

Parish of Greencastle, Co. Tyrone, Diocese of Derry

Saint Patrick's Church
Greencastle

Our Lady of the Wayside Church
Broughderg

The Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time. 12th July, 2009

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

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Best wishes to everyone travelling for their summer holidays, may your journeys be safe and your time away renewing and refreshing. For everyone staying at home may the weather continue to be kind and may we all make the most out of it. **You are welcome to begin each day with daily Mass**

Liturgy Schedule for the Fifteenth Week in Ordinary Time. 13th July – 19th July, 2009

Monday 13th July Fifteenth Week in Ordinary Time	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Tuesday 14th July Fifteenth Week in Ordinary Time	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Wednesday 15th July St. Bonaventure, bishop and doctor of the Church	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Thursday 16th July Our Lady of Mount Carmel	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Friday 17th July Fifteenth Week in Ordinary Time	Saint Patrick's	8.00pm Mass intention: (Pat Tracey – Melbourne, Australia)
Saturday 18th July Fifteenth Week in Ordinary Time	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Saturday Evening	Saint Patrick's	6.00pm Vigil Mass for Sunday
Sunday 19th July Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Saint Patrick's Our Lady of the Wayside	9:00am Mass: 'Misso Pro Populo' 11:00am Mass for the DDS (members and benefactors)*

Confession Schedule

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

Public Prayers For the Faithful Departed: Father Hasson extends sincere thanks to all involved in last weekend's ceremonies and to everyone who helped in any way.

Weekly Offerings: Thank you for your generosity to last week's collection which amounted to **£1,190** and the further **£60** taken up on 26th June for the Peter's Pence Collection.

Please support your parish by using your envelope even when you are on holiday or if for some reason you must attend Mass outside your parish – Thank you.

Envelopes received from visitors coming to Mass in Greencastle are promptly returned to those parishes.

Remembering Our Dead: We offer our sympathy to the Tracey family (Binnefreaghan) on the death of **Pat** last Thursday in Australia and to Mr. Noel McGinn, Principal of Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School and his family circle on the death of his brother **Sean McGinn**. We pray for **Annie and Peter McAleer** and **Rose McCullagh** whose anniversaries occur at this time.

***Derry Diocesan Society for sick & infirm priests:** 1. Any person may become a member, sharing in all its privileges with a donation of at least **£20**. 2. Likewise, any person whosoever may have a deceased relative or friend placed on the Register of Members of the Society, the deceased person thereby becoming a sharer in all the Masses and prayers offered for members. These Masses go on all the time.

Privileges of members – deceased: 1. A Mass every day in a parish in the Diocese (**this will take place in Our Lady of the Wayside on Sunday 19th July at 11.00am**). 2. The prayers of every congregation in the Diocese on the first three Sundays of each quarter.

Living: 1. Mass will be offered each month, as listed on church notice board. 2. When a living member dies the name is transferred to the list of deceased members without further payment.

People Serving our faith-community in Greencastle parish

Buildings, Grounds and Maintenance: The physical environment for worship and prayer in our parish is important. The appearance, condition and function of the parish buildings and grounds must be well attended. If you would like to become involved in a committee responsible for our two churches, St. Patrick's, Greencastle and Our Lady of Lourdes, Broughderg our cemeteries and the Parochial house, please make contact with Fr. Hasson. Currently the maintenance is performed by contract. People with building, electrical, carpentry, landscaping skills or knowledge of same would be an advantage.

For the attention of our young people

Knock Summer Youth Festival: 24th – 27th July at Our Lady's Shrine, Knock, Co. Mayo. An invitation to 18-35 year olds from our parish. For more info and to book contact: 00353 9493 88100 / (087) 6927 850 or check out knock-shrine.ie/youthfestival. The theme is 'You are the light of the world' and the weekend will have a variety of guest speakers. The weekend costs 70 euro and this includes meals and accommodation. There is some transport available from the diocese. If you would like more information contact the Catechetical Centre on (028) 7126 4087.

Clanmacnoise Youth Festival: 13th – 16th August. 'Know that the Loving God is with You' (James 3:10). For 16 to 35 years. Catholic Youth Festival – bring a sleeping bag. No cost – subscription by donation. Contact Youth 2000 Office on 00353 1675 3690. See posters on church notice boards.

Greencastle Youth Club thanks Shauneen Ferrity, Catherine McCullagh, Danielle Coyle, Catriona Gillen, Melissa Meenan, Michaela Fox, Amy McCullagh, Cahir McCullagh, Daniel Tuohy and Emmett Bradley for the successful running of "Summer Scheme 2009". All the children who attended had two weeks of fun and great entertainment. Thanks again and we look forward to your continued support.

Interested in developing your faith? Thornhill Centre has a number of short and long courses starting in October and November 2009: Pastoral Ministry: There is a Variety of Gifts; Liturgy: 'Foundations in Liturgy'; Scripture: 'Saint Luke'; Aspects of Faith: 'So What Should We Teach Them?' and Personal Development: 'Dreams Workshop'. For further details contact Thornhill Centre at (028) 7135 1233.

Carmelite Retreat Centre, Termonbacca, Derry.

Mass in Honour of Our Lady of Mount Carmel on her feast day: Thursday 16th July at 8.00pm.

Carmelite Pilgrimage to Knock: Sunday 19th July, pick up point at Melmount Centre Strabane at 8.15am, £35 fare. Contact us at (028) 7126 2512 during office hours for details.

"War is so complex it's beyond the ability of the human mind to comprehend. Our judgment, our understanding, are not adequate. And we kill people unnecessarily."

Robert S. McNamara, architect of the war in Vietnam (who died Monday 6th July, 2009)

Questions people ask:

Q. I am puzzled by the words of Jesus that no one is lost except the one who was destined to be lost (John 17:12). Does this refer to Judas and does it mean that God predestined him to be lost?

A. This difficult text probably refers to Satan, a fallen angel, who became the evil spirit of perdition. The notion that God predestined any person to be lost is totally contrary to the mission of Jesus who showed so much concern for the salvation of all sinners that he shocked the pious people with the extent of his mercy. Scripture assures us that the Lord wants nobody to be lost and everybody to be brought to repentance (2 Peter 3:9).

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

Next Sunday's Readings: Jeremiah 23:1-6; Psalm 22; Ephesians 2:13-18;
Mark 6: 30-34 (Lectionary I, page 777)

Lotto Numbers: 4, 11, 18, 24 **Next Jackpot:** £1,000
Congratulations to MJ Ferrity who won the £1,400 jackpot!

greencastleparish.com: During the month of June, 2009 a total of **1,091** people visited our website, bringing the overall total to **22,743**.

Questions on this Sunday's Scripture: These questions based on each of today's scripture readings can be used for family, group or individual reflection.

First Reading – The Book of the prophet Amos, Chapter 7, Verses 12-15:

1. They chased Amos out of Bethel. They did not want to hear him. What do you do when you think something needs to be done that makes everyone uncomfortable?
2. Amos points out to Amaziah that he was a shepherd and it wasn't his idea to be a prophet anyway. Are education, occupation, eloquence, talent or intelligence prerequisites for a prophet? Then what is it that is necessary? Could you be a prophet?

Second Reading – Second Letter to the Ephesians, Chapter 1, Verses 3-14:

1. How has God lavished his grace on you this year? This week? Today?
2. Think of ways the Holy Spirit is active in your life, guiding, fixing, enlightening, giving courage. The Spirit is the "first instalment of our inheritance," St. Paul says. When you make the first payment on your mortgage, do you own a small part of your house? How might this idea relate to St. Paul's statement about the Holy Spirit being the first instalment on our inheritance?

Gospel – According to Mark, Chapter 6, Verses 7-13:

1. *Evangelising* means bringing the Good News to all humanity. It means that, through its influence, we transform it from within, make it new. How can you transform humanity around you in your daily life?
2. Why is detachment so important to evangelization? How cluttered are your heart and mind? If the clutter limits God's space in your life, what can you dispose of?

By Anne Osdieck of the *Center for Liturgy at Saint Louis University*

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The Deep End – Stretched Out:

Depending on your viewpoint it's refreshing, or alarming, how certain Paul can be in his statements on complex issues. Take today's Second Reading (Eph 1:3-14) for example. Here he just baldly states that God 'chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be blameless before him in love,' and that has 'made known the mystery of his will ... as a plan for the fullness of time'. Clearly, for him, God took great care with us humans, his creation.

Two things are striking here: his reference to God's pre-creation will and, for want of a better expression, his post-temporal one. Again, for Paul human beings are not an after-thought in the mind of God. No! Even before creation's foundation is set, way before any humans appear on the scene, God already has a plan for them – and a great one at that! This seemingly quirky creation, queerer and more chaotic than we can ever imagine, progresses according to a divine plan.

Here we feel the power of faith at work. For only faith can work at this level. Science has nothing to say about pre-foundational creation, about the awesome void of our pre-pyrotechnic cosmos, about the deafening silence of its final destination readily dwarfing even the Big Bang's birth cry.

Yet here we have unscientific Paul opening our minds to realities that only faith can reveal, and stretching them to their limits, and then some. Are we ready for the strain of trying to comprehend God, small as a loving father yet enormous enough to encompass creation?

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

Seeing your life through the lens of the gospels – Mark 6: 7-13:

1. Jesus gave the disciples a share in his mission by sending them out ahead of him. It was a gesture of trust and confidence on his part, even though they did not fully understand his mission. Have you ever been surprised by the trust shown to you by others to speak or act on their behalf?
2. Jesus sent the disciples out two by two. Perhaps your experience gives you examples of the value of having another with you when engaged in an important task.
3. The instructions given by Jesus may seem strange. They were intended to counteract practices by bogus preachers who used preaching as a mask for money-making. The disciples of Jesus were to focus on the mission given to them, not on their own comforts. Is it your experience that vested interests can impede a task, whereas having the right motives makes your mission more effective?
4. The task of the disciples was to call people to repent (*metanoia* = conversion, change the way we look at God and at other people). The core of the mission of Jesus was to change the attitude of people towards God from fear to trust. He also wanted people to see that life was a gift from God who loved them and wanted them to live it in all its fullness and abundance, despite its difficulties. Who have been the disciples, the people in your life who have called you to be more trusting in God? To whom have you given this call?

John Byrne OSA (john@orlagh.ie)