



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

St. Patrick's, Greencastle Our Lady of the Wayside, Broughderg

Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday) [Year B] (12th April, 2015)

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 Second Week of Easter [Year B] (13th April, 2015 – 19th April, 2015)

Saturday Evening (11th April)	St. Patrick's	5.30pm Confessions 6.00pm Vigil Mass: Rose Kirk (Month's Mind)
Sunday 12th April Second Sunday of Easter [Year B] Divine Mercy Sunday	St. Patrick's Our Lady of the Wayside	9.00am Mass (Missa Pro Populo) 10.30am Confessions 11.00am Mass: Rosaleen Clarke (Anniversary)
Monday 13th April Second Week of Easter	St. Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Tuesday 14th April Second Week of Easter	St. Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Wednesday 15th April Second Week of Easter	St. Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Thursday 16th April Second Week of Easter	St. Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Friday 17th April Second Week of Easter	St. Patrick's	8.00pm Mass
Saturday Morning (18th April) Second Week of Easter	St. Patrick's	10.00am Mass:
Saturday Evening (18th April) <i>Do This In Memory (week 8)</i>	St. Patrick's	5.30pm Confessions 6.00pm Vigil Mass
Sunday 19th April Third Sunday of Easter [Year B]	St. Patrick's Our Lady of the Wayside	9.00am Mass (Missa Pro Populo) 10.30am Confessions 11.00am Mass

If you are a homemaker, not presently working or retired you are invited to make time in your schedule to attend Mass daily during this Easter Season

Weekly Offerings: Thank you for your kindness in last week's collection of **£1,102** and **£28** in loose change.

Annual Lenten Trócaire Collection: A total of **£2,940** was donated, any further contributions are appreciated.

Remembering Our Dead: Pray for **James McCullagh** and **Rosaleen Clarke**, whose anniversaries occur now.

Lough Derg – Upcoming Events: Tel: 00353 71986 1518 • Email: info@loughderg.org
One Day Retreats: Begins Saturday 2nd May and continues on 3rd, 4th, 9th, 10th, 12th, 16th, 17th, 19th, 23rd and 25th May.

Advance booking is essential

Three Day Pilgrimage Season: From Friday 29th May. You can begin on any day between then and Thursday 13th August.

Pre-booking not required

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/or 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 Church entrances

Gamblers Anonymous – Open Meeting: Thursday 23rd April at 7.30pm in Omagh Community House, Drumragh Avenue. Are you worried about you or a friends gambling? At this open meeting you can talk to members of the Gamblers Anonymous group, hear experienced speakers talk of their experience of gambling and get some advice and help.

For more information visit the Gamblers Anonymous website at gamblersanonymous.org.uk

An Bruach Dearg Community Centre – Upcoming Events:

Card Playing: Every Friday night at 8.30pm • **Seisiún:** Friday 17th April at 9.00pm. Night of free entertainment w/ supper served

Owenkillew Play Actors Meeting: Tuesday 14th April at 8.00pm in Rouskey Community Centre with a view to staging a few one-act plays over the Autumn months following on from the success of last winter's productions.

Everyone interested in either Acting or backstage (DIY, Costumes, Set Design etc.) please come along, all help is appreciated

To do for the Easter Season: Read a CTS booklet available at the Church entrances.

Next Sunday's Readings: Acts of the Apostles 3:13-15, 17-19 • Psalm 4:2, 4, 7, 9, r/v 7 • 1 John 2:1-5

Luke 24:35-48 • (Lectionary I, page 465)

Sunday [Year B] • Weekday [Year 1]

6.00pm Saturday Vigil <u>Saturday 11th April</u> The family of Shanice Morris	Offertory Gifts Rota Second Sunday of Easter	9.00am Sunday Morning <u>Sunday 12th April</u> The family of Joseph Warnock
Saturday 18th April* The family of Patrick Morris	Third Sunday of Easter	Sunday 19th April The family of Caitlin Clarke
As a wider parish community we thank these young people and their families for this valued task of leadership. What can you volunteer to do in your parish? Thanks to all who participates in the life and work of our parish. <i>*Do This In Memory Week 8 We need new volunteers in every aspect of life</i>		

For Your Reflection – Why Go to Mass?

From The Church Visible by Mary Ann Walsh

13th April, 2015 Issue of the weekly Jesuit magazine 'America'

To evoke lively conversations, ask why so many Catholics no longer go to Mass. Some people will cite doctrinal issues like birth control, divorce and remarriage, and sexual mores. Others will speak of their experiences of the church as irrelevant to their lives. Others will cite church scandals; and others, the fact that a priest, nun or another parishioner made them feel unwelcome.

Some say they have little time for church. This is a particular problem for families who have two working parents and children involved in organised sports and activities like band and drama. There are elderly parents to visit and care for. Boredom enters the equation in our hyper society. For getting on the family calendar, what pastor can compete with quality drama or the philharmonic, or even self-help groups with immediate and lasting effects?

They look at how the church relates to their lives, perhaps missing that church is also about how people relate to God. Are people looking for too much? A pastor from Maryland reports that "there is a need for people's experience of the church to be 'transformative,' but it is not merely about a euphoric feeling people sometimes look for. If that is what they are looking for, then they will be disappointed and give up on it. I think we have to do a better job of expressing the purpose of our worship."

All of which challenge the church.

The Diocese of Springfield, Ill., tackled the question in 2013 and 2014 with Benedictine University's report" Joy and Grievance in an American Diocese: Results from Online Surveys of Active and Inactive Catholics in Central Illinois." According to the Georgetown University-based Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate, CARA, the two-part survey does not meet scientific sampling standards because it's a convenience sample, not a true random sample, what is called a "volunteer sample." Yet the results were interesting.

The survey results provided a summary of views of the 575 inactive and 827 active Catholics who responded. My own casual canvassing found similar rationales.

Some of those surveyed say "they closed my church," which means some people equate closure of their parish church building as closure of the very church with which they identify, where they experienced their own and their siblings' and children's sacraments, like baptism, first Communion, confirmation and marriage, as well as family funerals. It is a narrow understanding of church.

Others say, "I don't get anything out of going to church." They were expecting good feelings? The right numbers for the lottery? Feeling all good inside?

"I'm too busy to go to church and I work three jobs," which may be a paraphrase for "I have better, or at least other things to do."

People feel marginalised. This can be especially true for women, given their exclusion from one of the seven sacraments. There also are the separated, the divorced and remarried and the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transsexual Catholics. When they hear homilies against what they are at their very core, they do not feel understood or strengthened by what comes from the pulpit. For people in marriages not recognised by the church, the church's annulment process doesn't look encouraging either.

Pope Francis, in his apostolic exhortation "The Joy of the Gospel, highlights the parish's significance.

The parish is not outdated, he said. He added that "precisely because it possesses great flexibility, it can assume quite different contours depending on the openness and missionary creativity of the pastor and the community."

Homilies, said Francis, need to carry a fitting sense of proportion. He added that "this would be seen in the frequency with which certain themes are brought up and in the emphasis given to them in preaching." He said that "if in the course of the liturgical year a parish priest speaks about temperance 10 times but only mentions charity or justice two or three times, an imbalance results....

The same thing happens when we speak more about law than about grace, more about the church than about Christ, more about the pope than about God's word." How to address these matters awaits another day and the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

Mary Ann Walsh RSM is a member of the Northeast Community of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas and US Church correspondent for America

Omagh Golf Club Ladies Committee – Function to Help Raise Funds for Alzheimer's Society: Tuesday 21st April from 8.00pm. Guest speaker for the evening Professor Peter Passmore will discuss the topic "Can we prevent dementia?" Adele Doherty from Alzheimer's Society will talk about the services, information and support provided by the Society in this locality. have taken up the challenge of raising funds for Alzheimer's Society. In doing so, they hope to increase awareness of dementia as well as highlight the information and support available to the people of Omagh and the surrounding areas.

For more information call Maeveen McNabb, Alzheimer's Society on 07912 295 750

Pope Francis' Intentions for April (please remember these in your personal prayer) Universal – Creation: That people may begin to respect creation and care for it as a gift of God. Evangelisation – Persecuted Christians: That Persecuted Christians may feel the consoling presence of the Risen Lord and the solidarity of all the Church.			
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Parish Liturgy for April, 2015	St. Patrick's (6.00pm Vigil Mass)	St. Patrick's (9.00am Mass)	Our Lady of the Wayside (11.00am Mass)
Readers	Francis McDermott	Monica Coyle	Sean Teague
Eucharistic Ministry	Frankie Bradley	Maria Bradley	Josephine Clarke
Prayers of the Faithful	Megan McKenna	Rosemary McCullagh	Brianna Gillen
Collectors	Michael McElhatton Colum Devlin	Patrick Tuohey Frank Keenan (Kate)	Tony Donnelly Pat McGuigan
Altar Society	Nuala Glass and Rosemary Conway		Anne McDermott Carmel McCrory
New choir members will always be welcome – contact Sinead			

Our Parish Cemeteries: These are special places providing a focus for our prayerful remembrance of the dead. Please co-operate 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.

Help the Red Cross Care for Older People in Your Local Community: Can you spare a few hours a week? No experience necessary. Full training provided and volunteer expenses reimbursed. Mileage rate is 45p per mile. <i>(028) 8225 1116</i>

Seeing your life through the lens of the gospel – John 20:19-31:	John Byrne OSA (john@orlagh.ie)
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 frightened? For whom have you been an agent of peace? 2. Thomas, doubting and questioning, is possibly a person with whom we can identify. What part have doubting and questioning played on your faith journey? How has your faith been strengthened by such moments? 3. Note the way Jesus dealt with Thomas. He did not give out because he doubted. He took him where he was and led him along to see the truth of his resurrection. Who has been that kind of a teacher for you, gently taking you where you were and leading you on to a deeper knowledge of 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 had to prove 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?	

Musings As we recall in today's Gospel the story of Christ's appearance to his disciples – and the absent Thomas's disbelief when the others told him – we might also call to mind the special association that Ireland has with Thomas's eventual proclamation of faith. In the new Missal, issued after the Second Vatican Council, provision was made for a number of memorial acclamations to be used by the whole Church. However, the Irish bishops petitioned for a special dispensation to use one extra acclamation that was traditionally dear to the Irish people: this was simply Thomas's profession of 'My Lord and my God!'.	Salvador Ryan (St. Patrick's College, Maynooth)
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Registration of the Religious of the Diocese: Is there a religious sister, brother or priest in your family? If so, in this Year of Consecrated Life, the Diocese needs your help to create a register of those men and women who joined religious communities and were either native of the Diocese of Derry or have worked in the Diocese. Registration cards are available. Since these cards will be on display in St. Eugene's Cathedral after Easter, details of submission date etc. are on the back of the card.	Thank you!
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The Deep End – Our True Selves: How can I explain? I wasn't me and you weren't you. From the very beginning to the very end, we didn't see things. What we did – we made each other up. Nazneen, the lead character in Monica Ali's novel Brick Lane, is ending an affair with her lover Karim and attempting to explain to him why it was never going to work out. Neither party were being their true selves with each other, she concludes. The experience they thought they were having together was never really real; their judgement had somehow been clouded. They had 'made each other up'. It is sometimes easier not to be our true selves. We can offer all sorts of 'false' versions of ourselves in different situations and sometimes even in entire relationships. Thomas had had an authentic experience of Jesus during the time he spent as his disciple. But in the story recounted in today's Gospel, he is not convinced that the experience the other disciples recount is real. Could they really have encountered the real Jesus, after his death? Surely they had imagined him, or 'made him up'! What about us? Unlike Thomas, we cannot depend on a physical experience of Christ, but he is truly present to us nonetheless – in the sacraments and in our community. It is the real and authentic Jesus we experience. Do we in turn offer him our true selves?	Triona Doherty, Athlone, Co. Roscommon (trionad@gmail.com)
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TinyLife – Dedicated to Supporting Families with Premature and Sick Babies: Our family support volunteers provide practical and emotional support to parents who have had a premature, sick or disabled baby. As an organisation, we rely on our volunteers to help us provide services to families across Northern Ireland. Our Volunteers: All TinyLife volunteers are people with a love for babies and young children who are keen to help families coping with young families. They may have children of their own or not. Some volunteers will have experience of premature or sick babies in their own family or extended family circle. Some volunteers may have worked in a paid or voluntary capacity with children. Others may be about to embark on a professional career and feel that volunteering with TinyLife will give them valuable experience in their chosen field. Volunteers are reimbursed fully for travel expenses. Volunteers should be over the age of 22 years when applying. How do I become a TinyLife Volunteer? Complete the Family Support Volunteer Application Form, found on our website or Contact the Family Support Officer in your area, Lynn Patterson on 07889 534855, who will arrange to meet with you for an informal discussion on volunteering with us.	Next Training Dates: Saturday 9 th , Saturday 16 th and Saturday 30 th May, 2015
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IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE DIARY IN 2015			
Sacramental Celebrations	Sunday 26 th April Fourth Sunday of Easter	St. Patrick's	2.00pm Sacrament of Confirmation (Bishop McKeown)
	Sunday 17 th May Feast of the Ascension	St. Patrick's	11.00am First Holy Communion
Solemn Annual Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament		Sunday 3 rd May	St. Patrick's
		Sunday 30 th August	Our Lady of the Wayside
Derry Diocesan Society Masses in our Parish	Friday 29 th May • Sunday 19 th July Tuesday 8 th September • Thursday 29 th October		St. Patrick's
	Sunday 19 th July		Our Lady of the Wayside
Morning Masses will be celebrated as above unless a Requiem is needed on the dates			
Public Prayers for our Deceased (Cemetery Sunday) (4 th and 5 th July)	Saturday Evening (4 th July)	St. Patrick's	Directly after 6.00pm Vigil Mass
	Sunday Morning (5 th July)	Our Lady of Wayside St. Mary's, Broughderg	Directly after 11.00am Mass
	Monday 2 nd November	St. Patrick's	6.00pm Commemoration of All Souls (remembering all who died in 2015)
'Do This In Memory' liturgies for candidates preparing for the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion			
Saturday 18 th April		Third Sunday of Easter	6.00pm Vigil Mass
Sunday 17 th May		Feast of the Ascension of the Lord	11.00am First Holy Communion
Saturday 6 th June		Feast of Corpus Christi	6.00pm Vigil Mass