



**Parish of Greencastle, Co. Tyrone (Diocese of Derry)**  
**St. Patrick's, Greencastle**      **Our Lady of the Wayside, Broughderg**  
**Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time [Year C] (17<sup>th</sup> February, 2019)**  
 Parochial House, 164, Greencastle Road, Sheskinshule, Omagh, BT79 7RU  
**Website:** greencastleparish.com • **Email:** greencastlepp@yahoo.com • **Tel:** (028) 816 48474

**Pope Francis Speaks to Ireland**

*Phoenix Park Mass [Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> August]*

"Yesterday I met with eight persons who are survivors of the abuse of power, the abuse of conscience and sexual abuse. In reflecting on what they told me, I wish to explore the Lord's mercy for these crimes and to ask forgiveness for them. We ask forgiveness for the cases of abuse in Ireland, the abuse of power, the abuse of conscience and sexual abuse on the part of representatives of the Church. In a special way, we ask forgiveness for all those abuses that took place in different kinds of institutions directed by men and women religious and other members of the Church. We also ask forgiveness for cases in which many minors were exploited for their labour."

**Liturgy Schedule for Sixth Week in Ordinary Time [Year C] (17<sup>th</sup> February, 2019 – 24<sup>th</sup> February, 2019)**

<b>Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> February</b>	St. Patrick's	<b>6.00pm</b> Vigil Mass
<b>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> February</b>		<b>9.00am</b> Mass (Missa Pro Populo)
Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time [Year C]	Our Lady of Wayside	<b>11.00am</b> Mass
<b>Monday 18<sup>th</sup> February</b>	St. Patrick's	<b>10.00am</b> Mass
<b>Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> February</b>	St. Patrick's	<b>9.00am</b> Mass
<b>Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> February</b>	St. Patrick's	<b>12 noon to 7.15pm</b> Adoration <b>7.30pm</b> Mass
<b>Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> February</b>	St. Patrick's	<b>10.00am</b> Mass
St. Peter Damian (bishop and doctor of the Church)		
<b>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February</b>	St. Patrick's	<b>7.30pm</b> Mass: Mary Fox (1 <sup>st</sup> Anniversary)
Chair of St. Peter the Apostle		
<b>Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> February</b>	St. Patrick's	<b>6.00pm</b> Vigil Mass: Rose Morris (9 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary)
St. Polycarp (bishop and martyr)		
<b>Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> February</b>		<b>9.00am</b> Mass (Missa Pro Populo)
Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time [Year C]	Our Lady of Wayside	<b>11.00am</b> Mass

**COLLECTIONS**      **Weekly:** £1,130      •      **Lourdes Hospitalité:** £400      *Thank you for your generosity*

**Marriage:** We congratulate **Kevin McCrory (Greencastle) and Elaine Donaghy (Termonmaguirc)** who shared the Sacrament of Matrimony with each other on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> February in St. Oliver Plunkett Church, Creggan.

**Remembering Our Dead:** We pray for the happy repose of the soul of **Mary Fox** whose First Anniversary Mass will be celebrated Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February. We also pray for **Rose Hollywood, Michael McCullagh, Josie Walker (Claremorris)** and **Jacinta Haughey (Dublin)**, recently deceased and enrolled members in the Derry Diocesan Society.

**Children in Crossfire's – Advent Appeal:** Greencastle Parish raised **£1,240.21**. With your support Children in Crossfire will continue to provide early years education, health care, food and clean safe water for some of the youngest and most vulnerable children in Tanzania and Ethiopia, giving them the start in life every child deserves.

**Annual Diocesan Mass for those with Special Needs and their Families and Friends**  
 Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April at 2.00pm in Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Steelstown, Derry. Bishop Mc Keown will celebrat.  
*If you have a child who wishes to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation or First Communion at this Mass please call the Catechetical Centre on 0044 28 7126 4087 or email ddcc@derrydiocese.org*

**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*

**Next Week's Readings:** 1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23 • Psalm 102:1-4, 8 10, 12-13, R/ v8  
 1 Corinthians 15:45-49 • Luke 6:27-38 • Lectionary 1:856      **Sunday [Year C] • Weekday [Year 1]**

<b>6.00pm Saturday Vigil</b> Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> February The family of <b>Tiernan McKenna</b> Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February The family of <b>John James McElduff</b>	<b>Offertory Gift Rota</b> Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time	<b>9.00am Sunday Morning</b> Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> February The family of <b>Eoghan Conway</b> Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> February The family of <b>Katie McGurk</b>
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**If you cannot attend please ensure that you have arranged with another family for the gifts to be presented**

**Annual Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes:** Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> to Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> July. £679. We welcome all pilgrims, especially pilgrims in need of care. We welcome doctors, nurses and youth (aged 17years+) to assist with those in need. Application forms now available. Call (028) 7126 0293 (Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, 11.00am to 1.00pm) or email derry pilgrim@outlook.com at any time.

**Marian Pilgrimages:** Fully escorted group pilgrimage to San Giovanni Rotondo from Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April, £579 pps. Including visits to the town of Pietrelcina, the house of Mary Pyle and Mass at the Shrine of St. Michael Archangel, accompanied by Spiritual Director.

*For more info on joining the group call Marie Martin on 0044 7799 11 2224*

**Lenten Promise Cards Now Available!** The Lenten Promise Card is a very simple, yet practical way of "doing something" for Lent. Each day, by scratching off the date you are invited to pray, fast or give.  
*Cards cost £1 and are available from Thornhill Ministries, 121 Culmore Road, Derry*

**"Jesus, Teach Us to Pray"** A series of 6 Retreat mornings (Thursdays) taking us into the mystery of the praying mind and heart of Christ through the Gospel of Luke. Silence is a core element. Begins Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> February from 10.15am to 12.15pm.

**Tel:** (028) 7135 1233 • **Email** thornhillministries@derrydiocese.org • **Website:** thornhillministries.co.uk

**Rachel's Vineyard – Weekend Retreats:** A healing opportunity for anyone struggling with the spiritual or emotional pain of an abortion. The weekend aims to help you experience the love, mercy, compassion and forgiveness of God. It aims to enable suffering souls to find a voice and transform the pain of the past into love and peace and a future full of hope. *Call Marian in complete confidence on 07814 748 744 or email marianrvi@yahoo.co.uk / check Facebook*

**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.

**Greencastle Community Association – Further Registration Session:**

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> February from 12 noon to 1.00pm.

**First Aid Awareness Training:** For parents, grandparents and carers in Omagh. Covering CPR, recovery position, choking, febrile seizures and much more. 2 hours training at £20 per person, includes refreshments and paediatric first aid book. Group bookings available for 4 up. *Call Ann on 07866 410 105 or email ann@acresconsultancy.com*

**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. *If you would like to avail of this service call (028) 8224 2439 or email omagh@accordni.com*

**Accord Marriage Preparation Course:** 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> April • 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> April • 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> May  
 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> June • 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> June      Visit [accord-ni.co.uk](http://accord-ni.co.uk) to book

**Catholic Engaged Encounter Course:** For details / booking: [marriagecounter.ie](http://marriagecounter.ie) • (028 2763 8512  
 Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> and Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March in Our Lady and St. Patrick's Parish Centre, Ballymoney, Co. Antrim.

**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

**Pope Francis' Intention for February (please remember this in your personal prayers)**  
**Young People and the Example of Mary:** That young people, especially in Latin America, follow the example of Mary and respond to the call of the Lord to communicate the joy of the Gospel to the world.

**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  
*The Aspire Employability Programme is part funded by the European Social Fund and Department for the Economy*

**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

**Medjugorje Irish Centre Pilgrimages:** 7 nights B&B and Airport Shuttle Service from €279 per person  
 Book any flight, any time and we provide guaranteed airport shuttle service  
*To book dates call 00353 1443 4510 or (020) 3239 8662 or email reservations@med-irishcentre.com*

**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:** kinderareni.co.uk

**Commercial Free Catholic Talk-Radio Station for Ireland – Radio Maria Ireland (RMI):**  
 Prayer, catechesis, uplifting music, talks, interviews and testimonies  
*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!*

**Accord Counselling Services:** Available to couples regardless of their faith or denomination.  
*If you would like to avail call (028) 8224 2439 or email omagh@accordni.com*

**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.  
*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*

**The Big Knit for Age NI** Calling all knitters! For every hat knitted Age NI receives 25p.  
*To register or find out more call Dorothy on (028) 9024 5729, email bigknit@ageni.org or visit ageni.org/bigknit*

**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  
*For a free pack and more info call Michelle McGinn on (028) 7135 9888 or email michellemcginn@foylehospice.com*

**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.  
*An appointment can be arranged by calling the Omagh Centre on (028) 8224 2439 or emailing omagh@accordni.com*

**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

Parish Liturgy for February, 2019	St. Patrick's (6.00pm Vigil Mass)	St. Patrick's (9.00am Mass)	Our Lady of the Wayside (11.00am Mass)
<b>Readers</b>	Francis McDermott	Catrina McCullagh	Brendan / Helen McKenna
<b>Eucharistic Ministry</b>	Kathleen Bradley	Louise Coyle	Peter Noel McAleer
<b>Prayers of Intercession</b>	Sean Conneely	Ronan Hollywood	Caoileann Maguire
<b>Collectors</b>	Raymond Bradley Shea McElhatton	Patrick Tuohy Leo Donnelly	Brendan Daly Brian Gillen
<b>Altar Society</b>	Nuala Glass, Rosemary Conway, Louise O'Brien, Alannah Coyle, Clodagh McKenna and Nora McCullagh		Ann McDermott, Josephine Clarke, Lucy-Marie McCrory and Leanne Morris

**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

**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.  
*Call Tracy Gray, Volunteer Coordinator on 07841 101 932 or email tracy@compassionatecommunitiesnw.com*

**The Priory Institute – Study Theology Online:**  
 Come and join our supportive student community and study theology by distance learning this Spring, register now!  
**Tel:** 00353 1 404 8124 • **Email:** enquiries@prioryinstitute.com • **Website:** enquiries@prioryinstitute.com

**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@iecon.ie

**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

**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*

**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.  
*Call Carol on (028) 8225 1559 to book*

**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

**Foster Carers Needed:** The Western Trust urgently needs people to come forward who can offer a loving home to foster children. At present there is a greater number of children in need of homes than there are foster carers available. If you have room in your home and in your heart to care for a child, please contact:  
 Vanessa Nelis – WHSCT Recruitment Officer for Fostering  
**Tel:** (028) 8283 5264 **Mob:** 07554 552 989 **Email:** vanessa.nelis@westerntrust.hscni.net

**Seeing your life through the lens of the gospel – Luke 6:17, 20-26: John Byrne OSA (jpbymeosa@gmail.com)**

1. We are told that Jesus 'fixed his eyes on the disciples' before speaking. This suggests that he was about to say something that he really wanted them to take in. Surprisingly he then tells them it is no bad thing for us to be poor or hungry. But perhaps you have recognised the truth in what St. Augustine said: 'You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you.'
2. 'Blessed are you who weep' is not an encouragement to be miserable. Rather it is an affirmation of the importance of loving relationships in life. We are blessed to have such people in our lives, but there may also be pain. Yet is it not true that the blessing of loving and being loved is worth the price you pay?
3. Jesus said that his followers would be open to opposition and ridicule because of him, and that they are blessed when this happens. Unpleasant it may, but have you not been grateful on those occasions when you had the courage to stand by something that you believed in?

**The Deep End – How Happy:** *Triona Doherty, Athlone, Co. Roscommon (trionad@gmail.com)*

What's so great about being poor, or hungry, or sad? On the surface, these Beatitudes of Jesus seem very strange: 'How happy are you who are poor'. Surely it is better to be wealthy, to be well fed, and to enjoy good times – or to at least be comfortable and content?

But Jesus is not interested in comfort, or in maintaining the status quo. The Jesus of Luke's Gospel is something of a revolutionary. He has come to turn the social order on its head: last becomes first and least becomes greatest. His concern is always for the poor and marginalised.

Jesus' vision is of a world where the unjust structures that cause poverty, hunger and oppression are swept away. Sadly, as we hear on the news every day, inequalities in our world with regard to wealth, education, health and opportunities remain as stark as ever. Speaking about how we can tackle injustice today, Pope Francis has offered six 'new Beatitudes' for the modern Christian. Like the teachings of Jesus, they remind us that the task of the Christian is to tackle injustice and to act in solidarity with those on the margins of society.

Pope Francis' 'new Beatitudes' include:

Blessed are those who renounce their own comfort in order to help others. Blessed are those who look into the eyes of the abandoned and marginalised and show them their closeness. Blessed are those who protect and care for our common home.

**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*

**PARISH EVENTS IN 2018**

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

**IMPORTANT DATES IN 2019**

<b>First Confession</b> Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March, 7.30pm	<b>Confirmation</b> Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup> April, 12 noon
<b>First Holy Communion</b> Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup> May, 12 noon	

**This Week's Calendar of Feasts and Saints:**

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> February – St. Fintan (abbot)** Born in Leinster, he received his religious formation in Terryglass, Co. Tipperary under the abbot Colum and was deeply influenced by his penitential practices and the severity of the Rule. Fintan made his own foundation in Clononagh, Co. Laois. He died in 603.

**Seven Founders of the Order of Servites (religious)** In the early 13<sup>th</sup> century seven young merchants of Florence decided to help one another live more perfect Christian lives. As the result of a vision they became known as the 'Servants of Mary' and followed the Rule of St. Augustine.

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> February – St. Peter Damian (bishop and doctor of the Church)** A reforming monk in the circle of Pope Leo IX and a cardinal. In 1823, he was declared a Doctor of the Church.

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February – Chair of St. Peter the Apostle** This ancient feast relates to early Roman custom at this time of year of remembering the ancestors of the family, those who presided the Chair of St. Peter over the family fortunes. The texts today celebrate Peter as Bishop of Rome. We recall Christ's choice of Peter for service to the whole Church.

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> February – St. Polycarp (bishop and martyr)** bishop of Smyrna or Izmir in modern Turkey. Born around the year 69 and was a disciple of Saint John the Apostle. He was martyred in 155.

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

**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

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

**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*

**Trocaire – Recruiting Volunteers:** To support their fundraising, campaigning and education work in Ireland.  
*If you are interested in volunteering visit [trocaire.org/getinvolved/volunteer](http://trocaire.org/getinvolved/volunteer) or call (028) 9080 8030 for more info*

**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](mailto:marie.devlin@agewellpartnership.org)*

**Pilgrimage to Rome and Tuscany:** Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June for nights, ex Dublin (includes Assisi, Florence and Pisa). Spiritual Director: Fr. Brian Donnelly. Guide: Kieran Troy  
£1,090 per person sharing (single room supplement £280). Includes guided tours and most meals.  
*Call Paul or Marie at Downe Travel on (028) 4461 3288 or email [marie@downetravel.co.uk](mailto:marie@downetravel.co.uk)*

**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%

**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*