

PORTSTEWART PARISH

Part of the North Connor Pastoral Community



SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

13th February 2022

Sunday C/Weekdays 2 Psalter Week 2

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: secretary@portstewartparish.co.uk

Parish Pastoral Council:

Chairperson: Emer O’Keeffe 07709 043921

Email: portstewartpastoralcouncil@gmail.com

SVP Helpline: 07508 549572



Star of the Sea Portstewart
portstewartparish.website

MASSES THIS WEEK

Saturday Vigil at 5.00 pm

Sunday at 10.00am and 7.00pm

Tuesday: Mass at 7.00pm

Wednesday – Saturday : Mass at 9.30am

**Eucharistic Adoration on Thursday
from 10.00am until 5.00pm**

The church is open for private prayer on Wednesday,
Friday and Saturday from 10am – 12 noon

MASS IN PORTRUSH

Saturday Vigil at 6pm, Sunday at noon

Monday & Tuesday 9am

Wednesday 7pm, Thursday 9am, Friday 9.30am

MASS IN ST MALACHY’S, COLERAINE

Saturday vigil at 6pm, Sunday at 11am

Tuesday and Thursday at 10am

THE POPE’S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR FEBRUARY

For religious sisters and consecrated women:

We pray for religious sisters and consecrated women, thanking them for their mission and their courage; may they continue to find new responses to the challenges of our times.

REST IN PEACE

RECENT: Mary McKenna, Jim Kerr, Harry Baird

ONE YEAR AGO: Elizabeth Donaghey

ANNIVERSARIES: Dermot O’Kane (10), Annie Beattie, Lisa Christopher, Jack Farrelly, Elizabeth Mulhern, Colette O’Neill, Margaret & Harry Sweeney (13), Paddy Conway, James McCartney, Angelo Morelli, Tilly Olphert, Danny O’Neill (14), Teresa Butcher, Evelyn Foster, Patrick Kelly (15), Eamon Gilmore, Patrick Keenan, Frankie & Liam McGurk, Sheila McGurk (16), Clare McGuckian, Carol Hamil, P J O’Kane (17), John McLaughlin (18)

SAFETY REGULATIONS IN STAR OF THE SEA

From this weekend, Covid regulations allow us to reduce social distancing in our church to one metre.

Temperature checks will no longer be carried out, but we would ask that you continue to protect yourself and others around you by not attending Mass if you have a cough or are feeling unwell.

Booking is still required for weekend Masses either by phoning Emer 07709 043921 or online at EVENTBRITE

It remains mandatory for anyone attending Mass in our Church to wear a mask at all times.

All Masses in Star of the Sea 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.



PORTSTEWART FRIENDSHIP GROUP

The next meeting will be held on **Monday 14th February** at 3pm in Presbyterian Hall (behind Presbyterian Church). **All welcome.**

NI BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE



The next donation sessions will be held on **Wednesday 16th February** from 12.30-4pm and from 4-7.30pm in Burnside Presbyterian Church. Blood donations now by appointment only.

Please ☎ 08085 534 653 to book.

POST PRIMARY SCHOOL ADMISSIONS

Applications for **September 2022** are now open via the online portal at:

<https://admissions.eani.org.uk/postprimary/Login>

Closing date for applications 23rd February at 4pm.

Further information at:

<https://www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions/post-primary-admissions-guide>



PREPARING FOR MARRIAGE?

Catholic Engaged Encounter

A Marriage Preparation course is planned for 9/10 April 2022 in The Drummond Hotel, Ballykelly. This 2-day **non-residential**

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



GROUNDING THE TEACHING IN OUR EVERYDAY LIVES

Pope Francis’ encyclical Laudato Si’ highlights the beauty of the earth

and our role as stewards of this great gift of creation. To care for our common home there are many changes that we all need to make and the first change is a change of heart, an ecological conversion. Join Prof John Barry, Fr Tim Bartlett and Rev Cheryl Meban in conversation as they explore Laudato Si’ and how we can each embrace change in our everyday lives to care for the earth. You can attend in person on **Thursday 24th Feb at 7pm** in St John’s Church, Falls Road or view online via parish webcam: www.stjohnsfallsroad.org



EXPLORING THE PSALMS FOR LENT

The Psalms are the ancient prayers/songs of both Judaism and Christianity and are included in our Liturgy as well as the Divine Office of the Church. During Lent, when we are asked to give more time to prayer, we will explore and pray, in the company of C S Lewis, some of the most beautiful Psalms. The programme is for ‘Anyone at all whose heart is open to new dimensions of human experience... like someone who has not had a good meal for a week or two. It is all there.’ (N T Wright)

The programme will run online:

Tuesday 1 March for 6 weeks until Tuesday 5 April and

Thursday 3 March for 6 weeks until Thursday 7 April

Both programmes run from 7-8.30pm

To register, please contact Kieran Hill stating your preference to attend either the Tuesday or Thursday evening session. Email: kc.hill@btinternet.com or ☎ 07964 287839

SACRAMENTS IN STAR OF THE SEA



Confirmation:

Sunday 8th May at 12 noon

First Holy Communion:

Sunday 22nd May at 12 noon



FOR A SYNODAL CHURCH:

COMMUNION, PARTICIPATION AND MISSION

Pope Francis has invited the whole Church (that means YOU) to experience coming together as a decisive and dynamic theme for the life and mission of the Church. As we all engage in the synodal experience we are being asked to invoke the Holy Spirit to guide our Church into a deeper communion, participation and commitment to its evangelising mission. The guidance that we seek is to be found in a prayerful listening to the People of God. Bishop Noel invites each of us in Down and Connor to undertake the season of Lent 2022 as a time of prayer, listening and discernment.

A LISTENING LENT

During Lent – commencing Ash Wednesday, our diocese will present a series of opportunities to consult as many of our people as possible. The results will be faithfully collated by our Living Church office which will inform an authentic response to the Irish Episcopal Conference. In this way the world-wide family that is our Catholic church will inform Pope Francis. This is like Vatican 3 and we need a powerful and truly representative voice from ALL our people.

SYNOD – LOGO EXPLANATION



A large, majestic tree, full of wisdom and light, reaches for the sky. A sign of deep vitality and hope which expresses the cross of Christ. It carries the Eucharist, which shines like the sun. The horizontal branches, opened like hands or wings, suggest, at the same time, the Holy Spirit.

The People of God are not static: they are on the move, in direct reference to the etymology of the word synod, which means “walking together”. The people are united by the same common dynamic that this Tree of Life breathes into them, from which they begin their walk. These 15 silhouettes sum up our entire humanity in its diversity of life situations of generations and origins. This aspect is reinforced by the multiplicity of bright colours which are themselves signs of joy. There is no hierarchy between these people who are all on the same footing: young, old, men, women, teenagers, children, lay people, religious, parents, couples, singles, healthy, disabled; the bishop and the nun are not in front of them, but among them. Quite naturally, children and then adolescents open their walk, in reference to these words of Jesus in the Gospel: “I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned and revealed them to little children”. (Mt 11:25) The horizontal baseline: “For a synodal Church: communion, participation and mission” runs from left to right in the direction of this march, underlining and strengthening it, to end with the title “Synod 2021–2023,” the high point that synthesizes the whole.

DOWN & CONNOR DIOCESAN DIRECTORY

The new Directory for the diocese is now available in the Repository or from the parochial house, price £3. It contains an up-to-date list of priests, parishes, church services, diocesan bodies and a full calendar for 2022.

PARISH BULLETIN

If you have any item for inclusion in the parish weekend bulletin, email:

secretary@portstewartparish.co.uk

or ☎ 7083 2534 by 5pm on Thursday please.