

Parish of Greencastle, Co. Tyrone (Diocese of Derry)
St. Patrick's, Greencastle Our Lady of the Wayside, Broughderg
The Second Sunday of Easter (11th April, 2010)
 The Parochial House, 164, Greencastle Road, Sheskinshule, Omagh, BT79 7RU
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Liturgy Schedule for the Second Sunday of Easter (12th April, 2010 – 18th April, 2010)

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| Monday 12th April Second Week of Easter | St. Patrick's | 10.00am Mass |
| Tuesday 13th April Second Week of Easter | St. Patrick's | 10.00am Mass |
| Wednesday 14th April Second Week of Easter St. Martin I (pope and martyr) | St. Patrick's | 10.00am Mass: Frank Conway – 9 th Anniversary |
| Thursday 15th April Second Week of Easter | St. Patrick's | 10.00am Mass |
| Friday 16th April Second Week of Easter St. Bernadette Soubirous | St. Patrick's | 6.00pm First Confessions for Year 4 pupils from Our Lady of Lourdes PS 7.30pm Mass: Francis and Regina McLaughlin Golden Wedding Anniversary |
| Saturday 17th April Second Week of Easter | St. Patrick's | 10.00am Mass |
| Saturday Evening Do This In Memory' Programme | St. Patrick's | 5.30pm Confessions 6.00pm Vigil Mass for Sunday |
| Sunday 18th April Third Sunday of Easter | St. Patrick's Our Lady of the Wayside | 9:00am Mass: Misso Pro Populo 11:00am Confirmation Mass Year 7 pupils from Our Lady of Lourdes PS |

Weekly Offerings: Thank you for your generosity to last week's collection which amounted to **£1,130**. A further **£100** was contributed to the annual collection for the Shrines of the Holy Land which was taken up on Good Friday and a contribution of **£2,460** was made for the annual Trócaire Lenten Campaign. *Please support your parish by using your envelope even if you must attend Mass outside your parish, thank you. Envelopes received from visitors coming to Mass in Greencastle are returned to those parishes.*

Remembering Our Dead: We pray for **Annie Gillen** and **Frank Conway** whose anniversaries occur at this time.

'Do This In Memory' Programme: The next liturgy (Week 9) will take place at the Vigil Mass for the Third Sunday of Easter (Saturday 17th April)

Northern Ireland Hospice – Big Walk Week: Saturday 17th April to Saturday 24th April. nihospice.org

Next Sunday's Readings: Acts of the Apostles 5:27-32, 40-41; Psalm 29; Apocalypse 5:11-14; John 21:1-19
 Lectionary I, page 468 (Sunday: Year C) (Weekday: Year 2)

Lotto Results: A – B – E – G – U (15 winners with 3 letters – £10 each) **Next Jackpot:** £2,100

The Sacrament of Confirmation: In the Church's teaching Confirmation is one of the seven sacraments instituted by Christ for the conferral of sanctifying grace and the strengthening of the union between individual souls and God. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* in its paragraphs (1302-1303) teaches:

It is evident from its celebration that the effect of the sacrament of Confirmation is the special outpouring of the Holy Spirit as once granted to the apostles on the day of Pentecost.

From this fact, Confirmation brings an increase and deepening of baptismal grace:

- it roots us more deeply in the divine filiation which makes us cry, "Abba! Father!" (Romans 8:15);
- it unites us more firmly to Christ;
- it increases the gifts of the Holy Spirit in us;
- it renders our bond with the Church more perfect;
- it gives us a special strength of the Holy Spirit to spread and defend the faith by word and action as true witnesses of Christ, to confess the name of Christ boldly, and never to be ashamed of the Cross:

Recall then that you have received the spiritual seal, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of right judgment and courage, the spirit of knowledge and reverence, the spirit of holy fear in God's presence. Guard what you have received. God the Father has marked you with his sign; Christ the Lord has confirmed you and has placed his pledge, the Spirit, in your hearts. Continued →

Items for inclusion should be forwarded to the Parochial House by the Wednesday evening prior to publication

The roots of confirmation are found in Acts of the Apostles 8:14-17, "Now when the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent them Peter and John, who went down and prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Spirit, for it had not yet fallen upon any of them; they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them and they received the holy Spirit." See also the Gospel of Saint John, chapter 14 where Christ speaks of the coming of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles.

In the Latin-Rite Catholic Church, the sacrament is customarily conferred only on persons old enough to understand it, and the ordinary minister of confirmation is a bishop.

"The practice of the Latin Church more clearly expresses the communion of the new Christian with the bishop as guarantor and servant of the unity, catholicity and apostolicity of his Church, and hence the connection with the apostolic origins of Christ's Church."

Reserving administration of the sacrament to a bishop, who cannot be present at every infant baptism, means that large groups of older children and young adults are confirmed together, making the occasion something of a rite of passage and an opportunity to profess personal commitment to the faith. However, the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1308 warns: "Although Confirmation is sometimes called the 'sacrament of Christian maturity,' we must not confuse adult faith with the adult age of natural growth, nor forget that the baptismal grace is a grace of free, unmerited election and does not need 'ratification' to become effective."

In the early twentieth century, Pope Pius X encouraged the admission of children to reception of the Eucharist as soon as they reached the age of reason, in contrast to the later age at which they had been admitted for some centuries.

Since the age for confirmation remained as before, those being confirmed generally received the Eucharist several years earlier. However, the three sacraments of Christian initiation, baptism, confirmation and Eucharist, are increasingly conferred, within the Latin-Rite Catholic Church, in the traditional order, which is obligatory when an adult is baptised.

The Catholic Church teaches that, like baptism, confirmation marks the recipient permanently, making it impossible to receive the sacrament twice.

One of the effects of the sacrament is that "it gives us a special strength of the Holy Spirit to spread and defend the faith by word and action as true witnesses of Christ, to confess the name of Christ boldly, and never to be ashamed of the Cross" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1303). This effect has been described as making the confirmed person "a soldier of Christ".

The same passage of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* also mentions, as an effect of confirmation, that "it renders our bond with the Church more perfect". This mention stresses the importance of participation in the Christian community.

The "soldier of Christ" imagery, which remains valid but is downplayed if seen as part of the once common idea of confirmation as a "sacrament of maturity" was used as far back as 350 by St. Cyril of Jerusalem. In this connection, the touch on the cheek that the bishop gave while saying "Pax tecum" (Peace be with you) to the person he had just confirmed was interpreted as a slap, a reminder to be brave in spreading and defending the faith: "Deinde leviter eum in maxilla caedit, dicens: Pax tecum" (Then he strikes him lightly on the cheek, saying: Peace be with you). When, in application of the Second Vatican Council's Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, the confirmation rite was revised in 1971, mention of this gesture was omitted. However, the French and Italian translations, indicating that the bishop should accompany the words "Peace be with you" with "a friendly gesture" (French text) or "the sign of peace" (Italian text), explicitly allow a gesture such as the touch on the cheek, to which they restore its original meaning.

Information on other effects and broader matters concerning this sacrament can be found in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1285-1321.

Confirmation name. In many English-speaking countries and in German-speaking lands it is customary for a person being confirmed in the Catholic Church to adopt the name of a saint with whom he/she feels a special affinity, thus securing an additional patron saint to be his/her protector and guide. The saint's name is often used in conjunction with the confirmer's middle name, and is without effect in civil law, unless, of course, the confirm and pursues the appropriate legal avenues.

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| Parish Liturgy for 17 th / 18 th April, 2010 | St. Patrick's (6.00pm Vigil Mass) | St. Patrick's (9.00am Mass) | Our Lady of the Wayside (11.00am Mass) |
| Prayers of Intercession | Elaine Coyle | <i>Volunteer needed</i> | <i>Volunteer needed</i> |
| Offertory Gifts | The family of Lauren O'Neill | The family of Serene Morris | |

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| BADA An Bruach Dearg Community Centre – Upcoming Events: | |
| Sunday 11th April | Usual fortnightly dance. Music by <i>Cascades Card</i> . |
| Every Friday Night | Card playing from 8.30pm. |
| An Goirtin Naomh Padraig: Training for under 8s, under 10s and under 12s will commence on Saturday 10 th April from 10.00am to 11:15am and continue every Saturday at this time. Children are advised to bring trainers for indoors and wet gear for outdoors. Any parent who wishes to help out should contact Fergal Daly. | |
| Saint Vincent de Paul Society – Clothing Bank: We do not have anyone involved with the St. Vincent de Paul locally in the parish of Greencastle, but neighbouring groups have asked for our support, a clothing bank is now available near to St. Patrick's for a period of time. <i>Please support them in any way you can</i> | |
| Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes (16th – 21st July, 2010): Cost £629 – payable in instalments. Application forms are now available in the sacristy (Greencastle). Forms for those in need of special care or those aged 80 or over are available only from the Pilgrimage Office, Derry. Telephone: (028) 7126 0293. Special arrangements are made for the youth who will be lead by the Pilgrimage Youth Team. | |
| Children in Crossfire – 25th Budapest Half Marathon: Children in Crossfire are recruiting 20 enthusiastic individuals to join them for the 25 th Budapest Half Marathon on 5 th September. A deposit of £150 is requested and minimum sponsorship applies. Contact Sarah on (028) 7126 9898 or e-mail events@childrencrossfire.org for more information. Children in Crossfire also hold a car boot sale every Saturday and Sunday at Elagh Business Park on the Bunrana Road, Derry. £5 entry for cars. | |
| Northern Ireland Hospice – Big Walk Week: Saturday 17 th April to Saturday 24 th April. <i>nihospice.org</i> | |
| Foyle Hospice, Derry: Bark in the Park Sponsored Dog Walk: Sunday 9 th May in St Columb's Park, Limavady Road at 2.00pm. The registration fee is £5.00 per dog and includes a certificate and goodie bag for your pooch on the day. For further information and registration packs please contact Foyle Hospice Fundraising Centre on (028) 7135 9888 or e-mail rachelbruce@foylehospice.com . The BIG Saunter Sponsored Riverside Walk: Wednesday 19 th May at 1.00pm, for those aged 55 and over. The walk will commence from Sainsbury's along the path of the River Foyle and finish off at the Guildhall. All monies raised will go to Foyle Hospice. For further information please contact Stephanie English, Old Library Trust, Creggan, (028) 7137 3870. | |
| Dean Maguirc College, Carrickmore presents a night of 'MUSICAL MEMORIES' on 13 th , 14 th and 15 th April. | |
| The Priests, with special guest Camilla Kerslake at Millennium Forum, Derry: Tuesday 15 th June at 8.00pm. Tickets £19.50/£24.50/£29.50 Box Office: (028) 7126 4455. | |
| Family Care Society – Adoption: Could you make a child happy again after a difficult start in life? Family Care Society is presently seeking adoptive families who would be interested in parenting children aged between 3 and 8 years and who need the love and attention of a caring and understanding family. Could this be you? For more information contact Family Care Society on: (028) 9069 1133 (Belfast) or (028) 7136 8592 (Derry). email@familycaresociety.org www.familycaresociety.net | |
| Our Parish cemeteries are special places providing a focus for our prayerful remembrance of the dead. Please cooperate in their maintenance and care with respect, dignity and honour. Remove flowers and wreaths that have withered. Please do not dump them anywhere in the graveyard. Monumental Sculptors who have completed their work should take rubble away and not dispose of it at the side of the cemetery. | |
| Request from Brian Quin: "My name is Brian Quin. I live in Opunake in New Zealand. I'm trying to trace my family ancestry. I am led to believe that possibly my GG grandfather could have come from around Broughderg. His name was Stephen and two of his sons Charles and James headed down under in the 1800(s). I would be truly grateful if any Quin(s) in your parish or maybe a nearby parish could help. I am planning a trip to your area in early May and we would love to talk to and share some of the Quin history here in NZ quinnee@xtra.co.nz | |
| Medjugorje Irish Centre: Every week for a year we are giving away one weeks free apartment accommodation for up to 4 people. Text the word PILGRIM followed by your name and county to 60777 or phone us and we can enter you into the draw for free. Special introductory offer E260 package. Website www.med-irishcentre.com Tel: (028) 82241888. | |

Pioneering Total Abstinence Association: I write to you to inform you about this year's National Ball and to ask you to spread the word far and wide. The National Ball 2010 takes place on Saturday 8th May in the Cavan Crystal Hotel, Cavan. This is now the 14th National Ball, and we're pleased to say that a great night is in store for everyone. The evening commences with Mass in St Bridget's Church, Killygarry at 7.30pm, the meal and dancing will follow in the Cavan Crystal to the music of *Time Out* and our DJ *Peter McEnroe*. One highlight of the night will be our guest speaker *Sean Gallagher* from Dragon's Den, whom we all hope to learn something from in these recessionary times. This is the perfect night to put on your gúna deas and new suit or tux, and dance into the wee small hours while catching up with old friends and hopefully making some new ones. So don't be shy! Tickets are €30 each, €20 for students under 16 years. Do not hesitate to contact us if you require any further information. Accommodation list is available on request.

The Catholic Chaplaincy QUB Centenary Dinner Dance: Tickets are now available for the Centenary Dinner Dance, which is taking place on 22nd April in the Whitla Hall at Queen's. If you remember the Chaplaincy Discos, Céilidh or Mrs. Mac famous sandwiches, Liam, Noel, Mary or Anne, Lough Derg pilgrimages, packed Ash Wednesday Masses or a wealth of other Chaplaincy memories then come along and celebrate with us. The Dinner is open to past and present students and staff of the University, their families and friends and all who consider themselves friends of the Chaplaincy. Take the opportunity to arrange to meet with classmates and friends. The tickets cost £40 each and can be purchased from the Chaplaincy at 28 Elmwood Ave or from the Welcome Centre at QUB (or if you send a stamped addressed envelope and a chq made payable to "The Catholic Chaplaincy" we'll post your tickets to you.) [Open seating will be norm but tables of 8 can be arranged]. For any further info please contact the Chaplaincy on (028) 9066 9737 or email cc@qubcc.org. Check out qubcc.org. If you have any Chaplaincy related photos we would love copies of them for the Centenary Display!

Broughderg First Responders Scheme: The role of a First Responder is to attend, when possible a patient who has collapsed and administer CPR and / or defibrillation whilst awaiting for an ambulance crew to attend. The Broughderg First Responders are volunteers who live and work in the local area they are fully trained and are fully insured. When an appropriate 999 call is received from the area covered by the First Responder Scheme; the volunteers are notified and try to attend to provide whatever care is reasonable. First Responders will only attend when dispatched by Ambulance Control. They have no role in the diagnosis or management of illness apart from the collapsed patient. There will always be a 999 ambulance in attendance. Volunteers are clearly identifiable as they will have ID with them. They will provide whatever care is reasonable and will endeavour to assist either doctors or members of the Ambulance Service as appropriate. If you require any further information about the scheme please do not hesitate to get in touch.
Janet Shields (Dalriada Urgent Care) (028) 2566 3502

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. Phone 00353 94937 5960 or visit our website at www.knockmarriagebureau.com and read about the workings of the Bureau.

Study Theology From Home: The Dominicans are offering a theology programme specifically for lay people, offered by distance learning. This means that one can study for a certificate, diploma or degree in theology, and even more importantly, become more educated in the Faith, all from the comfort of home. For more information contact The Priory Institute, Tallaght Village, Dublin 24, Tel: 00353 1404 8124/7 or email enquiries@prioryinstitute.com Visit our website www.prioryinstitute.com

Questions people ask:

- In the Gospel of John the Holy Spirit came on the Apostles on Easter Sunday whereas Luke, in Acts, says it was on Pentecost, fifty days later. Which date is correct?
- First day or fiftieth? Both days are correct because the Holy Spirit comes every day. John highlights Easter Day as the beginning of a new age and mission. The mission of Jesus, sent by the Father, was completed on Good Friday. Now the mission of the Church begins ... 'so I am sending you'. The Holy Spirit is bestowed on the Apostles. As Luke emphasises the world-wide dimension of the mission, he selects Pentecost, a harvest festival, when people of far-flung lands and different languages were gathered in Jerusalem.
Fr. Silvester O'Flynn OFM Cap (silvesteroflynn@gmail.com)

This Week's Calendar of Saints:

Sunday 11th April – St. Stanislaus (bishop and martyr) Not celebrated this year.

Wednesday 13th April – St. Martin I (pope and martyr) The last pope to be venerated as a martyr, died in 655 from harsh treatment in exile and prison.

Friday 16th April – St. Bernadette Soubirous Recognised as a saint for her humility and assiduous religious life.

Seeing your life through the lens of the gospels – John 20:19-31:

1. 'Peace be with you' was the greeting of Jesus on meeting his frightened apostles. Who has come to you bringing peace at times when you were afraid? To whom have you been able to bring peace?
2. Thomas, doubting and questioning, is possibly a person with whom we can identify. What part have doubting and questioning played on your life journey, your faith journey? How have you come to know that your life is worthwhile and that your faith has actually been strengthened by such moments?
3. Note the way that Jesus dealt with Thomas. He did not give out because he doubted. He accepted how he felt and led him along to see the truth of his resurrection. Who has been that kind of teacher for you, gently taking you where you were and leading you to a deeper knowledge about some truth about life? For whom have you been that kind of teacher?
4. 'Blessed are they who have not seen and yet believed.' That requires great trust. Perhaps you have had the experience of being trusted without having to justify every step along the way. What was it like to be trusted in that way? Who have you been able to trust in a similar manner?

John Byrne OSA (john@orlagh.ie)

The Deep End – Gno Your Genome:

If you have £50,000 to spare you might want to buy the latest status symbol: a USB drive on a black velvet tray. But it's not any old finger file. It contains a digital version of your genome; sequenced, decoded and ready for use. So far, fewer than one hundred of the world's wealthiest individuals have succeeded in getting one. There were only three personalised genomes on the planet in 2007. Since then the waiting list has increased steadily, world recession notwithstanding. The urge to splurge springs not from scientific interest but from self-interest. The file's information may soon be able to tell its owner what he or she will die of. Consequently, they may be able to do something about it; thus thwarting the Grim Reaper's unwelcome embrace, at least for a time.

That's not the sort of healing we hear about, however, in today's First Reading. (Acts 5:12-16) It's completely unscientific and Spirit driven. Significantly, it's more a case of seeking health than of thwarting death. As resurrection people we don't fear death, whatever about the business of dying. At least, we shouldn't. There is such a thing as a healthy acceptance of death as there is an unhealthy fear of it.

Lef's go further. For people of faith death is never followed by a full stop. In our thoughts, however, sometimes it is. That's why we need the Easter season – to remind us that death is not an ending of life but a beginning of resurrection. After all, we were born not for death but for eternal life.

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