



Parish of Greencastle, Co. Tyrone (Diocese of Derry)
St. Patrick's, Greencastle **Our Lady of the Wayside, Broughderg**
Solemnity of the Epiphany [Year C] (6th January, 2019)
 Parochial House, 164, Greencastle Road, Sheskinshule, Omagh, BT79 7RU
Website: greencastleparish.com • **Email:** greencastlepp@yahoo.com • **Tel:** (028) 8164 8474

Pope Francis Speaks to Ireland *Croke Park [Saturday 25th August]*
 "Prayer. Praying together. While I was listening to the choir, I saw a mother teaching her child to make the sign of the cross. Let me ask you, do you teach your children to make the sign of the cross? Yes or no? [all: yes] Or do you teach them to make some quick wave of the hand [he gestures] that they don't even understand? It is very important that children learn as early as possible to make the sign of the cross well. It is the first "creed" that they learn, a way of saying "I believe" in the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. This evening, before going to bed, ask yourselves, as parents: do I teach my children to make a good sign of the cross? Think about it, it is up to you!"

Liturgy Schedule for Second Week in Ordinary Time [Year C] (6th January, 2019 – 13th January, 2019)

Saturday 5th January	St. Patrick's	6.00pm Vigil Mass: Nellie Tracey (6 th Anniversary) 9.00am Mass (Missa Pro Populo)
Sunday 6th January	Our Lady of Wayside	11.00am Mass
Monday 7th January	St. Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Tuesday 8th January	St. Patrick's	9.00am Mass:
Wednesday 9th January	St. Patrick's	12 noon – 7.15pm Adoration 7.30pm Mass: Bernard Keenan (5 th Anniversary)
Thursday 10th January	St. Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Friday 11th January	St. Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Saturday 12th January	St. Patrick's	6.00pm Vigil Mass: John Tuohey Snr. (14 th Ann.) 9.00am Mass (Missa Pro Populo)
Sunday 13th January	Our Lady of Wayside	11.00am Mass Baptism of the Lord [Year C]

Weekly Collection: £1,245 *Thank you for your generosity*

Baptism: We welcome into the family of God **Bláithín Mary Dennehy** who received the Sacrament of Baptism on Sunday 30th December in St. Patrick's Church.

Marriage: We congratulate **Peter Teague (Greencastle) and Gemma Brogan (Greencastle)** who shared the Sacrament of Matrimony with each other on Friday 28th December in St. Patrick's Church.

Remembering Our Dead: We pray for the family, friends and neighbours of **Tessie McElhatton (Binnfreaghan)** who died this week. We also pray for the happy repose of the souls of **Bernard Keenan (5th), Nellie Tracey (6th) and Maureen Morris (8th)** whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Annual Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes: Thursday 4th to Tuesday 9th July. The Pilgrimage Office, 164 Bishop Street, Derry is now taking enquiries and initial expressions of interest from anyone who might intend to participate in it. Christmas vouchers that you can give as a gift to someone wishing to participate in the pilgrimage can now be ordered. Opening hours of the Pilgrimage Office are Thursdays and Saturdays, 11.00am to 1.00pm.

Pilgrimage to Rome and Tuscany: Tuesday 18th June for nights, ex Dublin (includes Assisi, Florence and Pisa). Spiritual Director: Fr. Brian Donnelly. Guide: Kieran Troy £1,090 per person sharing (single room supplement £280). Includes guided tours and most meals. *Call Paul or Marie at Downe Travel on (028) 4461 3288 or email marie@downetravel.co.uk*

Monthly Devotions in Honour of St. Pio of Pietrelcina *A relic of the saint will be available for veneration*
 Wednesday 9th January after 7.30pm Mass in St. Patrick's Church

Holy Family Padre Pio Prayer Group – Monthly Meeting: Tuesday 8th January starting with Mass at 7.15pm in the Holy Family Church, Ballymagroarty, Derry. *There will be a 1st class relic at the meeting • All are welcome*

Next Week's Readings: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11 • Psalm 103:1-4, 24-25, 27-30, R/ v 1 • 1 Titus 2:11-14, 3:4-7
 Luke 3:15-16, 21-22 • Lectionary 1:185 **Sunday [Year C] • Weekday [Year 1]**

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%

2018	PARISH STATISTICS	2017
(16) 7 Boys • 9 Girls	Baptisms	(26) 10 Boys • 16 Girls
(14) 8 Boys • 6 Girls	First Communion	(14) 8 Boys • 6 Girls
(17) 10 Boys • 7 Girls	Confirmation	(15) 7 Boys • 8 Girls
3 within parish • 3 outside parish	Weddings	2 within parish • 3 outside parish
10	Deaths and Burials	12

PARISH EVENTS IN 2018

Thursday 1st February Service of Light for P7	Thursday 8th March First Confession for P4
Monday 12th March 5 Parishioners receive Pope John Paul Awards in Armagh Cathedral	
Sunday 22nd April Confirmation by Bishop McKeown	Saturday 19th May First Holy Communion
Thursday 14th June P7 attend Fan the Flame Mass in Celtic Park Derry	
Thursday 21st June Presentations to P7 Leavers and Mr. Noel McGinn on retirement as principal	
Saturday 30th June and Sunday 1st July Cemetery Prayers in Parish Cemeteries	
Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th August Parishioners, along with Fr Gallagher attend Festival of Families in Croke Park and Papal Mass in Phoenix Park	
Saturday 1st September Mr. Neil McCloy officially takes up role as principal of Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School	
Sunday 2nd September All-Ireland Final – Tyrone v. Dublin	Friday 2nd November Mass for Parish Deceased
10th November Sr. Bride Counihan makes Mission Appeal	
Wednesday 21st November Inaugural Meeting of Parish Pastoral Council	
Sunday 16th December Advent Penance Service	Saturday 22nd December 2 New Altar servers welcomed
31 December Large congregation gathers for Mass at final sunset of 2018	

IMPORTANT DATES IN 2019
Service of Light (P7) Thursday 31st January, 7.30pm • **First Confession** Thursday 28th March, 7.30pm
Confirmation Saturday 6th April, 12 noon • **First Holy Communion** Saturday 11th May, 12 noon

6.00pm Saturday Vigil	Offertory Gift Rota	9.00am Sunday Morning
5 th January • Mia Coyle	Solemnity of the Epiphany	6 th January • Aoife Coyle
12 th January • Aine Morris	Baptism of the Lord	13 th January • Niamh McGlinchey

If you cannot attend please ensure that you have arranged with another family for the gifts to be presented

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

First Aid Awareness Training: For parents, grandparents and carers in Omagh. Covering CPR, recovery position, choking, febrile seizures and much more. 2 hours training at £20 per person, includes refreshments and paediatric first aid book. Group bookings available for 4 up. *Call Ann on 07866 410 105 or email ann@acresconsultancy.com*

Medjugorje Irish Centre Pilgrimages (April to October): 7 nights B&B and Airport Shuttle service from Dubrovnik or Split for €279 per person sharing. Book any flight, any time and we provide guaranteed airport shuttle service. *Call us on 01 4434510 or email reservations@med-irishcentre.com for further info and book dates that suit*

Pope Francis' Intention for January (please remember this in your personal prayers)
Young People and the Example of Mary: That young people, especially in Latin America, follow the example of Mary and respond to the call of the Lord to communicate the joy of the Gospel to the world.

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

Sacrament of Reconciliation / Confession: The Sacrament of Reconciliation better known as Confession is very important and vital part of our lives as Catholics. The times for Confession will be as follows.
St. Patrick's: Eve of First Friday from after 10.00am Mass until 11.00am when mass is celebrated with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament during that time except when there is a funeral or no mass
 First Saturday of each month from after mass until 11.00am with Adoration unless there is a 12noon wedding
 Each Saturday Evening 5.30pm-5.45pm and after Vigil Mass on request after Mass
Our Lady of the Wayside: Each Sunday 10.30am to 10.45am and after 11.00am Mass on request after Mass

Medjugorje Irish Centre Pilgrimages: 7 nights B&B and Airport Shuttle Service from €279 per person
 Book any flight, any time and we provide guaranteed airport shuttle service
To book dates call 00353 1443 4510 or (020) 3239 8662 or email reservations@med-irishcentre.com

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

Commercial Free Catholic Talk-Radio Station for Ireland – Radio Maria Ireland (RMI):
 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) • Join our faith family!

Accord Counselling Services: Available to couples regardless of their faith or denomination.
If you would like to avail call (028) 8224 2439 or email omagh@accordni.com

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

The Big Knit for Age NI Calling all knitters! For every hat knitted Age NI receives 25p.
To register or find out more call Dorothy on (028) 9024 5729, email bigknit@ageni.org or visit ageni.org/bigknit

Support Foyle Hospice by hosting a Coffee / Tea Morning with friends, family, groups or work colleagues:
 All funds you raise will play a vital role in funding the essential care and support Foyle Hospice provide to people in our communities affected and living with terminal illness
For a free pack and more info call Michelle McGinn on (028) 7135 9888 or email michellemcginn@foylehospice.com

ACCORD – Relationship Counseling: A service which facilitates couples and individuals to explore, reflect upon and resolve difficulties in their marriages and relationships in a confidential, sensitive, respectful and non-judgmental setting.
An appointment can be arranged by calling the Omagh Centre on (028) 8224 2439 or emailing omagh@accordni.com

String Instrument Music Lessons: Every Thursday evening in Greencastle Hall
 For kids to learn banjo, guitar and violin with qualified tutor Frank Nugent
Beginners: 6.00pm to 6.45pm • **Advanced:** 6.45pm to 7.30pm • Call Sinead on 07788 266 387 to book a place

Catholic Engaged Encounter Course: For details / booking: marriageencounter.ie • (028) 2763 8512
 Saturday 23rd and Sunday 24th March in Our Lady and St. Patrick's Parish Centre, Ballymoney, Co. Antrim.

Parish Liturgy for January, 2019	St. Patrick's (6.00pm Vigil Mass)	St. Patrick's (9.00am Mass)	Our Lady of the Wayside (11.00am Mass)
Readers	Martin McCullagh	Monica Coyle	Martina McNamee
Eucharistic Ministry	Brigid Keenan	Eugene McCullagh	Patricia Donnelly
Prayers of Intercession	Lauren O'Neill	Erin Hood	Grace Conneely
Collectors	Mary Bradley Francis McLaughlin	Colm Keenan Michael Clarke	Pat McGuigan Sean McKenna
Altar Society	Maria Morris, Kathleen Tracey, Louise O'Brien, Alannah Coyle, Clodagh McKenna and Nora McCullagh		Ann McDermott, Mary Bradley, Lucy-Marie McCrory and Leanne Morris

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

Foyle Hospice – Become a Compassionate Neighbour: Do you have 1-2 hours free once a week to support Foyle Hospice's Compassionate Communities 'Reach Out' voluntary befriending service. It might be as simple as calling in for a cup of tea and a chat, or taking someone out to do a bit of shopping. A volunteer's visit is invaluable to someone who is feeling lonely and isolated due to an illness. Full training and ongoing support with additional training opportunities are offered to all volunteers.
Call Tracy Gray, Volunteer Coordinator on 07841 101 932 or email tracy@compassionatecommunitiesnw.com

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@jecon.ie

Family Care Adoption Services Presently seeking to recruit adoptive families for babies and young children
 For a free information contact **Tel:** (028) 7136 8592 / (028) 9069 1133 (Monday to Friday, 9.00am to 5.00pm)
 us using any of these details **Email:** anne.ohagan@familycaresociety.org • **Website:** familycaresociety.co.uk

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

MARA (Maximising Access in Rural Areas): Find out if you're missing out on benefits, services or grants by booking your FREE home visit. Referrals can be made for benefits checks, home safety visits, occupational therapy assessments as well as others. You'll also receive a FREE bag containing £25 worth of items to help keep you warm this winter.
Call Carol on (028) 8225 1559 to book

ASPIRE Employability Programme – Free CSR Card and Forklift Licence Training
 To be eligible you must be unemployed or working less than 16 hours a week.
Omagh Office: (028) 8224 6535 • **Enniskillen Office:** (028) 6632 6478 • **Facebook:** Aspire Employability Programme
The Aspire Employability Programme is part funded by the European Social Fund and Department for the Economy

Foster Carers Needed: The Western Trust urgently needs people to come forward who can offer a loving home to foster children. At present there is a greater number of children in need of homes than there are foster carers available. If you have room in your home and in your heart to care for a child, please contact:
 Vanessa Nelis – WHSCT Recruitment Officer for Fostering
Tel: (028) 8283 5264 **Mob:** 07554 552 989 **Email:** vanessa.nelis@westerntrust.hscni.net

Trocaire – Recruiting Volunteers: To support their fundraising, campaigning and education work in Ireland.
If you are interested in volunteering visit trocaire.org/getinvolved/volunteer or call (028) 9080 8030 for more info

Seeing your life through the lens of the gospel – Matthew 2:1-12: John Byrne OSA (jpbymeosa@gmail.com)

1. The magi came from the east, hoping to meet Jesus and guided by a star. On your life's journey what are the hopes that inspire you, and what stars guide your steps? Name them for yourself.
2. The magi travelled together. Who have been your companions on life's journey? What has it been like when you have realised that you had companionship along the road? What made you conscious of that companionship? How was it demonstrated?
3. The magi lost sight of the star for a while. What clouds obscure the star that guides your life? Think of those to whom you have turned to get a renewed sense of direction. Perhaps some, like Herod, gave bad advice, but others were wise guides. Remember with particular gratitude those who warned you about dangers on the road and helped you set off with confidence on the right road again.
4. Eventually the magi had the joy of meeting Jesus. In the Epiphany we celebrate God made visible to all humanity. What encounters have you had in life that left you with the sense that God was in what had happened? How did these meetings help you as you, like the magi, 'returned to your own country'?

The Deep End – 'We observed his star at his rising': Jane Mellett (mellettj@gmail.com)

The Wise Men were probably astronomers and philosophers, but most importantly they were 'seekers', looking to the skies for something that would bring them closer to God. They would have been familiar with the prophecy about a new King who would be a very powerful leader, and they may have been watching the skies for years, waiting for the right astronomical sign which would foretell His birth. Many astronomers have since tracked the skies from that period, to try to identify what 'star' the Wise Men could have seen. Some have identified Jupiter, not a star, which in 6bc was following that correct trajectory across the sky over many months. One must admire the faithful and determined journey that these Wise Men set out on, a journey which involved many risks. The Wise Men represent all peoples of all cultures and faiths who make such journeys in search of God.

We often look for signs in our own lives, especially when we are looking for answers. Let us have the courage to move out of our comfort zones in search of Jesus, just as the Wise Men did. They had no idea of what awaited them, but the Gospel speaks of their delight and joy when they arrived to that place.

We often make do with looking at the ground ... I wonder if we still know how to look up at the sky? Do we know how to dream, to long for God, to expect the newness he brings, or do we let ourselves be swept along by life, like dry branches before the wind? *Pope Francis*

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

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

This Week's Calendar of Feasts and Saints:

Sunday 13th January – Baptism of the Lord Commemorates baptism of Jesus in Jordan River by John the Baptist.

Strule Arts Centre – Irish Cultural Activities Every Wednesday

Sean-Nós and Set Dancing 6.00pm to 7.00pm • **Singing in Irish** 7.00pm to 8.00pm
Irish Language Classes for Beginner, Improver and Advanced Levels 8.00pm to 9.30pm
Email: kevin.goodwin@fermanaghmagh.com • **Tel:** 07747 899 249

Volunteer at White Oaks Acorn Organic Farm: If you have an interest in organic growing and have a few hours to spare, why not spend them with us? Contact us using the details below.

Address: IOSAS Centre and Celtic Prayer Garden, Lenamore Road, Derryvane, Muff, Co. Donegal
Tel: (00353) (0) 74 9384866 • **Website:** celticprayergarden.com • **Facebook:** IOSASCentre • **Twitter:** IOSASCentre

Pope Francis' Message for World Day of Peace 2019

Charity and human virtues: the basis of politics at the service of human rights and peace

'Pope Benedict XVI noted that "every Christian is called to practise charity in a manner corresponding to his vocation and according to the degree of influence he wields in the polis... When animated by charity, commitment to the common good has greater worth than a merely secular and political stand would have." This is a programme on which all politicians, whatever their culture or religion, can agree, if they wish to work together for the good of the human family and to practise those human virtues that sustain all sound political activity: justice, equality, mutual respect, sincerity, honesty, fidelity. In this regard, it may be helpful to recall the "Beatitudes of the Politician", proposed by Vietnamese Cardinal François-Xavier Nguyễn Văn Thuận, a faithful witness to the Gospel who died in 2002: "Blessed be the politician with a lofty sense and deep understanding of his role. Blessed be the politician who personally exemplifies credibility. Blessed be the politician who works for the common good and not his or her own interest. Blessed be the politician who remains consistent. Blessed be the politician who works for unity. Blessed be the politician who works to accomplish radical change. Blessed be the politician who is capable of listening.

Blessed be the politician who is without fear." Every election and re-election, and every stage of public life, is an opportunity to return to the original points of reference that inspire justice and law. One thing is certain: good politics is at the service of peace. It respects and promotes fundamental human rights, which are at the same time mutual obligations, enabling a bond of trust and gratitude to be forged between present and future generations.'