



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

St. Patrick's, Greencastle      Our Lady of the Wayside, Broughderg

**Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time [Year A] (9<sup>th</sup> February, 2014)**

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

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Liturgy Schedule for the Fifth Week in Ordinary Time [Year A] (10 <sup>th</sup> February, 2014 – 16 <sup>th</sup> February, 2014)			
<b>Saturday Evening (8<sup>th</sup> February)</b>		St. Patrick's	<b>5.30pm</b> Confessions <b>6:00pm</b> Vigil Mass
<b>Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> February</b> Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time [Year A]		St. Patrick's Our Lady of the Wayside	<b>9.00am</b> Mass (Missa Pro Populo) <b>10.30am</b> Confessions <b>11.00am</b> Mass
<b>Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February</b> St. Scholastica (virgin)		St. Patrick's	<b>10.00am</b> Mass
<b>Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February</b> Our Lady of Lourdes World Day of the Sick		St. Patrick's Our Lady of Lourdes PS	<b>10.00am</b> Mass: Derry Diocesan Society <b>10.30am</b> Special Assembly
<b>Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February</b> Fifth Week in Ordinary Time		St. Patrick's	<b>10.00am</b> Mass
<b>Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February</b> Fifth Week in Ordinary Time		St. Patrick's	<b>10.00am</b> Mass
<b>Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February</b> St. Cyril (monk) and St. Methodius (bishop) (both patrons of Europe)		St. Patrick's	<b>8.00pm</b> Mass
<b>Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> February</b> Fifth Week in Ordinary Time		St. Patrick's	<b>10.00am</b> Mass
<b>Saturday Evening (15<sup>th</sup> February)</b>		St. Patrick's	<b>5.30pm</b> Confessions <b>6:00pm</b> Vigil Mass: Jim McLaughlin (6 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary) Noel McLaughlin (13 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary)
<b>Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> February</b> Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time [Year A]		St. Patrick's Our Lady of the Wayside	<b>9.00am</b> Mass (Missa Pro Populo) <b>10.30am</b> Confessions <b>11.00am</b> Mass
<b>Weekly Offerings:</b> Thank you for your generosity to last week's collection which amounted to <b>£830</b> .			
<b>World Day of the Sick (Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February):</b> In 1992 Pope John Paul II instituted World Day of the Sick to be held each year on the commemoration of Our Lady of Lourdes... 'whose shrine at the foot of the Pyrenees has become a temple of human suffering, we approach – as she did on Calvary, where the cross of her son rose up – the crosses of pain and solitude of so many brothers and sisters to bring them comfort, to share their suffering and present it to the Lord of Life, in spiritual communion with the whole Church.' May the Blessed Virgin, 'Health of the Sick' and 'Mother of the Living' be our support and our hope and, through the celebration of the Day of the Sick increase our sensitivity and dedication to those being tested along with the trusting expectation of the luminous day of our salvation, when every tear will be dried forever. May it be granted to us to enjoy the first fruits of that day from now on in the superabundant joy – though in the midst of all tribulations (2Cor7:4) promised by Christ which no one can take from us. <i>Pope John Paul II message for the first World Day of the Sick</i>			
<b>St. Joseph's Church, Galliagh, Derry – Annual Diocesan Mass for those with Special Needs:</b> Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup> April at 3.00pm. If you have a child who wishes to receive the Sacraments of Confirmation or First Holy Communion at this Mass please contact the Catechetical Centre on (028) 7126 4087 or email dccc@derrydiocese.org.			
<b>NIAPA Farmers – AGM:</b> Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> February at 8.00pm in the Milestone Centre, Carrickmore. <i>The topic will be CAP Reform</i>			
<b>Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage (1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> July, 2014):</b> £599. From 18 <sup>th</sup> January the Pilgrimage Office will be open at The Diocesan Pastoral Centre, 164 Bishop Street, Derry on Saturdays from 11.00am to 1.00pm. You can also contact the office by calling (028) 7126 0293 on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 11.00am and 1.00pm.			
<b>Naomh Pdraig Greencastle GAA – Club Membership and Registration:</b> Sat. 8 <sup>th</sup> and Sun. 9 <sup>th</sup> Feb. in club rooms after Mass.			
<b>Our Lady of Lourdes PS – Fund-Raising Cycle Event:</b> Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February. <i>Distances to suit all levels of ability and fitness</i>			
<b>Our Lady of Lourdes PS – Special Assembly:</b> Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> February at 10:30am in school to mark the feast day of Our Lady of Lourdes. <i>Please attend after Mass if you can</i>			
<b>Greencastle Youth Club Rota</b>	Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> February	P4 to P6 P7 to P10	Rosie Morris / Brian McDermott Martina Cullen / Sean McCann
<b>Next Sunday's Readings:</b> Ecclesiastes (Sir) 15:15-20; Psalm 118; 1 Corinthians 2:6-10; Matthew 5:17-37; Lectionary 1 (page 652) <b>Sunday Scripture Readings cycle [Year A] • Weekday Scripture Readings cycle [Year 2]</b>			
<b>Lotto Results:</b> C • I • K • L • Q (5 drawn with 3 letters, winning £10 each) <b>Next Jackpot:</b> £1,650			

6.00pm Saturday Vigil	Offertory Gifts Rota	9.00am Sunday Morning
<u>Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> February</u> The family of <b>Cara-Rose Brogan</b>	Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	<u>Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> February</u> The family of <b>Michelle O'Brien</b>
<u>Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> February *</u> The family of <b>Nicole Cahill</b>	Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time	<u>Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> February</u> The family of <b>Catherine O'Connor</b>
<u>Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February</u> The family of <b>Niamh Clarke</b>	Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time	<u>Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February</u> The family of <b>Tiarnan Teague</b>
As a wider parish community we thank these young people and their families for this valued task of leadership. <b>What can you volunteer to do in your parish?</b> Thanks to all who participates in the life and work of our parish faith-community. <i>*Do This In Memory Week 5      We need new volunteers in every aspect of life</i>		
<b>Youthlife – Growing through Change Residential Weekend:</b> Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> to Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February. Are you aged between 11 and 25 years old and have experienced loss or bereavement? This loss may be due to the death of a loved one or in relation to the separation or divorce of parents or for young people in the care system who are experiencing numerous losses in their life. This residential programme is designed to help young people work through the 5 stages of the grief process. <i>To find out more or get an application form please visit <a href="http://youthlife.org">youthlife.org</a> or call (028) 7137 7227</i>		
<b>Vocations Information Day:</b> Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup> March from 11.30am at The Parochial House, St. Eugene's Cathedral, Derry. The event takes the form of a series of reflections on the theme of Vocation, specifically Vocation to the Diocesan Priesthood.		
<b>Uncover YOUR Faith – 6 Weeks of Faith Development:</b> Starting Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> February from 4.30pm to 6.30pm. at The YARD Project, Columba House, 11 Queen St., Derry. For 14 to 18 year olds. Ask the questions you want and discuss topics in a place where you will be listened to and respected. <b>Tel:</b> (028) 7126 2407 <b>Mob:</b> 07510 931 490 <b>Facebook:</b> 'theyardproject'		
<b>Camowen Milestone Centre, Carrickmore – Jiving for Beginners with Chris Bradley:</b> Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> February from 8.00pm to 10.00pm. Back by public demand, 6 weeks, cost £20 for 6 nights payable on first night. Good fun, good workout <i>Any queries call Mary on 07789 067 231</i>		
<b>Family Prayer Book:</b> A new prayer book has been launched by The Council for Marriage and the Family of the Irish Bishops' Conference, in conjunction with Veritas. The Family Prayer Book is a collection of prayers and blessings for many different occasions in family life: it is suitable for personal prayer, for family prayer, for couples preparing for marriage, for couples starting out as new families, and for all who want to pray for marriage and family life. It may also be ideal as a gift. We are encouraged to purchase it as part of our commitment to, and our support for, marriage and family life. <b>Address:</b> Veritas, 20 Shipquay St., Derry <b>Tel:</b> (028) 7126 6888 <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:derryshop@veritas.ie">derryshop@veritas.ie</a>		
<b>Daytrip to St. Patrick's College, Maynooth:</b> The Seminarians of the Diocese warmly invite you to participate in a Day Trip to our National Seminary, St Patrick's College, Maynooth on Saturday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February for people from the Co. Tyrone Deanery: The trip will consist of a tour of the College, dinner in Pugin Hall and the celebration of Mass in the magnificent College Chapel. Cost, including travel is £25 / €30. <i>To reserve a place call Chris McDermott on (028) 8224 2092 or email Sean O'Donnell on <a href="mailto:sodmuff@hotmail.com">sodmuff@hotmail.com</a></i>		
<b>Seventh Annual Award Ceremony for The Pope John Paul II Award:</b> Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> February. Archbishop Charles J Brown, the Apostolic Nuncio to Ireland will present the awards. Due to the large numbers receiving the award, there will be two ceremonies: one at 5.00pm for the Derry City and Inishowen deaneries and one at 7.30pm for the County Derry and County Tyrone deaneries. Both ceremonies will take place in the Millennium Forum, Derry. <i>Contact the Catechetical Centre before Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February to inform us of the numbers of tickets you require</i>		
<b>Annual Pope John Paul II Award – Information Evening:</b> For parishes of the Tyrone Deanery on Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> March at 7:30pm in Omagh Pastoral Centre, 48 Brook Street, Omagh. Possible new contacts who help with the award scheme in Greencastle Parish are invited to attend. The meeting will also address some safeguarding points for U18s and parish volunteers		
<b>Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes Youth Group:</b> Are you aged between 16 and 18 and interested in travelling to Lourdes on Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> July? Join the Youth Group in Lourdes for a fun week filled with prayer, music, new experiences and the opportunity to meet new friends. The Youth Group will come together prior to Lourdes and fundraising will be possible at local level. Cost is £599 and includes flights, transfers, accommodation and all meals. <i>If interested please contact (028) 7126 0293 or 07714 882 955 before Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February for an application form or more details</i>		
<b>Derry Diocesan Society for Sick and Infirm Priests:</b> 1. Any person may become a member, sharing in all its privileges by paying at least £20. 2. Likewise, any person whomsoever may have a deceased relative or friend placed on the Register of Members of the Society, the deceased person thereby becoming a sharer in all the Masses and prayers offered for members. These Masses go on all the time. <b>Privileges of members: Deceased:</b> 1. A Mass every day in a parish in the Diocese ( <b>this will take in St. Patrick's Church, Greencastle on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February at 10.00am</b> ). 2. The prayers of every congregation in the Diocese on the first three Sundays of each quarter. <b>Living:</b> 1. Mass will be offered each month, as listed on the Church notice board. 2. When a living member dies the name is transferred to the list of deceased members without further payment.		
<b>St. Eugene's Cathedral, Derry – Time of Information, Prayer, Questioning and Reflection:</b> Is God calling you to serve as a priest in our Diocese? Join us on Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup> March at 11.00am. <i>Fr. Paul Farren</i> <b>Web:</b> <a href="http://derrydiocese.org">derrydiocese.org</a> <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:dccc@derrydiocese.org">dccc@derrydiocese.org</a> <b>Tel:</b> (028) 7126 4087		

**Message of Pope Francis for the 22<sup>nd</sup> World Day of the Sick  
Faith and Charity: "We Ought to Lay Down Our Lives for One Another" (1 Jn 3:16)**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

- On the occasion of the Twenty-second World Day of the Sick, whose theme this year is Faith and Charity: "We Ought to Lay Down Our Lives for One Another" (1 Jn 3:16), I turn in a special way to the sick and all those who provide them with assistance and care. The Church recognises in you, the sick, a special presence of the suffering Christ. It is true. At the side of – and indeed within – our suffering, is the suffering of Christ; he bears its burden with us and he reveals its meaning. When the Son of God mounted the cross, he destroyed the solitude of suffering and illuminated its darkness. We thus find ourselves before the mystery of God's love for us, which gives us hope and courage: hope, because in the plan of God's love even the night of pain yields to the light of Easter, and courage, which enables us to confront every hardship in his company, in union with him.
- The incarnate Son of God did not remove illness and suffering from human experience but by taking them upon himself he transformed them and gave them new meaning. New meaning because they no longer have the last word which, instead, is new and abundant life; transformed them, because in union with Christ they need no longer be negative but positive. Jesus is the way, and with his Spirit we can follow him. Just as the Father gave us the Son out of love, and the Son gave himself to us out of the same love, so we too can love others as God has loved us, giving our lives for one another. Faith in God becomes goodness, faith in the crucified Christ becomes the strength to love to the end, even our enemies. The proof of authentic faith in Christ is self-giving and the spreading of love for our neighbours, especially for those who do not merit it, for the suffering and for the marginalised.
- By virtue of Baptism and Confirmation we are called to conform ourselves to Christ, who is the Good Samaritan for all who suffer. "We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us – and we ought to lay down our lives for one another" (1 Jn 3:16). When we draw near with tender love to those in need of care, we bring hope and God's smile to the contradictions of the world. When generous devotion to others becomes the hallmark of our actions, we give way to the Heart of Christ and bask in its warmth, and thus contribute to the coming of God's Kingdom.
- To grow in tender love, and a respectful and sensitive charity, we have a sure Christian model to contemplate: Mary, the Mother of Jesus and our Mother, who is always attentive to the voice of God and the needs and troubles of her children. Mary, impelled by God's mercy which took flesh within her, selflessly hastened from Galilee to Judea to find and help her kinswoman Elizabeth. She interceded with her Son at the wedding feast of Cana when she saw that there was a shortage of wine. She bore in her heart, throughout the pilgrimage of her life, the words of the elderly Simeon who foretold that a sword would pierce her soul, and with persevering strength she stood at the foot of the cross of Jesus. She knows the way, and for this reason she is the Mother of all of the sick and suffering. To her we can turn with confidence and filial devotion, certain that she will help us, support us and not abandon us. She is the Mother of the crucified and risen Christ: she stands beside our crosses and she accompanies us on the journey towards the resurrection and the fullness of life.
- Saint John, the disciple who stood with Mary beneath the cross, brings us to the sources of faith and charity, to the heart of the God who "is love" (1 Jn 4:8,16). He reminds us that we cannot love God if we do not love our brothers and sisters. Those who stand with Mary beneath the cross learn to love as Jesus does. The cross is "the certainty of the faithful love which God has for us. A love so great that it enters into our sin and forgives it, enters into our suffering and gives us the strength to bear it. It is a love which enters into death to conquer it and to save us... the cross of Christ invites us also to allow ourselves to be smitten by his love, teaching us always to look upon others with mercy and tenderness, especially those who suffer, who are in need of help" (Way of the Cross with Young People, Rio de Janeiro, 26 July 2013).

I entrust this Twenty-second World Day of the Sick to the intercession of Mary. I ask her to help the sick to bear their sufferings in fellowship with Jesus Christ and to support all those who care for them. To all the ill, and to all the health-care workers and volunteers who assist them, I cordially impart my Apostolic Blessing.

From the Vatican (Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December)

FRANCIS

Parish Liturgy for February, 2014	St. Patrick's (6.00pm Vigil Mass)	St. Patrick's (9.00am Mass)	Our Lady of the Wayside (11.00am Mass)
<b>Readers</b>	Mary Slane	Caitriona McCullagh	Martina McBride
<b>Eucharistic Ministry</b>	Kathleen Bradley	Louise Coyle	Peter Noel McAleer
<b>Prayers of Intercession</b>	Seoirse Conway		
<b>Collectors</b>	Francis McLaughlin Gerry McCullagh	Michael Clarke	Francis Keenan Colm Beggs
<b>Altar Society</b>	Siobhan McKenna, Ciara McKenna and Caitriona McCullagh		Anne McDermott Josephine Clarke
New choir members will always be welcomed – contact Sinead			

**Pope Francis' Intentions for February (please remember these in your personal prayer)**

**Universal:** That the Church and society may respect the wisdom and experience of older people.

**For Evangelisation:** That priests, religious and lay people may work together with generosity for evangelisation.

**Derry Search Youth Group Retreat Weekend:** Search is a faith based programme designed to provide young people aged 15 – 19 with a dynamic and life changing experience of the Catholic faith. For you or any young person you know who may be struggling with life, with choices, the future, or just seeking direction, this weekend aims to help put things into perspective and provide the space you need to figure things out. The next Search Weekend will take place in Ard's Retreat Centre, Co Donegal, from Friday 14 – Sunday 16 Feb. 2014. Bus transport available from Derry. Cost: £40 (includes transport, food and accommodation).

**Tel:** 07564 032 130 **Web:** derrysearchyouthgroup.org Find us on Facebook

**Broughderg Community Centre – Upcoming Classes:**

<b>Computers for Beginners</b>	Are you new to the Internet? This class will guide you through the basics, at a pace to suit you. Starting Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> February from 8.00pm to 9.30pm for 6 weeks. £15.
<b>Beaded Jewellery for Beginners</b> Carol Kinloch	Come along and learn the basic techniques to make a braided rope and then step up a level by adding beads to make a stunning bracelet. Starting Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> February from 10.00am to 12.30pm for 4 weeks. £10.
To register call the Broughderg Tourism Centre on (028) 8675 2004 and ask for Therese or Anne	

**Children in Crossfire – Barcelona Half Marathon:** Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February to Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February.

*Please contact Eileen at [events@childrenincrossfire.org](mailto:events@childrenincrossfire.org) or call (028) 7126 9898 / 07840 182 004*

**Knock Marriage Introduction Bureau:** The aim of the Bureau is to introduce people considering marriage to a suitable marriage partner. Over 800 marriages have taken place as a result of these introductions. If you are searching for a suitable partner, why not consider applying?

*For further information contact the Bureau at Knock, Co. Mayo on 00353 94937 5960 or visit our website at [knockmarriagebureau.com](http://knockmarriagebureau.com) and read about the workings of the Bureau*

**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 the Safeguarding Policy and Procedures, published on behalf of the **Diocesan Safeguarding Committee***

**ACCORD Marriage Preparation Courses 2014** (028)8224 2439 [accordomagh@btopenworld.com](mailto:accordomagh@btopenworld.com)  
 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> March • 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> April • 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> May • 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> June  
 Applications to Secretary, ACCORD, Mount St., Columba Pastoral Centre, 48, Brook Street, Omagh BT78 5HD  
 Courses are limited to 15 couples and must be completed at least 6 months before your wedding

**Greencastle Parish Pilgrimage Sunday to the Mass Rock in the Townland of Dorville (3<sup>rd</sup> August):** For 3.00pm. There are three penal Mass sites in the parish and in previous years we have made pilgrimage to Formil (2012) and Crouck (2013). Dorville will be a physically challenging experience as well as an opportunity to express our faith. *Please mark this date into your diary and volunteer your services to help prepare for it*  
**Lough Derg Pilgrimage Season (1<sup>st</sup> June to 13<sup>th</sup> August):** Check out the Lough Derg website for details.

**Prayer for the Diocese of Derry at this time** *Fr. Kieran Devlin P. Em (Badoney Lower, 2012)*  
 God our Father, we your people of the diocese of Derry, turn to you in prayer, as our ancestors have done,  
 In good times and bad, since the days of Saint Columba and Saint Eugene, Saint Lurach and Saint Mura.  
 Although aware that we are unworthy of your grace, with confidence in your love we ask your help.  
 Support and care for our bishops in their retirement, give courage and vision to those  
 who are called on to administer the diocese at this time.  
 Grant your wisdom and discernment to those charged with the task of choosing your next bishop.  
 We ask you this in the name of Jesus, your Son, our Lord.  
**Mary Mother of the Church, pray for us, Saint Columba, pray for us, Saint Eugene, pray for us,  
 Saint Lurach pray for us, Saint Mura pray for us, all you saints of the diocese pray for us.**

**The Holy Family Padre Pio Prayer Group – Monthly Meeting:** Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March in the Holy Family church,  
 Ballymagroarty, Derry starting with Mass at 7.15pm. There will be two 1<sup>st</sup> class relics at the meeting.  
*Everyone is welcome*

**This Week's Calendar of Feasts and Saints:**  
**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February – St. Scholastica (virgin)** Sister of Saint Benedict. She spent her life as a consecrated virgin. Patron of convulsive children. Died in 543.  
**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February – Our Lady of Lourdes** On this day in 1858, Our Lady first appeared to the fourteen year-old Bernadette Soubirous. Later Bernadette was to learn that the mysterious lady was the Blessed Virgin and to hear from her lips, 'I am the Immaculate Conception'. In 1992 Pope John Paul II instituted the World Day of Prayer of the Sick to be held on the commemoration of Our Lady of Lourdes.  
**St. Gbognait** One of the best loved saints in west Cork but only traditions concerning her life survive. The main part of her life was spent in Ballyvaurney, Co. Cork, where there has always been a deep devotion to her, and which is a place of pilgrimage on this day and on Pentecost. Her gifts of caring for and curing the sick have been a significant part of her cult through the centuries. Happily her memorial coincides with the World Day for the Sick.  
**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February – St. Cyril (monk) [826-869] and St. Methodius (bishop) [815-885] (both Patrons of Europe)** Brothers from Thessalonica in Greece. They preached the gospel in Moravia using their own translation of the Scriptures and the liturgy in the local language. These translations into Slavonic were in an alphabet, now called Cyrillic, which they devised. They are honoured as apostles of the Slavic peoples and in 1980 Pope John Paul II declared them Patrons of Europe.

**Musings** *Salvador Ryan (St. Patrick's College, Maynooth)*  
 I will never forget the experience of visiting a young Orthodox couple in the city of Skopje, Macedonia, in the days leading up to Christmas 1999. Because they could not pay rent, Daniella and Jordan had been forced to live for several months with their small children and Jordan's elderly mother in a small tent on the side of the street. Winters are cold there and Daniella was expecting a fourth child. But now a local priest had found them a basement apartment. Upon delivery of the monthly food parcel, Daniella, pointing to the priest, remarked 'He is our Jesus Christ'.

**Institute of Irish Leadership, Pomeroy – Information Morning on Free Classes:** Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February at 11.00am. Held by Rutledge Recruitment and Training. *Contact 028 87 757800 [kathleenburnsiii@gmail.com](mailto:kathleenburnsiii@gmail.com)*

**Institute of Irish Leadership, Pomeroy – Attention Farmers:** Register now for 3 Free Farming events  
**BVD Talk Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> February • Farm Safety Awareness Events • Keeping Farm Records on Computer.**

**Pope's Message for Lent 2014 – An Invitation To Evangelical Poverty In Our Time:**  
*Vatican City (Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February) [VIS]*  
 "He became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich" is the title of the Holy Father's Message for Lent 2014. The title is drawn from the Second Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians in which the apostle encourages them to show their generosity by helping their brothers in Jerusalem, who were experiencing difficulties. In the document, dated 26 December, feast of St. Stephen protomartyr, the Pope explores the meaning of St. Paul's invitation to evangelical poverty in our times. The full text of the message is published below:  
 "Dear Brothers and Sisters,  
 As Lent draws near, I would like to offer some helpful thoughts on our path of conversion as individuals and as a community. These insights are inspired by the words of Saint Paul: 'For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich'. The Apostle was writing to the Christians of Corinth to encourage them to be generous in helping the faithful in Jerusalem who were in need. What do these words of Saint Paul mean for us Christians today? What does this invitation to poverty, a life of evangelical poverty, mean to us today?  
**Christ's Grace**  
 First of all, it shows us how God works. He does not reveal himself cloaked in worldly power and wealth but rather in weakness and poverty: 'though He was rich, yet for your sake he became poor ...'. Christ, the eternal Son of God, one with the Father in power and glory, chose to be poor; he came amongst us and drew near to each of us; he set aside his glory and emptied himself so that he could be like us in all things. God's becoming man is a great mystery! But the reason for all this is his love, a love which is grace, generosity, a desire to draw near, a love which does not hesitate to offer itself in sacrifice for the beloved. Charity, love, is sharing with the one we love in all things. Love makes us similar, it creates equality, it breaks down walls and eliminates distances. God did this with us. Indeed, Jesus 'worked with human hands, thought with a human mind, acted by human choice and loved with a human heart. Born of the Virgin Mary, he truly became one of us, like us in all things except sin'.  
 By making himself poor, Jesus did not seek poverty for its own sake but, as Saint Paul says 'that by his poverty you might become rich'. This is no mere play on words or a catch phrase. Rather, it sums up God's logic, the logic of love, the logic of the incarnation and the cross. God did not let our salvation drop down from heaven, like someone who gives alms from their abundance out of a sense of altruism and piety. Christ's love is different! When Jesus stepped into the waters of the Jordan and was baptised by John the Baptist, he did so not because he was in need of repentance, or conversion; he did it to be among people who need forgiveness, among us sinners, and to take upon himself the burden of our sins. In this way he chose to comfort us, to save us, to free us from our misery. It is striking that the Apostle states that we were set free, not by Christ's riches but by his poverty. Yet Saint Paul is well aware of the 'the unsearchable riches of Christ', that he is 'heir of all things'.  
 So what is this poverty by which Christ frees us and enriches us? It is his way of loving us, his way of being our neighbour, just as the Good Samaritan was neighbour to the man left half dead by the side of the road. What gives us true freedom, true salvation and true happiness is the compassion, tenderness and solidarity of his love. Christ's poverty which enriches us is his taking flesh and bearing our weaknesses and sins as an expression of God's infinite mercy to us. Christ's poverty is the greatest treasure of all: Jesus wealth is that of his boundless confidence in God the Father, his constant trust, his desire always and only to do the Father's will and give glory to him. Jesus is rich in the same way as a child who feels loved and who loves its parents, without doubting their love and tenderness for an instant. Jesus' wealth lies in his being the Son; his unique relationship with the Father is the sovereign prerogative of this Messiah who is poor. When Jesus asks us to take up his 'yoke which is easy', he asks us to be enriched by his 'poverty which is rich' and his 'richness which is poor', to share his filial and fraternal Spirit, to become sons and daughters in the Son, brothers and sisters in the first-born brother.  
 It has been said that the only real regret lies in not being a saint (L. Bloy); we could also say that there is only one real kind of poverty: not living as children of God and brothers and sisters of Christ. →

## ← Our Witness

We might think that this 'way' of poverty was Jesus' way, whereas we who come after him can save the world with the right kind of human resources. This is not the case. In every time and place God continues to save mankind and the world through the poverty of Christ, who makes himself poor in the sacraments, in his word and in his Church, which is a people of the poor. God's wealth passes not through our wealth, but invariably and exclusively through our personal and communal poverty, enlivened by the Spirit of Christ.

In imitation of our Master, we Christians are called to confront the poverty of our brothers and sisters, to touch it, to make it our own and to take practical steps to alleviate it. Destitution is not the same as poverty: destitution is poverty without faith, without support, without hope. There are three types of destitution: material, moral and spiritual. Material destitution is what is normally called poverty, and affects those living in conditions opposed to human dignity: those who lack basic rights and needs such as food, water, hygiene, work and the opportunity to develop and grow culturally. In response to this destitution, the Church offers her help, her diakonia, in meeting these needs and binding these wounds which disfigure the face of humanity. In the poor and outcast we see Christ's face; by loving and helping the poor, we love and serve Christ. Our efforts are also directed to ending violations of human dignity, discrimination and abuse in the world, for these are so often the cause of destitution. When power, luxury and money become idols, they take priority over the need for a fair distribution of wealth. Our consciences thus need to be converted to justice, equality, simplicity and sharing.

No less a concern is moral destitution, which consists in slavery to vice and sin. How much pain is caused in families because one of their members – often a young person – is in thrall to alcohol, drugs, gambling or pornography! How many people no longer see meaning in life or prospects for the future, how many have lost hope! And how many are plunged into this destitution by unjust social conditions, by unemployment, which takes away their dignity as breadwinners, and by lack of equal access to education and health care. In such cases, moral destitution can be considered impending suicide. This type of destitution, which also causes financial ruin, is invariably linked to the spiritual destitution which we experience when we turn away from God and reject his love. If we think we don't need God who reaches out to us through Christ, because we believe we can make do on our own, we are headed for a fall. God alone can truly save and free us.

The Gospel is the real antidote to spiritual destitution: wherever we go, we are called as Christians to proclaim the liberating news that forgiveness for sins committed is possible, that God is greater than our sinfulness, that he freely loves us at all times and that we were made for communion and eternal life. The Lord asks us to be joyous heralds of this message of mercy and hope! It is thrilling to experience the joy of spreading this good news, sharing the treasure entrusted to us, consoling broken hearts and offering hope to our brothers and sisters experiencing darkness. It means following and imitating Jesus, who sought out the poor and sinners as a shepherd lovingly seeks his lost sheep. In union with Jesus, we can courageously open up new paths of evangelisation and human promotion.

Dear brothers and sisters, may this Lenten season find the whole Church ready to bear witness to all those who live in material, moral and spiritual destitution the Gospel message of the merciful love of God our Father, who is ready to embrace everyone in Christ. We can do this to the extent that we imitate Christ who became poor and enriched us by his poverty. Lent is a fitting time for self-denial; we would do well to ask ourselves what we can give up in order to help and enrich others by our own poverty. Let us not forget that real poverty hurts: no self-denial is real without this dimension of penance. I distrust a charity that costs nothing and does not hurt.

May the Holy Spirit, through whom we are 'as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything', sustain us in our resolutions and increase our concern and responsibility for human destitution, so that we can become merciful and act with mercy. In expressing this hope, I likewise pray that each individual member of the faithful and every Church community will undertake a fruitful Lenten journey. I ask all of you to pray for me. May the Lord bless you and Our Lady keep you safe”.

Instead of seeming to impose new obligations, they should appear as people who wish to share their joy, who point to a horizon of beauty and who invite others to a delicious banquet. It is not by proselytizing that the Church grows, but 'by attraction'.

*Pope Francis, Evangelii Gaudium, 15*

## Presentation of the Pope's Message for Lent – *Poverty and Destitution are Different:*

*Vatican City (Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February) [VIS]*

A press conference was held in the Holy See Press Office this morning to present the Holy Father's Message for Lent 2014. The speakers were Cardinal Robert Sarah, president of the Pontifical Council "Cor Unum", Msgr. Giampietro Dal Toso and Msgr. Segundo Tejado Munoz, respectively secretary and under-secretary of the same dicastery, and the couple Davide Dotta and Anna Zumbo, missionaries in Haiti.

Before the presentation, the president of Cor Unum announced that he will visit Haiti again in March, in order to open a school financed on behalf of the Pope as a sign of his closeness to the Haitian population, afflicted in 2010 by an earthquake which claimed more than 220,000 victims and affected a total of more than 3 million people. Cardinal Sarah then went on to explain that the text of this year's Message from the Pope for Lent focuses on poverty, and Christ's poverty in particular; a concept very dear to Pope Francis, who since the beginning of his pontificate has attempted to emphasise this dimension of Christian life. "Certainly, the Christian vision of poverty is not the same as that which is commonly held. Too often we consider poverty from a sociological perspective, and it is understood as a lack of material goods. Furthermore, the concept of a "poor Church for the poor" is often evoked as a sort of challenge to the Church, unfortunately also setting a Church of the poor, a good Church ... against a Church of preaching and truth, a Church dedicated to prayer and to the defence of doctrine and morals".

"The first point of reference for a Christian to understand poverty is indeed Christ, who made himself poor so that he could enrich us through his poverty. ... The choice of poverty by Christ suggests to us that there exists a positive dimension of poverty; this resonates throughout the Gospel, which proclaims that the poor are blessed. It is clear that in this dimension of poverty there is an aspect of despoliation and sacrifice. But this is possible because 'Jesus' wealth lies in his being the Son'. We cannot set our bourgeois consciences at rest, the Pope means, by denouncing material lack on the part of others or denouncing poverty as a system. ... The Lenten Message we are presenting here today makes an important distinction between poverty and destitution. It is not poverty, which is an evangelical attitude, but rather destitution that we wish to combat. The Holy Father, in his Message, lists three forms of destitution: material, moral and spiritual. The first 'affects those living in conditions opposed to human dignity'. Faced with this form of destitution, the Church offers her service, 'her diakonia, in meeting these needs and binding these wounds which disfigure the face of humanity'. Moral destitution consists in slavery to vice and sin. This form of destitution is also the cause of economic ruin, and is always linked to spiritual destitution, which occurs when we drift away from God and refuse His love".

"I believe that this broad view of poverty, of destitution, and as a consequence the help that the Church may offer humanity, help us also to arrive at a more complete vision of man and his needs, without falling in the trap of anthropological reductionism which claims to resolve all the problems of the human person simply by resolving the problems of physical and material well-being".

The president of Cor Unum recalled that in the Apostolic Exhortation "Evangelii Gaudium", Pope Francis writes that "Our preferential option for the poor must mainly translate into a privileged and preferential religious care". He affirmed that this concept is fundamental "so as not to transform the Church into that non-governmental organisation that Pope Francis spoke about in his first Holy Mass as Pontiff with the Cardinal Fathers. It would be a great pity if our gaze upon those in need failed to acknowledge the spiritual poverty that often lurks in the heart of man and pains him deeply, even though he may be in a condition of material comfort. ... But if we wish to fully grasp Pope Francis' Message, we must not consider it only in terms of its anthropological value. Man is by nature the son of God. This is his wealth! The great flaw of modern culture is that it has imagined mankind capable of being happy without God, thus denying that which is most profound in the human person: that is, his existential bond with the Father Who grants him life. ... Thus, it is a crime to deprive the poor of the presence of God, just as it is a crime to consider man and allow man to live as if God did not exist, to negate his being as a creation and therefore his fundamental belonging and affiliation with God. ... Therefore, work in development cannot be simply that of creating new needs, but rather taking a serious look at what the person truly is".



**Seeing your life through the lens of the gospels – Matthew 5:13-16:**
John Byrne OSA (john@orlagh.ie)

- Jesus uses the image of salt as something that makes food tasty. Without it food can be tasteless. Who are the people who give zest to your life and make it enjoyable? For whom have you done this? When have you been particularly aware of your potential in this regard?
- The second image is that of light. Who have been the people who have been a light for you, particularly in moments of darkness? For whom have you been a light? Recall these experiences and give thanks.
- The images of salt and light can also be applied to communities to which we belong, a family, a parish, or other group. Thinking of the groups of which you are a member, how can their potential be enhanced to enrich the lives of members and offer them a guiding light?

**Appeal on behalf of Family Care Society:** Family Care Society is a voluntary adoption agency with its roots in the Catholic Church and we provide an adoption service throughout all of Northern Ireland.  
A core part of our work is to place children with new adoptive families. These children are often from the care system and may have had a difficult start in life. We are experienced in finding families for these children but given the number of children being referred and their specific needs we are always looking for families to come forward. We would like to thank you for the support you have provided to date. It has proved to be a very successful way of finding adoptive families. Given however our urgent need presently to find families for more young children, we are again respectfully asking for your help.

**Adoption:** Family Care Society is presently seeking adoptive families who would be interested in parenting children aged between 2 to 6 years and need the love and attention of a caring and understanding family. Could this be you?  
**Tel:** (028) 9069 1133 [Belfast] // (028) 7136 8592 [Derry] • **Email:** email@familycaresociety.org • **Web:** familycaresociety.co.uk

**The Deep End – Fractured Presence:**
Triona Doherty, Athlone, Co. Roscommon (trionad@gmail.com)

Where would we be without technology? But there are downsides – I have been known to catch myself, for example, carrying out a task on my laptop, with the TV on the background, and of course my phone beside me alerting me to various things. Talk about zoned out.

t brings to mind a documentary I saw recently about teenagers’ use of social media. In it, a mother described her son’s interaction with her while he was also using his phone or laptop as ‘fractured presence’, though she admitted to being guilty of the same thing when on her own computer. Try talking to anyone who is texting or scrolling through Facebook as you’re speaking to them. At best you are getting about half of their full attention.

Our world is full of new ways of communicating. But what about allowing our own light to really shine for others? Jesus warns against hiding our light under a tub. We can have a tendency to hide behind our computer or smartphone screen. How real are our interactions with others online? And when we are spending time with family or friends, are we really present?

Patrick Kavanagh once wrote: ‘We have tested and tasted too much, lover – through a chink too wide there comes in no wonder’. Are we allowing ourselves the time and space to let the light of the world in, and to allow our own light to shine out? A new way to think about Jesus’ instruction about not hiding our light!

**Omagh Volunteering Centre:** Volunteering is a great way to meet new people, learn new skills and make a real difference within your local community. There are a wide range of volunteering opportunities currently available across the Omagh District area. Volunteer Befrienders, Coaches and Mentors are required by organisations including Mencap, Guide Dogs NI and Action on Hearing Loss, to enable them to deliver vital services for people with a learning or sensory disability. Organisations such as RNIB and NI Hospice need local volunteers to help set up local Support Groups, raise vital funds and awareness of their work in the Omagh area. Training and support is provided for all of the Volunteer roles.

**Tel (Michelle):** (078) 5444 6821 or (028) 8224 0772 **Email:** omatghvc2@yahoo.co.uk **Office:** First Floor of Community House

**Engaged Encounter – Rules for Arguing:** Couples who discover they have a disagreement are invited by Engaged Encounter to share their opinions in the following manner. The sentences following the rules are Jay Keenan’s comments from his perspective as an Engaged Encounter leader with his wife Suzanne.

<b>NO NAME CALLING</b>	This includes using affectionate names sarcastically
<b>NO THIRD PARTIES</b>	The argument is between the two of you
<b>NO PAST HISTORY</b>	If it’s already been settled, don’t bring it up again
<b>STICK TO THE SUBJECT</b>	Identify the real problem — don’t go to other issues
<b>NO CHEAP SHOTS</b>	Don’t use the other’s weakness to gain advantage; you may win the argument, but injure your relationship
<b>DON’T GO TO BED ANGRY</b>	Finish the argument or call a truce and agree on a time to continue
<b>MAINTAIN A SENSE OF HUMOUR</b>	Don’t take yourselves too seriously; laughter can be the best medicine
<b>HOLD HANDS WHILE ARGUING</b>	This helps to keep your focus where it belongs — on the person who means more to you than anyone in the world

**IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE DIARY IN 2014**

<b>Sacramental Celebrations</b>	<b>Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> March</b>	St. Patrick’s	<b>2.00pm</b> Sacrament of Confirmation
	Temperance Sunday		
	<b>Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March</b>	St. Patrick’s	<b>6.30pm</b> First Confession
	<b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> June</b>	St. Patrick’s	<b>11.00am</b> First Holy Communion
	Feast of the Ascension		

<b>Solemn Annual Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</b>	<b>Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May</b>	St. Patrick’s
	<b>Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> August</b>	Our Lady of the Wayside

<b>Derry Diocesan Society Masses in our Parish</b>	<b>Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February • Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April • Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> May</b>	St. Patrick’s
	<b>Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> July • Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September • Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> October</b>	

<b>Public Prayers for our Deceased (Cemetery Sunday) (5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> July)</b>	<b>Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> July</b>	St. Patrick’s	Directly after <b>6.00pm</b> Vigil Mass
	<b>Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> July</b>	Our Lady of Wayside St. Mary’s, Broughderg	Directly after <b>11.00am</b> Mass
	<b>Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> November</b>	St. Patrick’s	<b>6.00pm</b> Vigil Mass: Commemoration of All Souls (remembering all who died in 2013)

**‘Do This In Memory’** liturgies for candidates preparing for the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion

<b>Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February</b>	Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time	<b>6.00pm</b> Vigil Mass
<b>Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> March</b>	Third Sunday of Lent	<b>6.00pm</b> Vigil Mass
<b>Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Third Week of Lent	<b>6.30pm</b> First Confessions (Reconciliation)
<b>Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Palm Sunday	<b>6.00pm</b> Vigil Mass
<b>Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> May</b>	Third Sunday of Easter	<b>6.00pm</b> Vigil Mass
<b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> June</b>	Feast of the Ascension of the Lord	<b>11.00am</b> First Holy Communion
<b>Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> June</b>	Feast of Corpus Christi	<b>6.00pm</b> Vigil Mass