



ST MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL PARISH BULLETIN

Palm Sunday - 5 April 2020



Schedule for Holy Week

Monday - Wednesday - 10.00am

Wednesday 8 April:

Penitential Service – 7.00pm

Holy Thursday 9 April

Mass of the Lord's Supper – 7.00pm

Good Friday 10 April

Commemoration of Our Lord's Passion – 3.00pm

Stations of the Cross – 7.00pm

Easter Saturday 11 April

Easter Vigil Mass – 5.00pm

Easter Sunday 12 April – 11.00am Mass

All parishioners are welcome to join the Holy Week Services via our webcam.

To access the webcam please visit our website:

stmichaelsbelfast.co.uk

**EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT DURING HOLY WEEK
WILL TAKE PLACE MONDAY – WEDNESDAY - 9.00AM – 12.00NOON**

People can pray before the Blessed Sacrament before and after Mass.

Also, there is access to St. Oliver Plunkett's webcam on St. Michael's website.

Monday – Wednesday – 10.00am

Friday – 7.30pm

Saturday – 6.30pm

Sunday – 11.00am

**THE PARISH OFFICE IS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE
STAFF WILL CONTINUE TO WORK SO YOU WILL BE ABLE TO CALL THE
PARISH OFFICE FOR QUERIES OR YOU CAN E-MAIL TO:
stmichaels@downandconnor.org**

Arranging Mass Intentions

You can book an anniversary Mass or a Mass intention by calling or e-mailing the parish office (02895 904304, Option1, stmichaels@downandconnor.org).
At present Mass will be celebrated by Fr. Feeney via webcam at the times previously stated. To access the webcam visit our website:
stmichaelsbelfast.co.uk

**Sacrament of Reconciliation during the
Coronavirus Emergency**

As highlighted in the Decree of the Apostolic Penitentiary and stated by the Holy Father in his Homily of 20 March 2020, it is vitally important that the faithful know that if they cannot access confession, then, by making an act of sorrow, by being truly contrite for all their sins with the intention not to sin anymore, and with the intention of going to confession as soon as is possible, they are reconciled with God and obtain the forgiveness of their sins, even mortal sins.

Bishop Noel Treanor

Dear Parishioners

I would like to encourage everyone to pray at this most difficult time, especially for those who are most vulnerable and anxious. It is important that we support each other and that no one feels isolated. I encourage you to ring your neighbour and check if they are okay and have what they need. If I can help you in anyway don't hesitate to contact me on the following number: 02890 617519.

Once again let us all keep each other in our prayers.

Yours faithfully

Father Ciaran

Recently Deceased: Brendan Loughan, Nancy Wilson, Teresa McFall & Frank Gault.

Anniversaries: Margaret McPhillips, Isobella Smyth, Annie Bannon, Nell Burns, Paula Mallon, Daniel McQuade, Patrick McCafferty, Marie Kelly, Diarmuid McNellis, Eamon McAfee, Harry McConville, Bridget & Thomas O'Hare & James McKeown, whose anniversaries occur at this time.

**PARISH CONTACTS OPTIONS: CALL 02895 904304 TO CONNECT
TO THE ASSISTANCE YOU REQUIRE:**

**PARISH OFFICE: OPTION 1 IN THE CASE OF A SICK CALL: OPTION 2
TO MAKE FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS: OPTION 3
MASS TIMES AND INFORMATION: OPTION 4
FATHER CIARAN FEENEY: OPTION 5**

**DIRECTIVES FOR THE DIOCESE OF DOWN AND CONNOR
Effective Thursday 26 March 2020 until further Notice**

Funerals

Until further notice there will be no Funeral Services in the Church. Funeral Services will be restricted to a Service of Committal at the graveside, we recognise that this will be a difficult change for grieving families. Bishop Noel has addressed this in his Pastoral letter which you can view on the parish website homepage.

Aware of growing public anxiety, out of particular concern for the more vulnerable members of our community and to avoid any confusion, we are updating our directives.

Churches are to remain closed until further notice. Parishes will do all they can to raise awareness of available opportunities to participate in Mass via radio, TV, and web streaming. Information will be shared on the Diocesan website (www.downandconnor.org) and through parish social media.

Weddings

Weddings have been suspended until further notice.

Baptisms

Baptisms have been suspended until further notice.

The celebrations of Confirmation, First Confession and First Holy Communion are suspended until further notice.

Meetings, seminars, courses and retreats all non-essential meetings, courses, seminars and other pastoral gatherings are cancelled. Where meetings are required, consideration will be given to using conference calls or web-based meetings.

These directives will be kept under regular review and any change will be notified as soon as possible

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES FOR TAX YEAR 2020/2021

Due to the current situation we have hand delivered your Weekly Offertory Envelopes as usual but hold on to them until normal Masses resume. Alternatively, for your weekly offering we have enclosed a Standing Order Mandate which you can set up through your online banking or by completing the form and returning to your bank. Standing order donations will be allocated to your envelope number, for example £20.00 per month equates to a £5.00 weekly offering or £40.00 equates to £10.00 per week. If you require any help please contact the Parish Office and we will provide the necessary advice.

Parish Draw Promoters – A number of queries have come through from our Promoters in regard to collecting parish draw payments. Under the current situation you CANNOT collect for the Parish Draw. We really appreciate the continued support you provide for the Parish and hope that you keep safe and well. The Parish Draw is suspended until further notice. When we can resume the Draw we will appreciate it if you can collect what would be due at that point from our members. Any months that have been missed will be drawn when we can return to normal Parish Office opening hours.

ST LOUIS HOUSE YOUTH GROUP

As our special SEARCH YOUTH RETREAT had to be cancelled last weekend in Clare Lodge, Newcastle, our Search Leaders decided to set up a special PRAYER POWER time when we would all be united wherever we were - 7.00 pm each SUNDAY, to pray not just for the candidates due on our weekend, but for all young people in our Diocese who are facing an uncertain educational future.

Sr Anne and leaders prepare a special prayer service and it seems to have taken off.

Bishop Noel Treanor is really pleased with our initiative.

THE TEAM THAT PRAYS TOGETHER, STAYS TOGETHER

Meanwhile, our work with the homeless, different poverty groups - and our other ministries is still going strong.

Sincere thanks to all who are constantly supporting us. God bless you all and keep you safe

Love and prayers Sr Anne

A Message from Trócaire

- **Trócaire Boxes:** This time of year, we would usually get back tens of thousands of boxes but that will not be possible this year, at a time when the developing world needs our help the most. If you can, please donate online or over the phone. Please do hold onto your boxes until further notice and we will be in contact about how to return them when it will be safe for people to do so.
- Donations can be made online at <https://www.trocaire.org/donate/make-a-donation>

The below workshops may be of interest to parishioners:

- **Family reflection:** Monday 6th April, 11am. This will be a short, prayerful suitable for families and children. It will be led by Anna from our church team and will be delivered over Zoom. To register, please email anna.keegan@trocaire.org
- **Workshop on Laudato Sí:** Wednesday 8th April, 11am. This workshop will be led by Jane Mellett, our Living Laudato Sí officer, and will be focused on how we can all care for our common home. To register, please email jane.mellett@trocaire.org
- **‘Trócaire Together: From our home to yours’.** Starting after Easter, these will be short videos of reflections, prayer and solidarity led by staff members from across the organization. They will be available on our social media channels for you to access at times that best suits you. Please keep an eye on our social media for these – the first one will be posted at noon on Thursday April 16th

