



*Saint Nicholas'*

# ***Parish of Carrickfergus & Whitehead***



*Our Lady of Lourdes*

**5th April 2020**

**Palm Sunday**

**Cycle A Week 2**

**Fr. Peter Owens PP,VF**

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## **Our Parish and COVID-19: What Now?**

**Given the unprecedented situation with the Coronavirus Pandemic, the parish has been following the advice issued from Government departments, and implementing the latest Down and Connor directives.  
Documents can be viewed on the Parish Website.**

## **“THE WEEK WE CALL HOLY”**

This year we embark on the Holy Week journey towards Calvary and the Garden of Resurrection in circumstances no one could ever have imagined. The Covid-19 pandemic has thrown our whole global community into an unprecedented state of emergency, with every single aspect of our lives dramatically affected, including our private and public religious practice.

Many of us are frightened and anxious as we hear of the dreadful toll of grave illness and multiple deaths, and try to cope with so many restrictions on the freedoms and opportunities we recently took for granted.

We live in a season of uncertainty and loneliness.

Now, more than ever, as we enter Holy Week, before us stands and suffers and dies Jesus of Nazareth, the Man of Sorrows - in His Divine Person He carries every one of our individual and shared crosses.

In our own physical and mental and spiritual pain, we walk beside Him, like Veronica and Simon and His own blessed Mother.

With Him we are wounded, with Him we may feel abandoned, with Him we question, and with Him some of us die.

And in Him all of us are loved by the Father and will rise again from every trial and misery, yes, even from death itself.

This Holy Week, more than ever, we entrust our poor troubled selves and those we love and all those for whom we have promised to pray, to the Sacred Heart of the Crucified Christ and the Immaculate Heart of His Sorrowful Mother - to their protection and comfort we commend our parish family and all our sisters and brothers.

**HAIL HOLY CROSS OUR ONLY HOPE!**

*Fr. Peter*

## **Collections**

The issuing of the Offertory Promise Envelopes to households has now had to be postponed in light of recent developments.

Fr. Peter this weekend has sent a letter to all parishioners who receive an Offertory Promise Envelope, asking them to consider setting up a standing order with the Parish Office.

A Standing Order Form can be found on the Parish Website.

## **Coronavirus Prayer**

*O Holy Spirit, we thank you for the advancements that have led to improving the health of so many.*

*We beg you to inspire new breakthroughs in Overcoming the coronavirus and all serious flu viruses.*

*Protect, we pray, health care professionals from The illnesses they are treating.*

*And make them instruments of your healing  
Amen*

### Contact Details for Helplines

The Pastoral Council has compiled a list of telephone numbers for various Helplines.  
This document can be found on the front page of the Parish Website

### Services on the Parish Website

This week, Fr. Peter will celebrate  
**Mass for Monday of Holy Week**  
**Stations of the Cross on Good Friday**  
**Mass for Easter Sunday from Mount St. Nicholas'**

These will be available to watch on the Parish Website  
Please check the Website on the day.

A **Missalette for Palm Sunday to Easter** can be found on the front-page of the Parish Website

### CellChat

Since the Parish Cell groups can no longer meet as a group we have set up a group chat forum on WhatsApp. The forum, called 'CellChat', is for sharing news or asking for help or sharing our faith in these difficult times. If you wish to access the forum please text Jim Mullan on 07841 428436 giving your phone number and a name and I will add you to the list. You do of course have to have access to WhatsApp on your phone. It can be downloaded for free at the App Store on iPhones or Google play on Android sets. You may of course ask to be removed from the forum at any time. Give it a go, even just to pass some time. Take care and God bless,  
The Parish Cell groups.

### Masses online from Loughshore Pastoral Community

Please find below, a list of Easter week services, available on the internet. ([Links to webcams below](#)).

#### St. Mary, Star of the Sea, Whitehouse

##### Holy Week and Easter Triduum Services Webcam Broadcast

<https://www.loughshoreparishes.org/webcam/>

Saturday 4th	5.30pm	Vigil Mass
Palm Sunday	11.30am	Mass
Monday	10.00am 7.00pm	Mass Intercession for the Sick & St Peregrine Devotions
Tuesday	6.30pm 7.00pm	Rosary Mass
Spy Wednesday	10.00am 7.00pm	Mass Act of Penance/Penitential Service
Holy Thursday	7.00pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper
Good Friday	3.00pm 7.00pm	Commemoration of the Passion Stations of the Cross
Saturday	8.00pm	Easter Vigil
Easter Sunday	11.30am	Easter Mass

#### St. Bernard's, Glengormley

##### Holy Week Webcam Broadcast

<https://www.churchservices.tv/glengormley/>

Saturday 4th	6pm Vigil Mass
Palm Sunday	10am Mass 11am Children's Mass
Monday 6th	10am Mass
Tuesday 7th	10am Mass
Wednesday 8th	10am Mass 7pm Penitential Service <i>Via webcam</i>
HOLY Thursday 9th	7pm Mass of the Lord's Supper 8.30-9pm Garden of Gethsemane
GOOD Friday 10th	3pm Passion & Veneration of the Cross 7pm Stations of the Cross 9pm Divine Mercy Chaplet
HOLY Saturday	9pm EASTER Vigil
EASTER Sunday	10am Mass 11am Children's Mass