



**Parish of Greencastle, Co. Tyrone (Diocese of Derry)**  
 St. Patrick's, Greencastle      Our Lady of the Wayside, Broughderg  
**Third Sunday of Easter [Year C] (1st May, 2022)**  
 Parochial House, 164, Greencastle Road, Sheskinshule, Omagh, BT79 7RU  
**Website:** greencastleparish.com • **Email:** greencastlepp@yahoo.com • **Tel:** (028) 816 48474

**Thought for Easter:** "The joyful news that He is risen does not change the contemporary world. Still before us lie work, discipline, sacrifice. But the fact of Easter gives us the spiritual power to do the work, accept the discipline, and make the sacrifice."  
*Henry Knox Sherrill*

<b>Saturday 30th April</b>	St. Patrick's	<b>6.00pm</b> Vigil Mass
<b>Sunday 1st May</b> Third Sunday of Easter [Yr. C]	Our Lady of Wayside	<b>11.30am</b> Mass
<b>Tuesday 3rd April</b>	St. Patrick's	<b>NO MASS</b>
<b>Wednesday 4th April</b>	St. Patrick's	<b>2.00pm to 4.00pm</b> Adoration
<b>Thursday 5th April</b>	St. Patrick's	<b>10.00am</b> Mass followed by Confession
<b>Friday 6th April</b>	St. Patrick's	<b>7.30pm</b> Mass
<b>Saturday 7th April</b>	St. Patrick's	<b>5.30pm to 5.50pm</b> Confession <b>6.00pm</b> Vigil Mass: Peter Tracey (3rd Anniv.)
<b>Sunday 8th May</b> Fourth Sunday of Easter [Yr. C]	Our Lady of Wayside	<b>11.30am</b> Mass followed by Confession

**COLLECTIONS**      **17th April:** £1,215      **24th April:** £1,140      *Thank you for your generosity*

**Sick and Housebound:** Fr. Gallagher will visit all those in his care on Friday 6th May at the usual times.

**Remembering Our Dead:** We pray for the happy repose of the soul of **Helena Donnelly (Sheskinshule)** who has died and for the soul of **Paddy McElhatton (31st)** whose anniversary occurs at this time.

**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. Patrick's Church – Cleaners Urgently Needed:** Please consider volunteering for one month in the year. You are not expected to provide flowers and any help you can give will be very much appreciated, thank you.  
*If you think you can help call Maria on (028) 8164 8357 or via WhatsApp on 07768 395 038*

**Parish Bulletin:** During much of the last two years while the churches were in various stages of lockdown our Parish Bulletin has been available in printed form at the Centra Store in Greencastle, the Post Office in Broughderg and the Church Porches from late Friday afternoon, this weekend will mark the end of that arrangement. I wish to sincerely thank all those who accommodated us in this way. Now, with all areas of the parish are able to go mass each weekend once more it is time to return to picking up the bulletin at mass. The online edition of the bulletin will continue to be available on the Parish website (greencastleparish.com) and the Greencastle Parish Facebook Page from 5.30pm every Friday. Any notices or anniversaries for inclusion should be emailed to greencastlepp@yahoo.com by Wednesday at 7.30pm at the latest.

**Padre Pio Novena:** The monthly prayers through the intercession of St. Pio of Pietrelcina will take place Friday 6th May after 7.30pm mass in St. Patrick's Church.

**Padre Pio Draw – In Aid of the Hospital founded by St. Padre Pio:** Draw taking place on Thursday 5th May in the Glenavon Hotel, Cookstown. Prices include a trip to San Giovanni and vouchers. with the **£10 per ticket – Available by calling Brenda Conway on 07760 882 535**

**Next Week's Readings:** Acts 13:14, 43-52 • Psalm 99:1-3, 5, R/ v 3 • Apocalypse 7:9, 14-17  
 John 10:27-30 • Lectionary 1:493      **Sunday [Year C] • Weekday [Year 1]**

**Please note the Parish Office will be closed this coming week and will reopen on Tuesday 10th May at the usual times - sorry for any inconvenience caused**

**Make your Voices Heard**

*A pastoral reflection by the Catholic Bishops of Northern Ireland on the NI Assembly Elections on 5th May*  
 Addressing: Importance of voting / Poverty in society / Rights and dignity of unborn children / Effectively responding to refugees fleeing war in Ukraine / Committing to safeguarding creation and sustaining our environment  
 Respect for religious freedom and faith in the public square including for Catholic and other faith-based schools  
 Political stability serving the common good

**Some highlights from this reflection:**

The hard work of weighing up who to vote for lies with each individual before God and in the privacy and primacy of their own conscience.

The urgent need to address our unacceptable levels of poverty, social inequality and the deepening crisis over the cost of living ought to be a fundamental issue for a follower of Jesus in the forthcoming election.

We ask all voters to consider seriously the choice before them in this election – of supporting a loving, positive culture of life and care, or of further facilitating a culture that denies the very humanity and right to life of our unborn children, even directly targeting those with disabilities.

Christians, and all people of goodwill, should seek to build a civilisation of love and care that promotes the wellbeing and progress of all. This culture of welcome and care includes an obligation to welcome those who are fleeing violent conflict, persecution, famine or other tragic human situations, including the increasingly irreversible consequences of climate change.

These are important issues to be considered while weighing our Christian conscience in preparation for voting in the forthcoming election. In Ireland, we have the privilege of living in a particularly rich and beautiful natural environment. Ensuring this rich heritage is protected now and for future generations is a fundamental responsibility of every politician in their service of the common good.

The idea that politics should be 'neutral' and 'does not do religion' is itself a concept that implicitly denigrates the right to hold and live by one's religious convictions. Among the ways it manifests itself is in the view that, to be a truly tolerant and inclusive society, we must 'liberate' ourselves from religious institutions, religious identity and religious belief.

Catholic and other faith-based schools contribute actively to reconciliation and the common good. They have the right to be treated equally and with respect.

We remain convinced that human dignity and the common good of our society are best served by a commitment to the stability of our locally devolved institutions. We encourage all citizens to work to restore and help build a better future for all by making their voices heard in the forthcoming Assembly election.

**Trócaire Lenten Appeal:** Please continue to make your returns along with your parish envelopes either at mass or at the Parochial House post box at St. Patrick's Church or Broughderg Post Office. The people whom Trócaire reach out to continue to need your help and assistance alongside those others including in Ukraine who have recently found themselves in dire straits. *Thank you for your generosity thus far, if you don't have an envelope the Trócaire packs can still be found in the porches of St. Patrick's and Our Lady of the Wayside*

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

**Fr. Shields Camogie Club, Greencastle:** An invitation is extended to anyone who would like to try camogie for the first time or return to the game they love. We welcome anyone who would like to try at the following training sessions:  
 Mondays, 7.30pm to 8.30pm (seniors)      Wednesdays, (post-primary, 7.00pm to 8.00pm (U14s and U16s)  
 Thursdays, 6.30pm to 7.10pm (U6s and U7s)      *Support will be given to those who have never played before*  
 We can assist with online registration, sticks and helmets can be provided during training sessions and matches  
 Add our club page and message us or come on the nights at the above times  
 @frshields.greencastle or call Kira on +44 7833 4188 50

**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*

**Pope Francis' Intention for May (please remember this in your personal prayers)**  
**For Faith-Filled Young People:** We pray for all young people, called to live life to the fullest; may they see in Mary's life the way to listen, the depth of discernment, the courage that faith generates, and dedication to service.

**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

**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

**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 Liturgy for May	St. Patrick's (6.00pm Vigil)	Our Lady of the Wayside (11.30am)
<b>Readers</b>	Catrina / Martin McCullagh	Sean Teague
<b>Eucharistic Ministry</b>	Kathleen Bradley	Patricia Donnelly
<b>Prayers of Faithful</b>	Eimear Tracey	Laiose Teague
<b>Altar Society</b>	Dee Gardner, Maria Bradley and JP2 Students	Anne McDermott

**Pope Francis' Prayer for Protection:** O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick. At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith. You know what we need. We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine. Love to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us: He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen. We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God. Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test – and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

**Prayer for Synod on Synodality (2021 – 2023)**  
We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name. With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts; Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it. We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder. Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions.  
Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right. All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever. *Amen*

**Radio Maria Ireland:** An Irish-run Catholic Talk-Radio Station with commercial-free broadcasting of Prayer, Catechesis, Music, Talks, Interviews and Testimonies based at St. Anthony's Business Park, Ballymount Road, Dublin 22. If you are not already a follower of the station Radio Maria Ireland encourage you to join their growing faith family! Prayer / song requests welcome. "A Catholic voice in your home". Fr Eamonn McCarthy is Director.  
You can tune in to the station in a variety of ways:  
*Digital TV - Saorview Channel 210 / Freeview TV (Channel number varies per location in NI)*  
*Download FREE App "RADIO MARIA IRELAND"*  
*Streaming on radiomarie.ie (subscribe and donate here also)*  
*'Listen Live Radio' link on Facebook Page. (Like, Share and Follow us on Facebook)*  
*Phone – get live radio feed by calling 003531 437 3277 (no extra charges apply).*

**Annual Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lough Derg:** Friday 24<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> June. Bishop McKeown will lead the pilgrimage and invites you to join him. Booking is essential, call Diocesan Catechetical Centre at +44 28 7126 4087 or email lizzie.rea@derrydiocese.org. £80 which includes return transport from St. Eugene's Cathedral, Derry.

**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 call (028) 8224 2439 or email omagh@accordni.com*

**Northern Ireland Adoption and Foster Care:**  
With an increase in children and young people needing foster homes across Northern Ireland, we need you now. Every child deserves to have a happy, loving and safe home where they'll feel cared for, valued and supported.  
It's always the right time for fostering.  
Call us on 0800 0720 137 or visit adoptionandfostercare.hscni.net  
#HSCNIFosterCare #FosterForYourCommunity #CouldYouFoster

**National Vocations Office:** "It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit and then you will be my disciples." Are you being called to love the Lord and His people as a diocesan priest? If you are considering such a vocation, contact your local priest or the Diocesan Vocations Director  
Fr. Pat O'Hagan, PP Merville at pogh2111@gmail.com or email the National Vocations Office: info@vocations.ie

**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](mailto:lisah@millenniumforum.co.uk)

**What Is Spiritual Communion?** It has long been a Catholic understanding that when circumstances prevent one from receiving Holy Communion, it is possible to make an Act of Spiritual Communion, which is a source of grace. Spiritual Communion is an ardent desire to receive Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament and lovingly embrace him at a time or in circumstances when one cannot receive Him in sacramental Communion. The most common reason for making an Act of Spiritual Communion is when a person cannot attend Mass. Acts of Spiritual Communion increase our desire to receive sacramental Communion and help us avoid the sins that would make us unable to receive Holy Communion worthily.

**Barnardo's NI – Can You Foster?** Could you give a home to a vulnerable child when they need it most? Fostering is about giving them a safe, secure place to live for a few weeks, months or even years. Barnardo's Fostering NI is looking for foster carers. Foster placements can be long-term, short-term, emergency, short breaks and parent and child together. You must be over 21 to foster and must have a spare bedroom in your home. Foster carers are offered a fostering fee and allowances; they are given training and support.

To learn more call (028) 9065 2288 or visit [barnardos.org.uk/foster](http://barnardos.org.uk/foster)

**A Prayer for Now:** God of the present moment, God who in Jesus stills the storm and soothes the frantic heart; Bring hope and courage to us as we wait in uncertainty. Bring hope that you will make us the equal of whatever lies ahead. Bring us to endure what cannot be avoided, for your will is health and wholeness; you are God and we need you. *Amen*

**Kindercare Fostering NI:** Could you help a child in need? 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) 9094 1690 • Email: [gillian.devlin@kindercare.co.uk](mailto:gillian.devlin@kindercare.co.uk) • Website: [kindercareni.co.uk](http://kindercareni.co.uk)

**Our Faith – Developing What We Were Taught in School:**

- Was RE just a subject in school? Would you like to really to understand it in practice?
- Are you open to deepening your understanding of your Catholic Faith?
- Do you want to better understand the Mass - the celebration to the Eucharist?
- Would you like to explore, discuss and reflect upon issues and questions of faith, the Church, and how to link faith to your everyday life?

The Pathways Adult Faith Programme by Drumalis Retreat Centre, Larne, addresses these questions and more. This two-year faith development programme, delivered one Saturday per month from October to June is available either in-house at Drumalis or by Zoom video-conferencing. *More info, enrolment visit [drumalis.co.uk/pathways](http://drumalis.co.uk/pathways)*

2020	PARISH STATISTICS	2021
(17) 8 Boys • 9 Girls	<b>Baptisms</b>	10 Boys • 7 Girls [17]
(11) 4 Boys • 7 Girls	<b>First Communion</b>	7 Boys • 9 Girls [16]
(14) 7 Boys • 7 Girls	<b>Confirmation</b>	10 Boys • 6 Girls [16]
0 within parish • 1 outside parish	<b>Weddings</b>	5 within parish • 2 outside parish [7]
8	<b>Deaths and Burials</b>	12

**Prayer for the End of the Virus:** Almighty and merciful Father, who show your love to all your creation. We come before you asking for an end of the Coronavirus currently ravaging our world. Hear graciously the prayers we make for those affected by the virus in various parts of the world. Grant healing to the sick, eternal life to the dead and consolation to the bereaved families. We pray that an effective medicine to combat the sickness be speedily found. We pray for the relevant governments and health authorities, that they take appropriate steps for the good of the people. Look upon us in your mercy and forgive us our failings. *Amen*

**Accord Catholic Marriage Care Service – Seeking Marriage Preparation Programme Facilitators:**

Accord is seeking registration of interest from those who have a positive attitude towards marriage in the Catholic Church and the enthusiasm to be part of a team supporting couples who are preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage, they have 54 centres in dioceses across the island. Successful applicants will receive professional training and will be part of a team delivering marriage preparation programmes locally in accordance with best practice.

Call Deirdre on 07980 898 399 or email [info@accordni.com](mailto:info@accordni.com). Closing date for receipt of registration of interest forms to be included in Selections for this year is Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May.

Registration of Interest form and additional information about becoming a facilitator is available on [accordni.com](http://accordni.com)

**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%

**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.

**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)

<b>Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March</b> Ash Wednesday	<b>Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> March at 7.00pm</b> First Confession (Greencastle)	<b>Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> April at 11.00am</b> Confirmation (Greencastle)
<b>Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May at 11.00am</b> First Communion (Greencastle)	<b>Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> June</b> Blessing of the Graves in Greencastle / Broughderg	