

# THE PARISHES OF PORTSTEWART, PORTRUSH & BUSHMILLS AND COLERAINE

North Connor Pastoral Community

Fr Kevin McGuckien PP Telephone: 028 7083 2534 Email: [k.mcguickien@downandconnor.org](mailto:k.mcguickien@downandconnor.org)

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

25<sup>th</sup> August 2024

Sunday B / Weekdays 2 Psalter Week 1

MASSES IN OUR PARISHES THIS WEEK
<b>STAR OF THE SEA CHURCH, PORTSTEWART</b> Saturday Vigil Mass at 5pm Sunday Mass at 10am Tuesday Mass at 7pm Wednesday – Saturday: Mass at 9.30am <b>NO EUCHARISTIC ADORATION DURING JULY AND AUGUST</b> CONFESSIONS: Saturday at 10am & 4pm and at 10am on First Friday of the month
<b>ST PATRICK'S CHURCH, PORTRUSH</b> Sunday at 12 noon Monday, Tuesday & Friday at 10.30am CONFESSIONS: Friday at 10am
<b>ST MALACHY'S CHURCH, COLERAINE</b> Saturday Vigil at 6.30pm, Sunday at 11am Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday at 10am
<b>OUR LADY &amp; ST PATRICK'S CHURCH, BALLYMONEY</b> Saturday Vigil at 6pm, Sunday at 9.30am & 5pm Monday & Wednesday 10am, Friday 7pm

PORTSTEWART
Parish Secretary: Ruth McGuckian 7083 2534 Email: <a href="mailto:portstewart@downandconnor.org">portstewart@downandconnor.org</a>
<b>Parish Office Hours 26 - 30 August</b> Thursday & Friday 9am – 2pm
<b>REST IN PEACE</b> <b>RECENT:</b> Archbishop Noel Treanor, Gerry McGowan, Danny McCorriston, Sophie Watson RIP <b>ANNIVERSARIES:</b> Gareth Moore, Paul Harvey, Krzysztof Kunkel, James Sweeney, Justin Murray, Kieran Laverty, Denis McGowan, John and Margaret Campbell RIP
<b>NEXT WEEKEND 31 AUG – 1 SEPT (PORTSTEWART)</b> <b>VIGIL Minister of the Word:</b> Paddy Mulvenna <b>Eucharistic Ministers:</b> Margaret McQuillan, Helen Conway, Mary McMahan <b>SUNDAY 10am Minister of the Word:</b> Teresa Dolan <b>Eucharistic Ministers:</b> Ruth McGuckian* Mark Donaghy* Margaret McLernon* Brian Lenehan

PORTRUSH
Fr Patrick Delargy 7082 3388 Email: <a href="mailto:portrush@downandconnor.org">portrush@downandconnor.org</a>
<b>Parish Office Hours 26 - 30 August</b> Tuesday 9am – 2pm
<b>REST IN PEACE</b> <b>RECENT:</b> Archbishop Noel Treanor, Danny McCorriston RIP <b>ANNIVERSARIES:</b> Miriam Mallick McCallion RIP
<b>NEXT SUNDAY 1 SEPTEMBER (PORTRUSH)</b> <b>Minister of the Word:</b> Marie McAuley <b>Eucharistic Minister:</b> Rose Minihan
<b>ALTAR SOCIETY</b> 17 – 30 August: Rose Minihan, Kathleen Curran 31 August – 13 September: Marie McAuley, Marie Conway, Mary McIntyre-Loveridge

COLERAINE
Fr Nideesh Varghese 7034 3156 Email: <a href="mailto:coleraine@downandconnor.org">coleraine@downandconnor.org</a>
<b>Parish Office Hours 26 - 30 August</b> Tuesday – Thursday 8am – 1pm
<b>REST IN PEACE</b> <b>RECENT:</b> Archbishop Noel Treanor, Danny McCorriston RIP <b>ANNIVERSARIES:</b> Sean McColgan, Elizabeth (Lily) McCrudden, Marian Hanson, Pat Kennedy RIP

to maintain their vitality over time due to factors such as unclear purpose and disengagement among members. Recognising these challenges, it is clear that merely improving our meeting structures or record-keeping will not be enough. We need to reimagine our pastoral councils based on a distinctly Catholic model of decision-making that emphasises spiritual discernment over business tactics, drawing from our rich Catholic traditions.

Pope Francis encourages us to embrace a synodal approach, which he describes as the way of being Church in the third millennium. This model promotes active participation from all members of our local communities and fosters a sense of communion and mission. By adopting synodality in St. Malachy's, Coleraine, Portrush and Portstewart we can navigate shared responsibilities, listen to the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and prioritise the voices of the marginalised. A synodal church is characterized by its commitment to the vocation of all baptised individuals, focusing on co-responsibility. It actively listens to the signs of the times and creates safe spaces for dialogue and discernment of the Holy Spirit's guidance.

Selecting the right members for our pastoral councils is crucial to their success. We need individuals who embody a balance of knowledge, compassion, and practical skills—what we can refer to as the “heads, hearts, and hands” approach. There will be those who will provide direction, while passionate individuals will bring empathy and a focus on community concerns. Practical members will help turn ideas into action, ensuring accountability and achievement of our shared goals.

In conclusion, reconstituting and forming pastoral councils through a synodal approach can lead to more vibrant and mission-driven parishes in Portstewart, Portrush, and Coleraine. By embracing collaboration, openness, and a focus on our shared mission, we can effectively navigate contemporary challenges while remaining rooted in our faith and community values. This renewed commitment to co-responsibility and discernment will enable our parishes to thrive in an ever-evolving world, fostering unity and purpose among all parishioners.

 **BANK HOLIDAY SEQUENCE DANCE** in Star of the Sea Parish Centre, Portstewart on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> August. Dancing from 8.30-11pm. Admission £6 (including light refreshments). Music by Liam McLaughlin. Everyone welcome! All proceeds going to Parish Funds.

 **FLAME CLUB PORTSTEWART** We look forward to the return of our Parish youth club, Flame Club, on Friday nights in September. As ever, alongside adult support, our club is led by the brilliant youth of our parishes. We invite any young people to register their interest in joining our team of junior and senior volunteer leaders by contacting Emer on 07709 043921 or [flameclubportstewart@gmail.com](mailto:flameclubportstewart@gmail.com) Flame Club is a great and really rewarding way to give of your time, gain experience in working with children, build your skills, creativity and leadership, all whilst having fun. It also is a great addition to your CV and works in conjunction with all awards programmes such as John Paul II, Duke of Edinburgh and Oscar Romero awards.

**Dressing Up outfits wanted for Little Stars Toddler Group!**  
 Please contact Schira 07725 213083 if you can help.

**Reconstitution & Forming of Parish Pastoral Councils**


In the coming weeks we will be reconstituting our Parish Pastoral Councils in both Portstewart and St. Malachy's, Coleraine and forming a new Parish Pastoral Council in Portrush. This is a significant moment in the life of our parishes as we seek to form and reconstitute the councils. We warmly invite all parishioners to consider stepping into this important role within the parish.

**\*\*The Importance of Pastoral Councils in the Parishes of Portstewart, Portrush, and Coleraine\*\***

Pastoral councils are vital for the effective leadership and guidance of our parishes in St. Malachy's, Coleraine, Portrush and Portstewart. As emphasised by Pope Francis during his pastoral visit to Assisi, these councils are fundamental to fostering collaboration and shared responsibility within our Church community. Since the Second Vatican Council, we have sought ways to embody these values, yet many parish pastoral councils struggle

COLLECTIONS
<b>PORTSTEWART</b> Last weekend's Collections: Weekly Offertory <b>£1520</b> Diocesan Cathedral Fund Collection: <b>£1000</b> Our account details are: Portstewart Parish Sort Code: 95-04-28 Account number: 91011049
<b>PORTRUSH</b> Last weekend's Collections: Weekly Offertory <b>£708</b> Diocesan Cathedral Fund Collection: <b>£347</b> Our account details are: Portrush Parish Sort Code: 95-06-79 Account number: 00254207
<b>COLERAINE</b> Last weekend's Collections: Weekly Offertory <b>£1119</b> Diocesan Cathedral Fund Collection: <b>£515</b> Our account details are: St Malachy's Church Sort Code: 90-48-00 Account number: 88609151
Thank you for your generosity and support. You can also support your parish through a regular standing order or by making a one-off payment through your bank or online. Please use your name as our reference. If you haven't already done so, please consider signing a <b>Gift Aid form</b> (available from the Parish Office) to increase your donation at no extra cost to yourself. Thank you.

**THANK YOU**  
 Apostolic Work Portstewart would like to thank parishioners who contributed to their recent Church Door Collection which raised **£1040**. Thank you for your generosity.

 **PORTSTEWART:** 07508 549572  
**PORTRUSH:** 07508 549574  
**COLERAINE:** 07738 837959

If you have any item for inclusion in the parish weekend bulletin, please email: [portstewart@downandconnor.org](mailto:portstewart@downandconnor.org) by 11am on Thursday. Thank you.