

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2023

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Pastoral Community of Downpatrick Parish of Dunsford & Ardglass

Father Gerard McCloskey PP.

Tel: 02844841208

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame.  
Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

E-mail address: [office@dunsfordandardglassparish.com](mailto:office@dunsfordandardglassparish.com)

Parish website address: [www.dunsfordandardglassparish.com](http://www.dunsfordandardglassparish.com)

**Weekly Collection:** We acknowledge with grateful thanks last week's Offertory Promise Collection which came to £401.50, Loose plate £411.50, Direct Debits £55.00. Building Fund Collection £264.00, loose plate £190.00.

**MASSES for SUNDAY:**

ARDGLASS                    5.00pm Vigil Saturday  
   11.30am Sunday

DUNSFORD                    10.00am Sunday

**WEEKDAY SERVICES:**

ARDGLASS                    10am Mass: Mon, Tue, Wed.  
   & Fri. Holy Day: Immaculate Conception of Blessed Virgin Mary

DUNSFORD                    Thurs. 10.00am Novena Mass.

**CONFESSIONS**                    Sat Ardglass 4.30 - 4.55pm (or upon request)

**RECENTLY DECEASED: BETTY McEVOY ( FORMERLY OF SHEEPLAND).**

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Very Rev. Patrick McAlea, Martha Curran, Ursula Gilchrist, Daniel Duffy, Ann Cross, Gerard Rooney, Sally King (nee Convery), Rose Markey, Mary (Maureen) McKernan.

**ANNIVERSARIES MASS BOOKINGS:**

The best way to make 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.

**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.

**ADORATION: ARDGLASS TUESDAY 11am to 11pm,  
DUNSFORD THURSDAY 11am to 11pm**

## **First Sunday in Advent; Seeing your Life through the lens of the Gospel.**

**Mark 13: 33 - 37**

**It is easy to interpret this passage as a warning about impending death or disaster. Present wars and tragedies are examples. Yet the coming of the Lord is not just the moment of death, but any moment of grace. Recall unexpected graces - good things that happened when they were not anticipated.**

**Perhaps some of these were moments when you were particularly alert and aware of what was going on in you and around you and this enabled you to be open to the moment of grace. Recall the contrast with moments when not alertness and awareness were not present. The servants were given charge of the household each with their own job. See yourself as a person given a responsibility within the household of God's people. What is it like for you to see yourself trusted in this way by God? Are you a messenger of hope to others? Do you encourage others to wait for a moment of grace?**

### **Children's Mass**

Unfortunately, we have had to postpone the Children's Mass scheduled for Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December. God willing, the next children's Mass will take place on January 14<sup>th</sup> 2024 in St Mary's Dunsford.

### **"ARDGLASS AND DUNSFORD, CO DOWN - BIOGRAPHIES"**

This recently published book is still locally available by phoning 07719670496

### **Fountain Foodbank Support**

Milligan's Shop has reinstated a trolley where donations of food, toiletries, etc, can be left for collection. As we approach Christmas, requests for foodbank parcels are particularly high and only made possible by the generosity of the community.

### **Down and Connor Diocesan Pilgrimage to Fatima 2024**

Spiritual Directors Fr G McCloskey, Fr M Graham, Canon S Gilmore

20 Aug 2024. 7 Nights £799 per person sharing (£100 off per person if paid in full by 8<sup>th</sup> December 2023) direct return flights from Dublin to Lisbon afternoon flights.

20KG bags included. Return airport transfers in Fatima. 7 Nights Hotel Avenida. Full board: breakfast, lunch & dinner each day. Guided tour of the Sanctuary & Basilica of Our Lady of the Rosary. Optional: Travel Insurance & Single Supplement.

For further information please contact: Joe Catney 07776 425 631/02890714001