

PORTSTEWART PARISH



Part of the North Connor
Pastoral Community

22nd December 2019
Fourth Sunday of Advent
Readings: Sunday A
Psalter: Week 4

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Parish Pastoral Council:
Chairperson: Emer O'Keeffe 07709 043 921
Parish Finance Committee:
Chairperson: Alison Rankin
Parish Safeguarding Committee:
Chairperson: Ruth McGuckian 7083 2534
Stella Maris: Editor: Bryan Rooney 07738 290 588
St Vincent de Paul Conference: 07508 549 572
Bethany Bereavement: 07743 310 846

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR IN STAR OF THE SEA	
Mon 23 December	Mass 9.30am
Tues 24 Dec Christmas Eve	Mass 9.30am Carols 8.30 pm Christmas Vigil Mass 9pm
Wed 25 Dec Christmas Day	Mass 9.00 am & 11.00 am (carols from 10.30am)
Thurs - Fri 26 - 27 December	Mass 12.00 noon
Sat 28 December	Mass 12.00 noon Sunday Vigil Mass 5.00pm
Sun 29 December	Mass 10.00 am
Mon - Tues 30 - 31	Mass 12.00 noon
Wed 1 Jan	New Year's Day Mass for Peace 12.00 noon
Thurs - Fri 2 - 3 January	Mass 9.30am
Sat 4 January	Mass 9.30am Sunday Vigil Mass 5.00pm
Sun 5 January	Mass 10.00am 11.30am Travelling Ecumenical Service starting at the Methodist Church Epiphany Vigil Mass 7.00pm

Mon 6 January	Epiphany Mass 9.30am
REST IN PEACE Recent: John McAreavey (Glenavy), Kathleen Keenan (Luton) One month ago: Christopher Trolan – month's mind Mass at 5pm on Saturday 28 th December Anniversaries: Jean Kearney (18), Mary Carlin, Joan Kerr, Mary Rose Lundy, Tom Mullan (21), Yvonne Marie Butler, Harry Moore (22), Bridie Duffy, Anne Kelly, Willie & Martha McElroy, Harry Watterson (23), Leo Casey, Dan McCrossan (24), Patrick Elliott, Sarah Loughrey, Ellie Sweeney (25), Bridget Curtis, William Kearney, Bernie McLaughlin, Martha McWilliams (26), Jody Fitzsimons, Hugh McGarry (27)	

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

There will be **no Eucharistic Adoration** on Thursday 26th December.

PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR DECEMBER

We pray that every country may determine to take the necessary measures to make the future of the very young, especially those who suffer, a priority.



LIVE CRIB AT ST MARY'S

Visit The Live Crib at St. Mary's Grotto, Chapel Lane, Belfast – opening **Friday 13th to Tuesday 24th December and from Saturday 28th December to Monday 6th January from 10.30am to 6pm and on 19th and 23rd December until 8pm.** Come along and meet Mary, Joseph and Baby Jesus, the shepherds and the animals. The three wise men will arrive on 6th January. Schools groups, choirs and carol singers welcome. Proceeds to Tuesday's Child Following Yonder Star Christmas Appeal for children in Gaza, Syria, Kenya and Sudan. Prayers at the crib each day for peace for every child, born and unborn. Contact 07545 452 362



OPERATION FREEZE KNEES

The Coleraine Hospice Support Group are holding their annual Christmas Swim 'Operation Freeze-Knees!' on Christmas Day at 12 noon on Portstewart Strand. If you're brave enough to join in, sponsorship forms are available from Coleraine Hospice Shop or ☎ 7083 2735. Or just come along, enjoy the fun and help the local Hospice service provide care in our local area.

DOMINICAN COLLEGE

Open Night/Morning
Wednesday 8th January 2020 (6.30pm - 9.00pm)
& Thursday 9th January 2020 (9.30am - 11.30am)

Parents, Guardians and prospective pupils are all warmly invited to visit the school. There will be an opportunity to meet students and teachers, see some of the work of the students and visit various departments.

PREPARING FOR MARRIAGE?

Catholic Engaged Encounter

A two day non-residential course will be held in Castle Community Centre, Ballymoney on **21-22 March 2020**. For Information/Booking: marriageencounter.ie
☎ 2763 8512

NURSES FOR LOURDES

The Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes are currently seeking volunteer registered nurses to work on the 2020 Pilgrimage (8-13 July). For more information or to register your interest, please email: Lourdes@downandconnor.org

IS YOUR P4 OR P7 CHILD NOT ATTENDING ST COLUM'S PRIMARY SCHOOL?

ARE YOU HOPING TO TAKE PART IN FIRST COMMUNION OR CONFIRMATION THIS YEAR?

If YES to both these questions, it's time to contact the parish office and put your child's name on the list for our parish-based classes being held shortly in the Marian Hall. The classes will be led by Mrs Geraldine Doherty on a day and time which suit the parents and children. Deacon Terence will be offering an "adults only" exploration of our faith during the time of the children's instructions.

☎ 7083 2534 email: secretary@portstewartparish.co.uk

STELLA MARIS

By now every household should have received a copy of the Christmas Stella Maris. If you have been missed, please let us know ☎ 7083 2534 The magazine is now also available on our website: portstewartparish.website
Thanks again to the volunteers who deliver the Stella Maris – we would like more people to join us to keep the lists manageable. If you could offer help (only 3 times a year) please contact the parish office.



PARISH FACEBOOK PAGE

We now have a new Parish Facebook page: **Star of the Sea Portstewart**. Please 'like' our page to receive updates. We'll have regular news about parish events and for Advent we'll have some daily acts of kindness, questions to ponder and short reflections to help us prepare for the great Feast of Christmas as a parish.

INFORMATION FOR COELIACS

If you are gluten intolerant, please make yourself known in the Sacristy before Mass. Very low-gluten hosts are available. You may also receive from the chalice at weekend masses. **Those who wish to receive from the**

gluten-free chalice may do so at the left side of the Sanctuary (in front of the lectern).

THANK YOU

Sheila Conway thanks everyone for their cards, gifts and good wishes on the occasion of her 80th birthday. A Mass will be offered for your intentions.

PARISH CENTRE 22 – 28 December		
Sun:	Malawi Sunday Kitchen & Car Boot Sale Innova Irish Dance	0900 – 1400 1430 – 1900
Monday – Saturday Parish Centre Closed		

COLLECTIONS

Weekly Collection: £1522

Maintenance Collection: £205

Thank you for your generosity and support.



SVP CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Thank you to all parishioners and visitors who gave so generously to the recent SVP Christmas Appeal, which has so far raised over £4000.

DATES FOR THE DIARY 2020

First Communion: Sunday 10th May at 11.30am

Confirmation: Wednesday 20th May at 5.00pm

BULLETIN NOTICES

Any items for inclusion in the Sunday bulletin must be sent to the Parish Office **by 5pm on Thursday** please.

☎ 7083 2534 or email:

secretary@portstewartparish.co.uk



