

PORTSTEWART PARISH

Part of the North Connor Pastoral Community



21st February 2021
Sunday B/Weekdays 1

First Sunday of Lent
Psalter week 1

Fr Austin McGirr PP 7083 2534 / 07739 223295

Email: pp@portstewartparish.co.uk

Fr Raymond McCullagh – Ulster University and
Dominican College Chaplain 07739 223293

Deacon Terence Butcher 7083 3548

Parish Secretary: Ruth McGuckian 7083 2534

Email: portstewart@downandconnor.org

Parish Pastoral Council:

Chairperson: Emer O’Keeffe 07709 043921

Email: portstewartpastoralcouncil@gmail.com

SVP Helpline: 07508 549572

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.



During Lent we will have Stations of the Cross in the church every Friday at 3pm – watch online or listen on the 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

During Lent there will be a recording of the Rosary 20 minutes before all Masses. Log on to Portrush parish webcam to participate in this powerful Marian prayer.

REST IN PEACE

ONE MONTH AGO: Betty Fulton

ANNIVERSARIES: Eamon Gilmore (16), Molly Higgins, Uel McDonnell, Patrick O’Connell (20), Jack Dillon, Teresa Higgins (21), Winifred Dellett, Joseph McCullagh, Nan Morelli, Corrado Morelli, Marie Murray, Lucy Donnelly, Ellen Tangney, Joseph Lynn (22), John Flynn, Donal McLaughlin, Hannah More (23), Bernard Goodfellow, Noeleen Kinney, Bernard McNicholl (24), Rose Donnelly, Therese Falls, Philomena Kelly, Ernest Mullan (25), Francis McAuley (27)

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.

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



PARISH RESOURCES FOR LENT

Every household in the parish should have received a Lenten pack containing prayers, readings, ashes and holy water. Please ring the parish office and let us know if yours didn't arrive. ☎ 7083 2534

Thank you to the members of the Pastoral Council and all the volunteers who have prepared, collated and delivered these packs – a huge undertaking.



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 online programme**. Each week the resource looks at

the Old Testament readings with a teaching video and then a Lectio Divina with the Gospel passage. Sessions will be led by trained facilitators and are 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 at **7.30pm**. Use this link to join the Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3917526857?pwd=b3ZhaXJVaoFVejAxMWpicFVsVHlRZz09>
Meeting ID: 391 752 6857 Passcode: 3e70J2

VIA DOLOROSA

This is a special resource prepared by Living Church for use during Lent either at home or as part of a community celebration. **Each Friday from 26 February to 26 March** there will be a short service from St Malachy’s Church, Coleraine beginning at **7.30pm**. This will include an Opening Prayer, Gospel reading, time for silent reflection and one decade of a Scriptural Rosary. Please join online by logging on to St Malachy’s Parish Coleraine YouTube channel, parish website <https://coleraine-parish.website> or Facebook page.

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: lenten_talks@downandconnor.org to receive Link and Password for the talks which are **free** and open to all.



LIVING YOUTH LENTEN CHALLENGES

Get online to access weekly Lenten Challenges for young people aged 11-18 and their families. We will be exploring different themes throughout Lent and will have a host of engaging activities to get involved with. Visit: www.livingyouth.co.uk/lent-2021 for more information and to register.



CATHOLIC MINUTE

“Where your treasure is, there you will find your heart.”

Do you sometimes feel as if you’re ‘swimming against the tide’? You want so much to find the sacred space within yourself where you can be with God, but the pull of the noise and distractions of popular culture make it sometimes seem like mission impossible! The team at Catholic Minute invite you to join with them for online prayer during the week so that together we can move towards that which will give us life. With daily Scripture reflections, the Rosary, intercessory prayer, and reflective music, you can be part of a community that wants to find our treasure in God. **There is prayer each morning LIVE on Facebook at 9am and in the evenings too.** Just click on: <https://www.facebook.com/CatholicMinute>

MARY’S MEALS: CRISIS IN ETHIOPIA

The people of Tigray are living in fear of imminent starvation. The brutal fighting has caused many to flee their homes. Meeting the basic needs of these people

is the number one priority. They are without food, without shelter, without medical supplies. It is a matter of life and death. This pandemic is stealing many things from us, but it can never rob us of our charity. Thanks to your support so far, we’ve been able to reach 3,000 children and vulnerable adults in Tigray, Ethiopia, with life-saving food parcels. But we urgently need to reach many more people in the coming weeks. Find out how you can help at: www.marysmeals.org.uk



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.

TRÓCAIRE BOXES are available from the Parish Office

ANYONE WANT A TANK?

An empty corner fish tank unit is available free to a good home! Ask at the parochial house.



HOUSE NEEDED TO RENT

Portstewart family urgently needs a 3-bedroom long-term let. Please contact 07853 638711