

Sunday 26th March 2023

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Pastoral Community of Downpatrick Parish of Dunsford & Ardglass

Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless.

From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.

Fr. Gerard McCloskey PP.

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WEEKLY COLLECTION:

We acknowledge with grateful thanks last week's Offertory Promise Collection which came to £550.50, Loose plate £459.50, Direct Debits £55.00. Needy Parishes £245.00, Loose Plate £210.00.

MASSES for SUNDAY:

ARDGLASS **6.30pm Vigil Saturday**
11.30am Sunday

DUNSFORD **10.00am Sunday**

WEEKDAY MASSES:

ARDGLASS **Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri: 10am**

DUNSFORD: **Thursday 10.00am**

CONFESSIONS: **Sat: Ardglass 6.00-6.25pm (or upon request)**

ANNIVERSARIES:

Mary Gordon (Babsie) Jan Cannavan, Catherine Ross, John Savage, Sean Burke, Edmund Curran, Martin McEvoy, Hugh Kearns, Matt Murphy, William Branniff, Jack Magee, Nora Convery, Jim Pullen, Kit O'Sullivan, Jim Pullen, Ellen Mooney, Gerry Lavery.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

Baptisms are on first Sunday of every Month in Ardglass and the third Sunday of the month in Dunsford.

For further details, please phone the parish on Monday mornings.

ANNIVERSARY MASS BOOKINGS:

The best way to book these is in person in either Sacristy after any of the Masses. Please do not phone the parish to make bookings as we are not in a position to deal with them by phone.

JESUS RAISES HIS FRIEND LAZARUS FROM THE DEAD

Our Gospel for the 5th Sunday of Lent marks the beginning of Passiontide. We are gripped by the dramatic nature of the story. Jesus offers the gift of life to his friend Lazarus. This is not the same gift of life that Jesus offers to us in the Resurrection as Lazarus returns to ordinary human life, and will die again, whereas the Christian resurrection transforms us into a whole new way of living our lives, offering us a share in the Divine life and forever. We also see in this Gospel the humanity of Jesus; he weeps upon hearing of the death of his friend. He weeps for us too, sharing in our sorrows. As he comforts Lazarus' family, so too, he comforts us in all our sorrows.

REFLECTION ON THE LIFE OF MARY:

St Nicholas Church Meeting Room 10.30 Wednesday 22nd March after Mass, this week will focus on Mary's Magnificat. All welcome!

LEGION OF MARY MORNING STAR VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT :

Catholic men and women wanted to join The Legion of Mary, to help with the mission of the Legion to care for the spiritual and temporal needs of vulnerable and homeless men living in Morning Star House, Divis Street, Belfast. For more information please call 07596128437 after 5pm any day.

DIOCESAN VOCATION RETREAT:

For young men interested in the Priesthood 21-23 April @ Drumalis Retreat House Larne directed by Fr Stephen Langridge.

For more information Please contact Fr Conor McGrath Diocesan Vocations Director 028 90654157 or Fr Gerry McCloskey

SACRISTAN VACANCY:

A vacancy has arisen for a Sacristan within Saul & Ballee Parish based at St Patrick's Church, Saul, Downpatrick, BT30 7JG.

For more information please go to: <http://www.downandconnor.org> clicking on the tab: JOB VACANCIES Application packs can also be obtained from Saul Parish Office.

Closing date for applications will be 12.00 noon on Thursday 30th March 2023.

PILGRIMAGES:

All Ireland Rosary Rally, (Day Pilgrimage), Saturday 3 June.

The Legion of Mary are running a bus...For more details phone Sean McAlea 07504041526

Down&Connor Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 12-17 July

For more info phone 02890770162 or visit www.downandconnor.org/lourdes