



# PARISH OF PORTRUSH & BUSHMILLS

Part of the North Connor Pastoral Community



Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> December 2022

## CHRISTMAS DAY

**Sunday A/Weekdays 2** **Psalter week 1**  
Fr Kevin McGuckien (Parish Priest)  
028 7083 2534  
Email: [pp@portstewartparish.co.uk](mailto:pp@portstewartparish.co.uk)

Fr Patrick Delargy  
Parochial house/Parish Office 7082 3388  
E: [portrush@downandconnor.org](mailto:portrush@downandconnor.org)  
St Patricks Church Portrush  
[www.portrushparish.website](http://www.portrushparish.website)

The church is open for private prayer  
Monday – Saturday 9am – 5.30pm  
and Sunday after 12 noon Mass until 5.30pm.

Parish Office this week: CLOSED

**MASSES THIS WEEK**  
Tuesday & Friday – 10.30am  
Sunday Feast of the Holy Mother of God - 12.00pm

**MASS IN PORTSTEWART**  
Monday – Friday - 11.00am  
Saturday Vigil at 5.00 pm  
Sunday at 10.00am  
Sunday Inter-Church Travelling Service – 12pm

**MASS IN ST MALACHY'S, COLERAINE**  
Monday - Friday 10am  
Saturday vigil at 6pm, Sunday at 11am

SVP Helpline 07508 549 574  
SVP Clothes Bank situated in the church car park

All Masses are streamed & recorded online  
At [www.churchmedia.tv](http://www.churchmedia.tv) . Masses are available to  
view for up to two weeks.

## ALTAR SOCIETY

24<sup>th</sup> December – 6<sup>th</sup> January – Marie McAuley, Marie  
Conway & Mary McIntyre-Loveridge  
7<sup>th</sup> January – 20<sup>th</sup> January – Mary Gordon & Evelyn  
Duggan

## MINISTERS OF THE WORD

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> January – Stephen O'Neill

## MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> January – Malgorzata Rutka

## ANNIVERSARIES: Claire Hughes

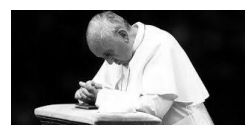
Paddy Craig, Hugh Mullan, Frank Molloy, Martha  
Mullan, Molly & Gerry Conway, Tony McCaughan,  
Josephine McCallion, Declan Loughran, Elizabeth & Noel  
Duffy, Annie Kirkpatrick

## CONFESSIONS



Confession will be available before  
Monday & Friday Masses

## POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR DECEMBER



## Volunteer Not-for-Profit Organizations

We pray that volunteer non-profit  
organizations committed to human development find  
people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly  
seek out new paths to international cooperation.

## SPECIAL BELFAST PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA

9-14th June 2023 Ex Dublin for Feast Day of Saint  
Anthony Patron Saint of Portugal visit Saint Anthony's  
birthplace and baptismal font in Lisbon contact James  
Treacy 0035361921470

## WARM SPACE

Watch this space for plans to set up a 'Warm Space  
above our Pre-School

**Any item for inclusion in the Parish Bulletin**  
**Must be received by Wednesday 5pm**

## Pope Francis draws attention to the true meaning of Christmas.

"The tree, with its lights", reminds us of Jesus who  
comes to illuminate our darkness, our existence often  
locked up in the shadow of sin, fear, and pain". But it  
also suggests the idea that, like trees we need roots,  
"solid foundations" to remain firm, grow and resist the  
winds of life. It is therefore important "to cherish the  
roots, in life as in faith".

The crib, "speaks to us of the birth of the Son of God  
who became Man to be close to each one of us".

"In its genuine poverty, the nativity scene helps us to  
rediscover the true richness of Christmas", a different  
Christmas "from the consumerist and commercial one".  
It helps us "to become intimate with God, with the  
fragile simplicity of a small new-born, with the  
meekness of his being laid down, with the tender  
affection of the swaddling clothes that surround him".

The Pope invites us to rediscover the surprise and  
amazement of littleness through the nativity scene,  
"the littleness of God, who makes himself small, who is  
not born in the splendour of appearances, but in the  
poverty of a stable".

## New Alpha Course



This New Year, all are welcome to  
join us as we start a new Alpha  
course, designed to explore the  
basics of the Christian faith & its meaning  
in our lives today.

Alpha will be run in the Anchorage  
Complex, Portstewart: 7-9 pm Mondays 16th  
January to 3rd April. Feel free to come along to  
the first taster evening (16th January) to see what  
you think. Each evening will begin with a light  
meal followed by a short film on life, faith &  
meaning, and end with an opportunity for  
discussion. There is no charge.

Contact a team member to sign up or if  
you have any questions: Ernestine 077 6064 7665;  
Bernadette 079 4173 3502  
or [Portstewartalpha@gmail.com](mailto:Portstewartalpha@gmail.com)

*"The joy of the gospel fills the hearts and  
lives of all who encounter Jesus. Those who accept  
his offer of salvation are set free from sin, sorrow,  
inner emptiness and loneliness. With Christ, joy is  
constantly born anew." (Pope Francis: Evangelii  
Gaudium).*



*May the joy and peace  
of Christmas be with you  
all through the New Year.  
Wishing you a  
season of blessings from  
heaven above.*

**Wishing all our Parish Family a Blessed  
Christmas and a Happy & Healthy New Year.**

