

SUNDAY 22nd FEBRUARY 2026

1st SUNDAY IN LENT

Pastoral Community of Downpatrick

Parish of Dunsford & Ardglass

Father Gerard McCloskey PP.

Tel: 02844841208

*When he calls on me, I will answer him; I will deliver him and give him glory,
I will grant him length of days.*

Email office@dunsfordandardglassparish.com

Parish website address: www.dunsfordandardglassparish.com.

Weekly Collection: We acknowledge with grateful thanks last week's Offertory Promise Collection which came to £459.00 Loose plate £526.00, Sick and Retired Priest Collection £341.00 Loose plate £229.00, Direct Debits £110.00.

MASSES for SUNDAY and WEEKDAYS:

ARDGLASS
5.00pm Vigil Saturday
11.30am Sunday
10.00am Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday

DUNSFORD
10.00am Sunday.
10.00am Thursday, NOVENA MASS.

CONFESSIONS: 4.30 - 4.55pm Saturday, Ardglass (or upon request)

ADORATION: ARDGLASS TUESDAY 11am to 11pm,
DUNSFORD THURSDAY 11am to 11pm.

ANNIVERSARIES: Marie McGarry, Irene McStay, Malachy Cultra, Mary O'Connor, Elizabeth Cross, Loretta Curran, Mary Hanna, Eilish Armstrong, Gearldine Tucker, Tony Collins, Michael Rice, Dismas Moore, Kathleen Bennett, Willie Livingstone, Maeve Cregan, Johnny McEvoy,

ANNIVERSARY MASS BOOKINGS: The best way to make these is in person in either Sacristy after any of the Masses. Please do not phone the parish to make bookings as we can't deal with them by phone. If you send a letter, please be patient and please include your phone number.

If you want it done and dusted quickly go to the sacristy after Mass.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: Baptisms are on first Sunday of every Month in Ardglass, the third Sunday of the month in Dunsford. For further details, please phone the parish on Monday morning.

GRANDPARENTS: Grandparents Meet the FIRST Sunday of each month at 7pm in the room at the back of the Chapel in Ardglass.

“Go therefore and make disciples ...” Matthew 28:19. Are you being called to serve? Can you give a few hours each week to help our young people? Please join our parish catechists – no experience necessary. **For more information, please contact Meave Gilchrist, Chair, PPC, 07742820018**

Prayers for Survivors and Victims of Abuse in Ireland

Bishop Alan McGuckian SJ asks that the Prayers of the Faithful during Masses over the weekend of 21st and 22nd February should include and reflect this time of prayer at the beginning of Lent for survivors and victims and their journey of human and spiritual recovery. These prayers are not only for victims and survivors who have been so severely injured inside our Church, but also for the families and communities affected by the pain and grief of their loved ones.

“It is essential that we, as a Church, be able to acknowledge and condemn, with sorrow and shame, the atrocities perpetrated by consecrated persons, clerics, and all those entrusted with the mission of watching over and caring for those most vulnerable. Let us beg forgiveness for our own sins and the sins of others. An awareness of sin helps us to acknowledge the errors, the crimes and the wounds caused in the past and allows us, in the present, to be more open and committed along journey of renewed conversion”.

St Patrick’s Centre 25 Years Anniversary presents Bishop Alan McGuickan SJ in conversation with Martin O’Brien

Friday 27th February 2026 at the Wine Reception at 7:00pm. Tickets are £10 and bookings can be made at 028 4461 9000.

Divine Mercy Conference Saturday 28th February 2026. The bus will leave St Paul’s Church, Falls Road at **7.30am** Returning approx. **10.45/11.00pm**. Travel cost is £25 (bus price only) which must be paid when booking your seat. Failure to get 30 people the bus would have to be cancelled. Travel confirmation, 1 week before departure. Unfortunately, no refund can be given in cases of sickness etc. **Conference tickets** to be bought individually at the venue £35 or Euros. **Bring enough food for lunch and dinner** – there are tea and coffee stations where hot drinks and snacks can be purchased. **Telephone Tina McCrory – 07523824350 to book a seat on the bus.**

Sensory-Friendly Mass Invitation ✨: **St Colmcille’s Parish** (Ballyhackamore Belfast BT4 3JB) warmly invites you to our monthly **Sensory Mass on Saturday, 28th February at 12:00 noon**. This special Mass is designed to be inclusive and welcoming for individuals and families who may benefit from a quieter, more relaxed worship environment. The Mass will feature: Gentle lighting and sound; A calm and supportive atmosphere; Space to move around if needed; Sensory items to aid regulation; A warm welcome for all ages and abilities. Whether you or a loved one experience sensory sensitivities, or you simply wish to attend a short peaceful and reflective service, we would love to see you there. **Refreshments after Mass in the parish centre, with supervised activities for all.**

Discernment Retreat for Diocesan Priesthood 6th–8th March 2026

1. For young men who are open to the question: “Is God calling me to be a priest?”
2. A chance to step away from the noise and busyness of everyday life.
3. Time for prayer, silence, and honest conversation.
4. No pressure to decide anything — just space to listen and reflect.

For more information, contact Fr Conor McGrath C.mcgrath@downandconor.org

Epilepsy Awareness Day

In Ireland today, over 45,000 people live with epilepsy. For further information, please visit www.epilepsy.ie. Purple Day (or Epilepsy Awareness Day) will take place on **Thursday 26th March**.