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

Our Lady of the Wayside, Broughderg St. Patrick's, Greencastle Fourth Sunday of Easter [Year A] (7th May, 2017)

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

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

Thought for Vocation Sunday: "Each of you has a personal vocation which He has given you for your own joy and sanctity." When a person is conquered by the fire of His gaze, no sacrifice seems too great to follow Him and give Him the best of ourselves. This is what the saints have always done, spreading the light of the Lord ... and transforming the world into a welcoming home for everyone." Pope Benedict XVI

Liturgy Schedule for the Fourth Week of Easter [Year A] (Sunday 7th May, 2017 - Sunday 14th May)

Saturday 6th May	St. Patrick's	6.00pm Vigil Mass
Sunday 7th May	St. Patrick's	9.00am Mass (Missa Pro Populo)
Fourth Sunday of Easter [Year A]	Our Lady of Wayside	11.00am Mass
Monday 8th May	St. Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> May	St. Patrick's	9.00am Mass
Wednesday 10th May	St. Patrick's	7.30pm Mass
Thursday 11th May	St. Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> May	St. Patrick's	7.30pm Mass for Students Doing Exams
Saturday 13th May	St. Patrick's	6.00pm Vigil Mass:
Our Lady of Fatima		Francis Myles McCullagh (10th Anniversary)
Sunday 14th May	St. Patrick's	9.00am Mass (Missa Pro Populo)
Fifth Sunday of Easter [Year A]	Our Lady of Wayside	11.00am Mass

Baptism: We congratulate the parents and wider family circle of Meara Maeve Scullion on the occasion of her receiving the Sacrament of Baptism on Saturday 29th April in Our Lady of the Wayside Church.

Remembering our Dead: We pray for the soul of Noelle Conway whose Month's Mind took place on Friday past and for Annie Donnelly (10th), Gareth McNamee (10th), Patrick McElhatton (26th), Sister Victor Keenan (13th) and Maureen Fox (9th) whose anniversaries occur at this time. We also pray for the repose of the souls of Harry Donaghy, Mary Ellen Daly and Bernard McLaughlin who are recently deceased and enrolled in the Derry Diocesan Society

### Marie Curie Cancer Care - Sponsored Walk in Memory of Celia O'Reilly:

Sunday 14th May at 6.00pm starting and ending at McKenna's Bar, Gortcastle.

Care and support through terminal illness • Sponsorship forms available in all local businesses

Mass for Students Doing Exams: Friday 12th May at 7.30pm in St Patrick's Church for all our students in school, university or Students and their families are especially invited to this special mass elsewhere who are doing exams at this time.

### Meeting of Overseas Returned Volunteers and Lay Missionaries

Tuesday 9th May at 7.30pm in Bishop McKeown's house. Buncrana Rd. Derry (next to St. Columb's College) Call / Text: +353 83842 2468 • Email: jim.farrell@amri.ie • All are welcome

Day of Prayer and Reflection Led by Briege O'Hare Sunday 7th May in the IOSAS Centre Starting at 11.00am and concluding at 3.00pm with Mass celebrated by Fr. Neal Carlin Cost: €25 / £22 (includes light lunch) • Tel: 07493 683 70 • Email: sarce@eircom.net • Still some places available

> L'Arche Meeting: Thursday 11th May at 7.00pm in Holywell Trust, 12 -14 Bishop Street **Tel:** Anne (028) 7126 6722 - Carmel (028) 7151 3763 • All are welcome

Tyrone AOH - Rosary to Mark 100th Anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima: Every night from Monday 1st May at 7.30pm at the beautiful Statue of Our Lady of Fatima at Mass Rock on Mullydoo Road near Greencastle Community Centre. For more information call Helen on 07585 950 724 or email helen.a.t@hotmail.com

Padre Pio Devotions: Wednesday 10th May in St. Patrick's Church immediately after 7.30pm Mass.

A first class relic of St. Pio of Pietrelcina will be present on the night

Holy Family Padre Pio Prayer Group - Monthly Meeting: Monday 8th May starting with Mass at 7.15pm in the Holy Family Church, Ballymagroarty, Derry. There will be a first class relic at the meeting • Everyone is welcome

Precious Life - Stormont Rosary for Life: Please join us in praying the Rosary for the protection of Ireland's unborn babies at Parliament Buildings, Stormont (meet at Massey Avenue Entrance - off Belmont Road) at 2.30pm on Saturday 13th May (100th anniversary of Feast of Our Lady of Fatima) beginning with a 9 Day Novena of Rosaries on Friday 5th May.

For more info call Rosary Crusade for Ireland on (028) 9027 8484 or email info@preciouslife.com

Acts of the Apostles 6:1-7 • Psalm 32:1-2, 4-5, 18-19, R/ v 22 • 1 Peter 2:4-9 Next Week's Readings: John 14:1-12 • Lectionary 1:511

Sunday [Year A] • Weekday [Year 1]

6.00pm Saturday Vigil	Offertory Gift Rota	9.00am Sunday Morning
Saturday 6th May	Fourth Sunday	Sunday 7th May
The family of Caillan McDonald	of Easter	The family of Cara Brogan
Saturday 13th May	Fifth Sunday	Sunday 14th May
The family of Vanessa Chojek	of Easter	The family of Ronan Coyle

If you cannot attend please ensure that you have arranged with another family for the gifts to be presented We need new volunteers in every aspect of life

COLLECTIONS Weekly: £1,020 • Trócaire: £5,095				
Little Way Novena in St. Eugene's Cathedral – To Live Out of Love is to Banish All Fear:				
7.30pm Mass with Sacrament of the Sick				
6.00pm Time of Prayer and Devotions (Bishop Donal McKeown will speak)				
6.30am and 10.00am Novena Masses • 7.30pm Evening Service with guest speakers				
Seán Boylan, Jon Sweeney, Adi Roche, Archdeacon Robert Millar and Sister Vinedha				
Relic of St Thérèse will be available for veneration				
Confessions will be available after all 6.30am Masses and 7.30pm Evening Services				
10.00am Mass offered for those who have died				
3.00pm Closing of Novena				

Three Patrons Parish - Come and join us to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Fatima Apparitions

Every 13th of the month from May to October with the exception of 19th August) in St. Brigid's, Carnhill Derry beginning on Saturday 13th May with Vigil Mass at 6.00pm followed by Candlelight Rosary

> Procession and Eucharistic Adoration until Midnight with Rosary every hour Celebrant: Most Rev. Donal Mc Keown • All are welcome

**DVD Presentation and Talk – The Message of Fatima** Given by Lida Bulf (Consecrated Life) • All are welcome Tuesday 23rd and Tuesday 30th May at 7.00pm in St. Brigid's Carnhill, Derry

Loreto Convent Grammar School - Annual Past Pupils' Reunion: Saturday 3rd June at 1.00pm in the Silver Birch Hotel, Omagh. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet old school friends, so come along and bring some former classmates with you. Booking is essential. For more info call Joan on 07934 377 699. Briege on (028) 8076 0667 or Carmel on 00353 8720 70415

Children in Crossfire - Ben Nevis Climb: Friday 23rd to Sunday 25th June flying from Derry, Places are limited Tel: (028) 7126 9898 • Email: events@childrenincrossfire.org • Web: childrenincrossfire.org

Blood Donation Session in Greencastle: Returns Monday 12th June as a result of the fantastic turnout at the first session. We would encourage as many people to come along.

Rouskey Community Fundraising Event - May Ball (dress informal): Saturday 13th May at 8.00pm sharp in Shepherd Rest. Music by Five Star Country Band. £25 per person includes 3 course meal. Tickets will be available in the centre during class times, from committee members, local shops / venues and after mass each Sunday (30th April and 7th May). Dance only from 10.30pm. £8 per person and £15 per couple. Call Bridie on 07591 047 556 / to register for classes call 07847 459 428

Sheena on (028) 8164 8186 for hire of equipment and booking of Rouskey Community Centre Clare Ann by Txt/WhatsApp 07798941452 or Email: rouskeycommunity@yahoo.com

### The Net - May Edition: Now on sale, with coverage including:

Cappagh youth 'Let it Shine' . Maghera pupils share Romania experience . Urney and Castlefinn youth concert Waterside JPII Youth Mass • Desertegney youth lead Urris hills Memorial Service • Youth Station Mass in Gortin Bellaghy teenagers explore faith issues • Templemore children enjoy 'Prayer and Paint' Coleraine youth present Sorrowful Mysteries

Powerful Passion performances in Kilrea, Errigal, Sion Mills, Draperstown, Claudy, and St. Eugene's Ardmore's Irish dancing altar server's success • Claudy Girl Guides Mass • JPII youth at Knock Exploring Youcat in Waterside • Long Tower Palm Procession • Maghera SMA priest writes - 'The future is Africa' Coleraine fundraiser for Africa • Culmore Lenten Journey • Steelstown tribute to Sacristan Noreen Killygordon parishioners enjoy retreat • Swatragh Big Breakfast • Waterside reflection for Eucharistic Ministers Killyclogher faith story • Glenullin GAC Mass • Ardmore Big Breakfast and Easter hamper delights Newtownstewart's new cruet veil

Remembering the late Fr. Bernard Bryson of Maghera and Eglinton principal, Tony McLaughlin Inishowen Pastoral Councils enjoy inspirational evening • Derry legionaries host regional conference. Our Lady of Fatima statue visit to Cathedral and Killyclogher parishes • Ardmore 'Joy of Love' journey continues Pastoral Council book launch highlights energy within parishes • Perpetual Help feature. Children's Catechism Club • Diocesan Diary

For coverage of your parish or school faith activities send an email to editorthenet15@amail.com or call/text 07809 292 852

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

**Christians in Africa:** That Christians in Africa, in imitation of the Merciful Jesus, may give prophetic witness to reconciliation, justice, and peace.

Medjugorje Irish Centre Pilgrimages: Airport Transport and 7 nights B&B €279 – Call for flight info.

Tel: 01 443 4510 • Email: reservations@med-irishcentre.com

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

To speak with someone in confidence call our helpline on 0845 606 7 606

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

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: cillian.devlin@kindercare.co.uk • Website: kindercareni.co.uk

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

Irish Episcopal Council for Emigrants – Emigrant Information Pack: Contains practical information for intending Irish emigrants, such as visa requirements, advice on health insurance, gaining employment, accommodation and other information pertaining to each of the main receiving countries. It also provides information for Irish emigrants planning to return to Ireland after a period living abroad as well as other articles and information on the theme of emigration.

If interested in receiving a free copy(s) of this booklet please contact Teresa at the Derry Diocesan Office

Email: t.mcmenamin@derrydiocese.org • Tel: (028) 7126 2302 • Website: catholicbishops.ie/tag/emigrants

**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

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

**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

St. Michael's Apostolate of Prayer for Priests: The co-ordinators in the Derry Diocese wish to raise awareness of the Apostolate of Prayer for Priests and to invite people from across the diocese to join in this prayer initiative. The Apostolate prayer card offers us a special opportunity to spend ten minutes each day in pray for a priest.

The co-ordinators for the diocese and their contact details are: prayerforpriests.com

Rosemary Johnson 07810 387 825 - brendan\_rosemary@yahoo.co.uk • Ethna Hill 07528 249 838 - ethna776@vahoo.com

Siobhan Sweeney 07880 588 041 - siobhanswen1@yahoo.co.uk • Eamon Cassidy 077435 02165 - e\_cassidy@hotmail.com

Parish Liturgy for May, 2017	St. Patrick's (6.00pm Vigil Mass)	St. Patrick's (9.00am Mass)	Our Lady of the Wayside (11.00am Mass)
Readers	Mary Slane	Catriona McCullagh	Sean Clarke
Eucharistic Ministry	Brigid Keenan	Eugene McCullagh	Patricia Donnelly
Prayers of Intercession	Michaela Gillen	Rosemary McCullagh	Conan Maguire
Collectors	Patrick McElhatton	Peter Tracey	Sean McKenna
	Raymond Bradley	Leo Donnelly	Brian Gillen
Altar Society	Maria Morris and Kathleen Tracey		Anne McDermott Mary Bradley

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

Family Care Society – Interested in Adoption? We specialise in finding forever families for children aged 3 years old and upwards and for brothers and sisters. This year we have successfully placed more brothers and sisters together and half of them were over the age of 3. Many more children need forever families. Could you be their new family? We are also seeking families who would be interested in becoming concurrent carers for babies under 2 years old. If you want to talk to one of our specialist adoption practitioners contact.

Rachael (Belfast Office): (028) 9069 1133 • Julie or Brian (Derry Office): (028) 7136 8592

Email: email@familycaresociety.org • Website: familycaresociety.co.uk

### 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

**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

#### Seeing your life through the lens of the gospel – *John 10:1-10*:

John Byrne OSA (jpbyrneosa@gmail.com)

- 1. In the Middle East, it was the task of the shepherd to find water and pasture and to ensure safety. In your life who have been the people who nourished you and gave you security? For whom have you done this?
- 2. Important to the shepherd's ability to give security to the sheep is the fact that he was known and familiar to them. They recognised his voice. Does this resonate in any way with your experience?
- 3. We are familiar with the image of Jesus as the shepherd. The image of Jesus as the door (or gate) is not so familiar but is one that merits attention. Jesus presents himself as the door through which we pass and find life. What are the doors through which you have passed and found life: a situation, a place, a book, an experience, a person? For whom have you been a door to a richer life?

#### Musings – Touched and Transformed:

From Gospel Reflections for Sundays of Year A: Matthew by Donal Neary SJ Messenger Publications

Those who are drawn by God's voice and determined to follow Jesus soon discover within themselves an irrepressible desire to bring the Good News to their brothers and sisters through proclamation and the service of charity. All Christians are called to be missionaries of the Gospel! As disciples, we do not receive the gift of God's love for our personal consolation, nor are we called to promote ourselves, or a business concern. We are simply men and women touched and transformed by the joy of God's love, who cannot keep this experience just to ourselves. For 'the Gospel joy which enlivens the community of disciples is a missionary joy'.

Evangelii Gaudium (21)

#### The Deep End – The Good Shephard:

Triona Doherty, Athlone, Co. Roscommon (trionad@gmail.com)

'The Lord is my shepherd.' How often have we sung this Psalm or heard it read and repeated the response? Its words are so familiar that sometimes we might not even think about what we are saying or singing. But the image of Jesus as shepherd is worth reflecting on, especially on this Good Shepherd Sunday.

Four years ago on Holy Thursday, Pope Francis caused a bit of a stir when he urged bishops and priests to get to know their flocks, and to be like shepherds who 'smell of their sheep': 'This I ask you: be shepherds, with the "odour of the sheep", make it real, as shepherds among your flock.' The vivid image captured the imagination of many who heard it. But in evoking the metaphor of shepherd, Pope Francis was echoing the language of the Gospel extract we hear today, when Jesus describes himself as the good shepherd who knows his sheep.

Jesus tells us that sheep recognise the voice of their shepherd, and that is why they follow him. This kind of trust could only be gained by a shepherd who handles his sheep, feeds them, and protects them – to the extent that he smells like them. That's how well Jesus knows us, and it is because of how intimately he knows us, how much he has sacrificed for us, and how well he cares for us, that we are able to love and follow him in return.

### Life in the Spirit Seminars - An Introduction to a Life lived in the power of the Holy Spirit

Every Thursday from 20<sup>th</sup> April 7.30pm in St. Mary's Church, Killyclogher for 7 weeks "Let him who is thirsty come; let him who desires, take the water of life without price" Revelations 22:17 PLEASE PRAY FOR AN OUTPOURING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT ON OUR PEOPLE

## 10th Annual Award Ceremony for The Pope John Paul II Award Celebrations:

Rome Pilgrimage: [Group 1] Sunday 29th October to Thursday 2nd November [Group 2] Monday 30th October to Friday 3rd November (including an audience with Holy Father, Pope Francis)

God our Father, Saint John Paul II tells us to trust Christ;

To listen attentively to his teachings, To fix our eyes on his face, To persevere in listening to his Word, To allow him to focus our search and our aspirations and all our ideas and the desires of our heart.

Help us Father, to do this so that all the actions and decisions of our lives are done with Jesus who is our Saviour and friend for ever and ever. *Amen*Our Lady of Knock pray for us and for the young people in Ireland

#### DATES FOR THE DIARY IN 2017

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May at 11.00am Confirmation
Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July at 6.00pm in St. Patrick's Cemetery
Annual Service of Intercession for the Dead

Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> June at 12.00noon First Holy Communion Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July at 11.00am in Broughderg Cemeteries Annual Service of Intercession for the Dead St. Vincent de Paul Helpline: For those in need of assistance please call 07738 837 992

### Greencastle St. Patrick's GAC and Greencastle Community Association are working together to begin developing a shared Community Hub

This is essentially a 10-15 year plan to improve the facilities in our community for the benefit of our residents.

We now have eighteen groups who use the facilities at the community centre and our resources are stretched to accommodate everyone—we need more space.

An Caisleán Glas Community Hub will take the form of a 3-phase development with the first phase incorporating a new shared / educational space, a multi-purpose gym/spinning studio, an exhibition area and additional multi-purpose rooms.

To allow this development plan to proceed we need as many people as possible to complete our community questionnaire which will be available at the community centre through the various groups/classes, the shop and school.

The questionnaire will also be available online

Everyone who fully completes the guestionnaire is entered into a draw to win £50.

We would also like to invite people to come along to the club rooms to see the plans at 'design concept stage' and participate in a unique opportunity to influence this plan.

MA in Catholic School Leadership: Offered by the Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre working in partnership with St. Mary's College, Twickenham. The third cohort will begin Autumn. 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 who aspire to, or have an interest in, leadership roles within the Catholic School system.

For more information call the Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre on 004428 7126 4087 or email tferry@derrydiocese.org

**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

Family Care Society: We are presently seeking to recruit adoptive families for babies and young children.

For more information contact us via the following details (offices open weekdays from 9.00am to 1.00pm)

Tel: (028) 9069 1133 or (028) 7136 8592 • Email: email@familycaresociety.org • Website: familycaresociety.co.uk

**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

#### This Week's Calendar of Feasts and Saints:

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May – *Our Lady of Fátima* The title based on apparitions to three shepherd children at Fátima, Portugal, on the thirteenth day of six consecutive months in 1917, beginning on 13<sup>th</sup> May. The three children were Lúcia Santos and her cousins Jacinta and Francisco Marto.

Sunday 14th May – St. Matthias (Apostle) Like all apostles was chosen to become 'a witness to Christ's resurrection'. He seems to have spent a great deal of time working in Judea; then he travelled east to Cappadocia (now Turkey), where it is said that he was the vital instrument in bringing many pagans back to faith. He is said to have been martyred At Colchis on the Black Sea and his relics brought to Rome by St Helena.

[NOT CELEBRATED THIS YEAR]

2016 Parish Statistics				
Baptisms (18) First Holy Communions / Reconciliations (		Confirmations (21)		
7 Boys	10 Boys	10 Boys		
11 Girls	6 Girls	11 Girls		
Marriages (16)	Funerals (10)	Station Masses		
7 within parish 8 within parish		in October		
9 outside parish	2 outside parish	8		

Events The death of retired Bishop of Derry Most Rev. Dr. Edward Daly is announced on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> August Mass with Padre Pio Relic Celebrated in St Patrick's Church on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October

ACCORD – Facilitator Recruitment: A voluntary Catholic organisation that aims to promote a deeper understanding of Christian marriage and to offer people the means to safeguard and nourish their marriage and family relationships Professional training is provided - Certificate in Marriage Education (Special Purpose Award) Accredited by Pontifical University, St Patrick's College, Maynooth. 9 centres in N. Ireland and a regional office.

Tel: (028) 9023 3002 • Email: info@accordni.com • Web: accord-ni.co.uk • Closing date for applications: Monday 15th May

### Western Health and Social Care Trust – Information Evenings (all at 7.30pm)

Foster Carers needed urgently in the area

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May in Fir Trees Hotel, Strabane

• Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May in Roe Park Resort, Limavady

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> May in Silver Birches Hotel, Omagh

• Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May in Killyhevlin Hotel, Enniskillen

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May in Da Vincis Hotel, Derry

If you cannot attend an information evening but are interested in fostering or require some additional information call the Derry Office on (028) 7131 4244 or the Omagh Office on (028) 8283 5264

### Lough Derg 2017 - Upcoming Seasons

One Day Retreats Advance booking is essential 7th, 9th, 13th, 14th, 16th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 27th, 28th and 29th May

Three-Day Pilgrimage Pre-booking not required

Begins Thursday 1st June. You are invited to walk in the spiritual footsteps of your ancestors and be part of the unbroken link of Lough Derg as a place of continuous prayer for over 50 generations (1,500 years).

**Pilgrimage to Medugorje:** Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September Direct flights from Belfast, half board in the Leone Hotel and all tax and insurance £579 *Contact Maria on (028) 8164 8357 or 07768 395 038 for more details* 

Knock Shrine, Co. Mayo – All-Ireland Rosary Rally: Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> June
Main Celebrant: Bishop Brendan Kelly DD • Homilist: Fr. Thady Doyle
Also the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the death of Servant of God Fr. Patrick Peyton, the Rosary Priest