

PORTSTEWART PARISH

Part of the North Connor Pastoral Community



7th February 2021

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday B/Weekdays 1

Psalter week 1

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Parish Facebook page and website



Star of the Sea Portstewart
portstewartparish.website

Follow us for up to date information

MASSES THIS WEEK - STREAMED

Sunday: Vigil 5pm, Sunday 10am

Monday – Saturday: Mass at 9.30am

All Masses are streamed online on the parish website: portstewartparish.website ‘Watch Live’ and on YouTube. Masses are recorded and can be watched on the website 45 minutes after Mass has ended. You can also listen on our parish radio.

MASS IN PORTRUSH - STREAMED

Saturday vigil at 6pm, Sunday at noon

Monday 9am, Tuesday 9am, Wednesday 7pm,

Thursday 9am, Friday 9am

portrushparish.website

REST IN PEACE

RECENT: William O’Connell, Linda O’Hara, Michael Donaghy, Catherine McWilliams

ANNIVERSARIES: Matt Colgan, Peter Corr, Nancy Delaney, Henry McCann, Danny McMullan (7), Sally Loughrey, Una Spears (8), Michael Brolly, Jack Brolly, David Graham, Philomena Larkin, Bertie Kelly, Dermot O’Kane (9), Michael Kealey, William Killen (10), Una O’Doherty (12), Elizabeth Mulhern (13), Charlie McManus, Lily McCandless, Kathleen & Harry Rhodes

THE POPE’S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR FEBRUARY:

Universal: Violence against Women

We pray for women who are victims of violence, that they may be protected by society and have their sufferings considered and heeded.

HEAR! HERE!

Different Tune, Same Rhythm?

This session supported by Causeway Coast & Glens Council looks at the history, heritage and process of making and playing the fiddle, fife, Uilleann pipes and Lambeg and explores our rich and diverse tradition of music. To register please email: Bebhinn.mckinley@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk

PREPARING FOR MARRIAGE?

Catholic Engaged Encounter

A 'Zoom' online Marriage Preparation course is planned for **27-28 March 2021**. This 2-day course is a positive way of preparing for Marriage where you will discover how you can enrich your future relationship. Information/Booking: marriageencounter.ie or ☎ 2763 8512

DIVINE MERCY CONFERENCE

The virtual Divine Mercy Conference (2021) will take place on 19, 20, and 21 February. It will be broadcast on our website www.divinemercyconference.com free of charge. It will also be available on www.RadioMaria.ie. The theme of this our 30th Conference is: *For Thine is the Kingdom, the Power and the Glory* (Mt. 6:13). Speakers over the weekend include Sr. Briege McKenna, Fr. Hayden Williams, Fr. Colomba Jordan, Fr. Brendan Walsh, Rev. Dr. Eunan McDonnell, Fr. Eamonn McCarthy and Christy May.



ASH WEDNESDAY IS ON 17th FEBRUARY 2021

LECTIO DIVINA FOR LENT

An opportunity for a group of people to come together, pray with scripture and share their insights. A deeper love for scripture opens the door to deepening our relationship with God. This year *Living Church* is providing resources for a **5-week programme** using an online platform such as Zoom. Each week the resource looks at the Old Testament readings with a teaching video and then a *Lectio Divina* with the Gospel passage. Each session will be led by trained facilitators and is **open to everyone from across the North Connor Pastoral Community**. The Programme will run on **Monday evenings from 22 February to 22 March inclusive starting @ 7.30pm** - registration details will follow.



THE GOSPEL OF LUKE FOR EVERYONE (Online)

In Luke’s Gospel we see Jesus’ disciples following him learning on the job what it means to be a disciple. Please join us on this Lenten online Programme and observe what Jesus said and did. Let us learn from how Jesus reached out to the poor and the excluded and disadvantaged and how he challenged inequality and injustice. Tuesdays from 7-8.30pm for 12 weeks contact Course Facilitator Kieran Hill. E: kc.hill@btinternet.com or ☎ 07964 287839

FROM COVID TO LIGHT – LENTEN TALKS 2021

A Zoom Conference through the lens of Faith and the Gospels of Lent. Each Tuesday during Lent at 8pm, you are invited to join this Lenten journey. The speaker for the first session on **Tuesday 23rd February** is Fr James O’Reilly and the theme is ‘The Wilderness of Covid.’ To take part, email: lentenatalks@downandconnor.org to receive Link and Password for the talks which are **free** and open to all.

LENTEN PIONEER PLEDGE

Many people choose to abstain from alcohol during Lent. Why not take this opportunity to perhaps help yourself or someone you know with an alcohol or drug problem by offering your sacrifice for freedom from addiction? Please consider taking the short-term Lenten Pledge and make a difference to someone's life and say the following daily prayer: “I promise in honour of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and with the help of the Blessed Virgin Mary to abstain from all alcoholic drink during Lent.”



This Lent, we learn more about the suffering of people who have lost their homes and loved ones to war, and how they are rebuilding their lives through love, friendship and solidarity.

South Sudan is the world’s newest country, having gained independence from Sudan in 2011 after many years of conflict. However, in December 2013 a civil war broke out between rival political factions. Almost four hundred thousand people – equivalent to every person in Kildare and Meath – were killed during this conflict. A peace agreement was signed in September 2018, but fighting continues in many parts of the country. About 3.8 million people in South Sudan – one in every three people – fled their homes and remain displaced within South Sudan or are living as refugees in neighbouring countries to this day.

Trócaire works with local partners in South Sudan to provide: Emergency aid such as food, water and sanitation and hygiene items; Seeds, tools and agricultural training to help people grow their own food; Counselling support to help people overcome the trauma they have experienced; Promoting peaceful coexistence between all the people of South Sudan.

Lives have been torn apart by a war they never wanted. This is the injustice of war. It is not just that people lost their homes. It is not just that they struggle each day to survive. They are supporting each other but they are living in fear, and it is not just.

Prayer for Peace

As we move through the Lenten time,
the time when we contemplate
Jesus in the desert,
pray for us the people of South Sudan
and pray for peace here.
Accompany us, hold our hands,
hold the hands of the Church in
South Sudan.

Hold the hands of our brothers and
sisters in South Sudan,
walk with us during this Lenten time.
Through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Father James Oyet Latansio