



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

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

First Sunday of Lent [Year A] (9th March, 2014)

The Parochial House, 164, Greencastle Road, Sheskinshule, Omagh, BT79 7RU
 Website: greencastleparish.com Tel: (028) 8164 8474 Email: greencastlepp@yahoo.com



Liturgy Schedule for the First Week of Lent [Year A] (10 th March, 2014 – 16 th March, 2014)			
Saturday Evening (8th March)	St. Patrick's	5.30pm Confessions 6:00pm Vigil Mass	
Sunday 9th March First Sunday of Lent [Year A]	St. Patrick's Our Lady of the Wayside	9.00am Mass (Missa Pro Populo) 10.30am Confessions 11.00am Mass: Peter Coyle (Month's Mind)	
Monday 10th March First Week of Lent	St. Patrick's	7.00am Mass 7.30pm Evening of music, mime and reflection presented by LCGS Omagh Witness to Faith Team	
Tuesday 11th March St. Aengus (Oengus) (bishop and abbot)	St. Patrick's	10.00am Mass	
Wednesday 12th March First Week of Lent	St. Patrick's	10.00am Mass	
Thursday 13th March First Week of Lent	St. Patrick's	10.00am Mass	
Friday 14th March First Week of Lent	St. Patrick's	7.30pm Stations of the Cross 8.00pm Mass: Margaret Morris (2 nd Anniversary) Willie Joe Morris (7 th Anniversary)	
Saturday 15th March First Week of Lent	St. Patrick's	10.00am Mass	
Saturday Evening (15th March)	St. Patrick's	5.30pm Confessions 6:00pm Vigil Mass: John Tuohey (6 th Anniversary)	
Sunday 16th March Second Sunday of Lent [Year A]	St. Patrick's Our Lady of the Wayside	9.00am Mass (Missa Pro Populo) 10.30am Confessions 11.00am Mass 8.00pm Vigil Mass for Feast of St. Patrick	
Weekly Offerings: Thank you for your generosity to last week's collection which amounted to £940 .			
Remembering Our Dead: We pray for Barney Conway and Margaret and Willie Joe Morris , whose anniversaries occur now.			
Thursday 13th March is the anniversary of the election in 2013 of Pope Francis as Supreme Pastor of the Church Please pray for the Holy Father in your personal and family prayers today			
Loreto Witness to Faith Team: All parishioners are invited to attend an evening of music, mime and reflection in St. Patrick's Church, Greencastle from 7.30pm to 8.10pm Monday 10 th March. It will be led by 19 Year 13 students from Loreto Grammar School, one of whom is a parishioner. Theme is Christian Joy and we promise to lift your heart and spirit in the Lenten Season.			
Safeguarding of Vulnerable Adults: In conjunction with the Western Health and Social Care Trust, the Diocese of Derry is raising awareness of the safeguarding of Vulnerable Adults. Information Cards will be distributed over the next couple of weeks to parishes in the Western Trust Area by the Safeguarding Office, Pastoral Centre, Bishop Street, Derry. They will also be available directly from the Safeguarding Office, opening hours are Monday – Wednesday, 1.30pm – 5.00pm. These cards may be useful for groups providing activities which vulnerable adults may attend. <i>Info will also be available on the Diocesan Website</i>			
Pope John Paul II Award Information Evening: For parishes of the Tyrone Deanery on Wednesday 12 th March at 7.30pm in the Omagh Pastoral Centre, 48 Brook Street, Omagh. The meeting will look at the details of the award with particular attention to the parish involvement strand. With increasing numbers signing up for the award a link person or parish coordinator to work with the JPPI students works very well. The meeting will address some safeguarding points for U18s and parish volunteers also. <i>If you feel it would be of benefit to the parish safeguarding rep they would be welcome to attend although this is not necessary</i>			
Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage (1st to 6th July): £599. The new Bishop of Derry, Bishop Donal McKeown, is delighted to be able to lead the Pilgrimage this year.			
Milestone Centre Carrickmore – Camowen Farmers Group Meeting: Monday 10 th March at 8.00pm. The speaker will be John Grant of Parklands Vets, Cookstown, and the topic will be New BVD tags. These new tags will become law later this year. <i>Come along and be informed on how this will affect your farm business</i>			
Next Sunday's Readings: Genesis 2:7-9; Psalm 50:3-6, 12-14 17 R/cdv3; Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11; Lectionary 1 (page 201) Sunday Scripture Readings cycle [Year A] • Weekday Scripture Readings cycle [Year 2]			
Lotto Results: H • R • T • U • Z (1 drawn with 3 letters, winning £50) Next Jackpot: £1,850			

6.00pm Saturday Vigil	Offertory Gifts Rota	9.00am Sunday Morning
<u>Saturday 8th March</u> The family of Ronan Coyle	First Sunday of Lent	<u>Sunday 9th March</u> The family of Caoimhe Warnock
<u>Saturday 15th March</u> The family of Neamh Donnelly	Second Sunday of Lent	<u>Sunday 16th March</u> The family of Meaghan Clarke

As a wider parish community we thank these young people and their families for this valued task of leadership

Online Lenten calendar: Launched by Archbishop Eamon Martin and can be accessed on the homepage of catholicbishops.ie. New information will be revealed each day of Lent by clicking on a virtual numerical door, and this will include:
 Daily Mass readings and reflections • Lenten tweets from Pope Francis and other Church sources
 Prayers and Pastoral Letters for Lent • Suggestions on observing Friday Penance during Lent
 Events taking place across Ireland during Lent • Details of Trócaire's Lenten Campaign for 2014
 Excerpts from Pope Francis' message for Lent and from Evangelii Gaudium • Explanations of Lent and Lenten practices
 "Lent is the most solemn season for the Catholic Church and it culminates in the high-point of our liturgical calendar: Easter Sunday. With the help of the word of God and the sacraments, Lent is a time to renew our journey of faith, both as individuals and as a community. With this in mind our new Lenten calendar is a resource to assist the faithful in our preparation for Easter."
 "For many years we have provided online resources to assist with our Lenten preparations, but this year we offer the faithful a new online calendar for this purpose. The calendar is designed for people of all ages as a user-friendly resource to help explain the significant season of Lent. The online calendar seeks to guide us as we prepare spiritually for the joy and hope which comes with the Easter season. During the season of Lent, I invite everyone to visit and avail of the information provided by our calendar."

Beyond the Great Lenten Facebook Fast – Some Ideas for Sacrifice This Season: *By Tom Hoopes*
 We are fast approaching Ash Wednesday, and it is time to start planning your Lenten fast. Lent is about recommitting to prayer, fasting so as to make room for God and almsgiving to relearn self-giving love — and for many of us, the biggest obstacle to prayer is social media, the biggest time-waster (and stressor) is our phone and computer, and the location of our frivolous, self-centered spending has moved online. So as so many Catholics gear up to turn off Facebook for Lent here are some more nuanced ideas for what to give up for Lent (as previously published at Catholic Vote).

- Moderation instead of fasting on Facebook**
 Every Lent sees a mass Catholic exodus from Facebook. I like this; I have done this. It may be just what you need to make your Lent more focused on God. But if I have learned anything in the spiritual life it is that it is harder to have a little cake than no cake, it is easier to control your environment than to control yourself ... and moderation can be as great a sacrifice as fasting. Instead of no Facebook time, why not a set Facebook time? Sunday afternoon? Saturday morning? Thursday evening? Then you might just form a new habit, instead of following a forty-day fast with a 320-day binge.
- Turn off your phone**
 I was struck by a Facebook status update from Brendan Vogt: "Leaving your phone at home on purpose when you hang out with someone is the new way to show them you care about them." For Lent, why not sacrifice the phone at key events: When you spend time with your children, in business meetings, with your date, with your spouse, and, heck, when you are waiting somewhere and in a position to meet new people?
- Use paper in church**
 There are some great apps that aid prayer and provide liturgical readings. I love them, use them frequently, and even take them to my Holy Hour. They are great, as long as they don't lead the user to start clicking on the e-mails and texts and Tweets and notifications that light up our phones. It may not even take that: I have found myself sitting in an adoration chapel idly surfing the Internet from habit before realizing how I was behaving in the presence of God and apologizing profusely. You're better off with the phone off, alone with a prayer book and the Blessed Sacrament, the Great App that accomplishes what it signifies. **Continued in online news sheet →**

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

Sculpture Classes at Broughderg: An extremely enjoyable course for everyone If anyone is interested in a new hobby Broughderg Area Development will be holding a short course in figurine making using Paverpol, a textile hardener that enables you to work with fabrics such as cotton, you can sculpt and these then can be displayed both in and outside your home. Thursday 20th March from 7.00pm to 9.00pm Classes are £15 for 3 weeks *Please call Terry or Anne on (028) 8675 2004 if interested*

Trócaire Lenten Campaign 2014 – Let Justice Flow Like a River (Amos 5:24): In Ireland the average Irish person uses 150 litres of clean water a day, which is pumped into their house. In Kenya the average person uses 24 litres of dirty, untreated water a day that's over a kilometre from their home. *Can you give something from your weekly budget to the Trócaire Box this week?*

Greencastle Youth Club Rota	Monday 10 th March	No Youth Club for P4 to P6 due to trip (bus leaving at 5.30pm) P7 to Y10 Fiona Teague / Kathleen Gillen (trip leaving hall at 7.00pm, Tuesday)
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Pioneer Association AGM: Tuesday 11th March at 7.00pm in St. Patrick's. *Young Pioneers are encouraged to attend*

Congratulations to Ciara Fox on winning the Scor County final on Sunday! We wish Ciara good luck in the Ulster semi-final in Dun Uladh on Friday 14th March. Congratulations to our quiz team The 4 Seans who also did us proud!

← *Continued from the printed news sheet*

4. Choose group entertainment

The evolution of isolating entertainment went something like this:

First, we sat connecting with each other over conversation on porches and at card tables. Then we stopped talking and winked at each other as we listened to the family radio. Then we were silent and unaware of each other in the glow of the television. Then we were sitting alone in separate rooms looking at individual laptop screens. Now we are alone all over town, with earbuds and screens of our own. Don't let this happen in your life! This Lent, ban Netflix unless a family or a group is watching; play music that everyone can agree on through good old fashioned speakers ... and reclaim togetherness!

5. Uproot your ear buds

The Rule of St. Benedict says every guest should be treated as Jesus Christ, and as Benedictine College's president likes to point out, "If you met Jesus Christ wouldn't you take your ear buds out?" Do so. Interact with other people this Lent — and wean yourself of the need to have a soundtrack accompanying your every move.

6. Give up video games

The Hoopeses have experimented with video games over the years with our nine children, and we have always disliked the results. The boys especially become obsessed, sullen, less helpful, and too focused on entertainment. We know families who have used Wii and other systems constructively to encourage children to interact with each other, but we decided it is better to encourage our children to find entertainment in the real world and in each other. We have been delighted by the results. Why not give up virtual reality for Lent? Real reality is a subtler pleasure ... but it has much to recommend it, once you reacquire the taste for it.

7. Unplug the Internet

Why not simply unplug the Internet during certain hours of each day? That way you will have to rediscover the world that exists outside your screen. (By the way, if you haven't done so yet, filter your Internet the first week of Lent. Web filters are not just for kids — with the proliferation of pornography, adults need extra help in making choices, too. You can find Internet content filters online in three basic kinds: Filtering software; hardware filters at your router; and Internet proxy filters from your provider. Look them up and get it done. We use the free OpenDNS.com filter software.)

8. Give up your extra technology for Lent

Here is a revolutionary idea: Maybe you should only have as much technology as your job, or state in life, demands. Why do teens need smart phones? Why not have a family laptop? Why not resist a little to the tendency to wire everybody into a different frequency? Use Lent as an experiment in simplicity. Our kids have minimal (old, cheap) iPods ... and if they want to hear music, they play it out loud so we can all share in the fun or the shame of it. We also try to follow the best practices for Internet responsibility: Everybody should use one centrally located charging station, where you can see everyone's machine from an hour before bedtime until an hour after wake time.

9. Read real books for Lent

Paper with words on it has changed lives before and can change yours. "The value of reading is best demonstrated by noting the ill effects of its absence in the lives of those who give themselves to idleness and fantasy," said one wise monk. "We need space to step back from issues to assess their significance more surely." Real reading is the opposite of Twitter ... it immerses us in ideas where we can take our time to sort out what is being said in the privacy of our thoughts.

10. Call people

So, to end all of this advice against technology, I would recommend a piece of technology: Your telephone. Disembodied voices aren't quite as intimate as one-on-one conversation, but they are a lot better than disembodied thumbs. Why not commit to three real-person-encounters each week in Lent. I plan to do so. Maybe on a land-line with an extra-long curly cord that stretches from the handset to the wall.

*Reprinted with permission from the Gregorian Institute at Benedictine College
Dr. Mulholland can be reached at emulholland@benedictine.edu*

Pilgrimage to Medjugorje (7th to 14th September): Half board and all taxes and insurance £499.

Spiritual Director is Fr. Mark Monaghan.

For more details call Maria on (028) 8164 8357

Parish Liturgy for March, 2014	St. Patrick's (6.00pm Vigil Mass)	St. Patrick's (9.00am Mass)	Our Lady of the Wayside (11.00am Mass)
Readers	Francis McDermott	Siobhan McKenna	Anne McKenna
Eucharistic Ministry	Mary Tracey	Eileen McKenna	Mary McCrory
Prayers of Intercession	Aidan Clarke	Peter Fox	Claire Coyle
Collectors	Mary Bradley Raymond Bradley	Peter Tracey Colm Keenan	Sean McKenna Tony Donnelly
Altar Society	Mary McNamee, Patta McDermott and Mary McCrory		Anne McDermott Martina McBride
New choir members will always be welcomed – contact Sinead			

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

Universal: That all cultures may respect the rights and dignity of women.

For Evangelisation: That many young people may accept the Lord's invitation to consecrate their lives to proclaiming the Gospel.

St. Joseph's Church, Galliagh, Derry – Annual Diocesan Mass for those with Special Needs:

Saturday 5th April at 3.00pm. If you have a child who wishes to receive the Sacraments of Confirmation or First Holy Communion at this Mass call the Catechetical Centre on (028) 7126 4087 / email ddcc@derrydiocese.org.

This Week's Calendar of Feasts and Saints:

Tuesday 11th March – St. Aengus (Oengus) (bishop and abbot) Was a monk in Clonenagh, Co. Laois, who came to the monastery at Tallaght at the end of the eighth century during the abbacy of Maelruain to spend a period under his direction. He was renowned for his devotion to both foreign and native saints and composed two martyrologies. He returned to Clonenagh where he became abbot and bishop. Died around 830.

Rural Support: Provides a listening and signposting service for farming and rural families through its helpline. Rural support can provide practical and emotional support with regards to a variety of issues including farm paperwork, financial concerns, physical and mental health and general stress. The helpline is confidential and operated from 8.00am to 11.00pm seven days a week (voicemail and support options available at all other times). The helpline number is 0845 606 7607. Rural support is currently recruiting volunteers for various roles within the organisation. If you would be interested in volunteering with Rural Support you can visit ruralsupport.org.uk

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.

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 and read about the workings of the Bureau

ACCORD Marriage Preparation Courses 2014 (028)8224 2439 accordmough@btopenworld.com

4th and 5th April • 9th and 10th May • 6th and 7th 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

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***

Greencastle Parish Pilgrimage Sunday to the Mass Rock in the Townland of Dorville (3rd 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 (1st June to 13th August): Check out the Lough Derg website for details.

Seeing your life through the lens of the gospels – **Matthew 6:24-34:**

John Byrne OSA (john@orlagh.ie)

1. In today's Gospel Jesus is enticed to gratify his own needs, or to perform some spectacular act in public. He rejects the temptation because he chooses commitment to his mission and to dependence on his Father over any immediate gratification. We can all be tempted to go for some immediate satisfaction ... but is that where happiness lies? Have you found that sometimes there can be more contentment in saying 'no' for the sake of some long term goal? What are the goals, aims, values which inspire you in this way?
2. One way of looking at this Gospel is to say that Jesus went into the desert to face his demons. We all have demons we need to face – compulsions, fears, prejudices, anger and urges that lurk within. It is in facing our demons that we find a way to live a fuller life. Can you recall a time when you grew through facing a 'demon' in this way?

Musings

Salvador Ryan (St. Patrick's College, Maynooth)

There are two equally unhelpful approaches to recognising who we are and where we have come from. One emphasises that we are mere dust (and so should not 'get notions', a favourite Irish phrase!). Another, more recently in favour, is that we are nothing less than star-dust (which apparently constitutes about 93% of our mass!) and our potential is limitless. True humility (from the Latin humus, meaning 'earth') is more properly 'grounded' in reality. And yet, too often in the past we have denied our potential and that of others out of a false sense of humility, which really served no-one.

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 Stations Of The Cross – *The fourteen Stations of the Cross are as follows:*

- I Jesus is condemned to death: Leaving the house of Caiphas, where he had been blasphemed, and the house of Herod, where he had been mocked, Jesus is dragged before Pilate, his back torn with scourges, his head crowned with thorns; and he is condemned to a disgraceful death.
- II Jesus is made to carry his cross: A heavy cross is laid on the bruised shoulders of Jesus. He receives it with meekness: it is the instrument with which he is to redeem the world.
- III Jesus falls the first time: Bowed down under the weight of the cross, Jesus slowly sets forth on the way to Calvary amidst the mockeries and insults of the crowd. His agony in the garden has exhausted his body and he is sore from blows and wounds; his strength fails him and he falls to the ground under the weight of the cross.
- IV Jesus meets his Blessed Mother: Still burdened by his cross and wounded by his fall, Jesus proceeds on his way. He is met by his Mother. What a meeting that must have been! What a sword of anguish must have pierced her heart!
- V Simon of Cyrene is made to help Jesus carry his cross: As the strength of Jesus fails and he is unable to proceed, the soldiers seize Simon of Cyrene from the crowd and make him help Jesus. The virtue of that cross changed his cross and the compulsory task became a privilege and a joy.
- VI Veronica wipes the face of Jesus: As Jesus continues on the way and covered with the sweat of death, a woman moved by compassion, makes her way through the crowd and wipes his face with a towel. As a reward of her piety, the impression of his sacred countenance is miraculously imprinted upon the towel.
- VII Jesus falls the second time: The pain of the wounds and the loss of blood increasing with every step, again his strength fails him and Jesus falls to the ground a second time.
- VIII The women of Jerusalem weep for Jesus: At the sight of the sufferings of Jesus, some holy women in the crowd were so touched with sympathy that they openly bewailed and lamented him. Jesus, knowing the things that were to happen to Jerusalem because of its rejection of him, turned to them and said: "Daughters of Jerusalem, weep not for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children."
- IX Jesus falls the third time: Jesus had now almost arrived at the summit of Calvary, but before he reached the spot where he was to be crucified, his strength again fails him and falls the third time.
- X Jesus is stripped of his garments: Having finally arrived at the place of crucifixion they prepared to crucify him. His garments are removed from his bleeding body and he stands naked before the people, while the soldiers cast lots to see who shall keep his garment.
- XI Jesus is nailed to the cross: The cross is laid upon the ground and Jesus is stretched upon his bed of death. At one and the same time he offers his bruised body to his heavenly Father of behalf of all peoples, and to his executioners to be nailed by them to the wood.
- XII Jesus dies on the cross: For three hours Jesus hung upon the cross, and in the midst of his sufferings he has forgiven those who condemned him, pardoned the good thief, and committed his Mother and the beloved disciple to each other's care. All is now consummated, and, bowing his head, he breathes his last.
- XIII Jesus is taken down from the cross: The crowds have left Calvary and none remain except the beloved disciple and some holy women who support Jesus' blessed Mother. Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus take down the lifeless body of Jesus and place it in his Mother's arms.
- XIV Jesus is laid in the Sepulchre: The body of her Son is taken from his Mother and laid in the tomb belonging to Joseph of Arimathea. The tomb is closed and there the corpse remains until its glorious resurrection.

The traditional way of praying the Stations of the Cross in the church is to walk from station to station.

At each station one genuflects or bows and recites certain prayers which include an 'Our Father,' 'Hail Mary' and 'Glory Be to the Father.' People also pray the Stations at home using the same prayers and meditating for a moment on each station.

The Deep End – *Thirst for Wilderness:*
Jane Mellett (janemellett@yahoo.com)

Our first stop on this Lenten journey is the ‘wilderness’. Why? We need to remove ourselves from our hectic lives in order to BE STILL, to STOP, to BREATHE. It’s a bit like a stock take. What’s here? What’s here that shouldn’t be? What’s missing? And so we journey today with Jesus into the ‘wilderness’. We should not be afraid of this. It is a ‘Spirit led’ wilderness; God is in control here. Lent calls each of us to transform our lives and our relationships with those we love and cherish; our relationship with the planet; with the global community; our relationship with God.

This Lent we are asked to think especially about water. How we use water; what we waste; how we can live in solidarity with those who have no access to clean water. This is an urgent call. The wars of the future will be fought over water and it is hard for us to imagine. This coming week, as we journey more deeply into the wilderness, focus on how you use water. How many times a day? How much? What is wasted? What is shared? What do you use water for? Where water is concerned how can you serve God more fully? (www.taptips.ie)

Lent has begun! We won’t automatically wake up on Easter morning transformed. But we are building, transforming; working in solidarity with our sisters and brothers who thirst for justice in so many parts of the world.

Engaged Encounter – <i>Rules for Arguing:</i> 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.	
NO NAME CALLING	This includes using affectionate names sarcastically
NO THIRD PARTIES	The argument is between the two of you
NO PAST HISTORY	If it’s already been settled, don’t bring it up again
STICK TO THE SUBJECT	Identify the real problem — don’t go to other issues
NO CHEAP SHOTS	Don’t use the other’s weakness to gain advantage; you may win the argument, but injure your relationship
DON’T GO TO BED ANGRY	Finish the argument or call a truce and agree on a time to continue
MAINTAIN A SENSE OF HUMOUR	Don’t take yourselves too seriously; laughter can be the best medicine
HOLD HANDS WHILE ARGUING	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			
Sacramental Celebrations	Friday 28 th March	St. Patrick’s	6.30pm First Confession
	Sunday 1 st June Feast of the Ascension	St. Patrick’s	11.00am First Holy Communion
Solemn Annual Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Sunday 11 th May	St. Patrick’s	
	Sunday 24 th August	Our Lady of the Wayside	
Derry Diocesan Society Masses in our Parish	Tuesday 8 th April • Thursday 29 th May Saturday 19 th July • Monday 8 th September • Wednesday 29 th October		
Public Prayers for our Deceased (Cemetery Sunday) (5 th and 6 th July)	Saturday 5 th July	St. Patrick’s	Directly after 6.00pm Vigil Mass
	Sunday 6 th July	Our Lady of Wayside St. Mary’s, Broughderg	Directly after 11.00am Mass
	Saturday 1 st November	St. Patrick’s	6.00pm 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			
Saturday 22 nd March		Third Sunday of Lent	6.00pm Vigil Mass
Friday 28 th March		Third Week of Lent	6.30pm First Confessions (Reconciliation)
Saturday 12 th April		Palm Sunday	6.00pm Vigil Mass
Saturday 3 rd May		Third Sunday of Easter	6.00pm Vigil Mass
Sunday 1 st June		Feast of the Ascension of the Lord	11.00am First Holy Communion
Saturday 22 nd June		Feast of Corpus Christi	6.00pm Vigil Mass