



Parish of Greencastle, Co. Tyrone (Diocese of Derry)
St. Patrick's, Greencastle **Our Lady of the Wayside, Broughderg**
Second Sunday of Advent [Year B] (10th December, 2017)
 Parochial House, 164, Greencastle Road, Sheskinshule, Omagh, BT79 7RU
Website: greencastleparish.com • **Email:** greencastlepp@yahoo.com • **Tel:** (028) 8164 8474

Thought for the Week: "If you are humble nothing will touch you, neither praise nor disgrace, because you know what you are." *St. Mother Teresa*

Liturgy Schedule for the Second Week of Advent [Year B] (Sunday 10th – Sunday 17th December)

Saturday 9th December	St. Patrick's	6.00pm	Vigil Mass
Sunday 10th December	St. Patrick's	9.00am	Mass (Missa Pro Populo)
Second Sunday of Advent [Year B]	Our Lady of Wayside	11.00am	Mass: Patrick J. Devlin (Anniversary)
Monday 11th December	St. Patrick's	9.00am	Mass
Tuesday 12th December	St. Patrick's	9.00am	Mass
St. Finian (bishop) and Our Lady of Guadalupe			
Wednesday 13th December	St. Patrick's	12 noon to 7.20pm	Adoration of Blessed Sacrament
St. Lucy (virgin and martyr)		7.00pm to 7.20pm	Confession • 7.30pm Mass
Thursday 14th December	St. Patrick's	9.00am	Mass
St. John of the Cross (priest and doctor of the Church)			
Friday 15th December	St. Patrick's	9.00am	Mass
Saturday 16th December	St. Patrick's	6.00pm	Vigil Mass
<i>Do This In Memory (week 4)</i>			
Sunday 17th December	St. Patrick's	9.00am	Mass (Missa Pro Populo)
Third Sunday of Advent [Year B]	Our Lady of Wayside	11.00am	Mass

DATES FOR THE DIARY IN 2018

Thursday 2nd February at 7.30pm Service of Light (Primary 7 Children and Families)	Thursday 8th March at 7.00pm First Confession (Primary 4 Children and Families)
Sunday 22nd April at 2.00pm Confirmation	Saturday 19th May at 12 noon First Holy Communion
Saturday 30th June at 6.00pm in St. Patrick's Cemetery Annual Service of Intercession for the Dead	
Sunday 1st July at 11.00am Mass in Our Lady of the Wayside Annual Service of Intercession for the Dead followed by Broughderg Old Cemetery	

Weekly Collection: £1,460 *Thank you for your continued generosity*

Remembering Our Dead: We pray for repose of the soul of **Patrick J. Devlin** whose anniversary occurs now.

Advent Penitential Service in Spiritual Preparation for Christmas in Greencastle Parish:
 Next weekend (Sunday 17th December) at 3.00pm in St. Patrick's Church. Dates and times for neighbouring parish Penitential Services and other Confession times in this parish will be published in the next parish bulletin

Broughderg Old Cemetery: Some time in the early part of the New Year an operation will begin to remove trees both on the periphery of and within the Broughderg Old Cemetery. Many of these trees have been causing some difficulty at various graves and keeping them neat and tidy has also been troublesome for families. Some of the trees have also become dangerously tall and could cause damage if they were to fall.
 This is going to be a costly operation and is the first stage of a 3-stage scheme.
 Stage 2 will include drainage and stage 3 some pathways.
 Some additional fundraising will be required and we look forward to organising some such events in due course.
Thank you for your support to parish projects through your weekly envelope and other donations and bequests

St. Padre Pio Monthly Devotions: Wednesday 13th December after the evening mass in St. Patrick's Church.
A First Class Relic will be available once more for veneration

Next Week's Readings: Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11 • Psalm Luke 1:46-50, 53-54, R/ • Isaiah 61:10
 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 • John 1:6-8, 19-28 • Lectionary 1:48 **Sunday [Year B] • Weekday [Year 2]**

6.00pm Saturday Vigil	Offertory Gift Rota	9.00am Sunday Morning
Saturday 9 th December The family of Dannin Tracey	Second Sunday of Advent	Sunday 10 th December The family of Darragh Morris
Saturday 16 th December* The family of Clodagh Brogan	Third Sunday of Advent	Sunday 17 th December The family of Patrick Morris
Saturday 23 rd December The family of Marcus Conway	Fourth Sunday of Advent	Sunday 24 th December The family of Trea Clarke
Sunday 24 th December The family of Katie Donnelly	Solemnity of the Christmas Nativity	Monday 25 th December (11.00am) The family of Maebh Warnock
Saturday 30 th December The family of Leah Fox	Feast of the Holy Family	Sunday 31 st December The family of Sorcha Hughes

If you cannot attend please ensure that you have arranged with another family for the gifts to be presented
***Do This in Memory Programme (Week 4)** We need new volunteers in every aspect of life

Dean Maguire College – Carol Service: Friday 15th December at 10.30am in St. Colmcille's Church, Carrickmore.
Everyone welcome

Greencastle Community Association – Big Bazaar: Sunday 10th December from 4.00pm.
 Lasts about one and a half hours • Many fantastic prizes to be won including a 55" LED Ultra HD TV
Your support will be appreciated • Funds raised go towards the running cost of the community centre

Greencastle 5 Mile Road Run • Tuesday 26th December • 10.30am walk • 12noon run • £12 entry fee
 Enter online at greencastle5.com • Proceeds in aid of Care for Cancer • Call 07767 718 029 to find out more

Ancient Order of Hibernians (AOH): Anyone wishing to join must email tyronecountyboardaoh1@yahoo.com.
We will pass your information onto your nearest or preferred AOH Division

Children in Crossfire – Advent Boxes: We ask if you can take a box, place it in your home over Christmas and return it in January. Only £6 can provide a child suffering with malnutrition with lifesaving treatment. Now available at the back of the chapel. *To make a donation call (028) 7126 9898*
"Charity that does not change the situation of the poor isn't enough" Pope Francis

Cappagh / Badoney CCE – Singing Classes with Ciara Fox: Sunday 10th December at 2.30pm in Plumbridge.
We wish to thank Leo McCullagh's for the use of his premises while the hall undergoes repairs

Institute of Irish Leadership – Upcoming Events: Email: kathleenburnsill@gmail.com • Tel: (028) 8775 7800

Walking Group: Meet every Monday in Pomeroy Forest Car Park, 11.00am-12.00pm

Month's Mind Masses: Now taking bookings for light refreshments afterwards

Green Elves Playgroup – Bingo Club: Every Wednesday at 8.00pm (doors open at 7.30pm).

Camowen Farmers Meeting: Monday 11th December at 8.00pm, in the Milestone, Carrickmore. The speaker will be Mary McCormack and topic will be Fodder Shortage and information update. We will also have a few craft stalls including Kennedy Bacon and Forever Living. A free draw will take place with prizes sponsored by Camowen Farmers Group Ltd. and Termon Farm Supplies. *Everyone Welcome*

Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School – Nativity and Christmas Shows
 Thursday 14th and Friday 15th December at 10.00am in School Assembly Hall *All parishioners welcome to attend*

Red Cross: Can you spare 1 hour a week? Would you like to help the Red Cross care for people in your local community? We are looking for volunteers for our wheelchair service and volunteer drivers to help with deliveries and collections. No experience necessary. Full training provided and volunteer expenses reimbursed.
Call Julie White on (028) 7186 3764 / (078) 0302 4011

Family Care Adoption Services: We are seeking to recruit adoptive families for babies and young children
 For a free information pack contact us using any of the following details
Tel: (028) 9069 1133 / (028) 7136 8592 • **Email:** anne.ohagan@familycaresociety.org • **Website:** familycaresociety.co.uk

Prayer to Blessed Michael Archangel: Blessed Michael the Archangel, defend us in our hour of conflict. Be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God restrain him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, thrust Satan down to hell and all the evil spirits, who wander through the world for the ruin of souls. Amen

Pope Francis' Intention for December (please remember this in your personal prayers)
The Elderly: That the elderly, sustained by families and Christian communities, may apply their wisdom and experience to spreading the faith and forming the new generations.

Drink Wise, Age Well: Are you over 50? Are you worried about your own or someone else's alcohol use?
For confidential information, advice and support call (028) 8283 9240

Strule Arts Centre – Irish Cultural Activities Every Wednesday
Sean-Nós and Set Dancing 6.00pm to 7.00pm • **Singing in Irish** 7.00pm to 8.00pm
Irish Language Classes for Beginner, Improver and Advanced Levels 8.00pm to 9.30pm
Email: kevin.goodwin@fermanaghmagh.com • **Tel:** 07747 899 249

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ACCORD – Relationship Counseling: A service which facilitates couples and individuals to explore, reflect upon and resolve difficulties in their marriages and relationships in a confidential, sensitive, respectful and non-judgmental setting.
An appointment can be arranged by calling the Omagh Centre on (028) 8224 2439 or emailing omagh@accordni.com

Support Foyle Hospice by hosting a Coffee / Tea Morning with friends, family, groups or work colleagues:
 All funds you raise will play a vital role in funding the essential care and support Foyle Hospice provide to people in our communities affected and living with terminal illness
For a free pack and more info call Michelle McGinn on (028) 7135 9888 or email michellemcginn@foylehospice.com

Sacrament of Reconciliation / Confession: The Sacrament of Reconciliation better known as Confession is very important and vital part of our lives as Catholics. The times for Confession will be as follows.
St. Patrick's: Eve of First Friday from after 10.00am Mass until 11.00am when mass is celebrated with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament during that time except when there is a funeral or no mass
 First Saturday of each month from after mass until 11.00am with Adoration unless there is a 12noon wedding
 Each Saturday Evening 5.30pm-5.45pm and after Vigil Mass on request after Mass
Our Lady of the Wayside: Each Sunday 10.30am to 10.45am and after 11.00am Mass on request after Mass

Join the Derry Youth Community (DYC) Adventure: If you are between the ages of 18 and 25 and considering a Gap Year experience why not consider one with a difference? The DYC are a community of faith and service located in the heart of Derry City and serving the young people of the Diocese of Derry.
If faith is important in your life, and you are attracted to the ideal of service, you can find more information by visiting derryyouthcommunity.com or emailing dyc@derrydiocese.org

St. Vincent de Paul Helpline: For those in need of assistance please call 07738 837 992

Rural Support: We could help you with financial stress by
 Providing free, confidential face-to-face support • Easing the burden of dealing with debt
 Helping you identify a way forward • Supporting you to take action
Email: info@ruralsupport.org.uk **Website:** ruralsupport.org.uk
 To speak with someone in confidence call our helpline on 0845 606 7 606

Kindercare Fostering NI: Could you help a child in need? Northern Ireland is currently experiencing a severe shortage of foster carers and particularly carers from the Catholic Community. We are a not-for-profit organisation which works to find safe, secure and loving homes for children and young people in need in Northern Ireland. If you are interested in finding out more:
Tel: (028) 90941690 • **Email:** gillian.devlin@kindercare.co.uk • **Website:** kindercareni.co.uk

MARA (Maximising Access in Rural Areas): Find out if you're missing out on benefits, services or grants by booking your FREE home visit. Referrals can be made for benefits checks, home safety visits, occupational therapy assessments as well as others. You'll also receive a FREE bag containing £25 worth of items to help keep you warm this winter.
Call Carol on (028) 8225 1559 to book

Parish Liturgy for December, 2017	St. Patrick's (6.00pm Vigil Mass)	St. Patrick's (9.00am Mass)	Our Lady of the Wayside (11.00am Mass)
Readers	Francis McDermott	Catriona McCullagh	Barry Maguire
Eucharistic Ministry	Frankie Bradley	Maria Bradley	Josephine Clarke
Prayers of Intercession	Eimear Bradley	Lauryn Hollywood	Grace Conneely
Collectors	Margaret Morris Michael McNamee	Brendan Conway Eugene Tracey	Sean Clarke Perry McCrory
Altar Society	Helen Tracey and Mary Bradley		Anne McDermott Carmel McCrory

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

Child Safeguarding: If you or anyone you know has a concern or wishes to report an allegation directly to the statutory authorities, please contact the PSNI / local Health and Social Care Trust. If you are contacting the latter, ask to speak to the Duty Social Worker. Alternatively, if you have a child safeguarding concern in relation to any member of Church personnel and wish to report it to Church authorities, please contact one of the diocesan designated persons, who will in turn report your concern to the relevant statutory authorities. *See poster at entrance*

Irish Episcopal Council for Emigrants – Emigrant Information Pack: Contains practical information for intending Irish emigrants, such as visa requirements, advice on health insurance, gaining employment, accommodation and other information pertaining to each of the main receiving countries. It also provides information for Irish emigrants planning to return to Ireland after a period living abroad as well as other articles and information on the theme.
If interested in receiving a free copy(s) of this booklet please contact Teresa at the Derry Diocesan Office
Email: t.mcmenamin@derrydiocese.org • **Tel:** (028) 7126 2302 • **Website:** catholicbishops.ie/tag/emigrants

Children in Crossfire Recruitment – Office Based Volunteer and Parish-Based Volunteers for Advent:
 Please call (028) 7126 9898 or email shauna.oneill@childrenincrossfire.org as soon as possible
By volunteering together we can make a difference! Thank you.

Volunteer at White Oaks Acorn Organic Farm: If you have an interest in organic growing and have a few hours to spare, why not spend them with us? Contact us using the details below.
Address: IOSAS Centre and Celtic Prayer Garden, Lenamore Road, Derryvane, Muff, Co. Donegal
Tel: (00353) (0) 74 9384866 • **Website:** celticprayergarden.com • **Facebook:** IOSASCentre • **Twitter:** IOSASCentre

Towards Peace: A spiritual support service designed for those who have experienced sexual, physical, emotional or spiritual abuse by Catholic Church personnel in Ireland. Support is also available for family members of abuse survivors. The vision of Towards Peace is to provide a safe supportive space, where people who have been affected by abuse in a Church context can be accompanied as they seek their own experience of spiritual peace, one step at a time. Towards Peace provides spiritual support through one-to-one spiritual direction sessions, with a qualified spiritual companion. Up to 9 sessions are offered and they are free.
Website: towardspeace.ie • **Tel:** 01 505 3028 • **Email:** towardspeace@iecon.ie

Seeing your life through the lens of the gospel – Mark 1:1-8: John Byrne OSA (jbyrneosa@gmail.com)

1. John the Baptist is presented as a messenger to prepare the way for Jesus. Who have been messengers to you, preparing the way for the Lord by alerting you to ways in which you could improve your life? To whom have you been such a messenger?
2. John calls the people to repentance (i.e. a change of heart), as a way to a new life. Can you recall times when you had a change of heart, and the change led to new life for you?
3. John baptised people with water as a gesture to mark their change of heart. Sometimes we perform an action to symbolise our change of heart – write a letter, throw away our last cigarettes, etc. Can you remember a symbolic gesture with which you marked a change of heart?

The Deep End – The Beginning of the Good News: Jane Mellett (mellettj@gmail.com)

The second Sunday of Advent turns our attention to John the Baptist. John was an interesting individual. We are told he dressed a bit strangely, had an odd diet and spent a lot of time in the desert. Yet it seems he was very popular with the whole of Judaea and 'all the people of Jerusalem' went out to hear him. John must have been a dynamic speaker and one in whom people found hope and inspiration. Who are these attractive messengers for us today? Who brings us good news and hope? Whose message makes sense for us? Who do we flock to hear? Today we might also reflect on the messengers in our own lives. Who did God send to you while you were in your own wilderness? Perhaps they brought with them a moment of grace reassuring you that you would not be drifting aimlessly forever. Perhaps the evidence at that moment in your own life stated the contrary, yet these words of encouragement or comfort gave you reason to hope and to hang in there. These 'John the Baptists' are messengers of the light. They are all around us. Sometimes we are the ones called upon to be a messenger of light for someone else. The good news of the gospel today is that even in times of desolation there is a hope, a promise that urges us on. How we prepare for this journey determines our experience. See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you ...

This Week's Calendar of Feasts and Saints:

Tuesday 12th December – St. Finnian (bishop) Studied in Idrone, Co. Carlow and later in Wales, on his return he settled in Clonard, Co. Meath around 520, where he established a famous school. His pupils, among which were Canice, Columcille and Brendan, were initiators of the great monastic expansion in Ireland. Died in 549 and is remembered as the tutor of all the saints of Ireland.

Our Lady of Guadalupe Patron Saint of the Americas. This memorial recalls the apparitions in December, 1531 to Juan Diego Cuahtlatotzin on Tepeyac Hill, near Mexico City. Mary appeared as a symbol of wisdom and peace. Her image as a *mestiza*, a woman of native American and European heritage, remained in Juan's cloak (*tilma*). She appeared as "the little brown one," affectionately called La Morenita, who gives great dignity and holiness to the native and mestizo peoples of America. The tilma that Juan Diego presented to his doubtful bishop was filled with roses and is now enshrined in Mexico City in the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Nowhere else does she appear as a pregnant woman as she does here, wearing the blue sash traditionally worn by expectant Aztec women. She also has a flower on her womb, an Aztec symbol of new life and a new era. Blocks the sun and stands on the moon.

Wednesday 13th December – St. Lucy (virgin and martyr) Suffered much for her desire to remain consecrated to Christ alone. She was martyred in 304 in Sicily in the persecution of Diocletian. Her name means *light* and her intercession has been sought for eye trouble.

Thursday 14th December – St. John of the Cross (priest and doctor of the Church) [1542-1591] A Carmelite who, despite opposition and imprisonment, worked for the reform of the Carmelites. He was a man of prayer, an outstanding poet and a spiritual writer. Declared doctor of the Church.

Foyle Hospice – Become a Compassionate Neighbour: Do you have 1-2 hours free once a week to support Foyle Hospice's Compassionate Communities 'Reach Out' voluntary befriending service. It might be as simple as calling in for a cup of tea and a chat, or taking someone out to do a bit of shopping. A volunteer's visit is invaluable to someone who is feeling lonely and isolated due to an illness. Full training and ongoing support with additional training opportunities are offered to all volunteers.

Call Tracy Gray, Volunteer Coordinator on 07841 101 932 or email tracy@compassionatecommunitiesnw.com

2016 Parish Statistics		
Baptisms (18) 7 Boys 11 Girls	First Holy Communions / Reconciliations (16) 10 Boys 6 Girls	Confirmations (21) 10 Boys 11 Girls
Marriages (16) 7 within parish 9 outside parish	Funerals (10) 8 within parish 2 outside parish	Station Masses in October 8
Events The death of retired Bishop of Derry Most Rev. Dr. Edward Daly is announced on Monday 8 th August Mass with Padre Pio Relic Celebrated in St Patrick's Church on Wednesday 5 th October		