

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

Saint Patrick's Church Our Lady of the Wayside Church
Greencastle Broughderg

The Second Sunday of Advent. 9th December, 2007

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

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Today the liturgy turns to John the Baptist, one of the primary figures of Advent. What an entrance John makes in today's Gospel. He appears, the Gospel attests, preaching fire and brimstone. He reminds us of the urgency of Advent and the radical transformation of our lives to which the season calls us. The Lord is coming. Let your repentance show in your lives. Our observance of Advent is meant, like our observance of every other liturgical season, to change us. It is meant to have an effect upon our lives and the way we live as followers of Christ, as members of the Church. When Christmas arrives, we should be changed – different from how we were when Advent began. This transformation is the essence of John the Baptist's preaching. *LTP Sourcebook 2008*

Mass and Confession Schedule for the Second Week of Advent

10th December – 16th December, 2007

Monday 10 th December Second Week of Advent	Saint Patrick's	10:00am Mass
Tuesday 11 th December St. Damasus I, pope	Saint Patrick's	10:00am Mass
Wednesday 12 th December Our Lady of Guadalupe	Saint Patrick's	10:00am Mass
Thursday 13 th December St. Lucy, virgin and martyr	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Friday 14 th December St. John of the Cross, priest	Saint Patrick's	8.00pm Mass
Saturday 15 th December Second Week of Advent	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass
	Saint Patrick's	6:00pm Vigil Mass for Sunday 'Do This In Memory of Me' First Holy Communion Program
Sunday 16 th December Third Sunday of Advent	Saint Patrick's Our Lady of the Wayside, Broughderg	9:00am Mass 'Misso Pro Populo' 11:00am Mass

Confession Schedule

Saturday 15 th December	Saint Patrick's	5:30pm (before Vigil Mass)
Sunday 16 th December	Our Lady of the Wayside, Broughderg	10:30am (before Mass)

Weekly Offerings: Thank you for your generosity to this week's collection which amounted to **£1,150.**

Remembering Our Dead: We pray this week for the following whose anniversaries occur at this time **Kathleen & James Duffy.**

'Do This In Memory of Me': Our First Holy Communion parish programme will continue at the Vigil Mass in Greencastle next weekend (Saturday 15th December). In preparation there will be a choir practice and a meeting for all involved on Thursday 13th December in the Church 7.30pm-8.00pm.

Next Sunday's Readings: Isaiah 35:1-6 / Ps.145 / James 5:7-10 / Matthew 11:2-11

Choir Practice for Christmas Masses on Tuesday 11th December in Greencastle Chapel from 8-9pm.

House Blessing: If you wish to have your home blessed please inform Fr. Hasson by sending your name, address and directions to The Parochial House.

Carmelite Retreat Centre, Termonbacca, Derry. Three Advent evening retreats in preparation for Christmas Mon/Tues/Wed/ Dec 10/11/12 (7.30-10.00pm). An opportunity to spend some time in quiet adoration, receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation and celebrate Mass. Also, **Advent Weekend Retreat** Friday 14th to Sunday 16th December. For further details and bookings telephone 028 7126 2512.

Saint Lucy is another great Advent saint. Some cultures honour her with processions, by baking special bread and by placing wreathes of lights on their daughters' heads. Those who do not already have a beautiful family tradition may want to place a stone on their dinner table (because Lucy remained firm in the face of torture and death), a candle (Lucia means light and she remained faithful to Christ who is the Light of the World), and a small mirror because her example of purity offers us the opportunity to examine our own consciences.

A Recipe for Saint Lucia's Braided Bread – Ingredients: 11tsp butter, 6 cups flour, 2/3 cup sugar, 3pkgs dry yeast or 1 & 2/3 oz fresh yeast, 2 cups milk, ½ tsp cardamom, 15 drops yellow food colour, ½ tsp salt, ½ cup raisins, 1 egg.

Directions: 1. grind cardamom with a little sugar with a mortar and pestle. Set aside. 2. In saucepan, melt butter, add milk, and heat to 130F (too hot to keep your finger in): add salt and cardamom. 3. In a large bowl, mix dry ingredients then gradually add the hot milk mixture. 4. Knead the dough. Place in a greased bowl, cover with a damp cloth and let rise (about 30 minutes). 5. Knead again. Divide the dough into 30 parts. Roll into traditional shapes, add raisin decoration and place on a greased baking sheet. Let rise (30 minutes). Brush with beaten egg. 6. Bake 5 minutes at 450F.

Note add ½ cup raisins to the dough if you like lots of raisins.

B.A.D.A. An Bruach Derg Community Centre – Upcoming Events: Sunday 9th December, Dancing to 'Silver Dollar' Party Night. Every Friday, Youth club 6.45pm to 8.00pm.

PLENARY INDULGENCE FOR THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF LOURDES: According to a decree made public today, Pope Benedict XVI will grant the faithful Plenary Indulgence for the occasion of the 150th anniversary of the apparition of the Blessed Virgin Mary at Lourdes under the usual conditions (sacramental Confession, Eucharistic communion and prayer in keeping with the intentions of the Holy Father), in the following way:

A) "If between 8th December, 2007 and 8th December, 2008 they visit, preferably in the order suggested: (1) the parish baptistery used for the Baptism of Bernadette, (2) the Soubirous family home, known as the 'cachot,' (3) the Grotto of Massabielle, (4) the chapel of the hospice where Bernadette received First Communion, and on each occasion they pause for an appropriate length of time in prayer and with pious meditations, concluding with the recital of the Our Father, the Profession of Faith, ... and the jubilee prayer or other Marian invocation." B) "If between 2nd February, 2008 ... and 11th February, 2008, Feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Lourdes and 150th anniversary of the apparition, they visit, in any church, grotto or decorous place, the blessed image of that same Virgin of Lourdes, solemnly exposed for public veneration, and before the image participate in a pious exercise of Marian devotion, or at least pause for an appropriate space of time in prayer and with pious meditations, concluding with the recital of the Our Father, the Profession of Faith, ... and the invocation of the Blessed Virgin Mary."

The decree concludes by recalling that faithful who "through sickness, old age or other legitimate reason are unable to leave their homes, may still obtain the Plenary Indulgence ... if, with the soul completely removed from attachment to any form of sin and with the intention of observing, as soon as they can, the usual three conditions, on the days February 2nd to 11th, 2008, in their hearts they spiritually visit the above-mentioned places and recite those prayers, trustingly offering to God, through Mary, the sickness and discomforts of their lives."

Lotto Numbers: 4, 9, 17, 19 (5 winners with 3 numbers – £10 each) **Next Jackpot:** £5950

Parish News Sheet: Items for inclusion should be forwarded to the Parochial House by the **Wednesday evening** prior to publication. **Please take news sheet home with you after Mass.**