

**Parish of Greencastle, Co. Tyrone (Diocese of Derry)**  
 St. Patrick's, Greencastle      Our Lady of the Wayside, Broughderg  
 Second Sunday of Christmas [Year B] (4<sup>th</sup> January, 2015)  
 The Parochial House, 164, Greencastle Road, Sheskinshule, Omagh, BT79 7RU  
 Website: greencastleparish.com    Tel: (028) 8164 8474    Email: greencastlepp@yahoo.com

**Liturgy Schedule for the Christmas Octave [Year B] (5<sup>th</sup> January – 11<sup>th</sup> January)**

<b>Saturday Evening (3<sup>rd</sup> January)</b>	St. Patrick's	<b>5.30pm</b> Confessions <b>6.00pm</b> Vigil Mass for Sunday: Maureen Morris (3 <sup>rd</sup> Anniversary) <b>9.00am</b> Mass (Missa Pro Populo) <b>10.30am</b> Confessions <b>11.00am</b> Mass
<b>Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> January</b> Mary, Mother of God [Year B]	St. Patrick's Our Lady of the Wayside	<b>10.00am</b> Mass <i>Sick and Housebound will be visited</i>
<b>Monday Morning (5<sup>th</sup> January)</b> St. Charles of St. Andrew (Dublin) (priest)	St. Patrick's	<b>10.00am</b> Mass
<b>Monday Evening (5<sup>th</sup> January)</b> Holy Day of Obligation	Our Lady of the Wayside	<b>7.30pm</b> Confessions <b>8.00pm</b> Vigil Mass for Feast Day
<b>Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January</b> Epiphany of the Lord	St. Patrick's	<b>11.00am</b> Mass (Missa Pro Populo)
<b>Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> January</b> St. Raymond Penafort (priest)	St. Patrick's	<b>10.00am</b> Mass
<b>Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> January</b> After Epiphany	St. Patrick's	<b>10.00am</b> Mass
<b>Friday 9<sup>th</sup> January</b> After Epiphany	St. Patrick's	<b>8.00pm</b> Mass: Gerald McGurk (Month's Mind) <b>10.00am</b> Mass
<b>Saturday Morning (10<sup>th</sup> January)</b> After Epiphany	St. Patrick's	<b>10.00am</b> Mass
<b>Saturday Evening (10<sup>th</sup> January)</b> <i>Renewal of Baptismal Promises</i>	St. Patrick's	<b>5.30pm</b> Confessions <b>6.00pm</b> Vigil Mass for Sunday: Bernard Keenan (1 <sup>st</sup> Anniversary) <b>9.00am</b> Mass (Missa Pro Populo) <b>10.30am</b> Confessions <b>11.00am</b> Mass: Deceased members of Quinn family
<b>Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> January</b> Baptism of the Lord [Year B]	St. Patrick's Our Lady of the Wayside	

**We welcome new parishioners and invite you to register by filling out a parish census form**

**Weekly Offerings:** Thank you for your generosity to last week's collection of £742 and £28 in loose change.

**Sick and housebound Visitations:** These will be attended on **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January**. Please inform them if you live nearby. If you know of anyone sick or housebound that would like a visit inform Fr. Hasson.

**Baptisms:** As a parish community we welcome **Bella Sophia McDermott** and **Mary Jane McNamee** who were baptised recently. May our adult community offer our newly baptised and their parents and sponsors prayerful support and good example in our commitment to Christian living.

**Fill their hearts with your Holy Spirit, the Spirit of understanding, joy fortitude and peace** *Blessing from Rite of Marriage*  
 We offer congratulations and prayerful support from our parish community to  
**Niall Hollywood (Greencastle) and Shannon Flood (Omagh)** Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December  
**Jason McAleer (Greencastle) and Nicola McAleer (Badoney Lower)** Monday 29<sup>th</sup> December  
 They recently committed themselves to each other in the sacrament of Christian Marriage

**Remembering Our Dead:** We pray for **Michael (Mickey Neily) McCullagh** who died on Thursday, we offer his wife Kathleen and their family our sympathy and prayerful support. We also pray for **Maureen Morris**, whose anniversary occurs at this time.

**St. Joseph's Church, Galliagh, Derry – Annual Diocesan Mass for those with Special Needs:**  
 Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March at 3.00pm. If you have a child who wishes to receive the Sacraments of Confirmation or First Holy Communion at this Mass call the Catechetical Centre on (028) 7126 4087 / email ddcc@derrydiocese.org.

**Pope John Paul II Award:** Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February in the Millennium Forum, Derry. This is the 8<sup>th</sup> year of the award in the Derry Diocese and it will be launched in several other dioceses this year.  
*Fr. Hasson would like Year 13 students undertaking the award program to offer their gifts for service in our parish*

**Next Sunday's Readings:** Isaiah 55:1-11, 6-7; Psalm 12:2-6, r/v6; Mark 1:7-11; (Lectionary I, page 182 or 737) or Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7; Psalm 28:1-4, 9-10, r/v11; Acts 10:34-38; Mark 1:7-11; (Lectionary I, page 179 or 735)

**Sunday [Year B] • Weekday [Year 2]**

**GAA Lotto Results:** G • H • U • V • W (3 with 3 letters winning £20 each) **Next Jackpot:** £3,950

<b>6.00pm Saturday Vigil</b>	<b>Offertory Gifts Rota</b>	<b>9.00am Sunday Morning</b>
Saturday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January The family of <b>Maebh Warnock</b>	Second Sunday of Christmas	Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> January The family of <b>Caitlin Clarke</b>
Saturday 10 <sup>th</sup> January The family of <b>Colleen Brogan</b>	Feast of the Baptism of the Lord	Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> January The family of <b>Rachael Devine</b>
Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup> January* The family of <b>Trea Clarke</b>	Second Sunday after Ordinary Time	Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> January The family of <b>Tyler Gumley</b>

As a wider parish community we thank these young people and their families for this valued task of leadership. Thanks to all who participate in the life and work of our parish faith-community. **\*Do This In Memory Week 5**

**Developing a Prayer Network:** Anne McCusker will give this talk in the Pastoral Centre, Brook St, Omagh at 8.00pm on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> January. *Come and pray*

**Do This In Memory:** Our next Sunday gathering will be at the Vigil Mass for the Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (17<sup>th</sup> January).

**Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes:** 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> July. Gift vouchers are available from the Thornhill Centre (028) 7135 1233 and the Diocesan Pastoral Centre (028) 7136 2475. *Vouchers can be used as part or full payment towards the pilgrimage*

**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/or 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. *Please familiarise yourself with the policy by reading the noticeboard as you leave Church*

2014 Parish Statistics				
Baptisms	Confirmations	First Holy Communion / Reconciliation	Marriages	Funerals
8 Boys 8 Girls	4 Boys 7 Girls	7 Boys 8 Girls	5 within parish 5 outside parish	22

**Station Masses in October** 5

**Parish Pilgrimage Sunday:** This was marked with our pilgrimage to the Mass Rock at Dorville on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> August where our special guest and main celebrant was our new bishop, Bishop Donal McKeown on his first visit to the parish. We have now completed our series of pilgrimages to the Penal Mass sites located within our parish boundaries. *Thank you for sharing your photographs on the parish website*

**Baptism of the Lord:** Next weekend We will read in the gospel how The Holy Spirit descended on Jesus and God proclaimed him as his beloved Son. This feast will help us, the adults in our faith community, to reflect on the value and meaning of our own baptism. All who were baptised in 2014, their parents and sponsors are invited to come along to the Vigil Mass at 6.00pm next Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> January in St. Patrick's Church, Greencastle to renew that day of grace when the Holy Spirit came upon you and you were called a child of God for the very first time. *No special seats will be reserved so you can sit wherever you usually sit*

**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity – Give Me to Drink (John 4:7):** 18<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> January. Chosen by the Christian communities in Brazil. The encounter between Jesus and the Samaritan woman invites us to try water from a different well and also to offer a little of our own. In diversity, we enrich each other. The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is a privileged moment of prayer, encounter and dialogue. It is an opportunity to recognise the richness and value that are present in the other, the different, and to ask God for the gift of unity. Resource materials have been prepared by the Churches Together in Britain and Ireland. Here you will find the outlay of the service and material for each day of the Week. The material this year has been designed so that it can be used throughout the year. *As well as this material other useful resources such as Powerpoint, Irish language etc. can be downloaded at [ctbi.org.uk](http://ctbi.org.uk). The Pontifical Council for promoting Christian Unity also has resources through the Vatican website at [vatican.va](http://vatican.va)*

**Hold on to Hope:** The New Year message from Archbishop Eamon Martin, archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland  
 The bells ringing out the old year and ringing in the New Year remind us of how quickly time passes. Even since this time last year all our lives have changed in one way or another: we've seen new faces and places, met new challenges, embraced new opportunities, encountered new problems. The turn of the year brings with it a mixture of sadness and hope, memories and dreams, regrets and resolutions. Some people won't be sorry to leave 2014 behind; others will face the New Year with uncertainty in terms of family, health, relationships and financial pressures. They ask 'will 2015 be a good year?'

At Masses on New Year's Day the beautiful Blessing of Aaron from the Book of Numbers is read. Although it is two and a half thousand years old, its verses invoke a timeless message which is perfect for today:

'May the Lord bless you and keep you.  
 May the Lord let his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
 May the Lord uncover his face to you and bring you peace (Numbers 6: 22-27).'

To begin the New Year blessed by the presence of God is to hold on to hope, courage and trust even when we might be inclined to fret, fear or be anxious about the future. Our resolutions to change or do better are born out of the conviction that a fresh start is always possible and that conversion is achievable and good for us. Faith in God's presence enables us to say: 2015 will be a better year. With the Lord's face shining upon us in 2015 we can be more present to... **Continued in the online news sheet →**

**Pope Francis' Intentions for January (please remember these in your personal prayer)**  
**Universal – Peace:** That those from diverse religious traditions and all people of good will may work together for peace.  
**Evangelisation – Consecrated Life:** That in this year dedicated to consecrated life, religious men and women may rediscover the joy of following Christ and strive to serve the poor with zeal.

← *Continued from above*  
 ...each moment, each person, every cry for help, every gifted opportunity that awaits us; every day, every hour, every moment can be truly blessed by the love and presence of God.  
 During the Christmas season many of us have had the opportunity to be with family, to spend time in worship and to reach out in charity to those less fortunate than ourselves. Might these Christmas instincts inspire our resolutions for the year ahead - to spend more time with family and friends; to build our friendship with God; to reach out to the marginalised?  
 In his message for New Year's Day - the World Day of Peace - Pope Francis places before us the cruel facts of modern day slavery: that millions of children, women and men throughout the world are deprived of their freedom and forced to live in conditions akin to slavery. He speaks with bluntness about the greed and corruption which preys upon the dignity of our fellow human beings who are 'trafficked' from place to place and mistreated as objects for exploitation and prostitution. Many of them, because of extreme poverty and helplessness, get caught up into a vicious circle, accepting roles and situations that are beneath their human dignity. And sadly, because of selfishness and global indifference, we can easily remain blind and ignorant of their plight - perhaps even tacitly complicit.  
 A new year's resolution for Ireland, North and South, might be to raise awareness and do what we can to tackle the global scandal of human trafficking. We might ask questions of ourselves and our public representatives: where is trafficking happening in this country? What are we doing to make Ireland the land of one thousand welcomes and a cold place for human traffickers? Clearly trafficking is a problem to be addressed both nationally and internationally. It begins, however, with personal and public awareness of what trafficking is, and how it can be prevented.  
 Aaron's blessing prays that the Lord may bless us and keep us all safe in his care. If at the end of 2015, some vulnerable trafficking victims feel "no longer slaves, but our brothers and sisters (Phil 15-16)", then we will be able to say: it has been a very good year!  
 Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Peace, Pray for us

**This Week's Calendar of Feasts and Saints:**  
**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January – St. Charles of St. Andrew (Dublin) (priest) [1821-1893]** Born in Holland. Took vows as a Passionist in 1846 and came to Mount Argus in 1857, it was there he spent most of his priestly life. His ministry in the confessional was renowned and the poor of Dublin found in him a strong support. Died on 5<sup>th</sup> January, 1893. St. Charles was canonised on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> June, 2007.  
**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January – Epiphany of the Lord** Celebrates the revelation of God the Son as a human being in Jesus Christ. Western Christians commemorate principally (but not solely) the visit of the Magi to the Baby Jesus, and thus Jesus' physical manifestation to the Gentiles. Eastern Christians commemorate the baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River, seen as his manifestation to the world as the Son of God.  
**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> January – St. Raymond Penyafort (priest) [1175-1275]** A very brilliant lawyer when at the age of 47 he became a Dominican. Later he became Master General of the Dominicans and Archbishop of Tarragona.  
**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> January – Baptism of the Lord** Commemorates the baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River by John the Baptist.

Parish Liturgy for January, 2015	St. Patrick's (6.00pm Vigil Mass)	St. Patrick's (9.00am Mass)	Our Lady of the Wayside (11.00am Mass)
<b>Readers</b>	Martin McCullagh	Sionhan McKenna	Martina McBride
<b>Eucharistic Ministry</b>	Brigid Keenan	Eugene McCullagh	Patricia Donnelly
<b>Prayers of the Faithful</b>	-- TBC --	-- TBC --	Conan Maguire
<b>Collectors</b>	Michael McElhatton Raymond Bradley	Dominic Warnock Leo Donnelly	Sean Clarke Brian Gillen
<b>Altar Society</b>	Anne Tuohey, Alice Keenan and Anne Donnelly		Anne McDermott Mary Bradley
New choir members will always be welcome – Contact Sinead			

**Irish Language Class for Beginners:** Every Thursday in Greencastle GAA Hall from 8.00pm to 9.30pm. Teenagers and adults are welcome. *Call Sinéad Warnock on 07849 394 001*

**Warm Homes – Are you entitled to Free Insulation and Heating?**  
 Call 0800 988 0559 or visit warm-homes.com.

**ACCORD Marriage Preparation Courses**  
 St. Columba's Pastoral Centre, 48 Brook Street (028)8224 2439 accordomagh@accordni.com  
 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> January • 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> February • 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> March  
 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> April • 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> May • 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> June  
**Couples are encouraged to complete their course six months before their wedding date**

**Musings** *Salvador Ryan (St. Patrick's College, Maynooth)*  
 The magi (wise men) have played a prominent role in the Christmas story since about the fifth century. Appearing only in the Gospel of Matthew, he doesn't tell us how many there were; the number three was later deduced from the reference to three gifts. Their later portrayal as kings riding camels was inspired by two passages in Isaiah - a reference to the nations which 'shall come to your light and kings to your dawning brightness' (Isa 60:3) and some lines further on, 'a multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah ... they shall bring gold and frankincense and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord' (Isaiah 60:6).

**The Deep End – Putting Down Roots:** *Triona Doherty, Athlone, Co. Roscommon (trionad@gmail.com)*  
 What does it mean to 'have roots'? We talk about having family roots as a way of describing our connection to a place or people. Having roots somewhere means we are part of that place. When we are ready to settle down, to become part of a community and maybe even start a family, we talk about 'putting down roots'. It means we are making this place our home.  
 It is a lovely metaphor from the plant world. A tree's roots represent its relationship with the soil it is planted in and with the elements around it. The deeper the roots, the more connected a plant is to its environment.  
 Today's First Reading speaks of the wisdom of God 'taking root in a privileged people'. It describes it another way as 'pitching a tent'. These images offer us a way into understanding the more complex language of today's Gospel, which talks about God's relationship with us when he sent his Son: 'The Word was made flesh, he lived among us'.  
 When God became man, he put down roots – not just in our physical world, but in humanity itself. He pitched his tent among us and became one of us. It is a connection that cannot be broken – the roots go too deep. This is the mystery we celebrate at Christmas. We are indeed a privileged people!

**IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE DIARY IN 2015**

<b>Sacramental Celebrations</b>	<b>Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March</b>	St. Patrick's	<b>6.30pm</b> First Confession
	<b>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April</b> Fourth Sunday of Easter	St. Patrick's	<b>2.00pm</b> Sacrament of Confirmation (Bishop McKeown)
	<b>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May</b> Feast of the Ascension	St. Patrick's	<b>11.00am</b> First Holy Communion

<b>Solemn Annual Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</b>	<b>Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May</b>	St. Patrick's
	<b>Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> August</b>	Our Lady of the Wayside

<b>Derry Diocesan Society Masses in our Parish</b>	<b>Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February • Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April • Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May</b>	St. Patrick's
	<b>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July • Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September • Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Our Lady of the Wayside
Morning Masses will be celebrated as above unless a Requiem is needed on the dates		

<b>Public Prayers for our Deceased (Cemetery Sunday) (4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> July)</b>	<b>Saturday Evening (4<sup>th</sup> July)</b>	St. Patrick's	Directly after <b>6.00pm</b> Vigil Mass
	<b>Sunday Morning (5<sup>th</sup> July)</b>	Our Lady of Wayside St. Mary's, Broughderg	Directly after <b>11.00am</b> Mass
	<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November</b>	St. Patrick's	<b>6.00pm</b> Commemoration of All Souls (remembering all who died in 2015)

**'Do This In Memory'** liturgies for candidates preparing for the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion

<b>Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> January</b>	Third Week in Ordinary Time	<b>6.00pm</b> Vigil Mass
<b>Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Sixth Week in Ordinary Time	<b>6.00pm</b> Vigil Mass
<b>Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Second Week of Lent	<b>6.00pm</b> Vigil Mass
<b>Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Third Week of Lent	<b>6.30pm</b> First Confessions (Reconciliation)
<b>Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Palm Sunday	<b>6.00pm</b> Vigil Mass
<b>Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Third Sunday of Easter	<b>6.00pm</b> Vigil Mass
<b>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Feast of the Ascension of the Lord	<b>11.00am</b> First Holy Communion
<b>Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Feast of Corpus Christi	<b>6.00pm</b> Vigil Mass

**Seeing your life through the lens of the gospels – John 1:1-18:**

*John Byrne OSA (john@orlagh.ie)*

1. John opens his Gospel with a profound reflection on the meaning of creation, of life and of Jesus. Remember when you had a special awareness of the gift of life that filled you with gratitude to God for creation and the beauty and wonder of the world: 'All things came into being through him and without him not one thing came into being.'
2. We hear the gospel message frequently. Sometimes it goes in one ear and out the other. Then there are occasions when it made us feel more alive, times when it helped us see the way ahead, like a light that shines in the darkness. Recall when the gospel gave you hope in the midst of anxiety or sadness and helped you to see what action would be most life-giving for you and for others
3. Bring to mind people who have had a prophetic voice in the world – speaking the truth for the world to hear, like 'as a witness to testify to the light'. Some of these may have been public figures. Others were ordinary people who have helped you see the 'light' by the witness of their own lives and words.
4. 'No one has ever seen God. It is the only Son of God, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.' Jesus came to us to teach us about God and put a human face on God for us. For the people of his day, and for us, that was a mission of getting us to think again about how we see God and to believe in a God who is a God of love. Recall how the life and ministry of Jesus have changed your picture of God.