

# PORTSTEWART PARISH

Part of the North Connor Pastoral Community

21st May 2023

Sunday A / Weekdays 1 Psalter Week 3

The Ascension of the Lord




Fr Kevin McGuckien PP 7083 2534  
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Parish Office Hours 22 - 26 May

MONDAY, TUESDAY, THURSDAY & FRIDAY  
9am – 2pm

THE OFFICE IS CLOSED ON WEDNESDAY

Deacon Terence Butcher 07783 117077  
Parish Pastoral Council:  
Chairperson: Emer O’Keeffe 07709 043921  
Email: [portstewartpastoralcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:portstewartpastoralcouncil@gmail.com)  
SVP Helpline: 07508 549572

 Star of the Sea Portstewart  
[portstewartparish.website](http://portstewartparish.website)

## MASSES THIS WEEK IN STAR OF THE SEA CHURCH

Tuesday: Mass at 7pm  
Wednesday – Saturday: Mass at 9.30am  
Saturday Vigil Mass at 5pm  
Sunday Mass at 10am

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION ON THURSDAY  
from 10am – 5pm

CONFESSIONS  
Saturday at 10am & 4pm and at 10am on the  
First Friday of the month

The Parish Centre Car Park is open for all weekend  
Masses.



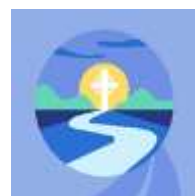
We remember in our prayers  
all our children who  
received their First Holy  
Communion  
in Star of the Sea Church  
on Saturday.

## REST IN PEACE

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Veronica Wall, Bernie Clarke,  
Ethna O’Reilly, Dominic Flanagan, Fr Kevin McMullan,  
Tommy Hegarty, Andrew Leslie, Margaret Mooney RIP

**MONTH’S MIND:** Sean McGahon RIP

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Aidan and Maura Clancy, Colm  
McLaughlin, Nora Sloan, Hugh Johnston, Elizabeth  
Hayter, Paddy McPeake, John Ferris, Marie Lou Mullan,  
Jim Donaghy RIP



## PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE

As a Church we are called to proclaim  
the Good News of Jesus Christ and  
share his love in the world. But we  
realise that our current way of doing  
things is getting more difficult to

sustain. With smaller congregations and fewer  
priests we have to find new ways to ensure that the  
mission of the Church can be carried out in the  
future.

For this reason our Diocese of Down and Connor is  
undertaking a major programme of change called  
Pathways to the Future. It will look at the priorities  
and structures of the Church to see how we can best  
serve our 86 parishes and other ministries over the  
next twenty years.

A steering team of lay people and clergy has been  
preparing for this work in recent months and  
representatives of every parish have taken part in  
initial conversations. In the coming months we all  
have a chance to find out more and play our part.

One important task is to collect accurate  
information and for that reason a census of  
Mass attendance across the diocese will be  
taken up this week.

This is a time of rebuilding and renewal for our  
diocese and we set off on the pathway confident that  
the Holy Spirit, sent to us by the Father, will guide us  
on our journey together. Please keep this project in  
your prayers!



Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> June is the feast of Corpus Christi. Directly  
after our 10am Mass there will be a procession, led by  
our primary school children, to the grounds of Dominican  
College. All are welcome to join or meet us up there,  
seats will be provided. After Benediction there will be  
sandwiches, home baking and hopefully good craic in the  
Parish centre! Everybody is welcome - if you would like to  
help in any way please contact Emer ☎ 07709043921 or  
[portstewartpastoralcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:portstewartpastoralcouncil@gmail.com)

## MAY PRAYER COURSE - THE SEVEN JOYS OF MARY

The Ballymoney course takes place on  
Wednesday evenings at 7pm at Our Lady  
& St John the Evangelist’s Church, Knock  
Road, Dervock BT53 8AB.

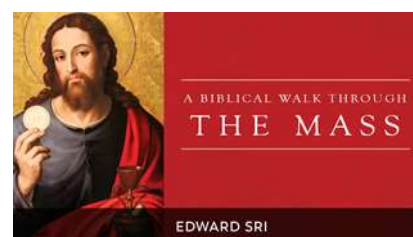
The Portstewart course takes place on  
Friday mornings at 10am in the Marian  
Hall, Star of the Sea Church.



## LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINARS

Jesus promised the early church the Holy Spirit and  
that promise is as relevant today as it was then.

There are 7 sessions to these seminars. Sessions take  
place on Tuesday evenings in Star of the Sea Parish  
Centre, finishing on 20<sup>th</sup> June. Each session begins at  
7.30 pm with tea/coffee and biscuits and ends at  
9.15pm. If you think you might be interested, please  
☎ 7083 2719 or text 07964 490854



## A BIBLICAL WALK THROUGH THE MASS – EDWARD SRI

The Mass is nothing  
short of amazing. The  
words, the gestures,  
and the rituals of the

Mass are rich in meaning. Everything we say and do in the  
Liturgy is steeped in biblical language. We invite you to  
join us for this programme, where we will explore the  
roots of the words and gestures we experience at Mass  
and reflect on their profound significance. We hope that  
this fascinating tour of the Mass will renew your faith and  
deepen your love & devotion to the Holy Eucharist. The  
programme will be facilitated by Fr Paul Byrne and Aishling  
Steen beginning on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May @ 7pm for 5 weeks  
online via Zoom. To book your place please contact the  
Living Church Office at 02890690920 or e-mail:  
[livingchurch@downandconnor.org](mailto:livingchurch@downandconnor.org)



The Diocese has invited the National Board for  
Safeguarding Children in the Catholic Church in Ireland to  
conduct a review of safeguarding practice across the  
Diocese. The review will take place 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup>  
June. If you have any views about Safeguarding in the  
Diocese, you are invited to contact Teresa Devlin, Chief  
Executive Officer, National Board for Safeguarding  
Children in the Catholic Church in Ireland, prior to the  
review dates: ☎ 003531 5053124  
or email [teresa.devlin@safeguarding.ie](mailto:teresa.devlin@safeguarding.ie).

This is part of the process of learning and maintaining best  
safeguarding practice across the Diocese and ensuring our  
Church is a safe and nurturing place for young people  
where they can grow and develop their faith.

Philip O Hara, Interim Director of Safeguarding, Designated  
Liaison Person, Diocese of Down and Connor.



## 2023 PILGRIMAGE SEASON

One Day Retreats start on 1st May. Three Day  
Pilgrimages from 1st June. There are also  
Lakeshore Pilgrimages, Quiet Days and  
Residential Retreats. ☎ +353 7198 61518 or  
[info@loughderg.org](mailto:info@loughderg.org)

## LIVING CHURCH PILGRIMAGE TO LOUGH DERG

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June – Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July

The Living Church Office are organising a three-day  
pilgrimage to Lough Derg, led by Jim Deeds. Cost £90  
includes luxury coach transfers. Bus departs 9am Friday  
30<sup>th</sup> June from Glengall Street. Places are limited so early  
booking is recommended. Contact Claire Tel: 02890  
690920 Email: [livingchurch@downandconnor.org](mailto:livingchurch@downandconnor.org)

## COLLECTIONS

Last weekend’s Parish Collection came to £982

Thank you for your support

## MASSES IN OUR PARISHES THIS WEEK

### MASS IN PORTRUSH

Sunday at 12 noon  
Monday, Tuesday & Friday at 10.30am

### MASS IN ST MALACHY’S, COLERAINE

Saturday Vigil at 6pm, Sunday at 11am  
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday at 10am

### MASS IN BALLYMONEY

Saturday Vigil at 6pm, Sunday at 10am & 5pm  
Monday & Wednesday 10am, Friday 7pm

## THE SACRAMENTS IN STAR OF THE SEA CHURCH



### CONFIRMATION

Sunday 4th June at 12 noon

CEMETERY SUNDAY: Sunday 25th June at 3pm  
in Agherton Cemetery

Graves will be blessed in both Agherton and  
Portstewart Cemeteries.

## NEXT WEEKEND 27-28 MAY

### VIGIL

Minister of the Word: Alison Rankin  
Eucharistic Ministers: Mary Loughrey, Ruth McGuckian,  
Margaret McQuillan  
SUNDAY 10am  
Minister of the Word: Sheila Brannigan  
Eucharistic Ministers: Pat Calvert\* Margaret McLernon\*  
Mary Gordon\* Brian Lenehan

## PARISH BULLETIN

Please email all requests for inclusion in the  
weekend bulletin including anniversary requests  
by 1pm on Thursday to:  
[portstewart@downandconnor.org](mailto:portstewart@downandconnor.org)