



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

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

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time [Year C] (3rd 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 *Knock Shrine [Sunday 26th August]*

"Mary is Mother. Mary is our Mother and the Mother of the Church, and it is to her that we commend today the journey of God's faithful people on this emerald isle. We ask that our families be sustained in their efforts to advance Christ's Kingdom and to care for the least of our brothers and sisters. Amid the storms and winds that buffet our times, may families be a bulwark of faith and goodness, resisting, in the best traditions of this nation, all that would diminish our dignity as men and women created in God's image and called to the sublime destiny of eternal life"

Liturgy Schedule for Fourth Week in Ordinary Time [Year C] (3rd February, 2019 – 10th February, 2019)

Saturday 2nd February	St. Patrick's	6.00pm Vigil Mass:
Presentation of the Lord		Mary Ann McCullagh (3 rd Anniversary)
Sunday 3rd February		9.00am Mass (Missa Pro Populo)
Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time [Year C]	Our Lady of Wayside	11.00am Mass
Monday 4th February	St. Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Tuesday 5th February	St. Patrick's	NO MASS
St. Agatha (virgin and martyr)		
Wednesday 6th February	St. Patrick's	12 noon to 7.15pm Adoration
St. Paul Miki and Companions (martyrs)		7.30pm Mass
Thursday 7th February	St. Patrick's	10.00am Mass
St. Mel (bishop)		
Friday 8th February	St. Patrick's	10.00am Mass:
Saturday 9th February	St. Patrick's	6.00pm Vigil Mass
Sunday 10th February		9.00am Mass (Missa Pro Populo)
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time [Year C]	Our Lady of Wayside	11.00am Mass

COLLECTIONS **20th January:** £1,125 • **27th January:** £975 *Thank you for your generosity*

Remembering Our Dead: We pray for the happy repose of **Mary Ann McCullagh (3rd)** and **Tom McDermott (14th)** whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Medjugorje Irish Centre Pilgrimages (April to October): 7 nights B&B and Airport Shuttle service from Dubrovnik or Split for €279 per person sharing. Book 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*

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

Greencastle Community Association – Registration:
Saturday 9th February from 7.00pm to 8.00pm and Sunday 10th February from 12 noon to 1.00pm.

Annual Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes: Thursday 4th to Tuesday 9th 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 derrypilgrim@outlook.com at any time.

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.

Next Week's Readings: Isaiah 6:1-8 • Psalm 137:1-5, 7-8, R/ v 1 • 1 Corinthians 15:1-11
Luke 5:1-11 • Lectionary 1:849 **Sunday [Year C] • Weekday [Year 1]**

Check out greencastleparish.com/newssheetarchive.htm for extra notices not printed here

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)
Readers	Francis McDermott	Catrina McCullagh	Brendan / Helen McKenna
Eucharistic Ministry	Kathleen Bradley	Louise Coyle	Peter Noel McAleer
Prayers of Intercession	Sean Conneely	Ronan Hollywood	Caoileann Maguire
Collectors	Raymond Bradley Shea McElhatton	Patrick Tuohy Leo Donnelly	Brendan Daly Brian Gillen
Altar Society	Nuala Glass, Rosemary Conway, Louise O'Brien, Alannah Coyle, Clodagh McKenna and Nora McCullagh		Ann McDermott, Josephine Clarke, Lucy-Marie McCrory and Leanne Morris

6.00pm Saturday Vigil	Offertory Gift Rota	9.00am Sunday Morning
Saturday 2 nd February • Seán Óg O'Neill	Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Sunday 3 rd February • Caoian Tracey
Saturday 9 th February • Fianna Clarke	Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Sunday 10 th February • Eoghan Conway

If you cannot attend please ensure that you have arranged with another family for the gifts to be presented

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 marianrvni@yahoo.co.uk / check Facebook*

Marian Pilgrimages: Fully escorted group pilgrimage to San Giovanni Rotondo from Tuesday 9th to Saturday 13th 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

An Caisleán Glas agus Sperrin Óg – Dinnéar Bliantúil and Presentation Night:
Satharn 2 Feabhra at 8.00pm sharp in the Greencastle Hall (food served at 8.30pm). **Ceol:** DJ Kevy • **Ticéad:** £15

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*

Rouskey Community Centre – Upcoming Events: *Call Bridie on 07591 047 556*
Nutrition Class: Tuesday 5th February at 8.00pm. Kate Staunton will talk about long-term weight loss.
£8 includes talk, handout and food

Rouskey Farmers Group: A speaker from Fane Valley will do a talk about nutrition and feeding around lambing season and information on suckler cows in Rouskey Community Centre. Please note date has been changed from Tuesday 12th February to Wednesday 13th February at 8.00pm. £4 per talk Good Practice Visit on Saturday 9th February at 2.00pm. We are going to a local pedigree sheep farm. Meet at top of Gortin Street at 1.45pm. Donations

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

Cappagh / Badoney CCE: *To enquire call Tom on (028) 816 48719 / 07704 526 870 or Roisin on 07789 697 238*

Singing Classes:	With Ciara Fox, continues Sunday 10 th February at 2.00pm in Plumbridge Hall.
Music Classes:	Next block of 10 weeks continue Monday at the usual times in St. Peter's PS, Plumbridge. Tuition in Banjo • Fiddle • Accordion • Whistle • Concertina Thanks to everyone for their continued support • Everyone welcome
LCM Exams:	London College of Music Exams – If anyone wishes for their child to take part in these exams let us know and we will provide further details. Exams take place in April.
Fundraising Event:	The Island Wake by Fergus Cleary (a two-act comedy) will take place in Plumbridge Hall on Wednesday 6 th February at 8.00pm (admission [by ticket only] is £8). All support is appreciated <i>Fundraisers all go towards subsidising costs of our music classes and the Upper Badoney Parish Building Fund</i>

<p>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.</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>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</p>
<p>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 <i>To book dates call 00353 1443 4510 or (020) 3239 8662 or email reservations@med-irishcentre.com</i></p>
<p>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</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>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>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</p>

Parish Liturgy for January, 2019	St. Patrick's (6.00pm Vigil Mass)	St. Patrick's (9.00am Mass)	Our Lady of the Wayside (11.00am Mass)
Readers	Martin McCullagh	Monica Coyle	Martina McNamee
Eucharistic Ministry	Brigid Keenan	Eugene McCullagh	Patricia Donnelly
Prayers of Intercession	Lauren O'Neill	Erin Hood	Grace Conneely
Collectors	Mary Bradley Francis McLaughlin	Colm Keenan Michael Clarke	Pat McGuigan Sean McKenna
Altar Society	Maria Morris, Kathleen Tracey, Louise O'Brien, Alannah Coyle, Clodagh McKenna and Nora McCullagh		Ann McDermott, Mary Bradley, 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@jecon.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 1:1-4, 4:14-21: John Byrne OSA (jpbyrneosa@gmail.com)

1. The scene in the synagogue marks the launch of the public ministry of Jesus in Luke. Read the quotation from Isaiah slowly. Reflect on each line carefully. Which of these images captures something of what Jesus and his message has meant for you?
2. Jesus was filled with the Spirit and sent. He came bursting with a message to communicate. When have you had the experience of being enthused by something in that way? Who have been the people you met who had that kind of enthusiasm?
3. His message was addressed to those who were poor, oppressed, blind, or captives. Who are these today? In what ways have you been, or are you, among these? How has the message of Jesus been good news for you, freed you, given you new sight, or revealed God’s favour to you
4. The message Jesus had was one of liberation and he told his listeners that it was being fulfilled even as they listened. It is being fulfilled even as we hear it now. If this does not resonate with you right now, when has the gospel given you an experience of liberation?

The Deep End – ‘So that you may know the truth’: Jane Mellett (mellettj@gmail.com)

There is something about the opening sentences of Luke’s Gospel that grabs one’s attention. He is the only Gospel writer to give us information about his purpose and sources. He writes for Theophilus, whose name in Greek suggests ‘lover of God’. Theophilus may have been a patron of Luke’s, but we can also take this name to mean that Luke writes for all lovers of God, i.e. all of us.

Jesus, ‘as was his custom,’ attends the service at his local synagogue. It is clear that Jesus was a faithful Jew even though he is about to have some serious run-ins with the Jewish religious leaders. This moment is one of the most powerful passages in the New Testament, as Jesus sets out his manifesto for ministry. Reading from Isaiah, Jesus tells the crowd that this passage is being fulfilled as they hear it, his ministry would be one focused on freeing people from various types of oppression. This passage is as relevant in our world today as it was for Jesus’ time: people still await liberation, the oppressed are not free. This is not a passage read in the past: it is very much alive, a vision for all to have as Christians and to work out of. Just as the scriptures are fulfilled in Jesus, they are also fulfilled in each of our lives.

Although they heard you, Lord, they failed to listen. They heard only what they wanted to hear.
The truth hurt them, you made them feel uncomfortable, and they rejected you ... Show us how we may seek your Kingdom and help to bring peace to a troubled world.’ *Tony Singleton*

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

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
31 December Large congregation gathers for Mass at final sunset of 2018	

This Week’s Calendar of Feasts and Saints:

Sunday 3rd February – St. Blaise (*bishop and martyr*) Bishop of Sebaste, martyred in Armenia. Patron Saint for sore throats and sick cattle. Died in 315.

St. Ansgar (*bishop*) A Frenchman who became Archbishop of Hamburg in the 9th century and preached the gospel in Denmark and Sweden. Apostle of Scandanavia. Patron Saint of Denmark.

Tuesday 5th February – St. Agatha (*virgin and martyr*) Died a martyr for the faith at Catania in Sicily in the 3rd century. Patron Saint of bell-founders.

Wednesday 6th February – St. Paul Miki and Companions (*martyrs*) Paul Miki, a Japanese Jesuit, and his twenty-five companions were martyred in Nagasaki, Japan. They were the first Martyrs of East Asia to be canonised. They were killed simultaneously by being raised on crosses and then stabbed with spears. Their executioners were astounded upon seeing their joy at being associated to the Passion of Christ.

Thursday 7th February – St. Mel (*bishop*) St. Mel or Moel died in 488. He is said to have been a Briton who came to Ireland with St. Patrick, his uncle, with whom he worked until he was ordained in Ardagh. He helped evangelise Ireland while supporting himself through manual labour.

Sunday 10th February – St. Scholastica (*virgin*) Sister of St. Benedict. She spent her life as a consecrated virgin. Patron of convulsive children. Died in 543.

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

IMPORTANT DATES IN 2019

Service of Light (P7) Thursday 31 st January, 7.30pm • First Confession Thursday 28 th March, 7.30pm
Confirmation Saturday 6 th April, 12 noon • First Holy Communion Saturday 11 th May, 12 noon
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>

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

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

Catholic Engaged Encounter Course: For details / booking: marriageencounter.ie • (028 2763 8512
Saturday 23rd and Sunday 24th March in Our Lady and St. Patrick's Parish Centre, Ballymoney, Co. Antrim.

Pilgrimage to Rome and Tuscany: Tuesday 18th 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

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%