



Parish of Greencastle, Co. Tyrone (Diocese of Derry)
St. Patrick's, Greencastle **Our Lady of the Wayside, Broughderg**
Fifth Sunday of Easter [Year C] (15th May, 2022)
 Parochial House, 164, Greencastle Road, Sheskinshule, Omagh, BT79 7RU
Website: greencastleparish.com • **Email:** greencastlepp@yahoo.com • **Tel:** (028) 816 48474

Thought for Easter: "If this mission may sometimes seem difficult, call to mind the words of the Risen Lord: 'I am with you always, to the close of the age' (Matthew 28:20). Certain of his presence, you shall fear no difficulty and no obstacle. His word will enlighten you; his Body and his Blood will nourish you and sustain you on your daily journey to eternity."
St. John Paul II (2004)

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| Saturday 14th May | St. Patrick's | 11.00am First Holy Communion Mass 6.00pm Vigil Mass: Martin O'Hagan (17 th Anniv.) |
| Sunday 15th May Fifth Sunday of Easter [Yr. C] | Our Lady of Wayside | 11.30am Mass |
| Tuesday 17th May | St. Patrick's | 9.30am Mass |
| Wednesday 18th May | St. Patrick's | 2.00pm to 4.00pm Adoration |
| Thursday 19th May | St. Patrick's | 10.00am Mass |
| Friday 20th May | St. Patrick's | 7.30pm Mass |
| Saturday 21st May | St. Patrick's | 6.00pm Vigil Mass |
| Sunday 22nd May Sixth Sunday of Easter [Yr. C] | St. Patrick's | 11.30am Mass |

COLLECTIONS **Weekly:** £885 **Diocesan Purposes:** £550 *Thank you for your generosity*

Baptism: We offer our prayers and best wishes to the family and friends of **Doireann Rose McDermott** who was welcomed into the family of God through the Sacrament of Baptism on Saturday 7th May in St. Patrick's Church.

First Holy Communion: We congratulate the 12 Primary 4 children of Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School who made their First Holy Communion this weekend in St. Patrick's Church. We thank the principal, teacher, classroom assistant, choir and musicians and all who prepared the children for this beautiful ceremony. Thank you to the parents and families of the boys and girls who presented them so well. May they now be nourished often at the table of the Lord and receive Jesus in Holy Communion along with their families at Parish Mass each weekend. God bless them all. *Amen*

Remembering Our Dead: We pray for the happy repose of the souls of **Martin O'Hagan (17th)** and **Francis (Myles) McCullagh (15th)** whose anniversaries occur at this time. We also pray for the recently deceased **Annie O'Neill, Josie Keenan, Laurence O'Neill, Oliver McCullagh, Stephen McCullagh**, now enrolled in the Derry Diocesan Society. *May they rest in peace and rise in glory*

Gamblers Anonymous: Is gambling affecting your life? Perhaps we can help. Call us on (028) 7135 1329

Parish Office Closure: Unfortunately the dates for the closure of the Parish Office were wrong in last week's bulletin. It will actually be closed from this coming week until Tuesday 17th May at 11.00am. Any urgent messages for the bulletin or anniversary announcements should be left on the answering machine by calling (028) 8164 8203 by Wednesday 11th May at 6.30pm. *Sorry for the mistake and any further inconvenience caused*

A Prayer for Now: God of the present moment, God who in Jesus stills the storm and soothes the frantic heart; Bring hope and courage to us as we wait in uncertainty. Bring hope that you will make us the equal of whatever lies ahead. Bring us to endure what cannot be avoided, for your will is health and wholeness; you are God and we need you. *Amen*

Next Week's Readings: Acts 15:1-2, 22-29 • Psalm 66:2-3, 5-6, 8, R/ v 4 • Apocalypse 21:10-14, 22-23
 John 14:23-29 • Lectionary 1:539 **Sunday [Year C] • Weekday [Year 1]**

Adoration of Blessed Sacrament: Every Wednesday from 2.00pm to 4.00pm. All are welcome and encouraged to spend some time, however long or short, with our Eucharistic Lord. Following the request of Bishop McKeown, we set aside the first hour from 2.00pm to 3.00pm to pray for the intention of Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life. The hour from 3.00pm to 4.00pm will be to pray for the needs of the Parish of Greencastle.
Stay here, keep watch with me, watch and pray

Surprising things in the Catechism of the Catholic Church: Think fake news is only a recent problem? The Catechism already condemns it: "Society has a right to information based on truth, freedom, justice, and solidarity. The proper exercise of this right demands that the content be true – and within the limits set by justice and charity – complete."
 CCC 2494

Cappagh / Badoney CCE – Seisun to Remember Our Late Chairman Tom Blew:
 Saturday 14th May at 8.30pm in Plumbridge Parochial Hall
 All musicians, singers, reciters and listeners are most welcome. Refreshments will be served. We want to make this a night to remember. Tom remembered everyone, on Saturday night we plan to remember Tom.

An Irish Pilgrimage Guide to the Holy Land: A new book by Michael Kelly, Editor of The Irish Catholic newspaper which explores the places associated with the life of Christ. Michael, who has led many pilgrimages to the Holy Land, says he hopes the book can also act as an 'armchair retreat' for people who cannot travel to the Holy Land bringing the Gospel to life for them. Available now from all good bookshops and www.columbabooks.com price €16.99 / £14.99

Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes – Places Still Available:
 Sunday 3rd to Friday 8th July, (ex. Belfast) £689 pp sharing.
 Pilgrimage Office, 164 Bishop Street, Derry • (028) 7126 0293 • derrypilgrim@outlook.com
All intending pilgrims are asked to return application forms and full payment by Saturday 28th May

St. Patrick's Church – Cleaners Urgently Needed: Please consider volunteering for one month in the year. You are not expected to provide flowers and any help you can give will be very much appreciated, thank you.
If you think you can help call Maria on (028) 8164 8357 or via WhatsApp on 07768 395 038

Fr. Shields Camogie Club, Greencastle: An invitation is extended to anyone who would like to try camogie for the first time or return to the game they love. We welcome anyone who would like to try at the following training sessions:
 Mondays, 7.30pm to 8.30pm (seniors) Wednesdays, (post-primary, 7.00pm to 8.00pm (U14s and U16s)
 Thursdays, 6.30pm to 7.10pm (U6s and U7s) *Support will be given to those who have never played before*
 We can assist with online registration, sticks and helmets can be provided during training sessions and matches
 Add our club page and message us or come on the nights at the above times
 @frshields.greencastle or call Kira on +44 7833 4188 50

Parish Bulletin: During much of the last two years while the churches were in various stages of lockdown our Parish Bulletin has been available in printed form at the Centra Store in Greencastle, the Post Office in Broughderg and the Church Porches from late Friday afternoon, this weekend will mark the end of that arrangement. I wish to sincerely thank all those who accommodated us in this way. Now, with all areas of the parish are able to go mass each weekend once more it is time to return to picking up the bulletin at mass. The online edition of the bulletin will continue to be available on the Parish website (greencastleparish.com) and the Greencastle Parish Facebook Page from 5.30pm every Friday. Any notices or anniversaries for inclusion should be emailed to greencastlepp@yahoo.com by Wednesday at 7.30pm at the latest.

Derry Diocesan Prayer for Vocations
 Lord Jesus Christ, gentle shepherd, you know your sheep, and you know how to reach their hearts. Give to the people of the diocese of Derry hearts that are open to the call of the Holy Spirit. Speak to the hearts of the faithful men and women of our diocese, that they may hear your call to follow you and serve your people as priests, consecrated religious and consecrated virgins. Awaken in them the courage to answer: "Here I am, Lord. Send me." St. Eugene, pray for us. St. Columba, pray for us. St. John Vianney, pray for us.

Pope Francis' Intention for May (please remember this in your personal prayers)

For Faith-Filled Young People: We pray for all young people, called to live life to the fullest; may they see in Mary's life the way to listen, the depth of discernment, the courage that faith generates, and dedication to service.

Towards Peace: A spiritual support service designed for those who have experienced sexual, physical, emotional or spiritual abuse by Catholic Church personnel in Ireland. Support is also available for family members of abuse survivors. The vision of Towards Peace is to provide a safe supportive space, where people who have been affected by abuse in a Church context can be accompanied as they seek their own experience of spiritual peace, one step at a time. Towards Peace provides spiritual support through one-to-one spiritual direction sessions, with a qualified spiritual companion. Up to 9 sessions are offered and they are free.

Website: towardspeace.ie • **Tel:** 01 505 3028 • **Email:** towardspeace@jecon.ie

The Spiritual Benefits of Weekly Eucharistic Adoration

It helps us to grow in holiness. Jesus is ready to lavish on us, many extra graces and blessings, when we come and spend time with Him in Adoration. It helps us to appreciate Priesthood. Remember, "No Priests, no Eucharist". It is an established fact that where Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is worshipped and adored vocations flourish. When we spend time with Jesus in Eucharistic Adoration each week or more often, we experience a great peace and contentment.

"...of all devotions, that of adoring Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is the greatest after the Sacraments themselves". *Pope St. John Paul II*

Eucharistic Adoration Prayer Intentions for each hour of weekly Adoration

12noon – 1.00pm Vocation to Priesthood and Religious Life

1.00pm – 2.00pm Married couples and those preparing for Marriage

2.00pm – 3.00pm Sick and the Housebound • **3.00pm – 4.00pm** Strengthening of Faith in our young people

4.00pm – 5.00pm Parish Unity • **5.00pm – 6.00pm** Protecting life and the Earth

6.00pm – 7.00pm The Holy Souls and the Bereaved

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 all to make the choice whether or not to be photographed.

From Safeguarding Policy and Procedures, published on behalf of the Diocesan Safeguarding Committee

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 / 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 entrance

Parish Liturgy for May

St. Patrick's (6.00pm Vigil)

Our Lady of the Wayside (11.30am)

| Readers | St. Patrick's (6.00pm Vigil) | Our Lady of the Wayside (11.30am) |
|----------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| Eucharistic Ministry | Kathleen Bradley | Patricia Donnelly |
| Prayers of Faithful | Eimear Tracey | Laioise Teague |
| Altar Society | Dee Gardner, Maria Bradley and JP2 Students | Anne McDermott |

Pope Francis' Prayer for Protection: O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick. At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith. You know what we need. We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine. Love to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us: He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen. We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God. Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test – and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

Prayer for Synod on Synodality (2021 – 2023)

We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name. With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts; Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it. We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder. Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions.

Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right. All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever. *Amen*

Radio Maria Ireland: An Irish-run Catholic Talk-Radio Station with commercial-free broadcasting of Prayer, Catechesis, Music, Talks, Interviews and Testimonies based at St. Anthony's Business Park, Ballymount Road, Dublin 22. If you are not already a follower of the station Radio Maria Ireland encourage you to join their growing faith family! Prayer / song requests welcome. "A Catholic voice in your home". Fr Eamonn McCarthy is Director.

You can tune in to the station in a variety of ways:

Digital TV - Saorview Channel 210 / Freeview TV (Channel number varies per location in NI)

Download FREE App "RADIO MARIA IRELAND"

Streaming on radiomarie.ie (subscribe and donate here also)

'Listen Live Radio' link on Facebook Page. (Like, Share and Follow us on Facebook)

Phone – get live radio feed by calling 003531 437 3277 (no extra charges apply).

Mid Ulster Agewell: Are you over 50 years old? Do you live in the Mid Ulster Council area? Would you like a free phone call in the morning to reduce the feeling of loneliness and isolation, reassurance and a listening ear and help keep you up to date with social activities in your local area? A phone call can be arranged between 8.30am and 12.30pm from Monday to Friday.

For more info call Marie Devlin on (028) 796 32170 or email marie.devlin@agewellpartnership.org

Northern Ireland Adoption and Foster Care:

With an increase in children and young people needing foster homes across Northern Ireland, we need you now. Every child deserves to have a happy, loving and safe home where they'll feel cared for, valued and supported.

It's always the right time for fostering.

Call us on 0800 0720 137 or visit adoptionandfostercare.hscni.net

#HSCNIFosterCare #FosterForYourCommunity #CouldYouFoster

National Vocations Office: "It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit and then you will be my disciples." Are you being called to love the Lord and His people as a diocesan priest? If you are considering such a vocation, contact your local priest or the Diocesan Vocations Director Fr. Pat O'Hagan, PP Merville at pgoh2111@gmail.com or email the National Vocations Office: info@vocations.ie

The Millennium Forum – Changing Place Facility: This is a space which provides a private area for people who require an adult changing bench, hoist and toilet. Over ¼ million people need Changing Places toilets to enable them to get out and about and enjoy the day-to-day activities many of us take for granted. The Millennium Forum Changing Place is open to all members of the public, not only people attending the theatre.
Call our Access and Inclusion Officer Lisa Heaney on (028) 7126 4455 (choose option 1) or email lisah@millenniumforum.co.uk

What is Spiritual Communion? It has long been a Catholic understanding that when circumstances prevent one from receiving Holy Communion, it is possible to make an Act of Spiritual Communion, which is a source of grace. Spiritual Communion is an ardent desire to receive Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament and lovingly embrace him at a time or in circumstances when one cannot receive Him in sacramental Communion. The most common reason for making an Act of Spiritual Communion is when a person cannot attend Mass. Acts of Spiritual Communion increase our desire to receive sacramental Communion and help us avoid the sins that would make us unable to receive Holy Communion worthily.

Drink Wise, Age Well: Are you over 50? Are you worried about your own or someone else's alcohol use?
For confidential information, advice and support call (028) 8283 9240

Barnardo's NI – Can You Foster? Could you give a home to a vulnerable child when they need it most? Fostering is about giving them a safe, secure place to live for a few weeks, months or even years. Barnardo's Fostering NI is looking for foster carers. Foster placements can be long-term, short-term, emergency, short breaks and parent and child together. You must be over 21 to foster and must have a spare bedroom in your home. Foster carers are offered a fostering fee and allowances; they are given training and support.
To learn more call (028) 9065 2288 or visit barnardos.org.uk/foster

Kindercare Fostering NI: Could you help a child in need? We are a not-for-profit organisation which works to find safe, secure and loving homes for children and young people in need in Northern Ireland. If you are interested in finding out more:
Tel: (028) 9094 1690 • **Email:** gillian.devlin@kindercare.co.uk • **Website:** kindercareni.co.uk

Our Faith – Developing What We Were Taught in School:

- Was RE just a subject in school? Would you like to really to understand it in practice?
- Are you open to deepening your understanding of your Catholic Faith?
- Do you want to better understand the Mass - the celebration to the Eucharist?
- Would you like to explore, discuss and reflect upon issues and questions of faith, the Church, and how to link faith to your everyday life?

The Pathways Adult Faith Programme by Drumalis Retreat Centre, Larne, addresses these questions and more. This two-year faith development programme, delivered one Saturday per month from October to June is available either in-house at Drumalis or by Zoom video-conferencing. *More info, enrolment visit drumalis.co.uk/pathways*

Epilepsy Action NI: Are you, or someone you care for, living with epilepsy or brain injury? Epilepsy Action NI and Headway work in partnership to deliver a community-based counselling service in Omagh. The Counselling service is for people over the age of 18 who are affected by epilepsy and / or brain injury or are caring for someone with epilepsy / brain injury and would like some emotional support.

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| Wednesday 2nd March Ash Wednesday | Thursday 31st March at 7.00pm First Confession (Greencastle) | Saturday 9th April at 11.00am Confirmation (Greencastle) |
| Saturday 14th May at 11.00am First Communion (Greencastle) | Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th June Blessing of the Graves in Greencastle / Broughderg | |

| 2020 | PARISH STATISTICS | 2021 |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| (17) 8 Boys • 9 Girls | Baptisms | 10 Boys • 7 Girls [17] |
| (11) 4 Boys • 7 Girls | First Communion | 7 Boys • 9 Girls [16] |
| (14) 7 Boys • 7 Girls | Confirmation | 10 Boys • 6 Girls [16] |
| 0 within parish • 1 outside parish | Weddings | 5 within parish • 2 outside parish [7] |
| 8 | Deaths and Burials | 12 |

Seeing your Life through the Lens of the Gospel: *John Byrne OSA (jbyrneosa@gmail.com)*

1. Judas leaves and Jesus announces that the moment has come for God's power to be made manifest. This is unexpected at a moment of imminent betrayal. Have there been times for you when the power of God was made manifest in strange circumstances?
2. 'I shall not be with you much longer.' Jesus announces a parting of the ways. There are places we have to go in life where others cannot come with us. There are places others have to go and we cannot accompany them. When have you experienced this going on alone as necessary for a fuller life for yourself, or for someone else?
3. Jesus proclaims love as the distinguishing characteristic of his followers. Have there been times when reaching out to others has heightened your sense of walking in the footsteps of Jesus?
4. Who are the individuals or communities whose love for one another and for others has been a witness to you? Perhaps you have seen examples of this during the Covid pandemic, or in the response to the plight of refugees from Ukraine or from other countries in crisis.

Accord Counselling Services: Ireland's leading agency supporting marriage and relationships, nationwide through its 60 Centres. Our aim is to help couples prepare for, achieve and sustain their marriage and family relationships, offer ongoing support and assist them in times of difficulty or crisis. Available to couples regardless of their faith, denomination or none. *To avail of this call (028) 8224 2439 or email omagh@accordni.com*

Annual Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lough Derg: Friday 24th to Sunday 26th June. Bishop McKeown will lead the pilgrimage and invites you to join him. Booking is essential, call Diocesan Catechetical Centre at +44 28 7126 4087 or email lizzie.rea@derrydiocese.org. £80 which includes return transport from St. Eugene's Cathedral, Derry.

Prayer for the End of the Virus: Almighty and merciful Father, who show your love to all your creation. We come before you asking for an end of the Coronavirus currently ravaging our world. Hear graciously the prayers we make for those affected by the virus in various parts of the world. Grant healing to the sick, eternal life to the dead and consolation to the bereaved families. We pray that an effective medicine to combat the sickness be speedily found. We pray for the relevant governments and health authorities, that they take appropriate steps for the good of the people. Look upon us in your mercy and forgive us our failings. *Amen*

Accord Catholic Marriage Care Service – Seeking Marriage Preparation Programme Facilitators:
 Accord is seeking registration of interest from those who have a positive attitude towards marriage in the Catholic Church and the enthusiasm to be part of a team supporting couples who are preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage, they have 54 centres in dioceses across the island. Successful applicants will receive professional training and will be part of a team delivering marriage preparation programmes locally in accordance with best practice.
 Call Deirdre on 07980 898 399 or email info@accordni.com. Closing date for receipt of registration of interest forms to be included in Selections for this year is Friday 27th May.
Registration of Interest form and additional information about becoming a facilitator is available on accordni.com

St. Vincent de Paul Helpline: For those in need of assistance please call 07738 837 992

Deanery of Tyrone Statistics
 17 Parishes in West Tyrone and East Donegal. An estimated Catholic population of 65,670 people are currently served by 20 Derry Diocesan priests under retirement age with assistance of 3 priests in residence and a chaplain to the Polish community.
 8 parishes (47%) have a Catholic population of less than 3,000
 6 parishes (35%) have a Catholic population of 3,000-7,000 people
 3 parishes (18%) have a Catholic population of greater than 7,000 people
 The largest parish serves an estimated 11,500 Catholics
 7 parishes have 1,500 parishioners or less (7,900 combined) each with a resident priest. Is this sustainable?
 In 2008 there were 27 diocesan clergy under retirement age ministering in the Tyrone Deanery, as of 2018 that number is 20. 7 Parish Priests currently serving in the deanery will reach 75 before 2025.
 The maximum number of ordinations across the Derry Diocese by 2025 is 3.
 Age profile: 1 priest is in his 30s, 1 in 40s, 7 in 50s, 6 in 60s and 5 in 70s
 The clergy population has dropped 26% between 2008 and 2018 and by 2025 will have dropped by 52%