

Parish of Greencastle, Co. Tyrone (Diocese of Derry)
 St. Patrick's, Greencastle Our Lady of the Wayside, Broughderg
 Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time [Year B] (14th October, 2012)
 The Parochial House, 164, Greencastle Road, Sheskinshule, Omagh, BT79 7RU
 Website: greencastleparish.com Tel: (028) 8164 8474 Email: greencastlepp@yahoo.com

Our parish Mission-Retreat weekend has come to an end. We are grateful for the guidance of God's Holy Spirit, the prayerful support of so many people and the faithful participation of our parish community in so many aspects of our liturgies. May our faith, nurtured and encouraged during these days, strengthen us on our journey ahead. Thank you.

Liturgy Schedule for the Twenty-Eighth Week in Ordinary Time [Year B] (15th October, 2012 – 21st October, 2012)

Saturday Evening (13th October)	St. Patrick's	5.30pm Confessions and Public Recitation of the Rosary 6:00pm Vigil Mass
Sunday 14th October Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time [Year B]	St. Patrick's Our Lady of the Wayside	8.35am Public Recitation of the Rosary 9.00am Mass (Missa Pro Populo) 10.30am Confessions 11.00am Mass: John Gerald Conway (2 nd Anniversary)
Monday 15th October St. Teresa of Avila In the home of Mary Slane (Benefreaghan)	St. Patrick's	9.35am Public Recitation of the Rosary 10.00am Mass 7.30pm Station Mass
Tuesday 16th October St. Gall, St. Hedwig and St. Margaret Mary	St. Patrick's	9.35am Public Recitation of the Rosary 10.00am Mass
Wednesday 17th October St. Ignatius of Antioch (bishop and martyr) In the home of Mary Fox (Formil)	St. Patrick's	9.35am Public Recitation of the Rosary 10.00am Mass 7.30pm Station Mass
Thursday 18th October St. Luke (Evangelist) In the home of Martin and Gemma Fox (Leaghan)	St. Patrick's	9.35am Public Recitation of the Rosary 10.00am Mass 7.30pm Station Mass
Friday 19th October St. John de Brébeuf, St. Isaac Jogues and Companions (martyrs) St. Paul of the Cross (priest)	St. Patrick's	9.35am Public Recitation of the Rosary 10.00am Mass: Derry Diocesan Society
Saturday 20th October Twenty-Eighth Week in Ordinary Time	St. Patrick's	9.35am Public Recitation of the Rosary 10.00am Mass
Saturday Evening (20th October)	St. Patrick's	5.30pm Confessions and Public Recitation of the Rosary 6:00pm Vigil Mass
Sunday 21st October Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time [Year B] MISSION SUNDAY	St. Patrick's Our Lady of the Wayside	8.35am Public Recitation of the Rosary 9.00am Mass (Missa Pro Populo) 10.30am Confessions 11.00am Mass

Weekly Offerings: Thank you for your generosity to last week's collection which amounted to **£875**.

Remembering Our Dead: We pray for **Rose Devaney** whose Requiem took place last Wednesday, we extend to her brother Francis McLaughlin and her family circle our sympathy and the support of our prayers. We also pray for **John Gerald Conway, David Morris** and **Francis Tuohey** whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Sr. Cora McHale Nazareth House, Derry wrote this week to thank you for the annual collection taken up on Wednesday 15th August for the work of the Sisters of Nazareth in the diocese, this year you donated **£530**. She said that they plan to use the funds to help update one of the Resident's units.

Cherish the Rosary During the Year of Faith *Vatican City (Sunday 7th October) [VIS]*
 Before praying the Angelus this morning, Benedict XVI recalled that the traditional annual "supplication", in which thousands of faithful around the world participate, is taking place today at the Italian shrine of Pompei, dedicated to Our Lady of the Rosary. "As we too spiritually unite ourselves to that choral invocation, I would like to invite everyone to cherish the Rosary during the forthcoming Year of Faith. With the Rosary, in fact, we allow ourselves to be guided by Mary, the model of faith, in meditating upon the mysteries of Christ, and day after day we are helped to assimilate the Gospel so that it can shape our lives. Therefore, in the wake of my predecessors, and in particular Blessed John Paul II who ten years ago gave us his Apostolic Letter 'Rosarium Virginis Mariae', I invite people to pray the Rosary individually, in the family and in the community, placing themselves in the school of Mary who leads us to Christ, the living centre of our faith".

Next Sundays Readings: Isaiah 53:10-11; Psalm 32:4-5, 18-20, r/v 22; Hebrews 4:14-16; Mark 10:42-45; (Lectionary I, page 814) **(Sunday: Year B) (Weekday: Year 2)**

Lotto Results: B – K – I – O – Z (2 people with 3 letters – £25 each) **Next Jackpot:** £1,950

6.00pm Saturday Vigil Saturday 13 th October The family of Cathal Keenan	Offertory Gifts Rota Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time [Year B]	9.00am Sunday Morning Sunday 14 th October The family of Eunan Morris
Saturday 20th October The family of Cathair McAleer	Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time [Year B]	Sunday 21 st October The family of Serene Morris
Saturday 27th October* The family of Kayleagh McCrory	Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time [Year B]	Sunday 28 th October The family of Luke O'Connor
Saturday 3rd November The family of Eoin McCullagh	Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time [Year B]	Sunday 4 th November The family of Lauren O'Neill

*** Do This In Memory Week 2**
As the wider parish community we thank these young people and their families for this important task.

During the month of October members of the Legion of Mary supported by others in our congregation will lead us in praying the Rosary **25 minutes before** the beginning of Mass each day. Please join them or make the Rosary your special family prayer during this month.

Parish Stations: If you are willing to host a Station Mass in your home during the month of October, please book it in the Sacristy in Greencastle. Hosting a 'Station Mass' is a long tradition in the life of our Catholic parish communities. It reflects our openness to God and our hospitality to our neighbour. Hospitality should be kept as simple as possible. It is important that our priorities have the right focus.

Mass in our homes is a blessing to the family and to the local area

DATE	TOWNLAND	IN THE HOME OF
Monday 15 th October at 7.30pm	Maryville/Sheskinshule	Mary Slane
Wednesday 17 th October at 7.30pm	Formil	Mary Fox
Thursday 18 th October at 7.30pm	Leaghan	Martin and Gemma Fox
Monday 22 nd October at 7.30pm	Evishession	Sean and Josephine Clarke
Wednesday 24 th October at 7.30pm	AVAILABLE	AVAILABLE
Thursday 25 th October at 7.30pm	Formil	Sean and Michelle Clarke
Monday 29 th October at 7.30pm	Sheskinshule	Leo and Ann Donnelly

Confessions are available 30 minutes before Mass. Thank you to all families who have volunteered to host a Station Mass for your townland during the month of October.

Taize – Time of Prayer: To celebrate Mission Sunday, and to acknowledge the good work of the Apostolic Society within our diocese a Taize time of prayer will take place in St. Patrick's Church, Pennyburn, Derry on Mission Sunday (21st October from 3.00pm to 4.00pm). Afterwards there will be a presentation on missionary activity given by *Friends of Africa*, a group of young lay people who have worked on the missions. Refreshments will then be served in the Youth Centre, Pennyburn. The Apostolic Society helps to promote missionary activity by prayerful and financial support. *All past and present members, and friends, are warmly invited to come along*

Special Music Workshop: Thornhill Centre Ministries has invited Fr. Liam Lawton to lead a music workshop in the city on 11th November from 4.30pm to 6.00 pm. *For further details and booking, phone (028) 7135 1233*

BADA Upcoming Events:	Sunday 14th October at 3.30pm	Sponsored Walk. Refreshments in centre on return.
	Friday Nights at 8.30pm	Date will be confirmed next week.

Called to the Contemplative life? The Cistercian Community in Portglenone, Co. Antrim will guide a weekend of vocation discernment for men who may feel they have a vocation to the contemplative monastic life 2nd to 4th November. *Details available by calling (028) 2582 1211 or emailing vocations@bethabbey.com*

Cappagh Badoney Comhaltas Branch – Annual General Meeting: Sunday 14th October in Rouskey Community Centre at 6.00pm followed by a seisiún. *Everyone is welcome*

Diocesan Mass for Vocations: The Derry Diocesan Vocations Council is hosting a Mass for Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life in The Church of the Immaculate Conception, Strabane on Friday 19th October at 7.00pm. *Please come along and join with us in praying for Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life*

Catholic Youth Weekend: St. Joseph's Grammar School, Donaghmore for 18 to 35 year olds, 19th to 21st October. *Book online at youth2000.ie or telephone 07598 876 399 for more information*

Pope Benedict XVI's Intentions for October (please remember these in your personal prayer)
General – New Evangelisation: That the new Evangelisation may progress in the oldest Christian countries.
Missionary – World Mission Day: That the celebration of World Mission Day may result in a renewed commitment to evangelisation.

Mission Month October – Together in Faith: This theme focuses on the newly independent Republic of South Sudan. World Missions Ireland (the work of the Pontifical Mission Societies) brings prayers, solidarity and financial help of the Church in Ireland to Christian communities in other parts of the world, especially those in greatest need. Please support.

Looking for a book for your parish study group? Consider The Mystery of Work: This is a book that teaches how to turn ordinary acts into acts of prayer, a collection of insights by saints, popes and mystics about how work itself can be prayer. Recommended for spiritual development by Fr. Raphael Simon, OCSO, Trappist monk and Retreat Master. Excerpt: "I believe quite simply that it is Jesus Himself, hidden deep in my poor little heart, who works within me in a mysterious manner and inspires all my daily actions." (St. Therese of Lisieux) Free Study Guide downloadable from our website. Purchase indiv. copies at Amazon. For 5 or more copies at discounted prices, see our website. logosinstitute.org

Prayer for the Diocese of Derry at this time
 God our Father, we your people of the diocese of Derry, turn to you in prayer, as our ancestors have done, In good times and bad, since the days of Saint Columba and Saint Eugene, Saint Lurach and Saint Mura. Although aware that we are unworthy of your grace, with confidence in your love we ask your help. Support and care for our bishops in their retirement, give courage and vision to those who are called on to administer the diocese at this time. Grant your wisdom and discernment to those charged with the task of choosing your next bishop. We ask you this in the name of Jesus, your Son, our Lord.
Mary Mother of the Church, pray for us, Saint Columba, pray for us, Saint Eugene, pray for us, Saint Lurach pray for us, Saint Mura pray for us, all you saints of the diocese pray for us.
Fr. Kieran Devlin P. Em (Badoney Lower, 2012)

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 under 8 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 familycaresociety.net

Tuesday's Child - Upcoming Events
Dublin City Marathon Monday 29th October
 A lovely marathon taking in some of the main tourist attractions in Dublin. To register go to dublinmarathon.ie. For a fundraising pack email us at events@tuesdayschild.org.uk.

Get Active and make it a Win-Win for needy children: Get active, do a sponsored walk or run, swimathon or cycle and change the life of a child today. Lots of sponsored events to choose from or why not organise your own. Everything you raise, we give. No salaries, no administration cost, are taken from funds raised.

Bore Hole for Kariobangi, Nairobi: Most of us take clean drinking water for granted. We can have a glass of clean water at the turn of a tap. Millions of people are not so fortunate. Your loose change can make a difference. Help us raise funds to sink a bore hole in Kariobangi, Nairobi. Further information on tuesdayschild.ie.

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.

ACCORD Marriage Preparation Courses 2012-2013 (028)8224 2439 accordomagh@btopenworld.com
 9th and 10th November 1st and 2nd December 11th and 12th January 8th and 9th February
 8th and 9th March 12th and 13th April 10th and 11th May 7th and 8th June
 Applications to Secretary, ACCORD, Mount St., Columba Pastoral Centre, 48, Brook Street, Omagh BT78 5HD
 Courses are limited to 15 couples and must be completed at least 6 months before your wedding

IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE DIARY IN 2012

Derry Diocesan Society Mass in our Parish Friday 19th October
Friday 2nd November St. Patrick's **8.00pm** Commemoration of All Souls (remembering all who died during the year)

Action on Hearing Loss (formerly RNID): Concerned about your hearing or tinnitus problems? If you would like a hearing check, get advice or get information on services available, come to an Action on Hearing Loss FREE Drop-in Hearing Aid Clinic. Local clinics will be held in the coming weeks as follows:
Derg Valley Healthy Living Centre, Castledearg:
 Tuesday 9th October or Tuesday 13th November between 10.30am and 12noon.
Strule Medical Practice, Health Centre, Omagh:
 Wednesday 17th October or 21st November between 2.00pm and 3.30pm.
 For further details contact Lisa Bullick, Outreach Development Officer
 (tel: (028) 6632 4400, Textphone: (028) 6632 4400, Mobile: 07553 353 980)
actiononhearingloss.org.uk

Barnardo's Main Office Line for the Child Bereavement Service in Belfast Number Change:
 Please note that this number is no longer (028) 9069 4000 anymore and is now (028) 9066 8333.

The YARD Project (Columba House, 11 Queen St, Derry) – Catholic Theology for Young People (16 yrs +): A series of interactive discussions exploring what it means to be a young Catholic today. The talks will take place over four weeks (Wednesdays, 7.00pm-8.30pm) beginning 19th September. This free course will benefit A-Level Religious Studies students and any young person wanting to learn more about the Catholic faith. For more info or to register, contact Claire on (028) 7126 9113 / claireyard3@btinternet.com

Guidelines on Use of Modern Technology when Working with Children: - Use of photography and video
 The use of photography and video is an issue of great concern among those working with children. The Diocese recognises that every parish has their own arrangements in relation to its use in schools, youth groups and for the sacraments however the guidelines have been devised below to aid parishes and diocesan groups:

- It is always good practice to seek *written* permission from a parent or guardian before taking any photographs or video footage of children. This written permission must be sought from the parent/guardian or the person who owns the photograph before it can be displayed on promotional materials or websites. This can be incorporated in the registration form when a child joins a group (template permission Resource 10);
- Neither names nor any personal information should be displayed alongside any photographs;
- Special consideration should be given where taking photographs or video footage might be misinterpreted, or the images could be seen as provocative (e.g. beach trip or gymnastics display etc.). It is not to say, however, that with the right planning, these events cannot be recorded and enjoyed.
- Photography and video recording are important methods of recording social activity and providing an historic record – illustrating and validating important moments in people's lives. This process is a powerful and personal one, and therefore we must respect the rights of everyone to make the choice whether or not to be photographed.

The notice comes from the Safeguarding Policy and Procedures and is published on behalf of the Diocesan Safeguarding Committee

Our Lady's Shrine, Knock, Co. Mayo – Pilgrimage Season: Sunday 29th April – Sunday 14th October.
See poster on church notice boards or visit knock-shrine.ie || T: (00353) 94938 8100 / F: (00353) 94938 8295

NVQ Level 2 and 3 Health and Social Care and NVQ Level 3 Business Administration, Training and Work Experience: Available FREE for people out of work. Contact Omagh District Training Consortium on (028) 8224 6535 or email odtc@omagh.gov.uk.

October: Month of Mission (Theme: Growing in Communion): The Mission Alive Office of the Irish Missionary Union draws your attention to its programme of events to raise awareness of the life and service of Lay and Religious Missionaries. You are encouraged to celebrate Lay and Religious Missionaries, and their contribution to the global realities they serve, in your parish, with your parishioners and in the school(s) in your parish.
You are invited to access imu.ie or facebook.com/missionmonth

Age NI – Digital Switchover Scheme: Age NI is one of the partners in the digital switchover scheme for Northern Ireland in the run up to switchover this October. We are now recruiting for volunteers to help with the home visit service, where older and vulnerable people get a bit of extra help from volunteers, a Northern Ireland wide scheme.

Transmitting the Passion for Christ to the World

Vatican City (Monday 8th October) [VIS]

The passion for announcing Christ to the world and the knowledge that God acts in the Church were the two key themes of the brief remarks addressed this morning by Benedict XVI to the Synod Fathers at the opening of the thirteenth Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops, which is to examine the subject of new evangelisation.

The Pope explained how the question as to whether God is real is as urgent today as it was in the past. With the Gospel God broke His silence. He spoke to us and entered into history. Jesus is His Word, the God Who showed that He loved us, Who suffered with us even unto death, then rose again.

This, the Holy Father went on, is the Church's response to that great question. Yet there is another question: how to communicate this truth to the men and women of our time, that they might learn of salvation? "We cannot make the Church", he said, "we can only make known what He did. The Church did not begin with our actions but with the actions and word of God".

Having recalled how the Apostles received the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, while gathered in prayer in the Upper Room, Benedict XVI went on: "The fact, then, that each synodal assembly begins with prayer is no mere formality; rather, it is evidence of our awareness that the initiative is always God's: we may implore it, but the Church can only cooperate with God".

Having achieved this awareness, the second step is "confession"; that is, bearing witness even in dangerous situations. It is precisely such witness in moments of difficulty that is a guarantee of credibility, because it implies a readiness to give our lives for that in which we believe.

Yet, confession requires a visible form, a 'clothing'. This, the Pope explained, is charity; the most powerful force, which must burn in the hearts of Christians. Faith, he concluded, must become a flame of love within us, a flame which burns in our lives and is propagated to our neighbours. This is the essence of evangelisation.

Parish Pastoral Councils – Support Programme: As the Year of Faith begins, the 2nd phase of the Support Programme for the introduction of new Pastoral Councils in the diocese is well advanced. Seven parishes are taking part in Phase Two, which appears to be going very well to date.

I am writing to invite your participation in Phase Three of the programme which it is hoped to begin in January 2013 (see attached). The programme will be most suited to those parishes where the parish priest and interested lay members have already given serious consideration to the establishment of a Pastoral Council and where assistance is sought with the process of setting one up.

In order to provide meaningful support and formation, it is expected that the programme will be made available to eight to ten parishes in the third phase. As before, to allow a greater opportunity for learning and development during the programme, it is hoped to enrol at least two parishes from each deanery. If it continues to be successful, the programme will be reviewed and repeated for a further group of parishes in 2014.

Please consider if you and your parish are able to make the following commitments:

- The Parish Priest, other priests (if any), and three lay delegates from the Parish are prepared to attend a Study Day (on Saturday 19 January 2013) and to form a co-ordinating team for the introduction of a Pastoral Council in the Parish.
- The co-ordinating team will arrange the proposed Introductory Weekend for the parish during early February 2013, with prayers during the weekend and an explanatory homily at all Masses.
- The questionnaire on 'The Life and Future of our Parish as a Living Faith Community' will be distributed, collected and analysed before the end of March 2013.
- A Parish Assembly will be held and first members of the Pastoral Council selected in or around April - June 2013 in accordance with the Diocesan Norms.
- The first members of the new Pastoral Council will attend a residential weekend formation programme to be arranged during September-October 2013.
- The Co-ordinating team will participate in evaluation and review of the programme for the benefit of development of the programme.
- The costs of the programme will be met by the parish. *Monsignor Eamon Martin (Diocesan Administrator)*

Archdiocese of Vienna to Undergo Radical Parish Reform

Christa Pongratz-Lippitt

Monday 8th October, 11.08am

Vienna, Austria

The Vienna archdiocese, which is one of the largest in Europe and extends from the Czech frontier down to the southern Alps, will undergo radical parish reforms, reducing its 660 parishes to 150 in the next 10 years.

"This is the most comprehensive reorganisation of the Vienna archdiocese since that of Austrian Emperor Joseph II [1765-1790] 200 years ago," Cardinal Christoph Schönborn told journalists at a Sept. 19 media reception in the archbishop's palace in Vienna.

The main reasons for these measures were the increasing shortage of priests and the steady decline in the number of Catholics, especially of those who regularly attended Mass and were involved in their local parishes, the cardinal explained.

"I am fully aware that these reforms denote a far-reaching change of perspective," Schönborn said. "We must take leave of the traditional concept that the church is only present where there is a priest. That is a restricted view that has developed over time but which must now be corrected. Church is community, and leading offices in the church should in principle be carried out collaboratively, even if the parish priest has the final responsibility according to canon law." The "common priesthood of all the baptised" will take center stage from now on, Schönborn said, meaning that those who have been baptised and confirmed will be responsible for evangelisation and pastoral work. The reform is meant to bring about a new form of cooperation between priests and lay Catholics based on their common vocation to Christianity, he said.

The reforms are scheduled to start in January, and if everything goes according to plan, 80 percent of today's parishes would be amalgamated by 2022, Schönborn said. It is not yet possible to predict exactly how many nor which parishes would survive, he said, but several hundreds of the present parishes would certainly find themselves part of one large central parish in 10 years' time, the cardinal explained.

Several priests -- "at least three to five" -- would be active in each of the central parishes and would run the parish jointly with lay parishioners.

"Participatory leadership with clear task allocation" was the aim, Schönborn said. One priest in each of the central parishes would be responsible to the archbishop.

Within these large central parishes, there would be many small affiliated communities run only by lay Catholics who would work voluntarily. The cardinal expressly emphasised that no parishes would be closed, but smaller parishes might be amalgamated with larger ones.

Catholics would have to travel to one of the large central parishes to celebrate the Eucharist, but Services of the Word would be celebrated by the laypeople running the local affiliated communities.

Church activities would be dedicated to evangelisation to a far greater extent than they had been up to now, Schönborn said.

"More and more vibrant communities will be able to develop," he said, as there would be less administrative work, costs would be bundled, resources pooled and thus "more time left for evangelisation."

"There are still many problems to be solved. We will have to say goodbye to a great deal of what has become dear to us, but the farewell is at the same time a new departure," Schönborn said.

The reforms were criticised by the Catholic reform group Austrian Priests' Initiative, which is in favour of ordaining married men and women to relieve the shortage of priests.

"Reacting to a mass retreat by retreating oneself is not a good solution," Msgr. Helmut Schüller, a founder of the Austrian Priests' Initiative, told the Austrian daily Die Presse. "We are withdrawing from our local parish churches instead of strengthening them."

"In large parishes which cover extensive geographical areas, many of our parishioners will feel lost and go astray, said Schüller, Schönborn's former vicar-general. "Many contacts will be lost and much closeness and presence will be lost, too."

As parish priest of a small, flourishing parish in lower Austria, Schüller said he could not imagine his parish being merged into a large central parish because an "immense amount of blood, sweat and tears but also time and energy has been invested in it."

The community of the faithful was a "very precious asset" that was hardly mentioned in the new reform plans, Schüller said.

According to an Oekonsult poll, 86% of Austrians see the amalgamation of parishes as "problematic."

Christa Pongratz-Lippitt is an Austrian correspondent for the London-based weekly Catholic magazine The Tablet

Tumaini (Hope) 2012: Please help orphanages in Kenya by supporting Tumaini (Hope) 2012 at the Millennium Forum on Sunday 21st October at 8.00pm. West End Soloists and Toccata Choir will take you on a magic carpet ride into the music of The Beatles, The Bee Gees, ABBA, Simon and Garfunkel, The Mamas and Papas, Michael Jackson and many more. Tickets: £12.50 Millennium Box office: (028) 7126 4455 TOCCATA, a cross community choir from Northern Ireland, including members from the Derry Diocese, have been working with a team of health professionals and have already sent out much needed medical equipment to Kenya. At the end of October the Tumaini team will travel to work voluntarily in Kenya. The highly trained medical volunteers will be donating their time and skills to The Morris Moses Foundation and local health charities. Meanwhile the West End Soloists and Toccata Choir will perform concerts, which (in Kenya) will include a 100 strong children's choir from local Kenyan orphanages. The fundraising from these concerts will go directly to the orphanages involved in the project. *All support greatly appreciated*

This Week's Calendar of Feasts and Saints:

- Monday 15th October – St. Teresa of Avila [1515-1682]** Established Carmelite convents under a reformed rule and wrote much on prayer and the spiritual life. Patron of lacemakers, and headache sufferers.
- Tuesday 16th October – St. Gall** Monk of Bangor and set out with Columbanus for the continent. When Columbanus was exiled from France, Gall accompanied him to Bregenz on Lake Constance. When Columbanus crossed into Italy, Gall remained in Switzerland. He lived in a hermitage, which later became the monastery of St. Gallen. Died around 630.
St. Hedwig [1174-1243] Wife of the Duke of Silesia, mother of seven children, some of whom caused her trouble, devoted herself to charitable works.
St. Margaret Mary [1647-1690] Visionary and ascetic, revived devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and was exemplary in her patience and trust.
- Wednesday 17th October – St. Ignatious of Antioch (bishop and martyr)** Died a martyr in Rome c.107. He urged Christians to unity in and through the Eucharist and around their local bishop.
- Thursday 18th October – St. Luke (Evangelist)** A physician from a Gentile Christian milieu. He was with St. Paul on his second missionary journey and during his imprisonment in Rome. After Paul's death he is reputed to have worked in Greece. Patron Saint of butchers, book-binders, doctors, surgeons, artists and glassworkers.
- Friday 19th October – St. John de Brébeuf, St. Isaac Jogues and Companions (martyrs)**
 All slain by Huron and Iroquois Indians in 1647 / 1648.
St. Paul of the Cross (priest) [1694-1775] Founded the Passionists in Rome, preaching on the Passion of Christ, and tending the sick, dying and the lapsed.

Seeing your life through the lens of the gospels – Mark 10:17-30: *John Byrne OSA (john@orlagh.ie)*

1. We often get satisfaction from the things we own, clothes, cars, homes, gadgets or money. There would be something unnatural if we did not. But what happens to us when our possessions begin to 'own' us, when they take a hold of us, when we become obsessed with them? Jesus seeks followers who have the freedom to let go of possessions in order to be a servant of others. In whom have you seen this freedom? When have you experienced it yourself?
2. Growth implies change. That change sometimes means letting go of something we have at this moment: job, status, home, security or something else we value. There can be an apparent loss in letting go. Yet have you ever found that you actually gained by having the freedom to let go of something to which you had previously clung?
3. The disciples thought that Jesus was making impossible demands of people following him. He acknowledged that discipleship was impossible to us on our own efforts alone. How have you experienced the benefits of the help of others and of God when you were faced with difficulties in life?

Questions people ask: *Fr. Silvester O'Flynn OFM Cap (silvesteroflynn@gmail.com)*

- Q. What would you hope to come from the Year of Faith?
- A. An ancient tradition sees the spiritual life as a tripod supported by the three legs of prayerfulness, study and action. All three are needed for a balanced spirituality. Nowadays the weakest leg is study. Religious education at home, in schools and in preaching has been lacking the backbone of solid doctrine. Many people today are well educated in various fields of knowledge but lack an adult knowledge of their religion. The wonderful documents of the Second Vatican Council need to be looked at with fresh eyes. My hope is that the Year of Faith will be accepted as a challenge to get adult religious programmes up and running.

The Deep End – The Impossible if often the Untried: *Jane Mellett (janemellett@yahoo.com)*

As I am writing this, the Olympics have just finished and I have been glued to the TV for two weeks of good news stories, images of solidarity, humanity at its best and the universal language of sport breaking down all cultural and political barriers (if only for 16 days). What struck me most was the interview given by Katie Taylor right after she won her gold medal, her first words being 'Where would I be without God in my life?' Katie decided aged 11 she would be Olympic champion and aged 26 that's exactly what she achieved. Katie talks of the Bible as her psychological tool and Jesus as the strength in her life.

The man in today's Gospel is a man of faith but he wants to know what rules to obey and what things to avoid so that he can simply get on with things and achieve some deeper existence without too much bother. The man goes away sad perhaps thinking about a goal he had set but not achieved because he was unwilling to give everything. What Jesus asks seems impossible to him. We are not given impossible tasks. We are given dreams that can be achieved but that will involve hard work, determination, perseverance and bouts along the way. There is no easy path to a deeper involvement with life, whether that be in our relationship with God or with a community, a special cause or a lifelong dream. We are reminded that 'all things are possible with God'.