



Parish of Greencastle, Co. Tyrone (Diocese of Derry)
St. Patrick's, Greencastle **Our Lady of the Wayside, Broughderg**
Resurrection of the Lord [Year B] (4th April, 2021)
 Parochial House, 164, Greencastle Road, Sheskinshule, Omagh, BT79 7RU
Website: greencastleparish.com • **Email:** greencastlepp@yahoo.com • **Tel:** (028) 816 48474

Thought for Easter: "The Gospel of Easter is very clear: we need to go back there, to see Jesus risen, and to become witnesses of his Resurrection. This is not to go back in time; it is not a kind of nostalgia. It is returning to our first love, in order to receive the fire which Jesus has kindled in the world and to bring that fire to all people, to the very ends of the earth."
Pope Francis (2014 Easter Vigil Homily)

Saturday 3rd April	Badoney Lower (FB) St. Patrick's St. Patrick's (YouTube)	10.00am Morning Prayer and Rosary 12 noon to 12.45pm Confession 8.00pm Easter Vigil Mass
Sunday 4th April	St. Patrick's (YouTube) Resurrection of the Lord [Year B]	11.00am Easter Sunday Mass: Noelle Conway
Please note there will be NO MASS on Monday 5th April		
Tuesday 6th April	St. Patrick's (YouTube)	12 noon Mass
Wednesday 7th April	St. Patrick's St. Patrick's (YouTube)	2.00pm to 4.00pm Adoration 7.30pm Mass
Thursday 8th April	St. Patrick's (YouTube)	12 noon Mass
Friday 9th April	St. Patrick's (YouTube)	7.30pm Mass: Jim McCrory (3 rd Anniversary)
Saturday 10th April	St. Patrick's St. Patrick's (YouTube)	12 noon to 1.00pm Confession 6.00pm Vigil Mass: Martin O'Hagan (16 th Anniversary) David O'Hagan (9 th Anniversary)
Sunday 11th April	St. Patrick's (YouTube) Second Sunday of Easter [Year B] Greencastle (FB)	11.00am Mass <i>Divine Mercy Sunday</i> 3.00pm Divine Mercy Devotions

COLLECTIONS **Weekly:** £1,150 **Clerical Education:** £320 *Thank you for your generosity*
 Please consider a donation for the upkeep of the Holy Places in the Holy Land. This collection was normally taken up on a Good Friday. Please leave in an envelope with Parish Envelopes.

Remembering Our Dead: We pray for the happy repose of the souls of **Jim McCrory (3rd), Noelle Conway (4th), James McCullagh (10th) and Joe McGarvey (13th)** whose anniversaries occur at this time and for all who have died due to Covid-19.

Resumption of Public Worship: The Northern Bishops recently announced that it would be possible for parishes to resume public worship from Friday 26th March. Each parish looking at its particular circumstances was mandated to make a decision. As announced last weekend in this parish, out of an abundance of caution, the Covid-19 Task Force agreed that it would be prudent to wait until Monday 12th April to resume public worship.
We look forward to the help and assistance we had before Christmas to be able to do

Confirmation and First Holy Communion: Bishop McKeown has announced that First Communions in the Derry Diocese will be postponed until September and Confirmation until June if the circumstances at the time allow. This will be reviewed in mid-May. Therefore, new provisional dates for both ceremonies will be decided in consultation with schools over the coming weeks.

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

Alcoholics Anonymous: Can't stop? There is a solution.
 Call AA on (028) 9035 1222 or email csoofaa@btinternet.com. alcoholicsanonymous.ie.

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

Next Week's Readings: Acts 4:32-35 • Psalm 117:2-4, 15-18, 22-24, R/ v 1 • 1 John 5:1-6
 John 20:19-31 • Lectionary 1:441 **Sunday [Year B] • Weekday [Year 1]**

Easter Message: We have reached the end of Lent, and a long Lent it has been for many. In fact, the last year or so has been like one long Lent. A second spring in some form of lockdown and restrictions has wearied us all. Yes, unlike some others around us we are not gathering for mass in our parish churches over the Easter Triduum. While we intend to resume public mass in Greencastle Parish soon we still do not know when we will be able to do so without any restrictions but small signs of light are beginning to appear to show us a way out of this.

Easter is usually associated with hope because of its association with new life and light. It is there we, as Christians, need to look and turn. Personally it has been a long winter for various reasons. Maybe my own personal experience of illness over the past few months has fed into my caution about us gathering during this Easter Triduum.

Like wider society we have various views and opinions on when it is the right time to open various sectors of society including our public religious worship. It ranges from denial to paranoia. The right to worship freely is rightly proclaimed. However, of course, with every right comes a responsibility.

Neither church nor government, priest or politician is going to get every decision right but those who have ultimate responsibility for decision making have to live with their consciences and the consequences of their decisions. All I can hope and pray is that the general situation will continue to improve and we can meet and see each other again without fear soon.

May this Easter be the time when we together begin to turn the corner. I look forward to seeing many of you in our parish churches of St. Patrick's and Our Lady of the Wayside in the weeks to come beginning Monday 12th April at 10.00am for mass.

As a church and parish we have challenges ahead. May the hope, energy and positivity of these Easter days drive us forward, for with the Risen Christ at our side we will reach the rainbow's end and the joy and happiness that awaits us both here on earth and in our heavenly inheritance.

Happy Easter to you and your families. Cáisc Shona dhuit. *Fr. Eddie Gallagher PP*

Trócaire Easter Hamper Raffle: Congratulations to Peter Louis Coyle of Aughascribba Rd, Formil who won the beautiful Easter Hamper. On behalf of Trócaire our sincere thanks go to Enya McAteer of Spar Jonesborough, Co. Armagh for donating the hamper and all who promoted the raffle or bought tickets.
The amazing sum of £2,050 was raised for Trócaire

Trócaire Box Return: As Lent draws to a close you are encouraged to make your returns to Trócaire. You can also contribute via online banking (directly to Trócaire).

Bank details for Trócaire in NI are: Sorting Code: 93.80.92, Account No: 8822 7020
 Send a cheque by post to Trócaire at 50-52 King Street, Belfast, BT1 6AD. There is a freephone number, 0800 912 1200 (NI) through which payments can be made. Donate online on the Trócaire website at trocaire.org. For those who are returning their Trócaire box to the church, you are asked to include notes or cheques only, in so far as possible, for ease of counting in general and in particular, to reduce the level of risk for the counters.
Please note that cheques should be made payable to Trócaire and not the parish

SUSE+ New Courses: Are you currently unemployed? SUSE+ can help you, we are currently offering help and support to gain qualification and employment. We run Job Searches, CV Building, Interview Preparation. Mentors work 1:1 with participants to help secure a job in local area.

New courses include Foundation Skills in Working with Children, Personal Success & Wellbeing, Progression to Employment, Customer Service, Money Management, Retail, Business Administration, Barista and Essential Skills in Numeracy and Literacy.
For more information email tracy.sharkey@swc.ac.uk or call 074 3653 3475

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

Easter Prayer: Lord, death could not hold You. And because of You, the resurrection, we, too, can live. Thank You that the grave is only a journey into the presence of God. You have removed the sting of death and empowered this thing called life. Now I will live in Your presence forever. *Amen*

Pope Francis' Intention for April (please remember this in your personal prayers)

Universal Intention – Fundamental Rights: We pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes and even in democracies in crisis.

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

Online Youth Programmes: To access a wide variety of initiatives and activities by Derry Diocesan Youth, visit:
Facebook: DerryDiocesanYouth **Instagram:** derryyouth

Commercial Free Catholic Talk-Radio Station for Ireland – Radio Maria Ireland (RMI):

Commercial free prayer, catechesis, uplifting music, talks, interviews and testimonies
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)

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*

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

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*

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

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

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

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.

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

Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre in Partnership with St. Mary's University, Twickenham
Masters in Catholic School Leadership: This is a post-graduate degree dedicated to the

professional development and spiritual formation of Catholic school leaders. It is a great opportunity for those currently in leadership roles and those who aspire to, or have an interest in, leadership roles within the Catholic School system. The next intake will be Autumn, 2021.

For more info call the Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre on 0044 (028) 7126 4087 or email tferry@derrydiocese.org

ASPIRE: Fermanagh and Omagh District Council's employability service, is currently active with new ways of working. ASPIRE staff are ready to help people apply for and secure jobs; support from the initial search through to the application and with interview prep. Also provide training courses and arrange work experience placements.
Omagh (028) 8224 6535 • Enniskillen 028 6632 6478 • Mobile 07799 471 448 • aspire@fermanaghmagh.com

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

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

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*

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.

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.

Spiritual Communion Prayer: My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you in my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. *Amen*

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.
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

Trócaire: Every year Trócaire asks for your help during Lent to fund lifesaving programmes around the world. This year, of course, it was not possible to return Trócaire boxes through schools or parishes in the usual way. This is the worst possible timing coming just as the world's poorest people need us most. Therefore, Trócaire are appealing to you to return your Lenten donation. Simply count or estimate what is in your box and donate in the following ways:

1. Online at trocaire.org
2. By phone: 1850 408 408 (ROI) or 0800 912 1200 (NI)
3. By post to Trócaire, Maynooth, Co. Kildare (ROI) or Trócaire, 10 King Street, Belfast, BT1 6AD (NI)
4. As with your parish envelope please leave at Broughderg Post Office, St. Patrick's Church Sacristy outside door postbox or the Parochial House. No boxes please.

Please also fill in Gift Aid details on envelope. The contents of each and every Trócaire box, no matter how small, come together to make a significant difference. This virus knows no borders, but neither does our compassion.

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

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*

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%

Seeing your life through the lens of the gospel: *John Byrne OSA (jpbyrneosa@gmail.com)*
 I some ways this gospel is a difficult one for prayer. It only presents a part of the story and the full unfolding of the good news the story contains lies in the next part of the text. However, even with this section there is plenty of material for reflection and for prayer.

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. In the past year we have had shock after shock during the coronavirus crisis. 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? What has that been like for you?
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?

Priory Institute – Retreat Delivery: Offered entirely online with 15 minute video reflections focusing on the verses of the psalm that are contained in the liturgical readings for each day of Holy Week. The first reflection will be available on Palm Sunday and all reflections will remain to watch until Sunday 11th April. There is no charge for this retreat, but you must register with your email address and have access to the internet to participate. All are welcome.
To find out more and register visit prioryinstitute.com/events/holy-week-retreat-2021

2019	PARISH STATISTICS	2020
(19) 8 Boys • 11 Girls	Baptisms	(17) 8 Boys • 9 Girls
(25) 12 Boys • 13 Girls	First Communion	(11) 4 Boys • 7 Girls
(16) 9 Boys • 7 Girls	Confirmation	(14) 7 Boys • 7 Girls
1 within parish • 6 outside parish	Weddings	0 within parish • 1 outside parish
11	Deaths and Burials	8

The Deep End – Early on the First Day of the Week:

Jane Mellett (mellettj@gmail.com)

Today we celebrate the highpoint of the Christian calendar, Easter. The Gospel tells us that Mary Magdalen is the first witness to the Resurrection, she is the first to bring this Good News to others, the first preacher of the Resurrection. 'It was still dark ...' when Mary went to the tomb but it was also the 'first day of the week', a new beginning, like the first warm day of Spring. We can all recall situations in our lives which seemed so dark, where we felt that there was no light at the end of the tunnel. But the Easter story shows us that transformation is always possible. There comes a point during dark times that we realise something has changed, the stone has rolled away.

Let the linen wrappings in this text today represent all that keeps us from being free; all that keeps us captive, emotionally, physically, spiritually, in our broken relationships and struggling communities. As we continue to deal with the effects of the COVID-19 crisis, many people are longing for this situation to ease, to lift. The Easter Gospel shows us that even the most difficult of situations can bring transformation. A question we can ask today, is where have we seen the Risen Christ during this crisis? In the frontline workers, in good neighbours and friends. Where are we being called to share Easter joy with others?

Jesus you are with us. Keep us ever mindful of how you are a part of our lives in a deep and profound way. Surprise us with a touch of your love in places where we never thought that we would find you.

Joyce Rupp