

Parish of Greencastle, Co. Tyrone, Diocese of Derry

Saint Patrick's Church
Greencastle

Our Lady of the Wayside Church
Broughderg

The Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time. 9th August, 2009

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 Nineteenth Week in Ordinary Time. 10th August – 16th August, 2009

Monday 10th August St. Lawrence, deacon and martyr	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Tuesday 11th August St. Claire, virgin	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Wednesday 12th August Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Thursday 13th August Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Friday Evening 14th August	Our Lady of the Wayside	8.00pm Vigil Mass for the Feast of The Assumption of Bl. Virgin Mary
Saturday 15th August Feast of The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (a Holy Day of Obligation)	Saint Patrick's	11:00am Mass: 'Misso Pro Populo'
Saturday Evening	Saint Patrick's	6.00pm Vigil Mass for Sunday
Sunday 16th August Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Saint Patrick's	9:00am Mass: 'Misso Pro Populo'
	Our Lady of the Wayside	11:00am Mass

Confession Schedule

Friday 14th August	Our Lady of the Wayside	7:30pm (before Mass)
Saturday 15th August	Saint Patrick's	5:30pm (before Vigil Mass)
Sunday 16th August	Our Lady of the Wayside	10:30am (before Mass)

Weekly Offerings: Thank you for your generosity to last week's collection which amounted to **£1,190**.
The annual collection to support the work of the Sisters of Nazareth will be taken up on 15th August.
Use designated envelopes. Please support your parish by using your envelope even when you are on holiday or if for some reason you must attend Mass outside your parish – Thank you.
Envelopes received from visitors coming to Mass in Greencastle are promptly returned to those parishes.

Notes on The Preparation of the Gifts – An important part of Mass

73. At the beginning of the liturgy of the Eucharist the gifts, which will become Christ's Body and Blood, are brought to the altar. First, the altar, the Lord's table which is the centre of the whole liturgy of the Eucharist is prepared by placing on it the corporal, purificator, Missal, and chalice.
 The offerings are then brought forward. It is praiseworthy for the bread and wine to be presented by the faithful. They are then accepted at an appropriate place by the priest and carried to the altar. Even though the faithful no longer bring from their own possessions the bread and wine intended for the liturgy as in the past, nevertheless the rite of carrying up the offerings still retains its force and its spiritual significance. It is well also that money or other gifts for the poor or for the Church, brought by the faithful or collected in the church, should be received. These are to be put in a suitable place but away from the Eucharistic table.
74. The procession bringing the gifts is accompanied by the offertory chant which continues at least until the gifts have been placed on the altar. Singing may always accompany the rite at the offertory.
75. The bread and wine are placed on the altar by the priest to the accompaniment of the prescribed formulas. The priest may incense the gifts placed upon the altar and then incense the cross and the altar itself, so as to signify the Church's offering and prayer rising like incense in the sight of God. Next, the priest because of his sacred ministry, and the people, by reason of their baptismal dignity, may be incensed by the deacon or another minister.
76. The priest then washes his hands at the side of the altar, a rite that is an expression of his desire for interior purification.

General instruction of the Roman Missal

For those making life choices

ACCORD Marriage-Preparation Courses 2009-2010

16th and 17th October, 2009 15th and 16th January, 2010; 5th and 6th February, 2010
 13th and 14th November, 2009 5th and 6th March, 2010; 16th and 17th April, 2010
 4th and 5th December, 2009 14th and 15th May, 2010; 11th and 12th June, 2010

Applications to the Secretary, ACCORD, Mount St. Columba Pastoral Centre, 48, Brook Street, Omagh BT78 5HD Tel: (028) 8224 2439. Email: accordomagh@bopenworld.com

Courses are limited to 15 couples. Course should be completed at least six months before your wedding.

Monastic Experience: Weekend for Women – Carmelite Monastery, Delgany, Co. Wicklow: Single women interested in finding out more about **A Carmelite Monastic Vocation** are invited to join our life of prayer, liturgy and work for the weekend of **28th-30th August, 2009**. Preferred age 25-45. For more information visit our website: www.carmelitemonasterydelgany.ie. Email: contact@carmelitemonasterydelgany.ie. Write to Prioress, Carmelite Monastery, Delgany, Co. Wicklow.

Pilgrimages and Retreats

Lough Derg – Three Day Pilgrimage Season (29th May to 13th August 2009): This pilgrimage attracts people of all ages and walks of life, from different cultures and social backgrounds. Stepping outside their ordinary lives and routine, they leave behind many of the trappings of the modern world. Pilgrims will have begun their commitment by fasting from the previous midnight; they follow a set routine of prayers and actions, hallowed by centuries of practice, all the while fasting and walking barefooted. Pilgrims make nine 'Stations' during their time on the island. The Station is a mantra-type prayer; allowing pilgrims to get in touch with their real inner selves in a most authentic way. The challenging nature of the fasting vigil and Stations is complemented by excellent communal celebrations in the Basilica. Cost €50.

Ards Friary Retreat & Conference Centre, Creeslough. Co. Donegal:

Saturday 15th and Saturday 22nd	Association of Iconographers – Contemplation and Prayer
Saturday 12th and Sunday 13th	Carers Retreat (open to everyone)
Monday 21st and Thursday 24th	St. Padre Pio OFM Triduum
Saturday 29th	Gospel Concert and Workshops – Of interest to choirs and choir members (see poster on church notice boards)

Website: ardsfriary.ie **Tel:** 00353 7491 38909 **Email:** info@ardsfriary.ie

Carmelite Retreat Centre, Termonbacca, Derry: Tel: (028) 7126 2512 during office hours for details

For the attention of our young people

Clanmacnoise Youth Festival: 13th – 16th August. 'Know that the Loving God is with You' (James 3:10). For 16 to 35 years. Catholic Youth Festival – bring a sleeping bag. No cost – subscription by donation. Contact Youth 2000 Office on 00353 1675 3690. See posters on church notice boards.

Youthlife – Young People's Beginning Experience Residential: This is a structured programme designed to help young people work through the 'stages' of the grief process that can result from death, divorce or separation of their parents. The experience is open to young people from age 11 upwards. Contact Bridie or Pat at (028) 7137 7227 or email youthlife_be@hotmail.com. Web: youthlife.btik.com

Zipline Across the Lagan For 'Children in Crossfire': Children in Crossfire need 100 people on 19th September to zip 1,000 feet across the River Lagan. 140 feet up at 40mph, this is a truly thrilling and safe experience, a challenge for everyone. For more details and an application form please call (028) 7126 9898. Email: events@childrencrossfire.org

Help to contain the swine flu impact: Everyone can play their part, and simple measures such as regular hand-washing and using a tissue can go some way towards mitigating this pandemic's impact.

Irish News (18th July, 2009)

Next Sunday's Readings: Proverbs 9:1-6; Psalm 33; Ephesians 5:15-20; John 6:51-58
 Lectionary I, page 788

Lotto Numbers: 11, 20, 22, 23 (2 winners with 3 numbers – £25 each) **Next Jackpot:** £1,200

This Week's Calendar of Saints

Monday 10th – St. Lawrence, deacon and martyr, died 258 is seen as the cheerful giver since he was one of the seven deacons of the Roman Church in charge of the material needs of the faithful. Gifted with a sense of humour, he met his death cheerfully on a gridiron. From earliest times seen not only as a patron saint of the poor, but also of cooks.

Tuesday 11th – St. Clare, virgin. Clare was born in Assisi in 1193 and died in 1253. She followed St. Francis in his life of poverty and was founder of the Poor Clares. She is the patron of television.

Wednesday 12th – St. Jane Frances de Chantal (1572-1641). At the age of twenty she married Baron de Chantal but after nine years she was left a widow with four children. Her friendship with St. Francis de Sales led to the foundation of the Congregation of the Visitation.

Thursday 13th – Ss. Pontian, pope, and Hippolytus, priest, both martyrs. Pontian became bishop of Rome in 230 but was exiled in Sardinia where he abdicated during persecution in 235. Hippolytus was a Roman priest. Both died of ill treatment and are honoured as martyrs.

Friday 14th – St Maximilian Kolbe, priest and martyr. Maximilian (1894-1941) was a Conventual Franciscan who worked in the apostolate of the press in Poland and Japan and died in Auschwitz.

Saturday 15th – THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY. This feast honours the fullness of blessedness that was Mary's destiny, the glorification of her immaculate soul and virginal body that completely conformed her to the risen Christ. Today is the patronal day of France, India, Malta and Paraguay.

The Deep End – Difficult Word:

Today we have another strange reading from Paul (Eph 4:30-5:2). He warns the Ephesians not 'to grieve the Holy Spirit of God' by bitterness, wrath, anger, wrangling, slander and malice. Instead they should be kind, tender-hearted and forgiving. That's fine.

But then he describes Christ's giving himself up for us, i.e., surrendering to death, as a 'fragrant offering and sacrifice to God'. I find it difficult to grasp that Paul should consider the Spirit upset by human malice yet the Father pleased by his Son's death in facing up to that malice. Why does malice aggrieve the Holy Spirit if not because of the damage it does to both victim and perpetrator? Why then does the suffering it inflicts on God's Son not aggrieve that Spirit too? At least, if it does, Paul doesn't say so.

Reading Paul one way gives the impression that the Father was pleased with both the suffering and the love that enabled Jesus to face his suffering and death. Reading him another way gives the impression, intended or not, that the Father wanted his Son to suffer on our behalf – hence the fragrance of the sacrifice. However, this seriously compromises God's compassionate nature as revealed in the parable of the prodigal son. Then reading Paul a third way gives the impression that the fragrance is in Paul's nostrils not the Father's. If true, this simplifies matters. It's Paul's view of Jesus' suffering and death, not God's.

Scripture at times can be really difficult to understand, and the word of God it contains difficult to hear.

Fr Tom Cahill SVD, Divine Word Missionaries, Donamon, Co Roscommon

Fr. Tom Cahill SVD, Divine Word Missionaries, Donamon, Co Roscommon (tomcee@eircom.net)

Seeing your life through the lens of the gospels – John 6: 41-51:

1. Faith is reasonable but we cannot reason our way into faith. We have to be 'drawn by the Father'. We have to be 'taught by God'. What opens your mind and heart to God's message?
2. One thing which closes our minds to what another is saying is when we label them disparagingly, as the Jews did to Jesus. Have you ever had the experience of being surprised by the wisdom of another when you laid aside your prejudices about her/him to listen to what s/he was saying?
3. 'No one has ever seen the Father except the one who is from God'. As Jesus put a human face on God and God's love, so God's love for us today is mediated through one another. How have other people been sacraments of God's love for you? For whom have you been that kind of a sacrament?
4. The way in which Jesus became a source of life for us was by giving himself. It is when we truly give ourselves that we can be life-giving to one another. If we do not give of ourselves, what do we have to offer? How have you discovered the importance of self-giving, in yourself or in others?

John Byrne OSA (john@ortagh.ie)

Questions people ask:

- Q. I did a weekend programme called the Enneagram which I found very helpful in understanding myself and others. But now somebody tells me it is against our religion as it comes from a non-Christian source.
- A. I also found the Enneagram very enlightening. The fact that it originated among Sufi (Islamic) mystics does not make it bad or dangerous. The Old Testament writers used pagan sources for their stories of creation and the flood. Jewish religious feasts were developed on the foundation of earlier pagan festivals. Similarly, Christians took the pagan celebration of mid-winter as the time to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Saint Patrick referred the pagan fire of Spring to the rising of Christ. God's presence is not confined to Christians!

Fr Silvester O'Flynn OFM Cap (silvesteroflynn@gmail.com)