



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

St. Patrick's, Greencastle Our Lady of the Wayside, Broughderg

Second Sunday of Advent [Year A] (8th December, 2019)

Parochial House, 164, Greencastle Road, Sheskinshule, Omagh, BT79 7RU

Website: greencastleparish.com • **Email:** greencastlepp@yahoo.com • **Tel:** (028) 816 48474



Thought before Election Day: "As the people return to the polling booths we encourage everyone to vote and to take the opportunity 'on the doorsteps' to encourage all politicians to return to the Assembly as soon as possible. We encourage voters to choose candidates who value positive relationships within and beyond these islands. Voters have a duty to inform themselves on the position of election candidates in respect of their willingness to support and cherish equally the lives of mothers and their unborn children. In the absence of devolved government, we call on politicians elected to Westminster to seek to ensure that the mitigation package for Welfare Reform does not end suddenly. It is important that candidates for election are willing to take the necessary steps to address the current housing needs of our population. These Westminster elections are very significant..... This brings an even greater responsibility on us, as followers of Jesus, to reflect in a conscientious and informed way on the breadth of issues involved. We call for prayers for candidates and for a respectful public debate on the issues.

Summary of Northern Bishops Pre-election Statement 2019

Liturgy Schedule for Second Week of Advent [Year C] (8th December – 15th December)

Saturday 7th December	St. Patrick's	6.00pm	Vigil Mass: Packie-Vincent Morris (3 rd Anniversary)
Sunday 8th December Second Sunday of Advent	St. Patrick's Our Lady of Wayside	9.00am	Mass (Missa Pro Populo)
Monday 9th December Solemnity of Immaculate Conception	St. Patrick's Our Lady of Wayside	11.00am	Mass
Tuesday 10th December	St. Patrick's	11.00am	Mass
Wednesday 11th December	St. Patrick's	9.00am	Mass
Thursday 12th December St. Finian (bishop) and Our Lady of Guadalupe	St. Patrick's	12 noon to 7.15pm	Adoration 7.30pm Mass
Friday 13th December St. Lucy (virgin and martyr)	St. Patrick's	NO MASS	
Saturday 14th December St. John of the Cross (priest and doctor of the Church)	St. Patrick's	6.00pm	Vigil Mass <i>DTIM (week 4)</i>
Sunday 15th December Third Sunday of Advent	St. Patrick's Our Lady of Wayside	9.00am	Mass (Missa Pro Populo)
Advent Penitential Services	Sunday 15th December	3.00pm	Greencastle • 5.00pm Gortin • 7.00pm Plumbridge

Please take this opportunity as part of your spiritual preparations for Christmas

Weekly Collection: £1,245

Thank you for your generosity

Altar Servers: Our new altar servers will be formally inducted into the role at the 6.00pm Vigil Mass Saturday 14th December in St. Patrick's Church

Baptism: We welcome **Emily Illa Rose O'Neill** into the family of God through the Sacrament of Baptism on Sunday 1st December in St. Patrick's Church.

Remembering our Dead: We pray for the happy repose of the souls of **Packie-Vincent Morris (3rd)**, **Patrick Devlin** and **Gerard, Mary and Gerry McCrory** whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes in 2020: Thursday 2nd to Tuesday 7th July. Applications are now being sought for the 2020 Youth Pilgrimage, from those who will be age 17 at time of travel. Forms can be requested through schools or directly from the Lourdes Pilgrimage Office, 164 Bishop Street, Derry, BT48 6UJ (email derrypilgrim@outlook.com).

Gift Vouchers for all pilgrims to the value of £25 and £50 can be ordered via these same contact details

Next Week's Readings: Isaiah 35:1-6, 10 • Psalm 145:6-10, R/ cf Is 35:4 • James 5:7-10

Matthew 11:2-11 • Lectionary 1:46

Sunday [Year A] • Weekday [Year 2]

6.00pm Saturday Vigil	Offertory Gift Rota	9.00am Sunday Morning
Saturday 7 th December Family of Michael McGlinchey	Second Sunday of Advent	Sunday 8 th December Family of Francis McNamee
Saturday 14 th December* Family of Kailagh Bradley	Third Sunday of Advent	Sunday 15 th December Family of Alice McGlinchey
Saturday 21 st December Family of Daire Brogan	Fourth Sunday of Advent	Sunday 22 nd December Family of Mary-Jo Morris
Tuesday 24 th December (8.00pm) Family of Emma Conway	Christmas Eve / Day	Wednesday 25 th December (11.00am) Family of Shea Tracey
If you cannot attend please ensure that you have arranged with another family for the gifts to be presented *Do This In Memory Programme (Week 4) We need new volunteers in every aspect of life		

Monthly Devotions Through the Intercession of St. Pio of Pietrelcina:

Wednesday 11th December after mass in St. Patrick's Church. *A First Class Relic of the saint will be present*

Greencastle Retirement Club – Christmas Dinner: Sunday 15th December at 3.00pm in the Community Centre. Old Tyme Dance to follow with music by Sprig of Heather. *All are welcome to the dance*

Diocesan Catechetical Centre – Training Opportunities for Young People / Adults:

The Diocese in conjunction with Youthlink NI are offering an exciting training opportunity for young people aged 16-18 interested in Youth Work and Leadership Training. An OCN Level 1 Award in Practical Youth Work / Ministry Skills. Saturday 18th January, Sunday 2nd February and Saturday 7th March in Maghera Pastoral Centre.

The Diocese are also offering a training course for adults interested in Parish Pastoral Ministry. A Level 2 Certificate in Youth Work Practice and it will run over 5 Saturdays and a few evenings beginning Wednesday 4th March, 6.00pm to 9.00pm in Maghera Pastoral Centre.

If interested call Yvonne Rooney, the Diocesan Pastoral Youth Leader for more details or an application form on 0044 28 7126 4087 or email yvonne.rooney@derrydiocese.org

Children in Crossfire – Annual Advent Appeal: This year the campaign is fundraising to support St. Luke's Catholic Hospital where Children in Crossfire funds a therapeutic feeding unit for children suffering from severe acute malnutrition. *Boxes will be distributed this weekend*

Greencastle Community Association – Cards: Sunday 8th December at 7.00pm in the Community Centre.

Cappagh Parish – St. Vincent de Paul Conference: They cover our parish and visit families here on a regular basis. This weekend they will take up their Annual Collection in many parishes to support their work. They will be collecting outside St. Patrick's Church after 6.00pm and 9.00am masses. *Please be generous*

Alcoholics Anonymous: Can't stop? There is a solution.

Call AA on (028) 9035 1222 or email csoofaa@btinternet.com. alcoholicsanonymous.ie.

Annual Pilgrimage to Medjugorje: Tuesday 1st to Tuesday 8th September. £545 (includes half-board, tax and insurance) if paid in full by Wednesday 6th December – £100 extra after that date.

For more info call Maria on (028) 8164 8357 or 07768 395 038. An ideal Christmas present!

Sounds of the Season – A Celebration of Christmas Music. Tuesday 10th December at 8.00pm. Paschal McAnenly with special guests Malachi Cush, Conor McGinty (from ITV's X Factor), Lauren McCrory and The Mc Bennett Sisters. Musical Director: Plunkett McGartland. Proceeds in aid of parish funds. Church of the Immaculate Conception Ballygawley. Tickets £20 and available from Traynor's Butchers, O'Neill's Chemist, Kelly's Inn, Playtime Nursery Eskra or by calling 07928 419 147. *Get your tickets now for what will be a wonderful night of Music and song*

Catechetical Centre – Derry Diocesan Youth Pilgrimage to Medjugorje: Tuesday 28th July to Tuesday 4th August (ages 16 to 18). A unique experience for young people and an opportunity to engage with peers from around the world in a faith context. Up to 50,000 young people attend the Medjugorje Youth Festival each year. Cost is £599 and there will be a budget plan to help with this. Names and a deposit of £100 are due by Sunday 1st December.

For more info or to book email lizzie.rea@derrydiocese.org or call 00 44 2871264087

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

<p>Pope Francis' Intention for December (please remember this in your personal prayers) The Future of the Very Young: That every country take the measures necessary to prioritise the future of the very young, especially those who are suffering.</p>
<p>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. <i>To avail of this service call (028) 8224 2439 or email omagh@accordni.com</i></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>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>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>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>Drink Wise, Age Well: Are you over 50? Are you worried about your own or someone else's alcohol use? <i>For confidential information, advice and support call (028) 8283 9240</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>

Parish Liturgy for December, 2019	St. Patrick's (6.00pm Vigil Mass)	St. Patrick's (9.00am Mass)	Our Lady of the Wayside (11.00am Mass)
Readers	Martina Hughes	Monica Coyle	Anne McDermott
Eucharistic Ministry	Frankie Bradley	Maria Bradley	Josephine Clarke
Prayers of Intercession	Shona McKenna	Michelle O'Brien	Daniel McCrory
Collectors	Francis McLaughlin Mary Bradley	Eugene Tracey Brendan Conway	Brian McGillen Perry McCrory
Altar Society	Margaret McCrory and Patricia Donnelly		Anne McDermott and Carmel McCrory

Armchair Exercises: Continues every Monday night in the Community Centre at 7.30pm. *Suitable for all ages*

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

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

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

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

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

Catholic Marriage Encounter, Ireland Weekend: 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

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

This Week's Calendar of Feasts and Saints:

Monday 9th December – Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

On this holy day of obligation we celebrate Mary, mother of Jesus. She was preserved free from sin from the first moment of her existence in the womb 'by a singular grace and privilege of Almighty God'.

Thursday 12th December – St. Finnian (bishop) Studied in Idrone, Co. Carlow and later in Wales, on his return he settled in Clonard, Co. Meath around 520, where he established a famous school. His pupils, among which were Canice, Columcille and Brendan, were initiators of the great monastic expansion in Ireland. Died in 549 and is remembered as the tutor of all the saints of Ireland.

Our Lady of Guadalupe Patron Saint of the Americas. This memorial recalls the apparitions in December, 1531 to Juan Diego Cuatlatatzin on Tepeyac Hill, near Mexico City. Mary appeared as a symbol of wisdom and peace. Her image as a *mestiza*, a woman of native American and European heritage, remained in Juan's cloak (*tilma*). She appeared as "the little brown one," affectionately called La Morenita, who gives great dignity and holiness to the native and mestizo peoples of America. The tilma that Juan Diego presented to his doubtful bishop was filled with roses and is now enshrined in Mexico City in the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Nowhere else does she appear as a pregnant woman as she does here, wearing the blue sash traditionally worn by expectant Aztec women. She also has a flower on her womb, an Aztec symbol of new life and a new era. Blocks the sun and stands on the moon.

Friday 13th December – St. Lucy (virgin and martyr) Suffered much for her desire to remain consecrated to Christ alone. She was martyred in 304 in Sicily in the persecution of Diocletian. Her name means *light* and her intercession has been sought for eye trouble.

Saturday 14th December – St. John of the Cross (priest and doctor of the Church) [1542-1591]
A Carmelite who, despite opposition and imprisonment, worked for the reform of the Carmelites. He was a man of prayer, an outstanding poet and a spiritual writer. Declared doctor of the Church.

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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.

Call our Access and Inclusion Officer Lisa Heaney on (028) 7126 4455 (choose option 1) or email lisah@millenniumforum.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

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.'

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%

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

Epilepsy Action NI: Are you, or someone you care for, living with epilepsy or brain injury? Epilepsy Action NI and Headway work in partnership to deliver a community-based counselling service in Omagh. The Counselling service is for people over the age of 18 who are affected by epilepsy and / or brain injury or are caring for someone with epilepsy / brain injury and would like some emotional support.

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*

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

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

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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Family Care Adoption Services <i>Presently seeking to recruit adoptive families for babies and young children</i>	
For free info contact us	Tel: (028) 7136 8592 / (028) 9069 1133 (Monday to Friday, 9.00am to 5.00pm) Email: anne.ohagan@familycaresociety.org • Website: familycaresociety.co.uk

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 PS	
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	

Some Important Dates

Thursday 6th February at 7.30pm Service of Light for P7 Confirmation children		
Thursday 26th March at 7.30pm First Confession for P4 Children	Sunday 26th April at 2.00pm Confirmation	Saturday 6th June at 12noon First Holy Communion

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

Institute of Irish Leadership, Pomeroy – Upcoming Events: saconlon15@hotmail.co.uk • (028) 8775 7800

Reading Group	Every Tuesday (10.30am – 11.30am) <i>Please donate your old books / magazines</i>
Ciorcal Comhrá Gaeilge / Irish Language Conversation Circle:	Every Thursday (10.30am – 11.30am)
Walking Group:	Continues every Monday (11.00am – 12.00 noon). Meet in Pomeroy forest car park.

Irish Harp Orchestra: Sunday 8th December at 3.00pm in Dun Uladh. You will have the opportunity to see the orchestra present their Christmas show prior to their departure to Germany where their first concert is in the famous Laeiszhalle, Hamburg. Tickets are £10, £8 earlybird and £5 U16 and may be acquired from Dun Uladh, from info@janetharbisonharp.com and at door on the 8th. *Don't miss the best of Irish music, song and dance at its' best!*

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.
For more info, a detailed itinerary and price email Fr. Micheál McGavigan at michealmcgavigan@icloud.com

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*