



# Parish of Carrickfergus & Whitehead



Saint Nicholas'

Our Lady of Lourdes

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

**1st March 2026      2nd Sunday of Lent      Cycle A Week 2**

**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)

**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).

**St Nicholas' - Confessions are available before Sun. Mass 11.00am to 11.20am**

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

**Mass Times this week from Sun 1st March**  
(\* 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	

**Requiescant in Pace**  
  
**Recently Deceased**  
Tess Kelly  
**Anniversaries**  
Gerry 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*

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

**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

  
**Lenten Trocaire Boxes** are available  
at the back of the Church.

**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](http://www.pioneers.ie/lent2026)

**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.

**Teas in Whitehead** Light refreshments will be available in the Pastoral Centre  
after 09.30 Mass **next Sunday, 8th March**. Everyone is welcome.

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

**Children's Liturgy Groups**  
This is a request for parishioners to consider joining and helping out with either of the  
Children's Liturgy groups in the parish. If you are interested in offering your assistance  
some Sunday mornings, please speak to Elaine or Mary in Carrickfergus, or Noleen or  
Gerardine in Whitehead for more information.

**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.

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.  
Thank you.

**Important Notice for Parishioners Communications & Envelopes**  
Could Parishioners ensure that they have updated the Parish Office if they have a change of personal details, specifically, if they have moved address in the last two years. New Envelope Boxes are due to be released next month (March) and Gift Aid records will then be reviewed. If anyone wishes to support the parish financially by receiving an Envelope Box or through a Standing Order, please speak with Patrick Quinn from the Finance Committee after Mass or contact the parish office for more information. Tel: (028) 93363269 or email: [carrickfergus@downandconnor.org](mailto:carrickfergus@downandconnor.org)

**Eucharistic Healing Retreat in Knock Shrine**  
led by gifted Croatian Priest, Fr Rozo Palic Saturday March 7th & Sunday March 8th. Venue: St. John's Welcome Centre; Saturday 10:00 am - 6:30 pm & Sunday 10:00 am - 4:30 pm. He will be supported by his Croatian Music Ministry team; no prior booking required; everyone is most welcome and please bring a packed lunch. Please contact, Patricia on 089 9466193 or Fiona on [fionatjennings@yahoo.com](mailto:fionatjennings@yahoo.com)

In Ireland today, over 45,000 people live with epilepsy. For further information, please visit [www.epilepsy.ie](http://www.epilepsy.ie). Purple Day (or Epilepsy Awareness Day) will take place on Thurs. 26th March.

**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](http://parishcellsireland.ie)**

**Cemetery Sunday - 31st May 2026**  
Islandmagee - After 9.30am Mass  
Mount St. Nicholas' - After 11.30am Mass  
Victoria - 2.00pm  
Prospect - 3.00pm

**Dromantine Summer Camp**  
Registration for Dromantine Summer Camps during July and August for young people aged 11-17 opens on Saturday 28th Feb. For more information see our website: [www.dromantinesummertimecamp.co.uk](http://www.dromantinesummertimecamp.co.uk)



Cards & Gifts for St Patrick's Day now available from the Church Shop.  
Open each Sunday. See parish website for more information  
[www.carrickparish.org/shop](http://www.carrickparish.org/shop)



**Discernment Retreat for Diocesan Priesthood**  
*They left everything at once and followed him.*  
6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> March 2026 Drumalis Retreat House, Larne  
For further details, contact Fr Conor McGrath  
[c.mcgrath@downandconnor.org](mailto:c.mcgrath@downandconnor.org)

**Anam Cara**, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, will hold its monthly Parent Support Evening on **Monday 9th March 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. For more information visit [www.anamcarani.co.uk](http://www.anamcarani.co.uk)

A Life of Adoration, Prayer, Intercession for the World  
**Vocation Discernment Weekends**  
20- 22nd March 2026; 17-19<sup>th</sup> April 2026  
Single Women Age (18-35)  
Please contact: Sr Mairéad OP, Monastery of St Catherine of Siena, The Twenties, Drogheda, Co. Louth. A92 KR84  
Tel: 041 9838524; E-mail: [sienavoc@gmail.com](mailto:sienavoc@gmail.com)  
[www.dominicannuns.ie](http://www.dominicannuns.ie)

**This Coming Week**  
**2nd Mar - 8th Mar**  
**Wed**  
St. Casimir  
**Fri**  
St. Colette  
**Sat**  
St. Perpetua, St. Felicity  
**Sun**  
3rd Sunday of Lent

**Readings for Sun 8th Mar**  
Exodus 17: 3-7  
Romans 5: 1-2, 5-8  
John 4: 5-42

**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