

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

Saint Patrick's Church  
Greencastle

Our Lady of the Wayside Church  
Broughderg

The Second Sunday of Lent. 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2009

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

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### Liturgy Schedule for the Second Week of Lent. 9<sup>th</sup> March – 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2009

Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> March Second Week of Lent	Saint Patrick's	8.00pm Mass followed by a Lenten Reflection – <i>Jesus Meets His Mother</i>
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> March Second Week of Lent	Saint Patrick's	7.30pm Stations of the Cross 8.00pm Mass
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> March Second Week of Lent	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> March Second Week of Lent	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> March Second Week of Lent	Saint Patrick's	7.30pm Stations of the Cross 8.00pm Mass: (Cecilia Woodhall – Month's Mind)
Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup> March Second Week of Lent Saturday Evening	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> March Third Sunday of Lent	Saint Patrick's Our Lady of the Wayside	6.00pm Vigil Mass for Sunday: (Fr. Patrick McCrea – 1 <sup>st</sup> Anniversary) 9:00am Mass: 'Misso Pro Populo' 11:00am Mass

### Confession Schedule

Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup> March	Saint Patrick's	5:30pm (before Vigil Mass)
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	Our Lady of the Wayside	10:30am (before Mass)

**Weekly Offerings:** Thank you for your generosity to last week's collection which amounted to **£1,040**. The annual collection for Clerical Education and Ongoing Formation will be taken up after Holy Communion on Saint Patrick's Day.

**Remembering Our Dead:** We pray this week for **Fr. Patrick McCrea** whose anniversary occurs at this time.

**Lenten Reflections:** Join with Guided Prayer leaders on the Mondays of Lent, straight after 8.00pm Mass in a 20 minute reflection. The theme this week is *Jesus Meets His Mother*.

**Keep Trócaire's Lenten Appeal 2009 before you for the next five weeks.**

**Pope John Paul II Awards:** Congratulations to **Aislinn McKenna, Broughderg** who received her award from Cardinal O'Brien (of Edinburgh) at the Millennium Forum in Derry last week.

**St. Gabriel's Retreat, The GRAAN, Enniskillen:** The Passionist Community extends a warm welcome to you for their *Novena of Hope* from Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March to Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March. Details at [www.thegrann.com](http://www.thegrann.com)

**Northern Ireland Hospice – Big Walk Week:** Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March – April, 2009.  
To find out more visit [www.nihospice.org](http://www.nihospice.org) or call (028) 9077 7123

**Carmelite Retreat Centre, Termonbacca, Derry:** Telephone (028) 7126 2512 during office hours only.

**Daily Marriage Tips:** It's natural to want to win an argument, but in marriage both partners often have a piece of the truth. Put them together rather than insisting that your way is best.

[www.foryourmarriage.org/marriage\\_tips.asp](http://www.foryourmarriage.org/marriage_tips.asp)

**Next Sunday's Readings:** Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 18; 1 Corinthians 1:22-25;  
John 2:13-25 (Lectionary I, page 251)

**Lotto Numbers:** 1, 18, 19, 23 (2 drawn – £25 each) **Next Jackpot:** £1,650

**Prayer Friends for the Confirmation Class:** Thank you for your continuing support.

**Parish Musicians:** An afternoon workshop for choirs of the Tyrone Deanery will be held from 2:00pm to 4:00pm on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March in St Patrick's Hall, Castlederg. Music to include pieces for Holy Week and Easter. Cost: £3 per person. To book please ring (028) 8166 1475 or (028) 7135 1233.

### GREENCASCADE YOUTH CLUB – Parent Rota

Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	6.30pm – 8.00pm	Gerard / Muriel McGuigan (P4 and P5)
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	8.00pm – 9.30pm	Tony / Geraldine Wilkinson (Years 8, 9, 10)
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> March	6.30pm – 8.00pm	Raymond / Louise Coyle (P6 and P7)

### Seeing your life through the lens of the gospels – Mark 9: 2-10:

1. The Transfiguration was one of those special spiritual experiences that are well nigh impossible to describe in words. Jesus had a new and deeper insight into his relationship with his heavenly Father, one that would sustain him through what lay ahead of him. Have there been moments when you have been more than usually aware of God's love for you. How has this sustained you in difficult times?
2. It can be both scary and wonderful to witness transformation in another, especially a person who is close. At times parents get a taste of this when a child's talent blossoms and is recognised by the child. We may also experience it when a dear friend recognises s/he is in a blind alley and gives up an addiction.
3. It is the nature of peak experiences that they do not last. We have to come down from the mountain. Yet the memory of such experiences can sustain us in the routine of daily living, and in difficult times. Recall your own special moments, those experiences that sustain you in difficult times.
4. The disciples did not understand what was happening and kept questioning what it meant. It was only a long time later, after Jesus had risen, that they would understand. Have there been things that you understood only after a long period of time? Perhaps things have happened which you do not yet understand. How do you maintain trust in God in the face of unanswered questions?

*John Byrne OSA ([john@orlagh.ie](mailto:john@orlagh.ie))*

### Questions people ask:

Q. What is Padre Pio's Bread? Somebody offered it to me, saying that it would bring me good luck, but refusing it would bring bad luck.

A. This crazy nonsense is the latest form of chain letters, playing on people's fears and gullibility. Instead of a letter, a dough mixture is passed on to three people, with detailed instructions about how to nurture the dough for nine days as it rises and expands. Then on the tenth day it is cut into four pieces, one to be cooked and eaten, and three parts to be passed on to others. The instructions say that it came from the Vatican! More likely it was started by somebody who wanted to discredit true religion!

*Fr Silvester O'Flynn OFM Cap ([silvesteroflynn@gmail.com](mailto:silvesteroflynn@gmail.com))*

### The Deep End – The Story's the Thing:

If there's one thing you shouldn't do after listening to today's First Reading from Genesis it's to ask, 'How could God possibly want Abraham to murder his son?' He didn't.

It's a story. It carries the word of God that tells us some important truths. First, God doesn't make mistakes in those he picks for special missions. Second, God's plan for his creation cannot be thwarted even when the odds seem stacked against it. Third, freedom is not to be feared but welcomed when seasoned by loving faithfulness to God's will. Fourth, Abraham – and other people too – can be genuinely high-minded, honestly self-sacrificing and totally obedient to God. This, in sharp contrast to what the media and the entertainment industry often throw at us as they portray humans as violent, brutish, out of control.

What more effective way to convey those good things than by storytelling! Journalists didn't write scripture. Those who did were both creative and inspired. We'll miss that if we allow the sizzle to steal the steak. The sizzle is Abraham's knife poised to plunge into his son's young heart at God's command. The steak is the message that God knows what he's doing. He's not whimsical. He's totally in command, and his commands are always for the good.

We, moderns, need such ancient stories to capture our imagination, and inspire our spirit. God's word is creative in its approach to us. Let our response to it be creative too. Let us turn the prose of our daily plodding into the poetry of faith-filled flight.

*Fr. Tom Cahill SVD, Divine Word Missionaries, Donamon, Co Roscommon ([tomcee@eircom.net](mailto:tomcee@eircom.net))*