

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

Saint Patrick's Church  
Greencastle

Our Lady of the Wayside Church  
Broughderg

**The Resurrection of the Lord. 12<sup>th</sup> April, 2009**

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

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**Easter Blessings and 'Thank you':** The prayer support of parishioners is our greatest strength. No matter what season, we always rely on the prayers of our sick and household sisters and brothers. During Lent 2009 the Stations of the Cross were prayed publicly on Tuesdays and Fridays before Mass. We were led by the children of our parish faith community on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March and by our teenagers on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April. The Omagh Guided Prayers leaders offered us four interesting reflections on the Mondays of Lent. Thank you for your participation in all the Liturgies of Holy Week, Palm Sunday and the Easter Triduum, (Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday/Easter Morning). As we continue our journey through Easter-tide and the rest of the year, may we enjoy the blessings accrued during Lent. We are grateful for the ministries exercised among us, including Readers, Special Ministers of the Eucharist and those involved in our Music, the altar-servers, people who clean the chapels and our sacristans. Your commitment and service means everything. As soon as the money for Trócaire has been counted we will publish the full amount. Thank you for keeping the campaign before us each week. Faith extends to every aspect of daily living and I am grateful for your fidelity to living out your Catholic Christian faith in Greencastle parish. Fr. Eugene Hasson

### Mass Schedule for the Easter Octave. 13<sup>th</sup> April – 19<sup>th</sup> April, 2009

Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> April Easter Monday	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass (Frank Conway – 8 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary)
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> April Easter Tuesday	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> April Easter Wednesday	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> April Easter Thursday	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> April Easter Friday	Saint Patrick's	8.00pm Mass
Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup> April Easter Saturday	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Saturday Evening	Saint Patrick's	6.00pm Vigil Mass for Sunday
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> April Fifth Sunday of Easter	Saint Patrick's Our Lady of the Wayside	9:00am Mass: 'Misso Pro Populo' 11:00am Mass

### Confession Schedule

Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup> April	Saint Patrick's	5:30pm (before Vigil Mass)
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> April	Our Lady of the Wayside	10:30am (before Mass)

**Weekly Offerings:** Thank you for your generosity to last week's collection which amounted to **£1,080**.

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

**Saint Vincent de Paul Society:** We do not have anyone involved in the parish of Greencastle, but neighbouring groups have asked permission to leave a **'Clothes Bank'** for recycled clothes near Saint Patrick's Church for a period of time. Please support them in any way you can.

**Special Olympics Appeal:** Tyrone Fundraising Coordinator Carolyn McKeown has appealed for support for national collection day on **24<sup>th</sup> April, 2009**. Their aim is to raise one million pounds in one day. Money raised will go towards providing sports training and competition for special needs athletes.

**Next Sunday's Readings:** Acts of the Apostles 6:1-7; Psalm 32; 1 Peter 2:4-9; John 14:1-12

**Lotto Numbers:** 4, 5, 8, 12 (8 winners with 3 numbers – £10 each) **Next Jackpot:** £1,900

### Upcoming important dates for your calendar:

Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> April	First Confessions (6.30pm)
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	First Holy Communion (11.00am)
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock
Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> and Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> July	Public Prayers for the Deceased in our parish Cemeteries
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> July	Solemn Annual Exposition in OLW Broughderg

**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. Ask Monumental Sculptors who have completed their work to take rubble away and not dispose of it at the side of the cemetery.

### Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock: Bishop Hegarty asks for your support on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June

(there will be no Lourdes Pilgrimage in 2009). The timetable is:

**2.30pm:** Anointing of those who are sick.

**3.00pm:** Concelebrated Mass with Bishop Hegarty.

**4.00pm:** Solemn Blessing of those who are sick, Benediction, Rosary and Procession to the Shrine.

**ENGAGED? Getting married in 2009?** An Engaged Encounter Weekend is a recognised form of marriage preparation. It is a communication enrichment workshop designed for couples preparing for marriage. The weekend is non-residential and will take place in the Thornhill Centre, Derry on 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> June.

Early booking is advised. For information contact: T: (028) 7930 0340 or (028) 2763 8512. (after 4.30 pm)

E: engagedencounter@marriageencounter.ie W: www.marriageencounter.ie (click on *Engaged Encounter*)

**Lough Derg – Medley of Music:** We hope you can attend our first ever *Medley of Music*; a unique gathering of Musicians and Guest Speakers in St Patrick's Basilica, Lough Derg. The show will be recorded for broadcast on BBC Radio Ulster Sunday Sequence Show. Book early to avoid disappointment.

Contact Maureen on 071 9861 518 (from NI 00353 71986 1518) or email [info@loughderg.org](mailto:info@loughderg.org)

**Greencastle PTAA and Friends – Buffet and Dance:** Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April at 8.30pm in Shepherd's Rest, Sixtowns, Draperstown. Music by *Larry & Co.*

**TG4's Search for a Country Star:** Kildress parishioner Justin McGurk has reached the final of TG4's Search for a Country Star and he needs your votes to win! Text lines close at 12noon on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April, tune in to TG4 or Sky channel 163 at 10.30pm for the results. Text **Justin** to 83222

### BADA An Bruach Dearg Community Centre – Upcoming Events:

Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> April	Usual fortnightly dance. Music by <i>Country Sensations</i>
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> April	BADA Committee Meeting at 9.00pm
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> April	Historical Meeting at 8.30pm

Representatives will be at the Community Centre on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April from 6.00pm to 7.30pm to complete IACS forms

### Mass Attendance in Greencastle during Lent 2009

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25 <sup>th</sup> – 28 <sup>th</sup> Feb			Ash Wednesday	28	29	15
Week 1 (3 <sup>rd</sup> – 7 <sup>th</sup> Mar)	42	26	41	28	30	---
Week 2 (9 <sup>th</sup> – 14 <sup>th</sup> Mar)	41	35	30	21	80	65
Week 3 (16 <sup>th</sup> – 21 <sup>st</sup> Mar)	20	St. Patrick's Day	38	28	149	15
Week 4 (23 <sup>rd</sup> – 28 <sup>th</sup> Mar)	41	38	13 (+ Confirmation)	21	42	17
Week 5 (30 <sup>th</sup> Mar. – 4 <sup>th</sup> Apr.)	33	34	19	21	145	21
Holy Week (30 <sup>th</sup> Mar. – 4 <sup>th</sup> Apr.)	45	24	27	Holy Thursday	Good Friday	Holy Saturday

### **Seeing your life through the lens of the gospels – John 20: 1-9:**

1. The disciples are in a state of shock after their traumatic loss. Jesus, the one in whom they had placed so much hope, has been murdered and buried. Then, before they have time to recover they get another shock. The body of Jesus is missing. Have you had experiences in which one tragedy or crisis follows quickly after another? What was that like for you? How did you cope? Who, or what, sustained you?
2. Mary and Peter, and the other disciple, came and discovered that the tomb was empty. In this text no explanation is given. They are left in a state of bewilderment 'for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead'. Have you been in situations, faced with events you cannot explain, possibly events that have dashed your hopes in another person, or in God? What has that been like for you?
3. Yet in spite of the lack of explanation, the beloved disciple 'saw and believed'
  - Have there been times when others have done something that you could not understand, and which they could not explain at the time, and yet you believed that all was not as it seemed; times when you decided to trust in spite of the evidence?
  - Have there been times when others have shown this kind of faith in you, when you were not able to offer satisfactory explanations, and all you could say was 'trust me'?
  - What have you learned about life, about love, from such experiences?

*John Byrne OSA (john@orlagh.ie)*

### **Questions people ask:**

Q. What is the origin of the name of Easter?

A. Easter is a word derived from the springtime celebration of the Anglo-Saxon goddess, Eastre, whose name came from the word, east, which originally meant the dawn. So, the name expresses how a Christian feast gives a new meaning to an ancient Pagan festival. In Latin and the languages derived from it, the feast is called Pascha, coming from the Hebrew Pasch or Passover. The Irish name, an chaisc, also comes from Pascha. We celebrate Easter on the first Sunday after the first full moon following the Spring Equinox.

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

### **The Deep End – Not Seeing is Believing:**

Is seeing really believing? Well, in the case of the 'other disciple' in today's Gospel reading (John 20:1-9) it's what he doesn't see that convinces him: Jesus' corpse. He doesn't see the Resurrection. What he does see is the results of it in his new depth of faith in Jesus as the Risen Christ, and later in the formation of Christian communities that the Resurrection brings about.

This is the two-edged sword of God's word at work – one edge being the positive, and the other the negative. The seeing, and the not seeing. The seeing something new in ourselves or in others, which wasn't there before, or at least in the same way or to the same degree; something that indicates growth, that points to the Spirit at work within us.

The Spirit that transformed Jesus of Nazareth to the Risen Christ is the same Spirit at work within us individually and collectively. It is the Spirit that gives new life. When we open ourselves to the Spirit's influence we too are transformed. Gone is the old self with its pride and selfishness, with its anger and resentment, with its backbiting and constant criticizing, and with its jealousies and lusts.

Let us hurry to peek inside the sepulchre of our old self and surprise ourselves by what we do not see there.

Then let us fall on our knees in gratitude to God for what he has done, in spite of ourselves.

Jesus lives! We are living proof of that – often more than we realise, or dare hope to be.

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