


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

Sixth Sunday of Easter [Year A] (17th May, 2020)

Thought for the Easter Season: "The Resurrection teaches us that God can overcome anything, even death. When the Risen Christ appears to the women at the tomb and later to his disciples, his first words are "Do not be afraid!" (Mt 28:5,10) These words speak to our hearts, helping us cope with the fear from the loss of a job, a serious illness, or a crumbling relationship. Our faith allows us to trust that God can overcome our most serious problems."
Loyola Press

Liturgy Schedule for the Sixth Week of Easter [Year A] (17th May – 24th May)

| | | | |
|--|---------------|----------------|---|
| Saturday 16th May | Facebook Live | 12 noon | Regina Coeli and Rosary |
| | | 6.00pm | Vigil Mass: Bridie Clarke (1 st Anniversary) |
| Sunday 17th May Sixth Sunday of Easter [Year A] | Facebook Live | 11.00am | Mass (Missa pro Populo) |
| | | 12 noon | Regina Coeli and Rosary |
| Monday 18th May | Facebook Live | 10.00am | Mass |
| | | 6.00pm | Adoration, Regina Coeli and Rosary before Eucharistic Walk (night 4) |
| Tuesday 19th May | Facebook Live | 10.00am | Mass |
| | | 6.00pm | Adoration, Regina Coeli and Rosary before Eucharistic Walk (night 5) |
| Wednesday 20th May | Facebook Live | 5.00pm | Adoration |
| | | 6.45pm | Reflection and Benediction |
| | | 7.30pm | Mass |
| Thursday 21st May | Facebook Live | 10.00am | Mass |
| | | 6.00pm | Adoration, Regina Coeli and Rosary before Eucharistic Walk (night 6) |
| Friday 22nd May | Facebook Live | 10.00am | Mass |
| | | 5.45pm | Parish Announcements |
| | | 6.00pm | Regina Coeli and Rosary |
| Saturday 23rd May | Facebook Live | 12 noon | Regina Coeli and Rosary |
| | | 6.00pm | Vigil Mass of the Ascension: John James Donnelly (23 rd Anniversary) |
| Sunday 17th May Ascension of the Lord [Year A] | Facebook Live | 11.00am | Mass (Missa pro Populo) |
| | | 12 noon | Regina Coeli and Rosary |

Weekly Collection: £794 *Thank you for your continued generosity*

Remembering our Dead: We pray for the happy repose of the soul of **Barney Gumley (Cavan)** (brother of Tom, Geraldine and Frank of Maryville) who died last week. We also pray for the soul of **Bridie Clarke (1st)** whose anniversary occurs at this time and for all who have died due to Covid-19

Holy Water Availability: Please note that the Holy Water barrels are now presently placed outside the main doors of both St. Patrick's and Our Lady of the Wayside Churches while the churches remain closed. We will endeavour to ensure that there is Holy Water in both of them. However, if either is empty there is a small green bucket with Holy Water at the porch of the Parochial House.

May Altars: This is the month of Mary and I am inviting families, especially our children to share photos of their family May Altar with our Parish of Greencastle, Co. Tyrone Facebook Page. We can then share these over the course of the month (perhaps one each day if we receive a sufficient number). We look forward to receiving your photos and remember to use your altar as a place to gather around as a family and pray the Rosary.
Our Lady, Queen of Ireland pray for us

Anniversary Masses and Names: As mass continues to be celebrated every day from the Parochial House Oratory it is still possible to request a mass for deceased loved ones. The mass can be offered as the intention for each day apart from Sunday which is Missa pro Populo (Mass for the People of the Parish). You can also continue to have the names of the deceased prayed for at the weekend masses and included in the Parish Bulletin Online / Facebook and in the restricted number of printed copies. Call Fr. Gallagher on (028) 8164 8474 or leave a note at the Parochial House or in the new letterbox on the side door of the Sacristy facing the road.

Next Week's Readings: Acts 1:1-11 • Psalm 46:2-3, 6-9, R/ V6 • Ephesians 1:17-23
 Matthew 28:16-20 • Lectionary 1:549 **Sunday [Year A] • Weekday [Year 1]**

Eucharistic Blessing Walk: I will be continuing our series of Eucharistic Blessing Walks this coming week on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evening. Thanks to all who came out for the blessing during the past week. It was very encouraging to witness. Like last week we will begin each evening at 6.00pm on Facebook Live from the Parochial House Oratory with the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament followed by Regina Coeli and Rosary, a short period of silent Adoration and at 6.25pm an introduction to the route for the evening. I will carry a small monstrance with the Blessed Sacrament with me and silently bless each family as I pass by. As I will be carrying the Blessed Sacrament this walk will take place in silence, therefore I will not be stopping for a chat. As with the Rosary we will be seeking God's blessing on our parish and families and praying for our physical, spiritual and temporal well-being during these difficult times. Here are the routes for this week.
Fr. Eddie Gallagher PP

Monday 18th May Gorticashel / Broughderg Rd junction turning right onto Keerin Rd, right onto Crock Rd, right onto Morris Rd and left onto Broughderg Rd returning to starting point.

Tuesday 19th May Cashel / Greencastle Rd (at Coyle's) turning left onto Aghaboy Rd, left onto Aughamerrigan Rd, left onto Greencastle Rd (to Coyle's) right onto Cashel Rd, left onto Greencastle Rd returning to start.

Thursday 20th May Carnrancy / Greencastle Rd junction, left onto Gorticashel Rd to Glenhull, right to Greencastle Rd turning into Mill Cottages then back to starting point through Muninamale.

The Net – May Edition: Due to Covid-19 restrictions this will not be printed, but it is available now online on the diocesan website (derrydiocese.org). As always, it covers a wide range of events, there are loads of interviews and photos, and plenty of news from parishes and people from all around the diocese. There is also a great section devoted to youth news and activities.

FAN THE FLAME MASS 2020: Thursday 4th June was to be our Fan the Flame Mass at Celtic Park Derry, where we come together to celebrate all of the young people in our diocese who have received the sacrament of Confirmation and who are preparing to move to the next stage of their education. Unfortunately, that will not be possible this year. We do hope that these young people will experience the full Fan the Flame in the future as it is such a joy-filled day for all of us. To mark the end of their primary education, Bishop McKeown will celebrate the 10.00am Mass in St. Eugene's Cathedral for them that day via the webcam. steugenescathedral.com/webcam.html

Community Coordination Hub: Fermanagh and Omagh District Council Covid-19 Community Coordination Hub will respond to requests received from the NI Covid-19 Community Helpline to assist residents who may have become isolated and vulnerable due to the impacts of Coronavirus and the associated mitigation measures. The Hub will work with the local community and voluntary sector to ensure those most at risk will have access to support services such as food, medication, practical and emotional support. **Access to Food Parcels** provided by the Department for Communities are available for anyone who can't leave their home to access food due to Covid-19 restrictions, don't have support through family, friends or access to food deliveries from local suppliers, or face food insecurity. Please complete the Food Parcel Request Form and a member of the Council's Community Coordination Hub will contact you. We aim to respond to requests within 24 hours. Referrals to Fermanagh and Omagh District Council's Coordination Hub for other support services are directed through the NI Covid-19 Community Helpline:
Freephone 0808 802 0020 Text ACTION to 81025 Email covid19@adviceni.net
 Support and advice is available from 9.00am to 5.00pm, seven days a week.

The Messenger: Messenger Publications are offering a free online copy of the May edition (and possibly further editions) of The Messenger, given that it is impossible to distribute the paper copy in the usual manner. To access the May edition, visit issuu.com/messengerpublications/docs/05_messenger_may_2020. Even if you do not normally receive The Messenger you are welcome to access this link. *If you have difficulty email c.henry@messenger.ie*

Regina Coeli Prayer: This prayer in honour of our Lady and our Lord to mark the Lord's Resurrection replaces the Angelus during the Easter Season which concludes on Pentecost Sunday.
 Queen of Heaven rejoice, alleluia; Pray for us to God, alleluia.
 For He Whom you did merit to bear, alleluia, Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.
 Has risen as He said, alleluia. For the Lord has truly risen, alleluia.
 Let us pray. O God, Who gave joy to the world through the resurrection of Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, grant we beseech Thee, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, His mother, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life. Through the same Christ our Lord. *Amen*

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

For Deacons: We pray that deacons, faithful in their service to the Word and the poor, may be an invigorating symbol for the entire Church.

Alcoholics Anonymous: Can't stop? There is a solution.

Call AA on (028) 9035 1222 or email csoofaa@btinternet.com. alcoholicsanonymous.ie.

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

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 service call (028) 8224 2439 or email omagh@accordni.com*

Trócaire – Recruiting Volunteers: To support their fundraising, campaigning and education work in Ireland.

If you are interested in volunteering visit trocaire.org/getinvolved/volunteer or call (028) 9080 8030 for more info

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.

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

Rural Support: We could help you with financial stress by

Providing free, confidential face-to-face support • Easing the burden of dealing with debt
Helping you identify a way forward • Supporting you to take action

Email: info@ruralsupport.org.uk **Website:** ruralsupport.org.uk

To speak with someone in confidence call our helpline on 0845 606 7 606

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

Accord Counselling Services: Available to couples regardless of their faith or denomination.

If you would like to avail call (028) 8224 2439 or email omagh@accordni.com

Join the Derry Youth Community (DYC) Adventure: If you are between the ages of 18 and 25 and considering a Gap Year experience why not consider one with a difference? The DYC are a community of faith and service located in the heart of Derry City and serving the young people of the Diocese of Derry.

If faith is important in your life, and you are attracted to the ideal of service, you can find more information by visiting derryyouthcommunity.com or emailing dyc@derrydiocese.org

KinderCare Fostering NI: Could you help a child in need? Northern Ireland is currently experiencing a severe shortage of foster carers and particularly carers from the Catholic Community. 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) 90941690 • **Email:** gillian.devlin@kindercare.co.uk • **Website:** kindercareni.co.uk

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

Red Cross: Can you spare 1 hour a week? Would you like to help the Red Cross care for people in your local community? We are looking for volunteers for our wheelchair service and volunteer drivers to help with deliveries and collections. No experience necessary. Full training provided and volunteer expenses reimbursed.

Call Julie White on (028) 7186 3764 / (078) 0302 4011

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*

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*

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

Covid-19 – Notice: All GAA activities, card playing and community activities suspended until further notice

Commercial Free Catholic Talk-Radio Station for Ireland – Radio Maria Ireland (RMI):

Commercial free prayer, catechesis, uplifting music, talks, interviews and testimonies

Listen via the app 'RADIO MARIA IRELAND' on mobile devices, streaming on radiomaria.ie or listened to on the phone via a live radio feed by calling +353 (0) 1 437 3277 (no extra charges apply)

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 courage to endure what cannot be avoided, for your will is health and wholeness; you are God and we need you. *Amen*

An Caisleán Glas agus Sperrin Óg GAA / Greencastle Community Association: Like all communities at the minute Greencastle is about to enter into unfamiliar territory as we face the influx of the Covid-19 coronavirus. No one knows what the incoming days and weeks bring, however, what we are sure of, is that we as a community will be supporting each other. We have a number of volunteers within our community who have already put their names forward to help where needed. If you, your family or someone you know is currently in self isolation and require some help please contact any of the individuals below. We would encourage everyone to make a call to your neighbour as they may need help and again please contact any of the individuals below. We have a team of volunteers willing to help where required, it may be something like picking up some shopping, posting some mail, lifting a prescription or just a friendly phone call. *For up to date info and advice visit www.publichealth.hscni.net/news/covid-19-coronavirus*

Collie Touhey: 07970 379 741 Fiona Teague: 07813 935 996 Briege Beggs: 07799 058 273

| 2018 | PARISH STATISTICS | 2019 |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| (16) 7 Boys • 9 Girls | Baptisms | (19) 8 Boys • 11 Girls |
| (14) 8 Boys • 6 Girls | First Communion | (25) 12 Boys • 13 Girls |
| (17) 10 Boys • 7 Girls | Confirmation | (16) 9 Boys • 7 Girls |
| 3 within parish • 3 outside parish | Weddings | 1 within parish • 6 outside parish |
| 10 | Deaths and Burials | 11 |

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

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.

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%

Family Care Adoption Services *Presently seeking to recruit adoptive families for babies and young children*

For free info
contact us

Tel: (028) 7136 8592 / (028) 9069 1133 (Monday to Friday, 9.00am to 5.00pm)

Email: anne.ohagan@familycaresociety.org • **Website:** familycaresociety.co.uk