whitehead Cells will start on Tuesday 24th Feb. at 11am at 4 Marine Parade. New members welcome. Tel Ruth 07876420867

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
Website: parishcellsireland.ie

Readings for Sun 1st Mar
Genesis 12:1-4
2 Timothy 1: 8-10
Matthew 17: 1-9

Contact details for the 'Stella Maris' Family of Parishes

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