

## Diocese of Derry, Parish of Greencastle, Co. Tyrone

Saint Patrick's Church  
Greencastle

Our Lady of the Wayside Church  
Broughderg

The Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time. 3<sup>rd</sup> August, 2008

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

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### Mass Schedule for the Eighteenth Week in Ordinary Time. 4<sup>th</sup> August – 10<sup>th</sup> August, 2008

Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> August St. John Vianney, priest	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> August Eighteenth Week in Ordinary Time	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> August Transfiguration of the Lord	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> August Eighteenth Week in Ordinary Time	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> August St. Dominic, priest	<b>No Mass</b>	
Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> August Evening Mass	Saturday Morning Saint Patrick's	No Mass 6:00pm Vigil Mass for Sunday (Rose McCullagh – Month's Mind)
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> August Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Saint Patrick's Our Lady of the Wayside	9:00am Mass – 'Misso Pro Populo' 11:00am Mass

### Confession Schedule

Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> August	Saint Patrick's	5:30pm (before Vigil Mass)
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> August	Our Lady of the Wayside	10:30am (before Mass)

**Weekly Offerings:** Thank you for your generosity to this week's collection which amounted to **£945** and for a further **£50** donated to the collection for the work of the Sisters of Nazareth in our Diocese.

**Remembering Our Dead:** We pray this week for the following whose anniversary occurs at this time:  
**Paddy Bradley.**

**Sick and housebound** will be attended Monday 4<sup>th</sup> August, **beginning after 10.00am Mass.** Please let them know if you live nearby.

**Youth 2000 Summer Festival at Clonmacnois, Co. Offaly (Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> August):** For young people aged 16-35, an opportunity not to be missed, to experience the Catholic faith and meet many new friends. Donations only. Free buses available from around the country. For more information contact (01) 675 3690 or check out our websites: [www.youth2000.ie](http://www.youth2000.ie) and [xx-youth2000-xx.bebo.com](http://xx-youth2000-xx.bebo.com)

**Carmelite Retreat Centre, Termonbacca. Monthly devotions in honour of Our Lady:** Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> August starting with Confessions at 7.30pm and followed by Rosary and Mass, finishing at around 10.00pm. Tel: (028) 7126 2512 during office hours for details.

**POPE BENEDICT XVI'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR AUGUST 2008:** Pope Benedict's **general prayer intention for August is:** "that the human family may learn to respect God's plan for the world and become ever more aware that creation is God's great gift." **His mission intention is:** "That the answer of the entire people of God to the common calling to holiness and mission may be promoted and fostered by means of careful discernment of charisma and constant commitment to spiritual and cultural formation".

**B.A.D.A. An Bruach Dearg Community Centre.** Upcoming Events:

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> October** Dancing to 'Country Flavour'

**Next Sunday's Readings:** 1 Kings 19:9, 11-13; Psalm 84; Romans 9:1-5; Matthew 14:22-23 (Lectionary I, page 688)

**Lotto Numbers:** 6, 11, 17, 19 (6 winners with 3 numbers – £10 each) **Next Jackpot:** £7,600

**Fill their hearts with your Holy Spirit, the Spirit of understanding, joy, fortitude and peace:**

*Nuptial blessing from the Rite of Marriage*

We offer congratulations and prayerful support from our parish community to:  
Sean McNamee (Greencastle) and Megan O'Shaunessey (Boston, USA) – June 2008  
Olivia McCullagh (Greencastle) and Conor Mullin (Errigal Ciarán) – July 2008  
Michelle Keenan (Greencastle) and Brendan McElholm (Drumquin) – July 2008  
Brian McDermott (Greencastle) and Terina McSorley (Ballinascreen) – July 2008  
Aisling Devlin (Greencastle) and Simon Goodwin (Newport, Wales) – July 2008

They recently committed themselves to each other in the sacrament of Christian Marriage.

**ACCORD Marriage Preparation Courses:** Omagh Pastoral Centre, Brook Street. 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> October; 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> November and 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> December. Couples planning to marry should register for one of these courses as soon as possible. Tel: (028) 8224 2439 or email [accordomagh@accordni.com](mailto:accordomagh@accordni.com)

### Recovering Addicts Are Choosing Life:

Pope Benedict XVI told a group of young Australians recovering from drug and alcohol abuse that he considers them "ambassadors of hope." Those who have struggled to overcome addiction and get their lives back on a positive track are the best ones to help others who are lost and suffering, the pope said on 18<sup>th</sup> July while travelling in Australia for World Youth Day. During a visit by the pope to a rehabilitation community and support program run by the Archdiocese of Sydney's social service agency, a young man and a young woman publicly shared their stories with the pope, struggling with emotion to speak of their difficult pasts and their joy in finding the program that helps disadvantaged youths, including the homeless and refugees as well as those trying to overcome substance abuse. The pope said the participants, like the people following Moses, had been given the stark choice of choosing life or death. "They had to turn away from other gods and worship the true God" the pope said. *'America' magazine (4<sup>th</sup> August, 2008)*

**GAA information: Annual Barbeque August 2, from 8.30pm.** Regarding the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Banquet: Please note that until 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2008, all rooms in the Hillgrove Hotel are booked for members of Greencastle GFC attending the banquet. After this date any spare rooms will be offered to the general public. In order to reserve a room before the deadline please contact the Hillgrove Hotel on 00353 4781 288. Due to the Tyrone V Mayo match and BBQ taking place, registration and collection of deposits will take place at 8.30pm.

### The Deep End – Faiths Strength:

I've just finished reading The God Delusion by Richard Dawkins with my faith intact despite running the gauntlet of rational, and at times seemingly irrational, assault. I think that his approach to eradicating religion is rather like fighting fire with wind. It may blow it out, but then again it may just fan the flames.

Anyway, today's Second Reading (Rom: 8:35, 37-39) reminds us of a very important fact with regard to faith. It's not primarily a matter of our relationship with God, but of God's relationship with us. That's its strength. Paul puts it boldly as he asks: Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword separate us from Christ? To which he gives a resounding No! Neither will death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come (including science and Dawkins book?) nothing, simply nothing, can separate us from the love of God. In other words nothing can touch God's love for us. That's what we believe, wonderfully unscientific though it may be.

And the faith we have or, more accurately, that has us is not for hoarding but for sharing. It's a gift to improve the quality of human life by bringing out all that is good within and around us. That's the point of today's Gospel reading (Matthew 14:13-21) too. The crowds are hungry, in a barren place. Jesus tells his followers those with faith in him to feed the crowds. Once the faith is present, the miracle happens.

*Fr. Tom Cahill SVD, Divine Word Missionaries, Donamon, Co Roscommon (tomcee@eircom.net)*

### Questions people ask:

Q. *Could heaven be boring? Eternal life, going on and on with no end doesn't appeal to me at all.*

A. Try thinking of eternity not in terms of time but as a total experience of love, joy, celebration etc. We get little glimpses of the eternal in moments of beauty when we would like the clock to stop right there. Jesus promised: "I will see you again and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you" (John 16:22). St. Paul wrote that no eye has seen, no ear has heard and no imagination has managed to visualise all that God has prepared for those who love him. That doesn't sound like the recipe for boredom!

*Fr. Silvester O'Flynn OFM Cap (silvesteroflynn@gmail.com)*