

Parish of Greencastle, Co. Tyrone (Diocese of Derry)

St. Patrick's, Greencastle Our Lady of the Wayside, Broughderg
Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time [Year C] (1st September, 2019)
World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation

Parochial House, 164, Greencastle Road, Sheskinshule, Omagh, BT79 7RU
Website: greencastleparish.com • **Email:** greencastlepp@yahoo.com • **Tel:** (028) 816 48474

Thought for the Week: "The current global situation engenders a feeling of instability and uncertainty, which in turn becomes "a seedbed for collective selfishness." When people become self-centred and self-enclosed, their greed increases. The emptier a person's heart is, the more he or she needs things to buy, own and consume.
Pope Francis' Encyclical on the Environment (Laudato Si – Section 204)

Liturgy Schedule for Twenty-Second Week in Ordinary Time [Year C] (1st September – 8th September)

Saturday 31st August	St. Patrick's	6.00pm Vigil Mass: Elizabeth McCullagh (39th) and Paul McCullagh (9th Anniversary)
Sunday 1st September Twenty-Second Sunday Ordinary Time	Our Lady of Wayside	9.00am Mass (Missa Pro Populo) 11.00am Mass
Monday 2nd September	St. Patrick's	10.00am Mass: Mary T McAnaney (5th Anniversary)
Tuesday 3rd September	St. Patrick's	7.30pm Mass: Joanne Tracey (1st Anniversary)
Wednesday 4th September	St. Patrick's	12 noon to 7.00pm Adoration 7.30pm Mass: Rita Fox (4th Anniversary)
Thursday 5th September	St. Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Friday 6th September	St. Patrick's	10.00am Mass followed by Confessions
Saturday 7th September	St. Patrick's	6.00pm Vigil Mass: Roseann McGarvey (9th Anniversary)
Sunday 8th September Twenty-Third Sunday Ordinary Time	Our Lady of Wayside	9.00am Mass (Missa Pro Populo) 11.00am Mass

Weekly Collection: £925 *Thank you for your continuing generosity to the parish*

Baptisms: We welcome into the family of God **Cooper James Donnelly** who was baptised on Saturday 24th August in St. Patrick's Church.

Remembering Our Dead: We pray for the happy repose of the soul of **Maureen McKnight (Sheskinshule)** who died during the week and for the souls of **Joanne Tracey** whose First Anniversary Mass takes place on Tuesday evening, **Rita Fox (4th)** and **Mary T. McAnaney (5th)**. We also pray for **Brendan Coyle, Peter Tracey** and **Bridie Clarke**, recently deceased and enrolled in the Derry Diocesan Society.

Sick and Housebound (First Friday): Fr. Gallagher will visit those in his care at the usual times on 6th September.

Station Masses in October: The following dates are available for those who may wish to host in their townland. Thursday 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th and Monday 14th 21st and 28th October. Three stations have already been requested for Friday 4th, 21st and 28th October in Teebane East, Binnefreaghan and Fomil.
If you wish to host a 'Station' please contact Fr Gallagher (028) 8164 8474

Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine:
 Saturday 28th September, led by Bishop Donal McKeown. Stations of the Cross at 2.00pm, Mass at 3.00pm with Sacrament of the Sick. Buses will travel with a variety of pick-up points.
For more info call Fr. Patrick Lagan on (028) 7126 2894 or email steugenes@btconnect.com

Catholic Marriage Encounter, Ireland Weekend: Friday 13th to Sunday 15th September in Dromantine Conference Centre, Newry and Friday 15th to Sunday 17th November in the Lake Hotel, Killarney.
For more information and / or booking visit marriageencounter.ie or call 07702 812 321 or (087) 784 0408

Next Week's Readings: Wisdom 9:13-18 • Psalm 89:3-6, 12-14, 17 R/ v 1 • Philemon 9-10, 12-17
 Luke 14:25-33 • Lectionary 1:903 **Sunday [Year C] • Weekday [Year 2]**

Pilates Classes: 6-week block from Monday 9th September in Greencastle Community Centre
Beginners 7.30pm • Intermediate / Advanced 8.30pm
Led by a chartered physiotherapist • To register call Roisin on 07437 762 005 or email roisin@sperrinphysio.com

An Caisleán Glas – Gala: Saturday 9th November in Silver Birches, Omagh. Black tie event. £100 per person. Tables of 10 are on sale at a reduced rate of £900 until Monday 30th September. Finance options available. Celebrate 50 continuous years of An Caisleán Glas. Tickets will be available to purchase at the club rooms immediately after Saturday evening mass.
greencastle50gala@outlook.com

Catholic Grandparents Association – Annual National Grandparents Pilgrimage: Sunday 8th September at 2.30pm in Knock Shrine. Celebrating the Grandparents of the infant Jesus, St Joachim and St Ann. Everybody is welcome to honour and thank Grandparents alive and dead for all they have done for us down through the ages. Chief Celebrant will be Bishop Kevin Doran, Bishop of Elphin - Combined Choirs of Knock Parish - Dana sings 'Our Lady of Knock'. Bus en-route from Cookstown with pick-ups along the Cookstown road. Bus is £15, meals (optional) are €30. Call Mona on (028) 8673 7954 or Una on 07749 575 969. Early booking advisable.

Omagh Charismatic Prayer Group – Prayer and Renewal Day: Sunday 10th November in the Mellon Hotel, Omagh. Registration from 9.00am and Mass at 3.30pm. Speaker: Fr Brendan Walsh SAC. Theme: 'Your Word is a lamp to my feet, a light for my path' (Ps 119.105). Cost: £25 including lunch, tea / coffee. Booking essential.
Call 07876 411 435 / 07596 609 041 or email evelynheaney@hotmail.com

Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre in Partnership with St. Mary's University, Twickenham
Masters in Catholic School Leadership: A post-graduate degree dedicated to the professional development and spiritual formation of Catholic school leaders. A great opportunity for those currently in leadership roles and those who aspire to or have an interest in leadership roles within the Catholic School system. Next intake will be Autumn.
If you require any more info call on 0044 28 7126 4087 or email tferry@derrydiocese.org

Precious Life – March for their Lives: Please join us for this crucial march at Custom House Square, Belfast on Saturday 7th September at 2.00pm to show our politicians that abortion is not in our name. Mass will be celebrated at St. Patrick's Chapel, Donegal Street at 1.00pm. Coaches will be leaving from all over Ireland.
For more info call Precious Life on (028) 9027 8484 or email info@preciouslife.com

Derry Diocesan Trust – Parish of Maghera (permanent part-time contract): 12 hours per week
Sacristans Role: Preparing the church for all liturgies in accordance with diocesan guidelines and ensure effective security, maintenance and cleaning of the church. For application packs contact Personnel, Derry Diocesan Trust, Bishop's House, Francis Street, Derry, BT48 9AP or email: payroll@derrydiocese.org.
 Completed applications must be returned via post to the above address or by emailing payroll@derrydiocese.org by 5.00pm on Wednesday 11th September. *Derry Diocesan Trust is an Equal Opportunities Employer*

Thornhill Ministries – Upcoming Events: *Thornhill House 121 Culmore Road, Derry BT48 8JF*

Season of Creation:	Sunday 1st September to Friday 4th October. A Monday Prayer with focus on nature's resources as gift. Please join us in creating a positive energy of spiritual care and hope through prayer for our 'common home'. Five consecutive Mondays beginning 2nd September, 10.30am for 15 to 20 minutes.
Coffee and Clobber Morning:	Tuesday 10th September. A fundraising activity as part of our ongoing efforts to help clothe children and adults in the developing world. Bring us your used clothes between 10.30am and 12 noon and we will provide you with a cuppa and tray bake as a thank you for your generosity. Material, bedding and towelling are also welcome. <i>We collect clobber throughout the year. Donations always welcome!</i>

Cappagh / Badoney CCE – Upcoming Events: *To enquire call Tom on (028) 816 48719*

Jim Conway	Tickets for this concert on 20th September with Zoë Conway, John McIntyre and John Sheahan
Weekend:	(Dubliners). Selling fast. Call Tom on number above to order tickets. <i>Admission by ticket only</i>
Seisun:	Saturday 21st September at 9.00pm in Plumbridge Parochial. <i>Everyone welcome</i>

Prayer to Begin a School Year: We thank you Lord, for all that was good during the summer, for the love of our family and friends, and for the sunshine and warm days. As we begin a new school year we ask for your help and pray your blessing on everybody in our schools. Show us how to work together for the good of all. May we share our talents and abilities to the full and grow in knowledge, wisdom and happiness. Give us the grace to become more like Jesus in the ways we think and behave. During this school year let us become builders of your ways and instruments of your peace. We ask this school year blessing through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. *Amen*

<p>Pope Francis' Intention for September (please remember this in your personal prayers) The Protection of the Oceans: That politicians, scientists and economists work together to protect the world's seas and oceans.</p>
<p>Trócaire – Recruiting Volunteers: To support their fundraising, campaigning and education work in Ireland. <i>If you are interested in volunteering visit trocaire.org/getinvolved/volunteer or call (028) 9080 8030 for more info</i></p>
<p>Foyle Hospice – Become a Compassionate Neighbour: Do you have 1-2 hours free once a week to support Foyle Hospice's Compassionate Communities 'Reach Out' voluntary befriending service. It might be as simple as calling in for a cup of tea and a chat, or taking someone out to do a bit of shopping. A volunteer's visit is invaluable to someone who is feeling lonely and isolated due to an illness. Full training and ongoing support with additional training opportunities are offered to all volunteers. <i>Call Tracy Gray, Volunteer Coordinator on 07841 101 932 or email tracy@compassionatecommunitiesnw.com</i></p>
<p>Owenkillew Credit Union – Death Benefit Insurance (DBI): DBI is an insurance scheme whereby for a small premium, your nominee will receive an additional £2,000 to help defray funeral expenses. Can all members who have not paid their premium please call to either office and do so.</p>
<p>ASPIRE Employability Programme – Free CSR Card and Forklift Licence Training To be eligible you must be unemployed or working less than 16 hours a week. Omagh Office: (028) 8224 6535 • Enniskillen Office: (028) 6632 6478 • Facebook: Aspire Employability Programme <i>The Aspire Employability Programme is part funded by the European Social Fund and Department for the Economy</i></p>
<p>Strule Arts Centre – Irish Cultural Activities Every Wednesday Sean-Nós and Set Dancing 6.00pm to 7.00pm • Singing in Irish 7.00pm to 8.00pm Irish Language Classes for Beginner, Improver and Advanced Levels 8.00pm to 9.30pm Email: kevin.goodwin@fermanaghmagh.com • Tel: 07747 899 249</p>
<p>MARA (Maximising Access in Rural Areas): Find out if you're missing out on benefits, services or grants by booking your FREE home visit. Referrals can be made for benefits checks, home safety visits, occupational therapy assessments as well as others. You'll also receive a FREE bag containing £25 worth of items to help keep you warm this winter. <i>Call Carol on (028) 8225 1559 to book</i></p>
<p>Commercial Free Catholic Talk-Radio Station for Ireland – Radio Maria Ireland (RMI): Prayer, catechesis, uplifting music, talks, interviews and testimonies <i>Listen via the app 'RADIO MARIA IRELAND' on mobile devices, streaming on radiomaria.ie or listened to on the phone via a live radio feed by calling +353 (0) 1 437 3277 (no extra charges apply) • Join our faith family!</i></p>
<p>Accord Counselling Services: Available to couples regardless of their faith or denomination. <i>If you would like to avail call (028) 8224 2439 or email omagh@accordni.com</i></p>
<p>Armchair Exercises: Continues every Monday night in the Community Centre at 7.30pm. <i>Suitable for all ages</i></p>
<p>Join the Derry Youth Community (DYC) Adventure: If you are between the ages of 18 and 25 and considering a Gap Year experience why not consider one with a difference? The DYC are a community of faith and service located in the heart of Derry City and serving the young people of the Diocese of Derry. <i>If faith is important in your life, and you are attracted to the ideal of service, you can find more information by visiting derryyouthcommunity.com or emailing dyc@derrydiocese.org</i></p>
<p>The Big Knit for Age NI Calling all knitters! For every hat knitted Age NI receives 25p. <i>To register or find out more call Dorothy on (028) 9024 5729, email bigknit@ageni.org or visit ageni.org/bigknit</i></p>
<p>Support Foyle Hospice by hosting a Coffee / Tea Morning with friends, family, groups or work colleagues: All funds you raise will play a vital role in funding the essential care and support Foyle Hospice provide to people in our communities affected and living with terminal illness <i>For a free pack and more info call Michelle McGinn on (028) 7135 9888 or email michellemcginn@foylehospice.com</i></p>
<p>ACCORD – Relationship Counseling: A service which facilitates couples and individuals to explore, reflect upon and resolve difficulties in their marriages and relationships in a confidential, sensitive, respectful and non-judgmental setting. <i>An appointment can be arranged by calling the Omagh Centre on (028) 8224 2439 or emailing omagh@accordni.com</i></p>

<p>Parish Liturgy for September, 2019</p>	<p>St. Patrick's (6.00pm Vigil Mass)</p>	<p>St. Patrick's (9.00am Mass)</p>	<p>Our Lady of the Wayside (11.00am Mass)</p>
<p>Readers</p>	<p>Francis McDermott</p>	<p>Catriona McCullagh</p>	<p>Sean Teague</p>
<p>Eucharistic Ministry</p>	<p>Brigid Keenan</p>	<p>Eugene McCullagh</p>	<p>Patricia Donnelly</p>
<p>Prayers of Intercession</p>	<p>Chloe McGurk</p>	<p>Rachel Clarke</p>	<p>Tara Conneely</p>
<p>Collectors</p>	<p>Margaret Morris Shea McElhatton</p>	<p>Brendan Conway Eoghan Clarke</p>	<p>Brian Donnelly Perry McCrory</p>
<p>Altar Society</p>	<p>Maria Morris and Kathleen Tracey</p>		<p>Anne McDermott Mary Bradley</p>
<p>Rural Support: We could help you with financial stress by Providing free, confidential face-to-face support • Easing the burden of dealing with debt Helping you identify a way forward • Supporting you to take action Email: info@ruralsupport.org.uk Website: ruralsupport.org.uk To speak with someone in confidence call our helpline on 0845 606 7 606</p>			
<p>The Spiritual Benefits of Weekly Eucharistic Adoration It helps us to grow in holiness. Jesus is ready to lavish on us, many extra graces and blessings, when we come and spend time with Him in Adoration. It helps us to appreciate Priesthood. Remember, "No Priests, no Eucharist". It is an established fact that where Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is worshipped and adored vocations flourish. When we spend time with Jesus in Eucharistic Adoration each week or more often, we experience a great peace and contentment. "...of all devotions, that of adoring Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is the greatest after the Sacraments themselves". <i>Pope St. John Paul II</i></p>			
<p>Eucharistic Adoration Prayer Intentions for each hour of weekly Adoration 12noon – 1.00pm Vocation to Priesthood and Religious Life 1.00pm – 2.00pm Married couples and those preparing for Marriage 2.00pm – 3.00pm Sick and the Housebound • 3.00pm – 4.00pm Strengthening of Faith in our young people 4.00pm – 5.00pm Parish Unity • 5.00pm – 6.00pm Protecting life and the Earth 6.00pm – 7.00pm The Holy Souls and the Bereaved</p>			
<p>Towards Peace: A spiritual support service designed for those who have experienced sexual, physical, emotional or spiritual abuse by Catholic Church personnel in Ireland. Support is also available for family members of abuse survivors. The vision of Towards Peace is to provide a safe supportive space, where people who have been affected by abuse in a Church context can be accompanied as they seek their own experience of spiritual peace, one step at a time. Towards Peace provides spiritual support through one-to-one spiritual direction sessions, with a qualified spiritual companion. Up to 9 sessions are offered and they are free. Website: towardspeace.ie • Tel: 01 505 3028 • Email: towardspeace@jecon.ie</p>			
<p>St. Patrick's Pontifical College, Maynooth – Diploma in Pastoral Theology at Drumalis Applications are now being accepted for this two-year, part-time, intensive course which begins in September Website: drumalis.co.uk • Email: maura@drumalis.co.uk • Tel: (028) 2827 2196 / 2827 6455</p>			
<p>The Millennium Forum – Changing Place Facility: This is a space which provides a private area for people who require an adult changing bench, hoist and toilet. Over ¼ million people need Changing Places toilets to enable them to get out and about and enjoy the day-to-day activities many of us take for granted. The Millennium Forum Changing Place is open to all members of the public, not only people attending the theatre. <i>Call our Access and Inclusion Officer Lisa Heaney on (028) 7126 4455 (choose option 1) or email lisah@millenniumforum.co.uk</i></p>			
<p>In the Footsteps of St. John Paul II – 10 Night Pilgrimage to Poland: Tuesday 21st April to Friday 1st May, 2020. Follow in the footsteps of St. John Paul II, visit the capital of Divine Mercy, venerate the messenger of Mercy, St. Faustina's relics, see the cell that imprisoned St. Maximilian Kolbe (martyr) as well as visit the largest Marian shrines and sanctuaries in Poland – daily Mass and spiritual activities. Flights from Belfast, luxury coach travel and excellent accommodation. <i>For more info, a detailed itinerary and price email Fr. Micheál McGavigan at michealmcgavigan@icloud.com</i></p>			

Seeing your life through the lens of the gospel: *John Byrne OSA (jpbyrneosa@gmail.com)*

1. The parable brings out two contrasting experiences, but each in its own way can be a moment of grace, a moment of truth, a moment of growth. You may be able to recall such experiences in your life. In the first (verses 8, 9) we discover that we had claimed a place that is too high for us; we are not as selfless, generous or compassionate as we thought we were. In the second (v. 10), others point out a goodness in ourselves that we may not have acknowledged to ourselves. How have you grown through such experiences?
2. In verses 12-14, Jesus warns us against the danger of ulterior motives in doing good. We can do good things partly because of the benefit we will get from what we do. That is natural but can lead to disappointment and resentment when our expectations are not met. When the good deed in itself is our reward we have a greater freedom. Praise will be a bonus, but is not necessary. What does your life experience tell you about this?

The Deep End – All Are Invited to the Banquet: *Jane Mellett (mellettj@gmail.com)*

In today's Gospel, Jesus uses the image of a great banquet to explain God's vision for our world. He speaks of a place where those who consider themselves entitled to the highest seats at the table take the low seats. He urges us to invite the poor, the lame and the blind to this celebration. Jesus encourages us to turn the world upside down in a reversal, an upheaval, where the preferred option is for the poor and those considered least in society. Today is an important day, as we begin the Season of Creation (from 1 September until the Feast of St Francis on 4 October). Pope Francis asks all Christians to embrace this season in prayer, in living more sustainably and in raising our voices in the public sphere. We are invited to think more deeply about what is happening at present to the Earth, the environmental destruction which now threatens our world, our common home. The theme this year is 'The Web of Life.' The most vulnerable among us are suffering most deeply as this web of life begins to unravel. Our faith calls us to respond to this crisis with urgency. Let us hear the Gospel message today, where we are called to consider those on the margins, including those most at risk from climate change, and let us commit to working towards a world where all are seated at the banquet.

Suggestion for the week: Find out more and see what you can do as a parish community during this season of creation at seasonofcreation.org

The Spiritual Benefits of Weekly Eucharistic Adoration

It helps us to grow in holiness. Jesus is ready to lavish on us, many extra graces and blessings, when we come and spend time with Him in Adoration. It helps us to appreciate Priesthood. Remember, "No Priests, no Eucharist". It is an established fact that where Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is worshipped and adored vocations flourish. When we spend time with Jesus in Eucharistic Adoration each week or more often, we experience a great peace and contentment.

"...of all devotions, that of adoring Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is the greatest after the Sacraments themselves". Pope St. John Paul II

Eucharistic Adoration Prayer Intentions for each hour of weekly Adoration

- 12noon – 1.00pm** Vocation to Priesthood and Religious Life
- 1.00pm – 2.00pm** Married couples and those preparing for Marriage
- 2.00pm – 3.00pm** Sick and the Housebound • **3.00pm – 4.00pm** Strengthening of Faith in our young people
- 4.00pm – 5.00pm** Parish Unity • **5.00pm – 6.00pm** Protecting life and the Earth
- 6.00pm – 7.00pm** The Holy Souls and the Bereaved

Accord Counselling Services: Ireland's leading agency supporting marriage and relationships, nationwide through its 60 Centres. Our aim is to help couples prepare for, achieve and sustain their marriage and family relationships, offer ongoing support and assist them in times of difficulty or crisis. Available to couples regardless of their faith, denomination or none. *To avail of this service call (028) 8224 2439 or email omagh@accordni.com*

Marriage Enrichment Weekend – The Joy of Love in Marriage: Offers married couples of all ages in a good relationship, private time to rekindle the joy of their love. The next (residential) Weekends (Friday, 8.00pm to Sunday, 4.30pm) will be held at the Dromantine Conference Centre, Newry from 13th to 15th September and at The Lake Hotel Killarney from 15th to 17th November.

For info and to book visit marriageencounter.ie or call (087) 784 0408 [ROI] / 0770 281 2321 [NI]

PARISH EVENTS IN 2018

Thursday 1st February Service of Light for P7	Thursday 8th March First Confession for P4
Monday 12th March 5 Parishioners receive Pope John Paul Awards in Armagh Cathedral	
Sunday 22nd April Confirmation by Bishop McKeown	Saturday 19th May First Holy Communion
Thursday 14th June P7 attend Fan the Flame Mass in Celtic Park Derry	
Thursday 21st June Presentations to P7 Leavers and Mr. Noel McGinn on retirement as principal	
Saturday 30th June and Sunday 1st July Cemetery Prayers in Parish Cemeteries	
Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th August Parishioners, along with Fr Gallagher attend Festival of Families in Croke Park and Papal Mass in Phoenix Park	
Saturday 1st September Mr. Neil McCloy officially takes up role as principal of Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School	
Sunday 2nd September All-Ireland Final – Tyrone v. Dublin	Friday 2nd November Mass for Parish Deceased
10th November Sr. Bride Counihan makes Mission Appeal	
Wednesday 21st November Inaugural Meeting of Parish Pastoral Council	
Sunday 16th December Advent Penance Service	Saturday 22nd December 2 New Altar servers welcomed
31st December Large congregation gathers for Mass at final sunset of 2018	

2018	PARISH STATISTICS	2017
(16) 7 Boys • 9 Girls	Baptisms	(26) 10 Boys • 16 Girls
(14) 8 Boys • 6 Girls	First Communion	(14) 8 Boys • 6 Girls
(17) 10 Boys • 7 Girls	Confirmation	(15) 7 Boys • 8 Girls
3 within parish • 3 outside parish	Weddings	2 within parish • 3 outside parish
10	Deaths and Burials	12

This Week's Calendar of Feasts and Saints:

Sunday 8th September – Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary We celebrate the Birthday of Mary, who brought the dawn of hope and salvation to the world. She is the Ark of the Covenant, the temple of God, because her body received the one Mediator.

Kindercare Fostering NI: Could you help a child in need? Northern Ireland is currently experiencing a severe shortage of foster carers and particularly carers from the Catholic Community. We are a not-for-profit organisation which works to find safe, secure and loving homes for children and young people in need in Northern Ireland. If you are interested in finding out more:

Tel: (028) 90941690 • **Email:** gillian.devlin@kindercare.co.uk • **Website:** kindercareni.co.uk

Red Cross: Can you spare 1 hour a week? Would you like to help the Red Cross care for people in your local community? We are looking for volunteers for our wheelchair service and volunteer drivers to help with deliveries and collections. No experience necessary. Full training provided and volunteer expenses reimbursed.

Call Julie White on (028) 7186 3764 / (078) 0302 4011

St. Vincent de Paul Helpline: For those in need of assistance please call 07738 837 992

Sacrament of Reconciliation / Confession: The Sacrament of Reconciliation better known as Confession is very important and vital part of our lives as Catholics. The times for Confession will be as follows.

St. Patrick's: Eve of First Friday from after 10.00am Mass until 11.00am when mass is celebrated with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament during that time except when there is a funeral or no mass
 First Saturday of each month from after mass until 11.00am with Adoration unless there is a 12noon wedding
 Each Saturday Evening 5.30pm-5.45pm and after Vigil Mass on request after Mass

Our Lady of the Wayside: Each Sunday 10.30am to 10.45am and after 11.00am Mass on request after Mass

Mid Ulster Agewell: Are you over 50 years old? Do you live in the Mid Ulster Council area? Would you like a free phone call in the morning to reduce the feeling of loneliness and isolation, reassurance and a listening ear and help keep you up to date with social activities in your local area? A phone call can be arranged between 8.30am and 12.30pm from Monday to Friday.

For more info call Marie Devlin on (028) 796 32170 or email marie.devlin@agewellpartnership.org

Pope Francis' Message for World Day of Peace 2019

Charity and human virtues: the basis of politics at the service of human rights and peace

'Pope Benedict XVI noted that "every Christian is called to practise charity in a manner corresponding to his vocation and according to the degree of influence he wields in the polis... When animated by charity, commitment to the common good has greater worth than a merely secular and political stand would have."

This is a programme on which all politicians, whatever their culture or religion, can agree, if they wish to work together for the good of the human family and to practise those human virtues that sustain all sound political activity: justice, equality, mutual respect, sincerity, honesty, fidelity. In this regard, it may be helpful to recall the "Beatitudes of the Politician", proposed by Vietnamese Cardinal François-Xavier Nguyễn Văn Thuận, a faithful witness to the Gospel who died in 2002: "Blessed be the politician with a lofty sense and deep understanding of his role. Blessed be the politician who personally exemplifies credibility. Blessed be the politician who works for the common good and not his or her own interest. Blessed be the politician who remains consistent. Blessed be the politician who works for unity. Blessed be the politician who works to accomplish radical change. Blessed be the politician who is capable of listening.

Blessed be the politician who is without fear." Every election and re-election, and every stage of public life, is an opportunity to return to the original points of reference that inspire justice and law. One thing is certain: good politics is at the service of peace. It respects and promotes fundamental human rights, which are at the same time mutual obligations, enabling a bond of trust and gratitude to be forged between present and future generations.'

Guidelines on Use of Modern Technology when Working with Children – Use of Photography and Video:

The use of photography and video is an issue of great concern among those working with children. The Diocese recognises that every parish has their own arrangements in relation to its use in schools, youth groups and for the sacraments however the guidelines have been devised below to aid parishes and diocesan groups:

- It is always good practice to seek *written* permission from a parent or guardian before taking any photographs or video footage of children. This written permission must be sought from the parent/guardian or the person who owns the photograph before it can be displayed on promotional materials or websites. This can be incorporated in the registration form when a child joins a group (template permission Resource 10);
- Neither names nor any personal information should be displayed alongside any photographs;
- Special consideration should be given where taking photographs or video footage might be misinterpreted, or the images could be seen as provocative (e.g. beach trip or gymnastics display etc.). It is not to say, however, that with the right planning, these events cannot be recorded and enjoyed.

Photography and video recording are important methods of recording social activity and providing an historic record – illustrating and validating important moments in people's lives. This process is a powerful and personal one, and therefore we must respect the rights of all to make the choice whether or not to be photographed.

From Safeguarding Policy and Procedures, published on behalf of the Diocesan Safeguarding Committee

Child Safeguarding: If you or anyone you know has a concern or wishes to report an allegation directly to the statutory authorities, please contact the PSNI / local Health and Social Care Trust. If you are contacting the latter, ask to speak to the Duty Social Worker. Alternatively, if you have a child safeguarding concern in relation to any member of Church personnel and wish to report it to Church authorities, please contact one of the diocesan designated persons, who will in turn report your concern to the relevant statutory authorities. See poster at entrance

Accord Counselling Services: Ireland's leading agency supporting marriage and relationships, nationwide through its 60 Centres. Our aim is to help couples prepare for, achieve and sustain their marriage and family relationships, offer ongoing support and assist them in times of difficulty or crisis. Available to couples regardless of their faith, denomination or none. To avail of this service call (028) 8224 2439 or email omagh@accordni.com

Family Care Adoption Services

Presently seeking to recruit adoptive families for babies and young children

For a free information contact **Tel:** (028) 7136 8592 / (028) 9069 1133 (Monday to Friday, 9.00am to 5.00pm)
us using any of these details **Email:** anne.ohagan@familycaresociety.org • **Website:** familycaresociety.co.uk

String Instrument Music Lessons:

Every Thursday evening in Greencastle Hall

For kids to learn banjo, guitar and violin with qualified tutor Frank Nugent

Beginners: 6.00pm to 6.45pm • **Advanced:** 6.45pm to 7.30pm • Call Sinead on 07788 266 387 to book a place

Volunteer at White Oaks Acorn Organic Farm: If you have an interest in organic growing and have a few hours to spare, why not spend them with us? Contact us using the details below.

Address: IOSAS Centre and Celtic Prayer Garden, Lenamore Road, Derryvane, Muff, Co. Donegal
Tel: (00353) (0) 74 9384866 • **Website:** celticprayergarden.com • **Facebook:** IOSASCentre • **Twitter:** IOSASCentre

Deanery of Tyrone Statistics

17 Parishes in West Tyrone and East Donegal. An estimated Catholic population of 65,670 people are currently served by 20 Derry Diocesan priests under retirement age with assistance of 3 priests in residence and a chaplain to the Polish community.

8 parishes (47%) have a Catholic population of less than 3,000

6 parishes (35%) have a Catholic population of 3,000-7,000 people

3 parishes (18%) have a Catholic population of greater than 7,000 people

The largest parish serves an estimated 11,500 Catholics

7 parishes have 1,500 parishioners or less (7,900 combined) each with a resident priest. Is this sustainable?

In 2008 there were 27 diocesan clergy under retirement age ministering in the Tyrone Deanery, as of 2018 that number is 20. 7 Parish Priests currently serving in the deanery will reach 75 before 2025.

The maximum number of ordinations across the Derry Diocese by 2025 is 3.

Age profile: 1 priest is in his 30s, 1 in 40s, 7 in 50s, 6 in 60s and 5 in 70s

The clergy population has dropped 26% between 2008 and 2018 and by 2025 will have dropped by 52%

Kindercare Fostering NI: Could you help a child in need? Northern Ireland is currently experiencing a severe shortage of foster carers and particularly carers from the Catholic Community. We are a not-for-profit organisation which works to find safe, secure and loving homes for children and young people in need in Northern Ireland. If you are interested in finding out more:

Tel: (028) 90941690 • **Email:** gillian.devlin@kindercare.co.uk • **Website:** kindercareni.co.uk

Annual Pilgrimage to Medjugorje: Tuesday 3rd to Tuesday 10th September.

£579 (includes half board in Leone Hotel, tax and insurance). Spiritual Director Fr. John Forbes.

Call Maria on (028) 8164 8357 or WhatsApp on 07768 395 038 for more info

Medjugorje Irish Centre Pilgrimages (April to October): 7 nights B&B and Airport

Shuttle service from Dubrovnik or Split for €279 per person sharing.

any flight, any time and we provide guaranteed airport shuttle service.

Call us on 01 4434510 or email reservations@med-irishcentre.com for further info and book dates that suit

Red Cross: Can you spare 1 hour a week? Would you like to help the Red Cross care for people in your local community? We are looking for volunteers for our wheelchair service and volunteer drivers to help with deliveries and collections. No experience necessary. Full training provided and volunteer expenses reimbursed.

Call Julie White on (028) 7186 3764 / (078) 0302 4011

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Drink Wise, Age Well: Are you over 50? Are you worried about your own or someone else's alcohol use?

For confidential information, advice and support call (028) 8283 9240