

Parish of Greencastle, Co. Tyrone, Diocese of Derry

Saint Patrick's Church
Greencastle

Our Lady of the Wayside Church
Broughderg

The Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time. 5th July, 2009

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

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Best wishes to everyone travelling for their summer holidays, may your journeys be safe and your time away renewing and refreshing. For everyone staying at home may the weather continue to be kind and may we all make the most out of it. **You are welcome to begin each day with daily Mass**

Liturgy Schedule for the Fourteenth Week in Ordinary Time. 6th July – 12th July, 2009

Monday 6th July Fourteenth Week in Ordinary Time	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass: Visitation of sick and housebound
Tuesday 7th July Fourteenth Week in Ordinary Time	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Wednesday 8th July Fourteenth Week in Ordinary Time	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Thursday 9th July Fourteenth Week in Ordinary Time	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Friday 10th July Fourteenth Week in Ordinary Time	Saint Patrick's	8.00pm Mass: (Niall O'Hagan – 1 st Anniversary)
Saturday 11th July St. Benedict, Patron of Europe	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Saturday Evening	Saint Patrick's	6.00pm Vigil Mass for Sunday: (Rose McCullagh – 1 st Anniversary)
Sunday 12th July Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Saint Patrick's Our Lady of the Wayside	9:00am Mass: 'Misso Pro Populo' 11:00am Mass

Confession Schedule

Saturday 11th July	Saint Patrick's	5:30pm (before Vigil Mass)
Sunday 12th July	Our Lady of the Wayside	10:30am (before Mass)

Weekly Offerings: Thank you for your generosity to last week's collection which amounted to **£1,020**. **Please support your parish by using your envelope even when you are on holiday or if for some reason you must attend Mass outside your parish – Thank you.**
Envelopes received from visitors coming to Mass in Greencastle are promptly returned to those parishes.

Thank you for your generosity to last week's **Peter's Pence Collection** amounting to **£1,050**. Because of you, Pope Benedict XVI will be able to help millions of people around the world quickly and effectively. Your important contributions are truly helping the Holy Father to make a difference for those most in need.

Remembering Our Dead: We pray for **Jane McDermott, Niall O'Hagan** and **Rose McCullagh** whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Sick and housebound will be attended **Monday 6th July**. Please let them know if you live nearby. If you know of anyone who is sick or housebound and would like a visit please inform Fr. Hasson.

This Weekend - Public Prayers For the Faithful Departed in our Parish Cemeteries: Directly after the **Vigil Mass tonight** in Greencastle and after **11:00am Mass on Sunday morning** in Broughderg. Bring holy water with you to sprinkle on the graves at the appropriate time.

Pioneer Total Abstinence Association: Meeting on Tuesday 7th July at 7.00pm in St. Patrick's.

The Catholic Chaplaincy QUB wishes to congratulate all those graduating
Daily Thanksgiving Mass at the Chaplaincy @ 12.45pm, Monday 6th July to Friday 10th July.
Followed by light refreshments after Mass – **You are WELCOME!!!**

Next Sunday's Readings: Amos 7:12-15; Psalm 84; Ephesians 1:3-14; Mark 6: 7-13 (Lectionary I, page 774)

People Serving our faith-community in Greencastle parish

Buildings, Grounds and Maintenance: The physical environment for worship and prayer in our parish is important. The appearance, condition and function of the parish buildings and grounds must be well attended. If you would like to become involved in a committee responsible for our two churches, St. Patrick's, Greencastle and Our Lady of Lourdes, Broughderg our cemeteries and the Parochial house, please make contact with Fr. Hasson. Currently the maintenance is performed by contract. People with building, electrical, carpentry, landscaping skills or knowledge of same would be an advantage.

Altar-Servers are very important for our faith community with their service at Sunday Mass and other special occasions. Altar-Servers assist the priest in liturgical duties and possess leadership qualities in our worshipping community. We welcome **Niall Coyle, Ceiran Coyle, Orla Coyle, Michaela Gillen, Shaun Coyle and Grace Connolly** who have joined at the end of June. Our thanks to **Edward Clarke** for over five years of loyal commitment and **Damian McBride** who served for the past four years at Our Lady of the Wayside, Broughderg having previously served in Dunamore for one year.

For the attention of our young people

Knock Summer Youth Festival: 24th – 27th July at Our Lady's Shrine, Knock, Co. Mayo. An invitation to 18-35 year olds from our parish. For more info and to book contact: 00353 9493 88100 / (087) 6927 850 or check out knock-shrine.ie/youthfestival

Clanmacnoise Youth Festival: 13th – 16th August. 'Know that the Loving God is with You' (James 3:10). For 16 to 35 years. Catholic Youth Festival – bring a sleeping bag. No cost – subscription by donation. Contact Youth 2000 Office on 00353 1675 3690. See posters on church notice boards.

Interested in developing your faith? Thornhill Centre has a number of short and long courses starting in October and November 2009: Pastoral Ministry: There is a Variety of Gifts; Liturgy: 'Foundations in Liturgy'; Scripture: 'Saint Luke'; Aspects of Faith: 'So What Should We Teach Them?' and Personal Development: 'Dreams Workshop'. For further details contact Thornhill Centre at (028) 7135 1233.

Michael Jackson will never die "in the imagination of [his] fans," the Vatican's semi-official newspaper said after news spread of the pop star's death. Marcello Filotei wrote Friday 26th June in L'Osservatore Romano, comparing the death of the 50 year old "King of Pop" to that of Elvis Presley. Jackson died Friday of cardiac arrest. Noting how Jackson was a "child prodigy" with an "extraordinary soul voice" Filotei acknowledged the pop star's many successes, such as his megahit 1982 album "Thriller" "known even by those unfamiliar with this genre of music." The album continues to rank as the best-selling album of all time. The writer acknowledged elements of the singer's life that drew wide criticism, such as his many plastic surgeries that changed his appearance radically, his increasingly pale complexion, and the allegations of paedophilia in 1993 and 2005. Jackson settled out of court in 1993 and was found not guilty of all charges in 2005. "But no accusation, however serious or shameful, is enough to tarnish his myth among his millions of fans throughout the entire world" wrote Filotei. The pop singer was set to begin a 50 concert series titled "This Is It" in London on Monday 13th July.

Graduation Prayer

Father, I have knowledge, so will You show me now,
How to use it wisely and find a way somehow
To make the world I live in a little better place,
And make life with its problems a little bit easier to face.
Grant me faith and courage and put purpose in my days,
And show me how to serve Thee in effective ways.
So my education, my knowledge and my skill
May find their true fulfillment as I learn to do Thy will.
And may I ever be aware in everything I do,
That knowledge comes from learning, and wisdom comes from You. *Amen*

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

Sunday 5th July | Dance, music by 'Country Legends Peter and Harry'

Lotto Numbers: 5, 8, 9, 13 (3 winners with 3 numbers – £20 each) **Next Jackpot:** £1,400

Questions on this Sunday's Scripture: These questions based on each of today's scripture readings can be used for family, group or individual reflection.

First Reading – The Book of the prophet Ezekiel, Chapter 2, Verses 2-5:

1. Are there prophets in your life? Are you sometimes stubborn and closed about listening to their message? Why? Why do you reject the person or the message?
2. Do you think the ordinary prophet has great success or runs into opposition most of the time? Have you and/or your ideas ever been rejected when you tried to change something for the better? How do you handle rejection?

Second Reading – Second Letter to the Corinthians, Chapter 12, Verses 7-10:

1. If you went out shopping for weaknesses or crosses to bear, would you pick the ones you already have or would you pick different ones? Why? Do you find God in your weakness? Can it be a constant source of grace?
2. "My grace is sufficient for you," Christ said. Do you or your friends rely on these words? Are they easy to remember or hard?

Gospel – According to Mark, Chapter 6, Verses 1-6:

1. Which hurts worse, rejection by strangers or by friends? Call to mind the times Jesus felt rejection. Can you think of theologians, saints, or scientists who were rejected for their ideas?
2. How is your rejection related to Jesus'? When you are denounced, what good thing happens to you? Whose power are you using when you have none of your own?

By Anne Osdieck of the *Center for Liturgy at Saint Louis University*

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This Week's Calendar of Saints:

Tuesday 7th – St. Maelruain, bishop and abbot. Maelruain founded the monastery of Tallaght, Co. Dublin in 774 which introduced a reform. Important spiritual and liturgical writings emerged from this movement known as reform.

Wednesday 8th – St. Killian, bishop and martyr. Killian was probably born in the parish of Mullagh in the diocese of Kilmore. With eleven companions he left Ireland and became known as the apostle of Thuringia and Eastern Franconia. With two others he was put to death c. 688. There is a very strong devotion to him in Wurtzburg where his remains lie and also throughout the Bavarian countryside.

Thursday 9th – Sts. Augustine Zhao Rong, priest, and companions, martyrs. St Augustine T'chao (born in 1746) converted to Christianity, was ordained priest and was martyred in 1815. The memorial also celebrates 119 companions, martyred in China over several centuries, but especially in the Boxer Rebellion.

Saturday 11th – St. Benedict, abbot and patron of Europe. Benedict (480-547), after living as a hermit at Subiaco founded the monastery of Monte Cassino. His rule, observed by Benedictines and Cistercians, is distinguished by its wisdom and balance and those who lived by it did much to shape the Europe of today. He was named patron of Europe in 1964.

Questions people ask:

- Q. Why do people call Mary ever virgin since the gospel clearly speaks of the brothers and sisters of Jesus?
- A. The gospel identifies Mary as the mother of Jesus but the evangelists never refer to her as the mother of the brothers and sisters of Jesus. They may have been step-brothers and sisters, as children of Joseph from a previous marriage. Or, more likely, they were close cousins. In the local language of Jesus' time, because of the close bonds of the wider family, cousins were regularly called brothers and sisters. For instance, in the Old Testament, Tobias refers to his cousin Sarah as his sister.

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

Seeing your life through the lens of the gospels – Mark 6: 1-6:

1. The story reminds us of how personal prejudices and agendas can block us from listening to the content of what another person has to say, no matter how relevant or wise it is. Perhaps you have experienced this? What difference has it made to you when you were able to focus on the content of what was being said and leave to one side your own prejudices about the speaker?
2. It has been said that there is nothing as useless as the right advice at the wrong time. We may want to reach out to another, but may be unable to make a useful contribution because at that moment the other person is not ready to be helped. Like Jesus we can 'do no deed of power'. As Jesus had to be patient and wait for another opportunity, so do we. What have you learned about the importance of patience in working with other people?
3. The topic of religion can easily bring up prejudices, leading some to dismiss religion as superstition, old hat, or based on an outdated worldview. Even among believers, prejudice can make it hard for individuals to listen to an alternative way of looking at things, to consider a different way of celebrating liturgy, or to live at peace with difference. Yet a closed mind can lead to a stagnant faith. When have you found that a willingness to consider a different perspective led to a deepening and strengthening of your faith?

John Byrne OSA (john@orlagh.ie)

The Deep End – Beyond Reasonable Doubt:

There's some strange stuff in today's Gospel (Mark 6:1-6). Jesus, an unmarried 30-year-old, unlettered carpenter very forwardly starts to teach in his local synagogue. From his listeners' stunned reaction it must have been his first time to do so. You'd expect them to be indignant at his self-promoting posturing in the synagogue, as they'd see it, and to sneer at what he says. But no! They're impressed, amazed even, at his wisdom. In fact, so impressed are they that they just can't believe it. They can't get their head around the fact that someone like him – an ordinary Joe Soap of a carpenter – could have so much more than they have. Jealousy rears its ugly head, and instead of opening their minds to his wisdom they close their hearts to his person.

That's not all. He could do no deed of power there except to cure some people who were sick. They distanced themselves from him and would not allow him to work the miracle: personal transformation.

What this episode shows is that knowing about Jesus is not enough. We have to know him for the wonder to work.

The miracle of transformation is a two-way thing: God and man at work together. We see Jesus in his humanity, but acknowledge him in his divinity too. As with those from his hometown, familiarity with the home-grown Jesus can breed contempt. We need to delve deeply, to go boldly where reason cannot take us.

Faith consists in believing when it is beyond the power of reason to believe.

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