

Parish of Drumbo and Carryduff Community Groups



Photograph by Fr Michael Sheehan

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Adult Badminton

The Adult Badminton Club has been in existence in the region of 40 years, meeting in St Joseph's Hall on Monday evenings from 8pm to 10pm. We welcome men and women of all abilities, and as well as enjoying the weekly exercise, we enjoy the social aspects of the club, with many of the members becoming firm friends over the years. The club has now become a well-established group within the Drumbo and Carryduff Parish, and Monday evenings have become a very special part of our week. To find out more, ring:-

Main contact person: Patsy Fitzpatrick Phone No: 02890 812640.

Altar Servers

Altar servers assist the priest and the congregation in the celebration of the Liturgy of the Mass, special Liturgies and celebrations, and the celebration of the sacraments.

They are blessed to have an intricate role in the Mass, assisting with specific actions and setting an example to the whole of the congregation by their active participation in the Liturgy.

It is hoped that the tasks they assist with will help to draw all of us to participate in an intimate way during the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and to desire unity with Jesus Christ. Altar servers assist the priest with various details so that the priest may give full attention to presiding at the liturgy.

The Altar Servers various tasks include assisting the priest with the Missal and Sacramentary, helping to set the altar table with the necessary vessels, and handling candles, incense, the processional cross and other sacramental.

Altar Servers are normally recruited through the Parish Primary Schools in late September. If any member of the congregation would be interested in becoming an Altar Server please contact the Parish Office/ Sacristan or Priest.

Main contact person: Parish Office/ Sacristan or Priest. Phone number – 028 90812238 Option 2

Email: drumbo@downandconnor.org

Aslan's Cubs

Aslan's Cubs meet on the second Sunday of the month in the St Mochumma Room at 9.00am while the community celebrates Mass in the Church. Children between 2 and 5 years of age are welcome along with a parent/guardian to take in part the Aslan's Cubs session. These sessions are specifically designed for children to learn about God through story, prayer, craft and play.

Baptism Preparation Group

Since Baptism is not merely a naming ceremony for your child, but rather a welcoming of each new Christian into our parish community, these are very much community celebrations. We have a team of Baptism Friends who visit each family in their own home to help them to prepare for the big day. They will help your family to become familiar with the ceremony itself, with what is expected of you; they will explain the practicalities of the day and answer any questions that might arise. They will also be present at the Baptism, welcoming each child on behalf of the parish community.

Dates for Baptism Ceremonies

The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated every other Sunday. Please call the Parish Office to check on dates and time.

Carryduff GAC

Formed in 1972, Carryduff GAC is a GAA Club based in South Belfast. We have almost 1,200 members in 2019 who are involved in various Gaelic disciplines.

Find us at Knockbracken Drive, Carryduff, Co. Down, BT8 8EX

Carryduff Retirement Association (CRA)

The Association was established in 2004 with the aim of enhancing the lives of retired people in the wider Carryduff Area by providing a range of activities to meet the social, educational, health and cultural needs of its members. The Association has both full and associate members. Full members are members of the parish and the management committee is formed from their ranks. Associate members can come from outside our parish community and includes members from other Churches. The Association enjoys close relationships with the Carryduff Retirement Group (attached to St Ignatius COI) and Tuesday Break which is based in the Saintfield Road Presbyterian Church.

Membership currently stands at approximately 150. The activities of the association are publicised through Facebook and by Email: plowry641@btinternet.com Telephone number; 07754051585

Carryduff Set Dancing Club

Set dances are danced in sets of eight people to Irish music. Four couples are arranged in the form of a square. Both the eight dancers in the group and the dance itself are called a "set".

Dancing helps people have fun, make friends and get fit. There is a class each Thursday evening from 8.00pm until 9.30pm in the Parish Hall. New members are always welcome. No partners are required. Ordinary shoes are fine, but leather soles are recommended.

Main contact person: Rosaleen Murphy Phone No: 00447703497023.

Email: rosaleen_murphy@btinternet.com You can find us on Facebook.

Choirs

Senior Choir

The Parish Choir, in existence for several decades, sings at Mass on Sundays and it rehearses each Wednesday evening in the church.

Choir members say they join mostly for the social element of sharing a common interest but also to serve the Parish Community by singing at the various liturgies and especially at Christmas and Easter. Members are from all sorts of backgrounds in terms of work, age and interests but are united in their love for making music. New members are always welcome.

If you are interested in joining NO audition is necessary and you will be placed in one of four sections - Soprano, Alto, Tenor or Bass depending on your voice. You do NOT need to be a good singer or music reader to join. If you join, we will help make you a good singer and give you a degree of ability at reading music.

The most important thing is that you enjoy the experience of being with the other choir members. It's not always easy to join something new but please give the Choir a try - whether you're young or older - from 16 upwards. The choir may be of interest to young music readers (Secondary or University) please give it some thought. Why not taste and see for yourself that singing with others is a worthwhile experience.

Main contact person: Raymond or any of the choir members after Mass on Sundays

Phone No: 07802582987 Email: raymondlennon@gmail.com

The Folk Group

The folk group in existence for over 30 years has a present membership of 34 singers. We meet for rehearsal on Monday evenings and sing at the vigil Mass on Saturdays and on other occasions through the year.

For example, we visit St. Anne's Cathedral to sing for Divine Healing Ministries, where we are always warmly welcomed. From time to time we also visit residential homes to give a short concert and entertainment for the residents.

There is a strong ethos of team work and many friendships exist within the group. We have two married couples and three pairs of siblings in our musical family. We welcome anyone who would like to join and while many of us are retired and happy grandparents, we hope we are young at heart and will continue to enjoy our music in the years ahead.

Main contact person: Anne Turner Phone No: 02890701166 Email: turner.anne@gmail.com

Drumbo and Carryduff Environmental Group (DACEG)

The purpose of DACEG is to lead the people of Drumbo and Carryduff in becoming a 'Green Parish'. We do this by taking local actions together that show our care for each other and for our common home.

If the world temperature rises more than 1.5 degrees Celsius in the next decade, it will devastate the environment, agriculture, human beings and all life.

As a group we have begun projects that prevent or reduce these impacts. For example, we have planted 500 indigenous trees in the grounds of the church. We want to build a community to encourage, take and participate in further action. While our focus is Drumbo and Carryduff we are also connected to what is happening across our world.

We are inspired by the Catholic Church's response to the environmental crisis in Laudato Si. We are an open and inclusive group and would like your ideas and participation. Our motto is *"to change everything we need everyone"*.

There is a meeting monthly, usually in the evening around 7.00pm. New members are always welcome. Come along and make a difference.

Please visit our website where you can contact us: <https://www.daceg.org/contact-us>

Drumbo & Carryduff Finance Committee

The Parish Finance committee is an advisory body to the Parish Priest.

The Committee assists the Parish Priest in his task of administering the parish finances, maintaining the parish properties, planning for future capital works and formulating strategies for raising funds.

The Committee meets at least four times per annum. The committee is responsible for preparing and presenting an annual financial statement to the Parishioners.

Drumbo & Carryduff Safeguarding Committee

The Committee members are individuals who have a particular interest and/or experience in safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults.

Their task is to ensure best practice in Safeguarding in Drumbo and Carryduff parish and that children, young people and vulnerable adults experience the highest standards of pastoral care within our parish.

The Diocesan Policy and Procedures, Code of Conduct and training set out the safeguarding requirements to enable the committee to fulfil their duties.

If you have any concerns of a safeguarding nature, you can contact any member of the Parish Safeguarding Committee through the Parish Office

Drumbo Apostolic Society

The Drumbo Apostolic Society is part of a Diocesan wide organisation. The members of the Society raise funds to help support missionary priests, religious sisters and lay people working in the Developing World. Various fund-raising events happen throughout the year e.g. cake sales.

Drumbo Golf Society

The Parish Society exists to promote the playing of golf within the Four Winds/Carryduff area.

New members, both ladies and gents, are always welcome.

The standard of golf varies from keen club members off society single figure handicaps to regular society golfers who only play a few times per year. A golf outing is held once a month from March to October with the first outing of the year traditionally being on/near St. Patrick's Day.

Each September we have a golfing weekend away. The final outing of the year is our Charity outing and in previous years we have been able to raise large sums for local charities.

Main contact person: Contact via the website www.drumbogolf.uk Email : drumbogolf@outlook.com

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are people in our parish who have been appointed to assist our priests, (the Ordinary Ministers of the Eucharistic), to facilitate the distribution of Holy Communion within Mass. These parishioners are very ordinary people who:

- are practicing Catholics, distinguished in their Christian life, faith and morals
- are at least 18 years old
- have received the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist
- strive to demonstrate a deep reverence for and devotion to the holy Eucharist
- possess the requisite abilities and temperament to carry out their assigned duties.

Some of our Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion also administer Holy Communion outside of the Mass to those in their homes who are impeded from attending Mass because of sickness - physical or mental ill health. They do not take their Ministry for granted but rather feel very humbled and privileged in having the honour of sharing in the celebration of the Eucharist and in the distribution of Holy Communion to fellow parishioners - they recognize the Body of Christ in those to whom they serve. If you would be interested in joining our team of Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, or would like to know more about this Ministry please feel free to get in contact with Fr. Michael.

Main contact person: Ita Toner Phone No: 07788872943 Email: ictoner@gmail.com

Growing in Faith Together (GIFT)

Our programmes provide excellent opportunities for young people to engage with, share, and celebrate their faith.

The programmes commence in the first year of post primary education (year 8), and continue in years 9, 10, 11 and beyond (GIFT 1, 2, 3 & 4).

During the GIFT programme, young people participate in fun activities, pray together, discuss various topics, such as friendship, personal development and social justice, and it is a great way to help them make valuable connections with each other.

We hope that they enjoy a positive experience of belonging to the Catholic Church and to our parish community. The programme is facilitated by core leaders, parents and adult volunteers who have undergone training and are keen to share their faith and experience with the young people.

Main contact person: Sheila Smart Phone No: 07745650099 Email: sheilasmart2@gmail.com

Guild of St. Martha

The Guild is tasked with maintaining the Church and the Church Altar in a state suitable for the celebration of Mass. The Guild members are established into teams and each week, on a rota basis, one of the teams cleans the Church. Other members are responsible for the provision and arrangement of altar flowers and maintenance of altar linens. New members are very welcome. For more information contact the Parish Office 028 90812238 Option 2

Karate Club

Karate classes in Carryduff take place throughout the year and generally mirror the school terms. There is also an adult boxercise fitness class.

There are at least three local tournaments each year:

The N. Ireland Championships in Derry

The Northern Ireland International Open Championships in Belfast

The UKA closed championships in Carryduff.

In addition to these, the association attends the Irish Championships in Dublin and the Carlow International Open Championships. N Ireland/Ulster squad members are selected to enter the World Children's/Junior Championships and the seniors are selected to enter the Senior European and World Championships as well as the European Wado Kai events. Karate NI has previously competed in Italy, Portugal, Belarus and Romania.

Class fees are paid in advance and are for a specific number of classes.

Students will require a karate suit and some protective equipment. The association badge must be worn on karate-gi's at all times.

Main contact person: Terry Boyle Phone No: 07990626286 Email: terry.boyle@ntlworld.com

NorneyHenderson School of Irish Dancing

The Norney School of Irish Dancing was established in 1995 in St Joseph's Parish Centre and now enjoys an extensive range of classes throughout the South Belfast, North Down Area.

As a member of AnChomhdháil (The Congress of Irish Dance Teachers) their primary objective is to preserve, promote and foster the growth, education and development of the Art and Practice of Irish Dancing. This ethos is promoted within the school as it caters for both competitive and non-competitive participants.

To date the class has attained numerous titles at Local, Provincial, All Ireland and World Championship level.

Classes are held in St Joseph's Parish Centre and St Ita's Primary School. Children of all ages are welcome.

Main contact person: Ms Alison Norney ADCRG. Phone No: 07766001376

Email: alisonnorney@btinternet.com

Ministers of the Word (Readers) in Church of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Drumbo and Carryduff.

The Ministry of the Word provides lay people with an opportunity to play a greater role in the celebration of the Eucharist.

The reader acts as an instrument for God's message and is called to communicate it to others. There are currently 33 Ministers of the Word who cover all the Masses both on Sundays and weekdays. A rota is prepared on a three-monthly basis for the Sunday and Vigil Masses and is circulated to readers either in paper copy or by email.

All lay people who feel they could proclaim the word of God can become Ministers of the Word. Anyone who wishes to become a Minister of the Word should contact Fr Michael. Readers can choose which Mass they would wish to cover.

Readers are asked to familiarise themselves with the readings beforehand and practice the readings to allow them to maintain eye contact with the congregation during the readings.

Main contact person: Geraldine Lowry Phone No: 07711826329 Email: mglduff2645@gmail.com

Parish Pastoral Council (PPC)

The mission statement of the PPC is: “We will engage, enhance and energise our parish family to help us to become a more vibrant and welcoming faith community”. The PPC will help Drumbo and Carryduff grow together as welcoming parish family, where people know each other, support each other and reach out to those who are in need or those who do not know us. The PPC also want to encourage participation in parish life and foster better communications within the parish.

Saint Vincent De Paul (SVP), Immaculate Heart of Mary Drumbo and Carryduff

The core support provided by SVP consists of helping families or individuals who are struggling financially, including the many working poor.

Each week our volunteers also pay visits to those who are lonely or isolated, such as the elderly, the ill and those in prison. All referrals are treated in the strictest confidence and we encourage anyone seeking assistance within the parish, or anyone wishing to become a volunteer, to approach us.

We meet once a week on Monday evenings from 7.30-8.30pm in the church.

Main contact person: Kate McCallum Phone number – 07789757454

Email: immaculateheartofmary.drumbo@svpni.co.uk

Scouts: 29th Belfast Scout Troop

The aim of our Scout Group is to encourage the physical, intellectual, character, emotional, social and spiritual development of young people so that they may achieve their full potential and as responsible citizens to improve society. We do this through the Scout Method: Young people and adults working together; learning by doing; working in small groups; outdoors in the natural world; recognising service and commitment to others and personal progression of self; observing the Scout Promise and Scout Law.

Main Contact person: Seamus Napier Email: Seamus.Napier@belfasttrust.hscni.net

SPRED

Our Parish SPRED group is a community of young people with learning disabilities and volunteers who come together to celebrate their faith and make new friends. SPRED is a method of faith development that supports people with learning disabilities to develop a sense of self and a sense of belonging within the Parish community. Each session consists of fun activities, songs and snacks!

We are very keen to welcome new members. So, if you know a young person with a learning disability who would be interested in SPRED please contact us.

Main contact person: Louise McQuillan Phone No: 07922437679

Email: l.mcquillan@downand connor.org

St Joseph's Bridge Club

The game of Bridge continues to thrive in our parish. Established over 35 years ago, St. Joseph's Bridge Club is one of the longest existing 'user groups' and has grown and developed attracting membership from far and wide.

The regular Sunday night event in the Parish Centre attracts players ranging from beginner to expert. They come to play in a competitive but welcoming atmosphere. Available internet technology facilitates the publication of results and communications with members.

The Bridge Club has a long history of annual donations to various charities. This year the sum of £1,500 was donated to a local charity.

The Club is conscious of the need to continue to develop particularly in terms of attracting locals to take up this game. We do have the facilities and expertise to provide the required teaching and currently run classes for beginners and improvers on a weekly basis in the Parish Centre.

If you are considering learning this fascinating game or perhaps coming back after a break contact us at:-

Main contact person: Seamus Sloan Email: Seamussloan@btinternet.com

St Joseph's Pre-school Playgroup

St Joseph's Pre-school Playgroup opened in October 1984 and caters for younger children, 3 to 4 year olds. Our aim is to develop the children's social, emotional and physical skills by offering them an opportunity to mix with other children their own age.

We are opened four days a week, Tuesday to Friday. Our session starts at 9am and finishes at 12pm. We follow the national curriculum, which enhances the structure of the Playgroup. The children have access to a variety of activities such as water, sand, construction, puzzles, drawing and painting as well as imaginary play in the house corner with dressing up clothes etc. The children also have access to the large hall where they can play on the climbing frame, bicycles, with balls, hoops and large building blocks. We end our session everyday with songs, rhymes and a story.

Many visitors call to the playgroup. These visitors include Road Safety, Community Police, Fire Brigade and a Librarian. We also have Elaine who comes once a term to provide a pre-school music and movement session for us. Mini- the Musical Monkey invites your child to join in an interactive class that introduces music and movement in an active, fun, educational and child friendly way.

The Playgroup is monitored by Social Services. The staff are fully trained and committed to making sure your child's first steps into a pre-school setting are happy and enjoyable.

Main contact person: Colette Murray Phone number – 07894903985 or 02890812238 (option 9)

St Joseph's Indoor Bowling Club

St Joseph's indoor bowling club meet on a Tuesday evening in St Joseph's hall from 8pm to 10pm. We are always on the outlook for new members no experience necessary, bowls provided. We play friendly matches with other churches in the Carryduff area and we also have social outings during the year with visits to the Lyric Theatre and Opera house with weekend breaks during the year.

Why not give it a go? if interested contact;

Raymond McConvey Telephone: 02890703242 Email: raymond.mcconvey573@gmail.com

St Joseph's Parish Centre

St. Joseph's Parish Centre has a range of activities suitable for a wide range of activities ranging from small children's parties up to quite large concerts. The main facilities are:

The Carryduff Hall, which can accommodate up to 350 people, can be used for concerts and other large functions and various sporting and cultural events.

The Drumbo Hall can accommodate up to 50 people and can be used for smaller functions and children's parties. The hall has a small tearoom and a large kitchen.

Committee Room 1 can be used for small group or committee meeting of up to 10 people.

St. Ita's Hall can be used for sporting or cultural activities with up to 100 people.

Conference Rooms 2 and 3 can be used for group meeting of up to 20 people either in a formal or informal layout. Each conference room is equipped with a large computer screen.

Internet Access. BT Infinity broadband and network facilities are available throughout the centre.

Making a Booking:

To book a hall or a room in the centre, contact the Parish office at the following email address:
drumbo@downandconnor.org

St. Joseph's Young Priests Society

St. Joseph's Young Priests Society is a society of lay people, founded in Ireland in 1895, by a lay person named Olivia Mary Taffe. The purpose of the Society is twofold:

1. To encourage and foster Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious life by prayer, and to assist financially in the education of students for the Priesthood.
2. To promote the Vocation of the laity for a greater love and understanding of the Mass.

The Society works through a branch in the Parish. The members meet on the third Thursday of the month in the Parish Centre at 7.30p.m. The funds of the society come primarily from members' subscriptions, special donations, legacies and other appropriate fund raising activities.

The task of fostering vocations depends on the whole Christian community. By being involved in St. Joseph's Young Priests Society you can help in this important work. New members are always very welcome.

Main contact person: Jean Clarke Phone No: 02890812312 Email: jeantclarke@hotmail.co.uk

The Bethany Bereavement Support Group

Bethany is a voluntary parish based ministry, which aims to help the bereaved and grieving. The name Bethany recalls the visit of Jesus to Mary and Martha on the death of their brother Lazarus.

Although grieving is a natural process which can be helped by the sympathy and understanding of friends, sometimes one may need support to work through it in a positive way.

Friends don't always know how to help; they may be embarrassed by one's grief; they may even avoid meeting one in the mistaken belief that a meeting may increase distress. It is quite normal to feel anger, guilt, fear and depression as well as the awful pain of loss. These feelings need to be expressed rather than repressed, to be talked out, cried over and put in some sort of perspective.

It helps the healing process to talk with a trained listener and confront the very strong feelings associated with grief. Many Bethany members have themselves been bereaved. They are trained to listen with understanding. They accept those suffering loss as they are, and support them through the grieving process.

Main contact person: Colette Knowles Phone number – 07871768200

The Order of the Knights of St. Columbanus, Drumbo and Carryduff

We are an all-Ireland Order of Catholic laymen dedicated to the service of Christ in our daily and working lives.

We welcome into the Order Catholic men, who would wish to bring to the service of Christ their talents and skills and help in the promotion of Christian values and principles in Society, for the greater Honour and Glory of God. We meet on the first Thursday of each month excluding July & August. Examples of activities undertaken by the membership here in Carryduff include:

- Organisation and participation in mock interviews in three local post primary schools
- Distribution of prayerbooks for First Communicants and adults
- Prisoner outreach at Maghaberry prison
- Assisting with the provision of the Eucharist and spiritual reflection to patients in Knockbracken Health Care Village
- Production of literature to assist in the spiritual development of fellow Catholics
- Assisting the Priests of the parish with distribution of literature, ushering at Christmas Vigil Masses and Corpus Christi procession
- Fundraising for a range of charities
- Attendance at Order arranged spiritual activities.

If you feel you might be interested in joining us speak to Robert Bailie at 07713585619



Photograph by Mark Kingham