

Sunday 29th March 2026

Pastoral Community of Downpatrick

Parish of Dunsford & Ardglass

Fr Gerard McCloskey PP.

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WEEKLY COLLECTION: We acknowledge with grateful thanks last week's Offertory Promise Collection which came to £477.00, Loose plate £550.00, Direct Debits £110.00, Building Fund came to £209.50 Loose Plate £120.50.

ANNIVERSARIES: Very Rev Father John McAteer, Jack Henvey, Elizabeth Kearney, Ellen Mooney, Edmund Curran, Sean Burke, Matt Murphy, Hugh Kearns, William Branniff, Jack Magee, Jim Pullen, Kit O'Sullivan, Nora Convery, Teresa Laverty, Arthur John McCartan, Mamie Smyth, Pat Branniff, Bernadette Kearney, Phillip Fitzsimons, John Ross, Edward Smyth, Gerry Laverty.

TROCAIRE BOXES: Please return asap or if you simply wish to make a donation to Trocaire, please write a cheque made payable to the Parish of Dunsford and Ardglass (and mark the envelope for Trocaire).

Eucharistic Adoration: Calling ALL ADORERS of the Blessed Sacrament in Down & Connor Diocese. National Eucharistic Adoration Pilgrimage to Knock on Sunday 19th April (weekend after Divine Mercy) details on www.eucharisticadoration.ie. Ring Una for bus leaving Toome, at 077 4357 5969, Patricia (Belfast bus) 07972 103 130, Patrick 07963 581 543.

The Season of Lent as a Journey in Renewing our Sense of Baptismal Identity

Those who feel marginalised must encounter Christ's love. Many in our midst long to feel included but fear their life situations place them on the margins -whether due to relationships, family circumstances, past experiences, or aspects of their identity. Following the example of Christ who reached out to the marginalised, no one should encounter harsh judgements in our communities. The Church remains faithful to the teachings entrusted by God. Yet we are also called to walk alongside one another with compassion, modelling the ministry of Jesus himself. He calls us all to high standards from which we often fall short. We are "wounded healers" supporting one another as we struggle to heed Christ's call - recognising it as a gift even when demanding.

Many are waiting for the parish to extend a hand of welcome. We must reflect carefully on how to reach out more effectively. At the same time, belonging is always a two-way grace. Each of us is invited to take a step towards our parish family and ask: Where might I contribute? How can I play my part? A vibrant parish grows when all its members discover and offer the gifts God has placed within them. Yet here is a challenging truth we must face: many of us belong to the Church in a sacramental way, but have never made a conscious, personal decision to follow Jesus Christ as his disciples. We have been baptised, received First Communion, been confirmed -but somewhere along the way, we may have missed the essential first step: a personal encounter with Jesus and a deliberate choice to entrust our lives to him.

Good Friday Falls/Shankill Annual Inter-Church: Prayer Walk - will take place on Good Friday 3rd April, beginning at 4.45pm in front of Clonard Church, stopping midway at Shankill Methodist for a brief prayer, and returning to Clonard by 6pm. At this precarious time in our world, we commit ourselves once again - in the footsteps of Jesus - to His ministry of reconciliation and peace. All are welcome.

Divine Mercy Sunday Celebrations Sunday 12th April St Joseph's Killough: Holy Hour 3-4pm.

PARISH VOLUNTEERS: A big thanks to all our Parish Volunteers who contribute to the life of the parish in so many ways, and without whom we could not do without.

Please note, no bulletin for next 2 weeks

HOLY WEEK CEREMONIES

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Confessions after each of the Palm Sunday Masses.

MASS Ardglass 10.00am Monday 30th, Tuesday 31st and Wednesday 1st April,
Confessions after 10.00 am Masses.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Tuesday 11am - 11.00pm Ardglass.

Mass of Chrism: St Peter's Cathedral, Belfast on Spy Wednesday, 1st April, at 12 noon
celebrated by Bishop, Alan McGuckian, S.J; Bishop of Down & Connor All welcome to
attend.

HOLY THURSDAY

Mass Dunsford 7.30pm Monday (No Morning Mass on Thursday)

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 11.00am - 3.00pm Dunsford

Mass of the Lord's Supper 7.30pm in Ardglass

'Watch with the Lord' Holy Hour 9 - 10pm at the Altar of Repose in Ardglass

GOOD FRIDAY (Day of Fast and Abstinence)

Celebration of the Lord's Passion 3pm (in Dunsford) (followed by Confessions)

Stations of the Cross 7.30pm Ardglass (followed by confessions)

HOLY SATURDAY

ARDGLASS Confessions 5.30 - 6.00pm Easter Vigil 8.30pm

EASTER SUNDAY MASSES

10.00 am Dunsford 11.30 am Ardglass.

EASTER WEEK MASSES AND ADORATION

(No Masses on Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday)

Mass in Dunsford on Easter Thursday April 9th 7.30pm

Adoration: Ardglass: Easter Tuesday 11am - 6.00pm.
Dunsford Easter Thursday 11am - 6.00pm.

Please do your best to join in the Holy Week Ceremonies.

A Very Happy Easter to all!