

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

Our Lady of the Wayside, Broughderg St. Patrick's, Greencastle Third Sunday of Advent [Year A] (12th December, 2010)

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

Website: greencastleparish.com Tel: (028) 8164 8474 Email: greencastlepp@yahoo.com

Litural Schedule for the Third Week of Advent (Year A) (12th December, 2010 – 18th December, 2010)

	Liturgy Schedule for the Third Week of Advent [Year A] (12" December, 2010 – 18" December, 2010)				
I	Saturday Evening Vigil	St. Patrick's	5.30pm Confessions		
	Do This In Memory (Week 4)		6.00pm Vigil Mass for Sunday:		
ı	• • • •		Rosaleen Heagney (2 <sup>nd</sup> Anniversary)		
	Sunday 12th December	St. Patrick's	9:00am Mass: Misso Pro Populo		
	Third Sunday of Advent [Year A]	Our Lady of the Wayside	10.30am Confessions		
	,	•	11.00am Mass		
I	Monday 13th December	St. Patrick's	10.00am Mass		
	St. Lucy (virgin and martyr)				
ſ	Tuesday 14th December	St. Patrick's	10.00am Mass		
	St. John of the Cross (priest)				
ſ	Wednesday 15th December	St. Patrick's	10.00am Mass		
	Third Week of Advent				
I	Thursday 16th December	St. Patrick's	<b>10.00am</b> Mass		
ı	Third Week of Advent				
I	Friday 17th December	St. Patrick's	8.00pm Mass		
ı	Third Week of Advent				
I	Saturday 18th December	St. Patrick's	<b>10.00am</b> Mass		
l	Third Week of Advent				
	Saturday Evening Vigil	St. Patrick's	5.30pm Confessions		
			6.00pm Vigil Mass for Sunday:		
			Anna Rose McCullagh (2nd Anniversary)		
Į	Sunday 19th December	St. Patrick's	9:00am Mass: Misso Pro Populo		
	Fourth Sunday of Advent [Year A]	Our Lady of the Wayside	10.30am Confessions		
l			11.00am Mass		

Weekly Offerings: Thank you for your generosity to last week's collection which amounted to £1,060. Please support your community 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. Please remember the parish when making your will. If you are a taxpayer please consider a Gift-Aid declaration - your contribution will be worth 25% more to your parish.

Remembering Our Dead: Pray for Rosaleen Heagney, Carmel Coyle, Peggy Coyle, James McDermott and Patrick Devlin whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Sick and housebound will be attended Monday 6th December. If you know of anyone inform Fr. Hasson.

The Pope's Intentions for December (please remember these in your personal prayer)

General: That our personal experience of suffering may be an occasion for better understanding the

situation of unease and pain which is the lot of many people who are alone, sick, aged, and stir us

all to give them generous help.

Missionary: That the peoples of the earth may open their doors to Christ and to His Gospel of peace. communion and justice.

Next Sunday's Readings: Isaiah 7:10-14; Psalm 23; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-24

(Lectionary I, page 68) (Sunday: Year A) (Weekday: Year 1)

Lotto Results: E - K - R - W - X (4 winners with 3 letters - £15 each) Next Jackpot: £3,800

Serving Our Faith-Community in Greencastle Parish

Week	6.00pm Saturday Vigil	Offertory Gifts Rota	9.00am Sunday Morning	
17	Saturday 11th December *	The Third Sunday	Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	
17	The family of Daniel McCrory	of Advent [Year A]	The family of Niall Coyle	
18	Saturday 18th December	The Fourth Sunday	Sunday 19th December	
10	The family of Orla Coyle	of Advent [Year A]	The family of Leah McGuigan	
Christmas Season				

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19	Christmas Eve Friday 24th December (9.00pm)	Christmas Day Saturday 25th December (11.00am) The family of Shaun Coyle	Feast of Holy Family Sunday 26th December (9.00am) The family of Shane McKenna	
20	Saturday 1st January (6.00pm) The family of <b>Michaela Gillen</b>	The Second Sunday of Christmas [Year A]	Sunday 5th December (9.00am) The family of Michelle O'Brien	
* Do This In Memory Week 4				

As the wider parish community we thank these young people and their families for this important task.

Candlelight Rosary Procession in Honour of the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Unborn: Sunday 12th December, assembling at the Guildhall Square in Derry at 4.30pm. Rosary led by the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal. You are invited to carry a 'light for life' and pray for the protection of Ireland's unborn children from abortion. Contact Precious Life at (028) 9027 8484

Youth 2000 - Christmas Retreat: For 16-30 year olds. 17th to 19th December at Newbridge College, Co. Kildare. Contact: 07842 881 878 for information.

Green Elves Playgroup - Nativity Play: Wednesday 15th December at 7.30pm in the Old School House.

**Annual Bazaar:** This Sunday at 4.00pm in the Community Centre.

Great prizes to be won

Dean Maguirc College, Carrickmore - Mass for Retirement: The Vice-Principal, Mr Frank O'Neill retires at the end of December bringing to an end a teaching career which has spanned over 40 years in our school. A special Mass in appreciation of his tireless work and dedication to the Dean will be held in St. Colmcille's Church at 9.30am on Friday 17th December. Evervone is welcome

If you or anyone you know has a child safeguarding concern or wishes to report an allegation directly to the statutory authorities, please contact the PSNI/local Health and Social Care Trust (Northern Ireland). If contacting the local Health and Social Care Trust, ask to speak to the Duty Social Worker. Alternatively, if you or anyone you know has a child safeguarding concern in relation to any member of Church personnel and wishes to report it to Church authorities, please contact one of the diocesan designated persons, who will, in turn. report this concern to the relevant statutory authorities.

See poster at church entrances

Trócaire Global Gift: Think beyond the present with a Trócaire Global Gift and help make a life-changing difference to families in the developing world this Christmas. Purchase online, by phone or directly from Trocaire. trocaire.org/globalgift Tel: 0800 912 1200. 50 King Street, Belfast

International Star Fr. Liam Lawton in will perform in St. Colmcille's Church, Carrickmore Sunday 12th December.

# Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes (July, 2011) – *Gift Vouchers*:

£20, £30 and £50 Gift Vouchers available from Rosemary at the Diocesan Pastoral Centre, (028) 7136 2475.

The Priests' Christmas Album - Noel: The Priests new Christmas Album Noel is now available from supermarkets, record shops and online at amazon.co.uk. The single Little Drummer Boy with Shane McGowan will be released on Sunday 12th December. For more visit thepriests.com

Greencastle Youth Club Rota			
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	6.30pm – 8.00pm	P6 and P7 (Rosie Morris)	
Monday 13 December	8.00pm - 9.30pm	Years 8, 9 and 10 (Patricia Tuohey and Mariel Tuohey)	
Tuesday 14th December	6.30pm – 8.00pm	P4 and P5 (Anne Morris)	
Upcoming BADA Events		Every Friday Night Card playing at 8.30pm	

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

The Pope's Intentions for December (please remember these in your personal prayer)

General: That our personal experience of suffering may be an occasion for better understanding the situation of unease and pain which is the lot of many people who are alone, sick, aged, and

stir us all to give them generous help.

Missionary: That the peoples of the earth may open their doors to Christ and to His Gospel of peace. communion and justice.

Important Dates in 2011: The Bishop has informed us that Bishop Lagan will come to Greencastle for Confirmation on Wednesday 13th April (Fifth Week of Lent). Primary 4 pupils will make their First Confession on Friday 1st April and First Holy Communion on Sunday 5th June (The Feast of the Ascension).

Solemn Annual Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (Forty Hours Devotion) 2011: Sunday 15th May in St. Patrick's Church, Greencastle and Sunday 21st August in Our Lady of the Wayside Church, Broughderg.

Parents Advice Centre - Helpline Volunteers: Men and women urgently required to train and work as Helpline volunteers. The preparation course is OCN accrediated Level 2. For further information call (028) 7137 2006, call to the office City Factory Building, 100 Patrick Street or email marie@pachelp.org Parents Helpline Floor 2, City Factory Building, 100 Patrick Street, Derry BT48 7EL. Tel: (028) 7137 2006. parentsadvicecentre.org Parents Helpline Freephone: 0808 8010 722 Registered in N. Ireland No: N130087 Registered Office: Andras House, 60 Gt Victoria St, Belfast BT2 7BB A Charity: Inland Revenue No: X0492/80

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.

Foyle Hospice - Free Adult Counseling Service: Offered on Tuesdays to help support those with a life limiting illness and their families / carers. Counseling is also available for the bereaved and there is a children's bereavement support group. For more info please contact the Hospice on (028) 7135 1010

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

Foyle Camera Club Photographic Exhibition: Friday 17th December from 9.00am until 10.00pm and Saturday 18th December from 9.00am until 7.00pm on Debenhams Walkway/Bridge, Foyleside Shopping Centre. Photograph's provided by members of Foyle Camera Club, all proceeds go to the Foyle Hospice.

The Holy Family Padre Pio prayer group - Monthly Meeting: Tuesday night 14th December in the Holy Family Church, Ballymagroarty, Derry instead of the usual Monday night due to the parish holding their Novena. The meeting will continue after the 7.15pm Mass. There will be two 1st class relics of St. Pio at the meeting. All are welcome

Tuesday's Child - Christmas Gala Ball: Tuesday's Child's Christmas Gala Ball is on Saturday 18th December in Belfast City Hall, hosted by the Lord Mayor of Belfast, Councillor Pat Convery. The MC for the evening is Paul Clark from UTV and Sean Crummev is after-dinner speaker.

Music is by Sjobhán Pettit and her 9 piece swing band Nightswing. There is a pre-drinks reception with Christmas Carols by Louise Irvine and St. Malachy's Senior String Quartet and fabulous raffle prizes and auction items including some beautiful art pieces donated by artists north and south. Tickets are £60 and make an ideal Christmas gift, tables seat 10. All proceeds will go to Tuesday's Child projects for children living in extreme hardship in Gaza, India and Pakistan. We give 100% of proceeds.

For more info call (028) 9050 2725 or email info@tuesdayschild.org.uk or visit tuesdayschild.org.uk

#### This Week's Calendar of Feasts:

Sunday 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. Feast not celebrated this year.

> Our Lady of Guadalupe Patron Saint of the Americas. This memorial recalls the apparitions in December, 1531 to Juan Diego Cuahtlatoatzin 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. Feast not celebrated this year.

Monday 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.

Tuesday 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.

Saturday 18th December - St. Flanan (bishop) Lived during the 7th century and was the son of a king of Thomond. Entered Molua's monastery at Killaloe and became Abbot there. He is remembered as a great preacher.

### Questions people ask:

- Q. I've struggled for years with an addiction. I keep on falling. Is there any hope for me?
- There is always hope for the simple reason that God's love for you never ceases, no matter how often you fall. God's help comes in many ways such as medical help, addiction counselling, prayer, pilgrimage to a holy place and especially through the understanding and support of fellow strugglers in an addiction fellowship. Advent is the season of hope. Come. Lord Jesus, into our desert areas and places of darkness.

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

#### The Deep End – *Imprisonment*:

What is always most striking about Advent is the liturgy's lack of reference to Christmas itself. My awareness of this may easily be a consequence of growing up in a time when Christmas became highly delineated by seasonal imagery, religious, commercial, religiously commercial and commercially religious. Either way, the image of John imprisoned is yet another telling reminder that Advent is more than preparing for turkey or, indeed, a sentimental manger scene. As we draw ever closer to Christmas, a noticeable thrust emerges from the liturgy of the word. Namely, the exasperated longing for God encapsulated in Isaiah's urge to hope. James' call to patience, and Jesus' request for faith.

John is impatient in his questioning. Fearful of dying without knowing, he sends his disciples to ask the young prophet about his intentions. Jesus urges them to believe and sends them on their way. But his response is no impatient dismissal; instead, it is full of the real emotion which is evident in the absence of friends. Just as John misses Jesus, so Jesus misses John. The Baptist is not imprisoned by the walls of a cell; rather, it is his sense of detachment from the coming which he has heralded that dominates his concern. Jesus' call to believe is the key which frees both us and John from our cells. Christ came to preach to those in prison. John, then, is closer to his esteemed rabbi than he knows. And it is most certainly the same for us who read. Paul Clogher, Maynooth College

## Seeing your life through the lens of the gospels – *Matthew 11:2-11*:

- In response to the question of John, Jesus let his actions speak for him. Some people show by the way
  they live what it means to be a follower of Jesus. Who has given you such an example? Perhaps there
  have been times when you have done the same for others.
- 2. John made a journey of faith from an incomplete knowledge of Jesus to a deeper understanding of who he was. Recall similar steps in your journey of faith.
- 3. Faith is not primarily about answering abstract theological questions but about living the gospel. What in your life has helped you to get that sense of perspective?
- 4. John marked the end of an era, Jesus the beginning of a new one. In our lives we are constantly been asked to respond to new challenges. We have to be able to let go, to move forward in hope and love into a new situation. How do we honour the past and yet be free to move on into a new experience?

John Byrne OSA (john@orlagh.ie)