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

St. Patrick's. Greencastle Our Lady of the Wayside, Broughderg The Resurrection of the Lord (4th April, 2010)

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

Website: greencastleparish.com Tel: (028) 8164 8474 Email: greencastlepp@vahoo.com

Easter Blessings and Thank you: The prayer support of parishioners is our greatest strength. No matter what season, we always rely on the prayers of our sick and housebound sisters and brothers. During Lent 2010 the Stations of the Cross were prayed publicly on Fridays before Mass. We were led by the children of our parish faith community on Friday 26th February and by our teenagers on Friday 5th March. The Stations of the Cross were prayed in Irish and English on Friday 19th March. Thank you for your participation in all the Liturgies of Holy Week, Palm Sunday and the Easter Triduum. (Holy Thursday. Good Friday and Holy Saturday / Easter Morning). As we continue our journey through Easter-tide and the rest of the year. may we enjoy the blessings accrued during Lent. We are grateful for the ministries exercised among us, including Readers. Special Ministers of the Eucharist and those involved in our Music, the altar servers, people who clean the chapels and our sacristans. Your commitment and service means everything to the faith-life of this parish. As soon as the money for Trócaire has been counted we will publish the full amount. Thank you for keeping the momentum of the campaign before us each week. We know that faith extends to every other aspect of daily living and we are grateful for your fidelity to living out your Catholic Christian faith in this parish of Greencastle. Fr. Eugene Hasson

| Liturgy Schedule for the Easter Octave (5th April, 2010 – 11th April, 2010) | | | | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Monday 5th April | St. Patrick's | 10.00am Mass | | | | | | |
| Easter Monday | | Sick and housebound will be visited today | | | | | | |
| Tuesday 6th April | St. Patrick's | 10.00am Mass | | | | | | |
| Easter Tuesday | | | | | | | | |
| Wednesday 7th April | St. Patrick's | 10.00am Mass: Joe McGarvey – 2 nd Anniversary | | | | | | |
| Easter Wednesday | | | | | | | | |
| Thursday 8th April | St. Patrick's | 10.00am Mass for the DDS (members and benefactors)* | | | | | | |
| Easter Thursday | | | | | | | | |
| Friday 9th April | St. Patrick's | 7.00pm Confessions** | | | | | | |
| Easter Friday | | 8.00pm Mass: Felix McAneney – 8th Anniversary | | | | | | |
| Saturday 10th April | St. Patrick's | 10.00am Mass | | | | | | |
| Easter Saturday | | | | | | | | |
| Saturday Evening | St. Patrick's | 5.30pm Confessions | | | | | | |
| | | 6.00pm Vigil Mass for Sunday: Mary McCaffrey – Month's Mind | | | | | | |
| Sunday 11st April | St. Patrick's | 9:00am Mass: Misso Pro Populo | | | | | | |
| Second Sunday of Easter | Our Lady of the Wayside | 10.30am Confessions | | | | | | |
| | | 11:00am Mass | | | | | | |

Weekly Offerings: Thank you for your generosity to last week's collection which amounted to £1.035 and for the further £50 for the Clerical Education and Formation annual collection taken up on St. Patrick's Day. Please support your parish by using your envelope even if you must attend Mass outside your parish, thank you. Envelopes received from visitors coming to Mass in Greencastle are returned to those parishes.

Remembering Our Dead: We pray for Joe McGarvey and Felix McAneney whose anniversaries occur at this time

We welcome new parishioners and invite you to register by filling out a parish census form. Please forward it to The Parochial House at the address above.

**The parents, families and sponsors of the candidates for Confirmation, First Reconciliation and Fucharist are invited to receive the Sacrament the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Friday 9th April at 7.00pm. To nurture your own faith and give good witness to the next generation.

'Do This In Memory' Programme: The next liturgy (Week 9) will take place at the Vigil Mass for the Third Sunday of Easter (Saturday 17th April)

Prayer Friends for the Confirmation Class of 2010: Thank you for your daily support.

Northern Ireland Hospice - Big Walk Week: Saturday 17th April to Saturday 24th April, Check out nihospice.org for details.

Institute of Irish Leadership (20. The Diamond, Pomerov) - Advanced Conversation Irish Classes: These will continue on Good Friday 2nd April and Friday 9th April at the usual time of 10.00am to 11.30am.

Next Sunday's Readings: Acts of the Apostles 5:12-16: Psalm 117: Apocalypse 1:9-13, 17-19: John 20:19-31 Lectionary I, page 444 (Sunday: Year C) (Weekday: Year 2)

Lotto Numbers: 4, 5, 9, 20 (1 winner with 3 numbers – £50) Next Jackpot: £2,050

| | Mass Attendance in Greencastle during Lent 2010 (2009 in brackets) | | | | | | | |
|--|--|---------|-------------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|--|--|
| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | | |
| 17th - 20th Feb. | | | Ash Wednesday | 25 (28) | 28 (29) | 14 (15) | | |
| Week 1 (22 nd – 27 th Feb.) | 54 (42) | 25 (26) | 17 (41) | 21 (28) | 19 (30) | 12 () | | |
| Week 2 (1 st – 6 th Mar) | 33 (41) | 31 (35) | 27 (30) | 29 (21) | 45 (80) | 26 (65) | | |
| Week 3 (8 th – 13 th Mar.) | 22 (20) | 29 | 19 (13) | 23 (28) | 38 (149) | 21 (15) | | |
| Week 4 (15th – 20th Mar.) | 20 (41) | 19 (38) | St. Patrick's Day | 28 (21) | 29 (42) | 21 (17) | | |
| Week 5 (22 th – 27 th Mar.) | 24 (33) | 28 (34) | 29 (19) | 24 (21) | 84 (145) | 20 (21) | | |
| Holy Week (29th Mar. – 3rd Apr.) | 23 (45) | 21 (24) | 6 (27) | Holy Thursday | Good Friday | Holy Saturday | | |

| Parish Liturgy for 10th / 11th April, 2010 | St. Patrick's (6.00pm Vigil Mass) | St. Patrick's (9.00am Mass) | Our Lady of the Wayside (11.00am Mass) |
|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| Prayers of Intercession | Elaine Coyle | Volunteer needed | Volunteer needed |
| Offertory Gifts | The family of Eunan Morris | The family of Noel McKenna | |

Pioneering Total Abstinence Association: I write to you to inform you about this year's National Ball and to ask you to spread the word far and wide. The National Ball 2010 takes place on Saturday 8th May in the Cayan Crystal Hotel, Cayan, This is now the 14th National Ball, and we're pleased to say that a great night is in store for everyone.

The evening commences with Mass in St Bridget's Church, Killygarry at 7.30pm, the meal and dancing will follow in the Cayan Crystal to the music of *Time Out* and our DJ *Peter McEnroe*. One highlight of the night will be our guest speaker *Sean Gallagher* from Dragon's Den, whom we all hope to learn something from in these recessionary times.

This is the perfect night to put on your guna deas and new suit or tux, and dance into the wee small hours while catching up with old friends and hopefully making some new ones. So don't be shy! Tickets are €30 each, €20 for students under 16 years. Do not hesitate to contact us if you require any further information. Accommodation list is available on request

Derry Diocesan Society for Sick and Infirm Priests: 1. Any person may become a member, sharing in all its privileges by paying £20. 2. Likewise, any person whomsoever may have a deceased relative or friend, placed on the Register of Members of the Society, the deceased person thereby becoming a sharer in all the Masses and prayers offered for members. These Masses go on all the time. Privileges of members - deceased: 1. A Mass every day in a parish in the Diocese (this will take place in at 10.00am in St. Patrick's Church on Thursday 8th April). 2. The prayers of every congregation in the Diocese on the first three Sundays of each quarter. Living: 1. Mass will be offered each month, as listed on the Church notice board. 2. When a living member dies the name is transferred to the list of deceased members without further payment.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes (16th - 21st July, 2010): Cost £629 - payable in instalments. Application forms are now available in the sacristy (Greencastle). Forms for those in need of special care or those aged 80 or over are available only from the Pilgrimage Office, Derry. Telephone: (028) 7126 0293. Special arrangements are made for the youth are lead by the Pilgrimage Youth Team.

Children in Crossfire - 25th Budapest Half Marathon: Children in Crossfire are recruiting 20 enthusiastic individuals to join them for the 25th Budapest Half Marathon on 5th September. A deposit of £150 is requested and minimum sponsorship applies. Contact Sarah on (028) 7126 9898 or e-mail events@childrenincrossfire.org for more information. Children in Crossfire also hold a car boot sale every Saturday and Sunday at Elagh Business Park on the Buncrana Road, Derry, £5 entry for cars.

Family Care Society - Adoption: Could you make a child happy again after a difficult start in life? Family Care Society is presently seeking adoptive families who would be interested in parenting children aged between 3 and 8 years and who need the love and attention of a caring and understanding family. Could this be you? For more information contact Family Care Society on: (028) 9069 1133 (Belfast) or (028) 7136 8592 (Derry), email@familycaresociety.org www.familycaresociety.net

The Priests, with special guest Camilla Kerslake at Millennium Forum, Derry: Tuesday 15th June at 8.00pm. Tickets £19.50/£24.50/£29.50 Box Office: (028) 7126 4455.

Carmelite Retreat Centre (Termonbacca, Derry) - Monthly Devotions in Honour of Our Lady, Tuesday 6th April beginning with confessions at 7.30pm, followed by Rosary and Mass. Concludes at 10.00pm All are welcome to attend

Our Parish cemeteries are special places providing a focus for our prayerful remembrance of the dead. Please cooperate in their maintenance and care with respect, dignity and honour. Remove flowers and wreaths that have withered. Please do not dump them anywhere in the graveyard. Monumental Sculptors who have completed their work should take rubble away and not dispose of it at the side of the cemetery.

Upcoming BADA Events Friday 9th April Table Quiz and card playing at 8.30pm

| Items for inclusion should be forwarded to the Parochial House by the Wednesday evening prior to p | publication |
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Medjugorje Irish Centre: Every week for a year we are giving away one weeks free apartment accommodation for up to 4 people. Text the word PILGRIM followed by your name and county to 60777 or phone us and we can enter you into the draw for free. Special introductory offer E260 package. Website *www.med-irishcentre.com* Tel: (028) 82241888.

The Catholic Chaplaincy QUB Centenary Dinner Dance: Tickets are now available for the Centenary Dinner Dance, which is taking place on 22nd April in the Whitla Hall at Queen's. If you remember the Chaplaincy Discos, Céilidh or Mrs. Mac famous sandwiches, Liam, Noel, Mary or Anne, Lough Derg pilgrimages, packed Ash Wednesday Masses or a wealth of other Chaplaincy memories then come along and celebrate with us. The Dinner is open to past and present students and staff of the University, their families and friends and all who consider themselves friends of the Chaplaincy. Take the opportunity to arrange to meet with classmates and friends. The tickets cost £40 each and can be purchased from the Chaplaincy at 28 Elmwood Ave or from the Welcome Centre at QUB (or if your send a stamped addressed envelope and a chq made payable to "The Catholic Chaplaincy" we'll post your tickets to you.) [Open seating will be norm but tables of 8 can be arranged]. For any further info please contact the Chaplaincy on (028) 9066 9737 or email cc@qubcc.org. Check out qubcc.org. If you have any Chaplaincy related photos we would love copies of them for the Centenary Display!

Broughderg First Responders Scheme: The role of a First Responder is to attend, when possible a patient who has collapsed and administer CPR and / or defibrillation whilst awaiting for an ambulance crew to attend. The Broughderg First Responders are volunteers who live and work in the local area they are fully trained and are fully insured. When an appropriate 999 call is received from the area covered by the First Responder Scheme; the volunteers are notified and try to attend to provide whatever care is reasonable. First Responders will only attend when dispatched by Ambulance Control. They have no role in the diagnosis or management of illness apart from the collapsed patient. There will always be a 999 ambulance in attendance. Volunteers are clearly identifiable as they will have ID with them. They will provide whatever care is reasonable and will endeavour to assist either doctors or members of the Ambulance Service as appropriate. If you require any further information about the scheme please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Janet Shields (Dalriada Urgent Care) (028) 2566 3502

Knock Marriage Introduction Bureau: The aim of the Bureau is to introduce people considering marriage to a suitable marriage partner. Over 800 marriages have taken place as a result of these introductions. If you are searching for a suitable partner, why not consider applying? For further information contact the Bureau at Knock, Co. Mayo. Phone 00353 94937 5960 or visit our website at www.knockmarriagebureau.com and read about the workings of the Bureau.

Study Theology From Home: The Dominicans are offering a theology programme specifically for lay people, offered by distance learning. This means that one can study for a certificate, diploma or degree in theology, and even more importantly, become more educated in the Faith, all from the comfort of home. For more information contact The Priory Institute, Tallaght Village, Dublin 24, Tel: 00353 1404 8124/7 or email enquiries@prioryinstitute.com Visit our website www.prioryinstitute.com

This Week's Calendar of Saints:

Sunday 5th April – St. Vincent Ferrer (priest) Not celebrated this year.

Wednesday 7th April – St. John Baptist de la Salle (priest) Not celebrated this year.

Questions people ask:

- Q. Why isn't there a set date for Easter as for Christmas? Wouldn't it be much more practical for arranging school terms, holidays etc.?
- A. We celebrate Easter on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the Spring Equinox, that is, 21st March. This ancient tradition developed from the Jewish Passover. By taking account of the cycle of the sun and the phase of the moon, the resurrection is connected to the entire universe. It points to the exalted position of Jesus Christ, the Beginning and the End, to whom all time belongs and all creation. Having a set date for Easter might be practical, but we need reminders that there is more to life and religion than practical planning.

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

Seeing your life through the lens of the gospels – *John 20:1-9*:

- 1. The disciples are in a state of shock and suffering from a traumatic loss. Jesus, the one in whom they had placed so much hope, has been murdered and buried. Then, before they have time to recover, comes another shock the body of Jesus is missing. Have you had experiences in which one tragedy or crisis follows quickly after another? What was that like for you? How did you cope? What, or who, sustained you then?
- 2. Mary and Peter, and possibly others, came and discovered that the tomb was empty. The part of the story we have in this text gives no explanations of what has happened. They are left in a state of bewilderment 'for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead'. Have you been in that kind of a situation, faced with events you cannot explain, possibly events which have dashed your hopes in another person, or in God? Recall those times and how you managed to recover from them.
- 3. Yet in spite of the lack of explanation, the beloved disciple 'saw and believed'.
 - Have there been times when others have done something that you could not understand, and
 which they could not explain at the time and yet you believed that all was not as it seemed? ...
 times when you decided to trust in spite of the evidence?
 - Have there been times when others have shown this kind of faith in you when you were not able to offer satisfactory explanations, and all you could say was 'trust me'?
 - Have there been times in your relationship with God when you have felt that you were faced with an empty tomb and still you believed? Where have you found life in such experiences?

John Byrne OSA (john@orlagh.ie)

The Deep End - Surfing in the Highest:

According to The Times newspaper (14/12/09) millions of young people in Britain are lonely despite having hundreds of so-called 'friends' on social networking sites. Presumably Britain is not alone in this. Those who seek friends at arms-length are bound to be unhappy. Friendship is intended to be right up close and personal. Virtual reality can't substitute for the real thing. Surfing the Net may seem cool, bright and breezy, even exciting; but it's well to remember that it's not called the 'net' for nothing. Being trapped by virtual friendships that may well be just illusionary, if not downright predatory, won't fill the void within an individual. The survey of more than 2,000 adults found that loneliness was a major worry for 21 per cent of people aged 18-24, compared with only 8 per cent of those aged 55 and over. Easter Sunday is the Church's most important celebration. It may seem a bit of virtual reality to some, but not to those of faith. Jesus came right up close and personal to bring us resurrection. Today's Second Reading (Col 3:1-4) tells us what we should be 'surfing' for: the things that are above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. The 'catch', if you want to call it that, is that resurrection can't be found in virtual reality. You won't find it outside daily living with those you like and dislike.

Resurrection is rising through reality – even because of reality – to the glory God has in store for those who value real friends in real life. Fr. Tom Cahill SVD, Divine Word Missionaries, Donamon, Co Roscommon (tomcee@eircom.net)

NEW YORK, 29TH MARCH, 2010 (*zenit.org*).- Archbishop Timothy Dolan of New York brought hearty approval from a standing-room-only crowd at St. Patrick's Cathedral on Palm Sunday when he defended Benedict XVI against "unrelenting insinuations" in the scandals of sexual abuse.

The archbishop asked the congregation for a couple of minutes of patience at the end of the lengthy Mass, and then said the "sombreness of Holy Week is intensified for Catholics this year" by a "tidal wave of headlines about abuse of minors by some few priests, this time in Ireland, Germany, and a re-run of an old story from Wisconsin."

"What deepens the sadness now is the unrelenting insinuations against the Holy Father himself, as certain sources seem frenzied to implicate the man who, perhaps more than anyone else has been the leader in purification, reform, and renewal that the Church so needs," Archbishop Dolan stated.

The 60-year-old prelate suggested that Sunday Mass is "hardly the place to document the inaccuracy, bias, and hyperbole of such aspersions," but it is "the time for Catholics to pray for Benedict, our Pope."

According to the Associated Press report of the archbishop's words, the congregation responded with 20 seconds of applause.

Archbishop Dolan suggested that Benedict XVI is suffering "some of the same unjust accusations, shouts of the mob, and scourging at the pillar, as did Jesus."

"No one has been more vigorous in cleansing the Church of the effects of this sickening sin than the man we now call Pope Benedict XVI," he affirmed, asserting that the "dramatic progress" made by the Church in the United States "could never have happened without the insistence and support of the very man now being daily crowned with thorns by groundless innuendo."

He continued: "Does the Church and her pastor, Pope Benedict XVI, need intense scrutiny and just criticism for tragic horrors long past?

"Yes! He himself has asked for it, encouraging complete honesty, at the same time expressing contrition, and urging a thorough cleansing.

"All we ask is that it be fair, and that the Catholic Church not be singled-out for a horror that has cursed every culture, religion, organization, institution, school, agency, and family in the world. [...]

"The Eucharist is the Sunday meal of the spiritual family we call the Church. At Sunday dinner we share both joys and sorrows. The father of our family, 'il papa,' needs our love, support, and prayers."