

Parish of Carrickfergus & Whitehead

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Saint Nicholas'

Our Lady of Lourdes

15th March 2026

4th Sunday of Lent

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

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.

Confessions

are available on Sunday mornings
 from 11.00am to 11.20am
 in St. Nicholas' Carrickfergus.

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).

Bulletin Notices

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

Mass Times for week starting Sunday 15th 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 7.00pm Feast of St. Patrick

Tues 10.00am Feast of St. Patrick

Wed 7.00pm **

Wed 10.00am

Thurs 8.00am

Fri 8.00am

Requiescant in Pace



Anniversaries

Gill Haveron (2nd)
 Laurence McMahon
 Danny Campey
 Mary Campey
 Callum Lee
 Pat McCavana
 Seamus Donaghy
 William (Billy) McVeigh

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

**Today's second collection is
 for Needy Parishes.**

Migrant Collection

Supporting Vulnerable Migrants
 A door collection will be taken up
 after Masses on
 St. Patrick's Day

PARISH BEREAVEMENT GROUP

If you or a member of your family wish to talk to someone about your grief
 please contact the PARISH OFFICE Tel: 028 9336 3269 or email:
carrickfergus@downandconnor.org The Parish Secretary will forward your
 request to a Bereavement Minister who will contact you to arrange a visit.

World Day of Prayer 2026

Sincere thanks to everyone who was able to come along and support the recent
 World Day of Prayer service in Whitehead and made it so successful, The music
 and the choir greatly enhanced the service. Thanks also to everyone who prepared
 the church, contributed food and money for the refreshments and the team of
 helpers who organised and provided the supper afterwards in the Pastoral Centre.
 The collection taken up during the service, which will go to numerous charities
 across the world, amounted to a colossal £900.
 Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Children's Liturgy Groups This is a request for parishioners to consider joining and
 helping out with 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.

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

Saint Patrick's Dawn Prayer Gatherings

Christians from all denominations will gather at Saint Patrick's grave in Downpatrick at 5:45 am, 17th March, to pray The Our Father/ Lord's Prayer, one hundred times for peace and unity in Christ. Everyone welcome. Please spread the word and consider organising a Saint Patrick's Dawn Prayer Gathering in your own area - For a straightforward guide contact legacyofsaintpatrick@gmail.com



Cards & Gifts for St Patrick's Day available from the Church Shop.



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

Parish Lenten Talks

Please come along and join us In our 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.

Our final talk will take place in St. Nicholas' Church Committee Room, on **Wednesday 25th March after 7.00 p.m. Mass** Light refreshments will be available afterwards, when we will have time to chat and discuss what we have just heard. Everyone is welcome.

The Liturgy Group/Panel of Catechists

Offerings

Weekly Collections for the four weeks in February amounted to **£5,514.57**

Monthly Stipend Collection **£1,234.12**

Sick & Retired Priests collection **£502.18**

Many thanks for your generosity.

Belfast Jesuit Centre: Faith & Film Night – Silence (2016)

You are warmly invited to our next Faith & Film evening on **Thursday 26th March from 7–10pm**, where we will watch **Silence**, Martin Scorsese's powerful film about faith, courage, and perseverance in 17th-century Japan. A short reflective conversation will follow for those who wish to stay. No need to register, just come along and bring a friend. Light refreshments provided.

Between Cross and Resurrection

27 -29 March 2026 With Paschal Somers and John Thornhill Paschal and John will take us on a reflective journey through the key events of Holy Week using art and iconography. Visio Divina, sacred seeing, is an ancient form of Christian prayer.

Visio Divina invites us to carefully interact with iconography and art through meditation and prayer. Art becomes the "sacrament" that opens our hearts to the indwelling Spirit of God.

From: Friday afternoon 27 March to Sunday afternoon 29 March 2026.

Location: Tobar Mhuire Retreat and Conference Centre, 6A Downpatrick Rd, Crossgar, Downpatrick BT30 9EQ Find out more: <https://www.tobarmhuire.com/>

Cemetery Sunday 31st May 2026

Islandmagee After 9.30am Mass
Mount St. Nicholas' After 11.30am Mass
Victoria - 2.00pm
Prospect -3.00pm

THE BALLYCLARE MALE CHOIR will be performing a concert to raise funds for the Youth Ministry in the Loughshore Parishes on Friday 20th March in Star of the Sea, Whitehouse at 7.30pm. Tickets cost £15 and will be available from the parish office. Tel. 02890370845. email loughshore@downandconnor.org

This Coming Week
16th Mar - 22nd Mar

Tues

St. Patrick

Wed

St. Cyril of Jerusalem

Thurs

St. Joseph

Sat

St. Enda

Sun

5th Sunday of Lent

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION & PRAISE AND WORSHIP

Every Thursday, 7 - 8pm in St James' Church, Whiteabbey. All are welcome. We especially encourage youth and young adults to come and spend some time with the Blessed Sacrament in an hour of praise and worship.

Readings for
Sun 22nd Mar

Ezekiel 37:12-14

Romans 8: 8-11

John 11: 1-45

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**

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