

# PORTSTEWART PARISH

Part of the North Connor Pastoral Community



28 March 2021  
Sunday B/Weekdays 1

Palm Sunday  
Psalter week 2

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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 WEEKEND

Palm Sunday: Vigil 5pm

Sunday 10am and 7.00pm

## REST IN PEACE

RECENT: Catherine Kelly, Annie Josephine O’Kane

ANNIVERSARIES: Frank Murray (24), John McCurdy (27), Bridget Boyle, John Farren, Patrick Mullen, Loris Kelly (29), Peggy Clarke (30), Anna McElhone (31), Maisie McCann, Annie Sweeney, Brigid Ward (1), Joseph McKenna, Teresa Dempsey (2), Hugh McGarry, JP McMullan (3)

## THE POPE’S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR APRIL

Universal: Fundamental Rights

We pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes and even in democracies in crisis.



## HOLY WEEK IN STAR OF THE SEA

Please book for all weekend Masses,  
either by phoning Emer 07709 043921  
or online at EVENTBRITE

No booking is required for weekdays.

We welcome all who are able to attend Mass and remember the intentions of all who cannot yet be with us. Numbers are restricted under current guidelines. Please enter by the main door. Please wear a face mask when you come and follow the directions of the stewards regarding sanitizing your hands and choosing a seat.

For your safety, the toilets remain closed.

If you think you might need to use the toilet during Mass please notify a steward.

All Masses are streamed online on the parish website:

[portstewartparish.website](http://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.

Monday – Mass 9.30am

Tuesday – Mass 7.00pm

Penitential Service 7.30pm (see note)

Wednesday – Mass 9.30am

## THE EASTER TRIDUUM

- HOLY THURSDAY

Morning Prayer 9.30am

Mass of the Lord’s Supper at 7.00pm.

Please bring your Trocaire contribution to this Mass.

- GOOD FRIDAY

Day of fasting and abstinence.

Morning Prayer 9.30am

Liturgy (including Reading of the Passion and Distribution of Holy Communion) at 3.00pm.

Collection for Christians in the Holy Land will be taken up.

Stations of the Cross at 7.00pm

- HOLY SATURDAY

Morning Prayer 9.30am

EASTER VIGIL 9.00pm

- EASTER SUNDAY

Mass 10.00am and 7.00pm



The church is open for private prayer from 10am-12 noon on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday of Holy Week. Please observe social-distancing guidelines, sanitise your hands on entry and exit, and sanitise any hard surface you have touched.

## PENITENTIAL SERVICE

Easter is the most important feast in the Christian year. Many prepare for this feast by the celebration of the Sacrament of Penance. Confession to a priest is an essential part of the Sacrament of Penance, but because of the restrictions caused by the pandemic, it is not possible to celebrate the Sacrament at this time. What are we to do? Pope Francis has spoken about this situation. He reminds us that the confessor is not the master of God's forgiveness, but its servant. Only God forgives sin and God, who is the Father of tenderness, waits for the return of the sinner, and always welcomes with a loving embrace - God's forgiveness is immediate! In our present uniquely difficult situation, when it is not possible to come to the Church for Confession, speak to God from your heart; acknowledge truthfully what you have done or failed to do. Then, with all your heart, ask forgiveness with a sincere Act of Sorrow, confident that God always forgives the contrite. Later, when Covid-19 has released its grip, we can return to the Church and avail of Confession, and celebrate the forgiveness that has been so freely given. Our Easter Penitential Service will take place on Tuesday 30th March at 7.30pm, following the evening Mass. There will be no individual Sacrament of Reconciliation. The service will also be screened online.

## THE CHRISM MASS

Bishop Treanor will celebrate the Chrism Mass at 11.00am on Holy Thursday. He will be joined by clergy and lay faithful representatives from each Pastoral Community and religious. You are invited to join in this celebration via the live stream on the Cathedral webcam.

## HOLY WEEK IN PORTRUSH

Monday – Mass at 9.00am

Tuesday – Mass at 9.00am

Wednesday – Mass at 7.00pm

Holy Thursday – Mass at 7.00pm

Holy Hour 9.00-10.00pm (online only)

Good Friday – Liturgy at 3.00pm

Holy Hour 9.00-10.00pm (online only)

Saturday – Easter Vigil at 9.00pm

Easter Sunday – Mass at 10.00am in Bushmills

Easter Sunday – Mass at 12 noon

## DIVINE MERCY NOVENA

The Divine Mercy Novena is prayed for nine days, commencing Good Friday (2nd April) until the first Saturday of Easter (10th April) in preparation for Divine Mercy Sunday (11th April). There are many opportunities to

follow the Novena online, including on Facebook with Catholic Minute or also on Radio Maria.



## ST COLUM'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

### Admissions 2021

If your child is due to start primary school in September 2021, and you missed applying via the online portal, you can still apply by paper application available from the School Office or download from: <https://www.stcolumsprimaryschool.co.uk/admissions> If you have any questions please contact the School Office ☎ 7083 3010. Further information on the EA website under the Admissions section at: <https://www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions>



Trocaire would like to thank parishes across Ireland for their fantastic support of our 2021 Lenten Appeal in what is an unusual year for us all. Trocaire's Lenten Appeal will still be active for a period of time after Easter and all donations to the appeal from the public in NI made before 16<sup>th</sup> May will be matched pound for pound by the UK government, up to £2m. Supporters who sign up for a monthly gift, or increase their monthly gift before the 16<sup>th</sup> May deadline, will have three instalments matched. These matched funds will help thousands of people in South Sudan to grow enough food to feed their families. It will also support strong women like Awut and Ajak – the women featured on this year's Trocaire Lent Box – in having their voices heard in decisions affecting them. The more funds we can raise by 16<sup>th</sup> May, the more we are able to help families hurt by conflict to survive and thrive. Thank you once again for your continued support.



Our steps are slow,  
Our breathing ragged,  
Our burdens heavy.  
This walk to the cross,  
It is not easy,  
Yet Christ walked it for us.  
For the joy  
that was set before him,  
He despised the shame,  
He bore our blame,  
And shared our pain,  
Now let us build on the rock,  
That is Christ.  
Let us walk the way of the cross  
together,  
Moving forward without fear,  
Into God's eternal purposes.  
For Christ himself is with us,  
every step of the way.  
Let us trust in God alone,  
And find the joy that Christ did,  
Obedience to our loving God.  
(c) Christine Sine <http://godspace.wordpress.com>