



Saint Nicholas' Church

# Carrickfergus Parish

Our Lady of Lourdes Church



25 Dec 2016

## The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus

Sundays - Cycle A    Weekdays - Cycle I    Divine Office Week 1

### OUR PARISH

#### PARISH PRIEST

**Fr Peter Owens PP**

Parochial House, 8 Minorca Place,  
Mount St. Nicholas, C/fergus  
Co. Antrim, BT38 8AU

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Email:

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### MASS TIMES

#### Saint Nicholas

**Vigil Sat 6 pm**

**Sun 11.30 am**

**Tue & Thu 10.00 am**

Holy Days: As announced

#### Adoration

**Tue & Thurs 10.30-10.45am**

**Sat 10 am - 5 pm**

#### Our Lady of Lourdes

**Sun 9.30 am**

**Mon & Wed 10 am**

Holy Days: As announced

#### Adoration

after Mass **10.30 - 10.45am**

#### CONFESSIONS

Saint Nicholas' Church

**Sat 5.30 pm — 5.50 pm**

Our Lady of Lourdes Church

**Sun - before Mass**

**BAPTISMS** (one month's notice)

W/Head first Sat in the month;

C/Fergus third Sat in the month.

**WEDDINGS** By Arrangement

Three months' notice is required

**FUNERALS** By Arrangement

#### PARISH OFFICE

**Mon — Thu 10.30am - 1.30pm**

**Bulletin Notices to be in the  
Parochial House by 12 noon Wed**

**St Vincent de Paul**

**028 9035 1561**

### OUR PASTORAL AREA

#### Glengormley Parish

(St Mary's On The Hill;  
St Bernard's; St Macnissi's)

Fr John Forsythe, PP, VF

**9083 2979**

Fr Brendan Beagon, PE, CC

**9084 1507**

Fr Damian McCaughan, CC

**9083 2488**

#### Loughshore Parishes

(St Mary's, Greencastle;  
St Mary's, Star of The Sea,  
Whitehouse;

St James', Whiteabbey;  
St Colman's, Greenisland)

Fr Anthony Alexander, PP

**9037 0845**

Fr Samuel Kerr, PE, CC

**9036 5773**

#### St Gerard's Parish

(St Gerard's, Antrim Road)

Fr Gerard Cassidy, CSsR, PP

**9077 4833**

Fr Patrick McLaughlin, CSsR, CC

**9077 4833**

#### Carrickfergus Parish

(St Nicholas', Carrickfergus,  
Our Lady of Lourdes', Whitehead)

Fr Peter Owens, PP

**9336 3269**

#### Carrickfergus & Whitehead - Christmas Flowers

We would like to thank all those who  
gave so generously towards the  
Christmas floral displays in  
St Nicholas' and Our Lady of Lourdes.

#### Parish Walking Group

The next outing of our group will be  
**Tuesday 3 Jan 2017.**  
Why not put those New Year resolutions  
into practice and join us for an hours  
gentle walk around Carrickfergus.

Leaving the Church car park at 7pm.

**All Welcome**

### Requiescant in Pace



#### Anniversaries

James McCullough, John Foley,  
John O'Donoghue, Robert McAuley,  
Bridie Murray, Mary Mulvenna,  
Alex Sturgeon, Philip Sturgeon

#### Recently Deceased

Rt Rev Monsignor Colm McCaughan  
(former Chancellor of our Diocese)

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon them.  
May they rest in peace. Amen*

#### Pastoral Council

I am delighted to report that the new  
Chairperson of our Parish Pastoral Council  
is Mary McCormack and Vice-Chairperson  
is Paul Smith. Mary resides in Whitehead  
and Paul in Carrickfergus, and both have  
been hard working members of the Parish  
Pastoral Council for some years. I very  
much look forward to working with them in  
pastoral leadership, and thank them for their  
willingness to serve.

*Fr Peter*

#### Communications Committee

I would like to thank very sincerely the  
members of our Parish Communications  
Committee for their production of the  
Christmas edition of our Parish Newsletter  
'The Connection'. In particular I would like  
to thank Paul Mayne for agreeing to  
become the new chair of this group.

*Fr Peter*

### Advent and Christmas Liturgies

**Sat 24 Dec  
(Christmas Eve)**

**Sun 25 Dec  
(Christmas Day)**

**6.30pm Vigil Mass - W'Head  
8.30pm Vigil Mass - C'Fergus  
9.30am Mass - W'Head  
11.30am Mass - C'Fergus**

#### Mon 26 - Fri 30 Dec - No Masses

**Sat 31 Dec**

**Sun 1 Jan**

**(Mary, the Holy Mother of God) 11.30am Mass - C'Fergus**

**Mon 2 Jan**

**Tues 3 Jan**

**Wed 4 Jan**

**Thurs 5 Jan**

**Fri 6 Jan**

**(Epiphany)**

**6.00pm Vigil Mass - C'Fergus  
9.30am Mass - W'Head  
10.00am Mass - W'Head  
10.00am Mass - C'Fergus  
10.00am Mass - W'Head  
7.00pm Vigil Mass - C'Fergus  
10.00am Mass - W'Head**

#### NORMAL SCHEDULE RESUMES THEREAFTER

*I wish all  
parishioners and  
their families  
and visitors to our Parish, the  
Blessings of the Infant Jesus and his  
Holy Mother for this Christmas and  
the coming year.  
Fr Peter*

#### Baptisms

Please Note that as from 1 Jan 2017,  
baptisms will take place as follows  
**W'Head 1st Sunday of the month at  
1.00pm  
C'Fergus 3rd Sunday of the month at  
1.00pm**  
Bookings can be made through the Parish  
Office

### WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES DUBLIN, AUGUST 22 – 26 2018

In August 2018 the World Meeting of Families will take place in Dublin and it is eagerly  
anticipated that Pope Francis may well visit our country for the occasion. This Christmas Day sees  
the launch of our national programme of preparation, which is being directed by Fr Timothy  
Bartlett, a good friend of our parish. Beside the cribs in both our churches you will find a large  
prayer card and lots of smaller prayer cards on which is printed Pope Francis' "Prayer to the Holy  
Family" - please take one of the smaller cards. "Aid to the Church in Need" (Ireland) is generously  
sponsoring these materials and you are invited also to take home one of their booklets on the  
theme of the family.

Bishop Treanor has established a Diocesan Family Life Team to coordinate our preparations in  
Down and Connor – Fr Michael McGinnity is the Chairperson and Fr Peter is a member. Each  
parish has been asked to nominate a contact person and in our parish Siobhan Gilmore has kindly  
accepted this role.

The theme of the World Meeting is "The Gospel of the Family: Joy for the World" and its  
inspiration is Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation "The Joy of Love" ("Amoris Laetitia")

### Trocaire Gifts

Trócaire is hoping for the usual terrific  
support from parishioners for the  
Trócaire Gifts and Christmas Appeal.  
The gifts make a huge difference to the  
lives of families and communities in  
some of the world's poorest countries  
and start from as little as £4 for olive  
trees for Palestinian families. To find  
out more or make a donation log on to  
trocaire.org or call 1850 408 408 (0800  
912 1200 NI).

**If you wish to purchase a gift, please  
speak to Patrick Quinn after Mass.**

### Eucharistic Adoration Theme for December

**For all those parishioners who find this  
time of year difficult, that they may  
experience the peace of the Holy Family.**

*Christ Speaks:*

*"I am here in the Eucharist, in a unique and  
special way. Here are the very same hands  
that touched the dead man and gave him  
life, that blessed water and changed it into  
sparkling wine, that touched the eyes of the  
blind. Here am I with the same power to  
heal every human illness, to calm the raging  
storms in your life."*

If you would like to commit one hour to the  
Apostolate of Eucharistic Adoration on a  
Saturday between 10 am and 5 pm in St  
Nicholas' Carrickfergus, please contact  
Tommy Mone **07713849471** or Gerardine  
Stewart **07747114419**

#### Parish Repository

Christmas gifts and cards are now available  
from the Parish Repository. If you would  
like to order a 2017 calendar, diocesan  
directory or a diary (which includes the  
Order of Mass) please contact Anne.

**The next edition of the  
Parish Bulletin will be  
Sunday 8th January 2017**

#### Offerings

**Weekly Offering £1,526**

*Many thanks for your generosity*