

**What a milestone!!
Our parishioner and friend
Eileen McCormick
turns 90 years young.**

Eileen was born on 20 April 1931 off the Whiterock Road, the first of 11 children. She spent the early part of her life there before the family moved to Ardoyne and it was from there, when the war started that her mother and father moved the family to Donaghadee, but her father stayed in Belfast to work.

She spent many happy years in Donaghadee where she attended school and where her beloved sister Patsy made her First Holy Communion and very generously received a few bob from their protestant friends.

They moved back to Ardoyne, they settled there for many happy years until the troubles started and her parents uprooted the family to Antrim. During these times Eileen met the love of her life, Francie, they initially settled in The Greenan off Shaws Road/Rossnareen and in 1969 they were offered a house in Dungloe Crescent and moved in with their first child, Frankie.

They later moved into their dream home in Dungloe Crescent and before long the ultimate supporter of Leeds United came along – the one and only Adrian. Eileen was surrounded by many wonderful neighbours including Sheila & Billy Robinson, Sadie & Paschal McWilliams, the Greers, the Carsons, the Boyles, the McConvilles and many more, past, and present.

Eileen began her working life in the Mill on the Crumlin Road. She later took up post as a dinner lady in St Oliver Plunkett Primary School, serving down the years, her own children, grandchildren, and many hundreds of children from the local area. For a short spell, she also worked as the housekeeper for the Sisters of Mercy in the local convent. In 1997 she was approached by the Parish Priest Fr Kerr, and became the parish housekeeper serving many priests and bishops during her 20year housekeeping role: unfortunately, the Pope/Holy Father never paid her a visit. She eventually retired at the grand old age of 87 years but could not stay away and returned two days a week to do odd jobs around the house and when Covid arrived, she finally hung up her apron.

Eileen has missed all her social gatherings with the Bereavement group, the counters, Deidre, Cathy, Margaret & Malachy who have all been great friends over the years but all of whom keep in touch on a regular basis. Her friend and bubble companion Mary visited Eileen every day.

Happy birthday Eileen.

**All our love and best wishes for your
good health and many more birthdays to come.**

