



# Parish of Carrickfergus & Whitehead



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

Saint Nicholas'

Our Lady of Lourdes

3rd May 2026

5th Sunday of Easter

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](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  
By arrangement with the Parish Office

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

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

**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.


**Funerals**  
By arrangement

**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 3rd May**  
(\* \*\* Streamed Masses - see parish website for link)  
Holy Days : As announced.

**Requiescant in Pace**  
  
**Anniversaries**  
Lily Poland  
Rose Shanks Poland  
Isabella Poland  
Sally Glanville  
Susie McGivern  
Lorraine McKinty  
  
*Eternal rest grant unto them,  
O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.  
Amen*

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	

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**  
We would like to invite you to take part in a day dedicated to prayer and worship in the lead up to the great feast of Pentecost. The purpose of the day is to strengthen our parish community after completing our Lenten sacrifices and renewing our hearts and Baptismal promises during the Easter Triduum.  
  
The Eucharistic Adoration will take place in St. Nicholas' Church on Saturday 23rd May from 8.00 a.m. until 8.00 p.m.  
Please come along to support the day and ask God for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit in our parish community and, of course, for your own special intentions as well.  
If you are able to commit to remaining in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament for an hour during this time, please put your name on the sheet at the back of the church.  
Thank you.  
The Liturgy Group/Panel of Catechists

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

**ADVANCE BOOKING FOR PARISH RETREAT**  
which is taking place on Saturday 3rd October 5pm to Sunday 5pm 2026.  
Please phone Ruth Bates on 0787 64208 67.

**Mary's Meals**  
A representative from Mary's Meals will speak at masses this weekend about their life-changing work of feeding a daily school meal to over 3 million children in some of the world's poorest countries of the world Mary's Meals welcomes your prayers in support of their work and there will be prayer card available after mass. There will also be a collection after mass with buckets and a card machine if you wish to support financially.  
Further information can be found at [www.marysmeals.org.uk](http://www.marysmeals.org.uk)

### ANNUAL PARISH CENSUS 2026

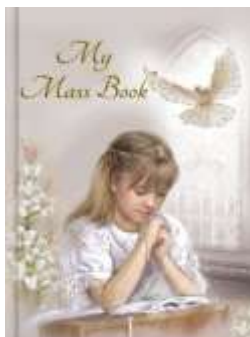
A count of attendance will take place at all Masses across the Diocese on the weekend, 9th & 10th May 2026.

The annual parish census captures valuable information about the numbers, ages, and gender of people attending Mass. This information helps the Diocese and parishes to identify pastoral priorities, make plans to address them, and provide support to our faith communities.

**When you arrive at Mass**, you will be given a small counter for yourself and for each person in your family group and will be asked to place the counters in baskets labelled according to age.

There will be red counters for females and blue counters for males. The baskets will be labelled with age bands and the number of counters for each age band will be recorded after each Mass.

We look forward to seeing you at Mass and thank you for your patience and co-operation.



**Cards & Gifts**  
for **First Communion**  
available from the Church Shop.  
Open each Sunday.  
See parish website for more information



[www.carrickparish.org/shop](http://www.carrickparish.org/shop)

### THANK YOU

#### Carrickfergus and Whitehead Parish Cell Groups

Thank you very much to everyone who supported us with prayers and good wishes for our Parish Cells National Seminar in Drumalis. The seminar was a happy, Spirit filled and successful event. Your goodness and thoughtfulness are much appreciated.  
(parishcellsireland.ie)

### ANNUAL NOVENA TO OUR MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP

“Living our Baptism today”

ST GERARD’S PARISH CHURCH,  
722 ANTRIM ROAD

**MONDAY 11th to TUESDAY 19th MAY 2026**

Monday to Friday 9.30am and 7.30pm

Saturday 9.30am and 6.30pm

Sunday 10.30am and 7.30pm

St Gerard’s Parish warmly invite you to participate in our Annual Novena in honour of Our Mother of Perpetual Help. EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

### SOUTH ANTRIM COMMUNITY TRANSPORT Volunteer Drivers Needed in Whitehead

Mileage reimbursement, full training and support provided.  
Contact us on 028 93342455

**The Chosen** — Friday Mornings (May & June): The Belfast Jesuit Centre will host weekly screenings of *The Chosen* (Season 1) on Fridays at 10.45am, beginning 8th May and continuing through June. Tea/coffee at 10.45am - episode begins @ 11am sharp, followed by a short Examen and discussion. Sessions end at 12.15pm, with the option to remain for Mass at 12.30pm. All are welcome. To register visit: [www.belfastjesuitcentre.co.uk](http://www.belfastjesuitcentre.co.uk) or email [bjc@jesuit.ie](mailto:bjc@jesuit.ie)

**Anam Cara**, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, will hold its monthly Parent Support Evening on Monday 11th May 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 028 95213120 or email [info@anamcara.ie](mailto:info@anamcara.ie)

**Pope Leo’s prayer intentions for 2026 May:**  
That everyone might have food. Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food.

### Standing in the Breach – Catholic Men’s Retreat

A powerful half-day retreat for men centred on our call to holiness: “*Be holy, for I am holy*” (1 Peter 1:16). Join other men for a morning of straight-talking teaching, prayer, and real-life testimonies, led by Fr Andrew Black (Belfast). This is a call to step up, take responsibility, and live the faith with courage in today’s world.

📅 Saturday 9th May 2026 ⌚ 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM 📍 Portglenone Monastery  
Includes prayer, teaching, testimonies, and tea & coffee with time to connect.  
For more information or to attend: Thomas Carey – 07967 620435  
[sean@catholicminute.co.uk](mailto:sean@catholicminute.co.uk)

### This Coming Week 4th May -10th May

**Tues**  
The English Martyrs  
St. Conleth  
**Wed**  
Blessed Edmund Rice  
**Sun**  
Sixth Sunday of Easter

**Three-Day Pilgrimage to Lough Derg.** Bishop Alan McGuckian SJ and Jim Deeds will lead the Three-Day Pilgrimage to Lough Derg. Date: 19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> June 2026. The bus will depart from St Patrick’s Church Donegall Street. Cost £100. Places are limited early booking advised. To book contact Claire on 028 90690920 or email: [pathwaystothefuture@downandconnor.org](mailto:pathwaystothefuture@downandconnor.org)

**Readings for Sun 10<sup>th</sup> May**  
Acts 8: 5-8, 14-17  
1 Peter: 3: 15-18  
John 14: 15-21

**Daily readings** The link below is found on the Parish Website’s Information page. This gives access to today’s reading and the following Sunday’s reading.  
<https://www.catholicireland.net/readings/?feature=today>

### 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