

 <b>Parish of Greencastle, Co. Tyrone (Diocese of Derry)</b> St. Patrick's, Greencastle      Our Lady of the Wayside, Broughderg <b>Third Sunday of Advent [Year B] (17<sup>th</sup> December, 2017)</b> Parochial House, 164, Greencastle Road, Sheskinshule, Omagh, BT79 7RU Website: greencastleparish.com • Email: greencastlepp@yahoo.com • Tel: (028) 8164 8474	
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**Thought for the Week:** "A humble soul does not trust itself, but places all its confidence in God." *St. Faustina*  
**Liturgy Schedule for the Third Week of Advent [Year B] (Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December)**

<b>Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> December</b> <i>Do This In Memory (week 4)</i>	St. Patrick's	<b>6.00pm</b> Vigil Mass
<b>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December</b> Third Sunday of Advent [Year B]	St. Patrick's Our Lady of Wayside	<b>9.00am</b> Mass (Missa Pro Populo) <b>11.00am</b> Mass
<b>Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December</b>	St. Patrick's	<b>10.00am</b> Mass
<b>Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December</b>	St. Patrick's	<b>9.00am</b> Mass
<b>Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December</b>	St. Patrick's	<b>12 noon to 7.20pm</b> Adoration of Blessed Sacrament <b>7.00pm to 7.20pm</b> Confession • <b>7.30pm</b> Mass
<b>Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December</b>	St. Patrick's	<b>10.00am</b> Mass
<b>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December</b>	St. Patrick's	<b>10.00am</b> Mass
<b>Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> December</b> St. John of Kanty (priest)	St. Patrick's	<b>6.00pm</b> Vigil Mass
<b>Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December</b> Fourth Sunday of Advent [Year B]	St. Patrick's Our Lady of Wayside St. Patrick's	<b>9.00am</b> Mass (Missa Pro Populo) <b>11.00am</b> Mass: Peter Daly (5 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary) <b>7.30pm</b> Carol Service • <b>8.00pm</b> Vigil Mass
<b>Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December</b> Solemnity of the Christmas Nativity	Our Lady of Wayside St. Patrick's	<b>9.00am</b> Christmas Morning Mass <b>11.00am</b> Christmas Morning Mass

**Penitential Services**

<b>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>3.00pm</b> Greencastle • <b>5.00pm</b> Gortin • <b>7.00pm</b> Newtownstewart
<b>Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>8.00pm</b> Sacred Heart, Omagh
<b>Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>7.30pm</b> Plumbridge
<b>Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>8.00pm</b> Christ the King, Strathroy

**Confession Schedule in St. Patrick's Church**

<b>Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December</b>	7.00pm to 7.20pm
<b>Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> December</b>	11.30am to 12 noon, 5.30pm to 5.45pm and after 6.00pm Vigil Mass

**Weekly Collection:** £770 *Thank you for your continued generosity*

**Remembering Our Dead:** We pray for the family and friends of **Laura McGuigan** of Broughderg Road who died during the week. May God bring comfort and strength to all who mourn her. We also pray for the souls of **Gerard McCrory, Mary McCrory, Gerry McCrory** and **Anna Rose McCullagh** whose anniversaries occur at this time

**Sick and Housebound:** Fr. Gallagher will visit those in his care on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December at the usual times.

**Broughderg Old Cemetery:** Some time in the early part of the New Year an operation will begin to remove trees both on the periphery of and within the Broughderg Old Cemetery. Many of these trees have been causing some difficulty at various graves and keeping them neat and tidy has also been troublesome for families. Some of the trees have also become dangerously tall and could cause damage if they were to fall.

This is going to be a costly operation and is the first stage of a 3-stage scheme.

Stage 2 will include drainage and stage 3 some pathways.

Some additional fundraising will be required and we look forward to organising some such events in due course

**Trocaire's Christmas Appeal – Until Love Conquers Fear:** Raising money to support people all over the developing world who face fear every day of their lives – like the fear of not being able to feed their children or the fear of having to flee their homes because of conflict. *To find out more visit trocaire.org*

"In love there is no room for fear, but perfect love drives out fear..." *John 4:18*

**Next Week's Readings:** 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16 • Psalm 88:2-5, 27, 29, R/ cf. v 2 • Romans 16:25-27  
 Luke 1:26-38 • Lectionary 1:70 **Sunday [Year B] • Weekday [Year 2]**

<b>6.00pm Saturday Vigil</b> Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> December* The family of <b>Clodagh Brogan</b>	<b>Offertory Gift Rota</b> Third Sunday of Advent	<b>9.00am Sunday Morning</b> Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> December The family of <b>Patrick Morris</b>
<b>Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> December</b> The family of <b>Marcus Conway</b>	Fourth Sunday of Advent	<b>Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December</b> The family of <b>Trea Clarke</b>

**If you cannot attend please ensure that you have arranged with another family for the gifts to be presented**  
**\*Do This in Memory Programme (Week 4)** We need new volunteers in every aspect of life

**Road Gritter:** Recently a Gritter salting the road in Greencastle was pelted with snowballs and as a consequence vehicle glass was broken. Whilst this may be thought of as harmless fun it can have serious consequences. Gritted drivers have a difficult job and snowballing their vehicle is not acceptable. Further damage could impact the gritting service for the area. *Road gritting is a valuable and much appreciated service*

**Greencastle Community Association – Upcoming Events:**

**Big Bazaar:** Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December from 4.00pm

Lasts about one and a half hours • Many fantastic prizes to be won including a 55" LED Ultra HD TV  
*Your support will be appreciated • Funds raised go towards the running cost of the community centre*

**Christmas Hooley:** Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> December

**Mini Disco**      **Dancing to 5 Star Country**      Duff Balloons, crafts      Bar and tuck      Adults £10  
 From 6.00pm      From 7.00pm onward      and bouncy castle      shop open      Under 18s free

*Thank you for all the support with the Pass the Ball event - we raised a total of £2,703*

**Greencastle 5 Mile Road Run** • Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> December • 10.30am walk • 12noon run • £12 entry fee  
 Enter online at greencastle5.com • Proceeds in aid of Care for Cancer • Call 07767 718 029 to find out more

**Ancient Order of Hibernians (AOH):** Anyone wishing to join must email tyronecountyboardaoh1@yahoo.com.  
*We will pass your information onto your nearest or preferred AOH Division*

**Children in Crossfire – Advent Boxes:** Children in Crossfire want to wish everyone a happy Christmas, and say thank you to all those who have taken an Advent box home with them or volunteered to give them out. This campaign really does help change and save lives of some of the world's most vulnerable children.

*If you would like to help us in January with the collection or even next year please email shauna.oneill@childrenincrossfire.org or call (028) 7126 9898*

**St. Joseph's Primary School, Galbally – Seated Concert with Philomena Begley** *Proceeds in aid of school funds*  
 Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February in Galbally Community Centre. Guest appearances from the elites of country music.  
 Tickets are £20 and are available now from the following places.  
 St. Joseph's Primary School • Mace Shop, Galbally and Pomeroy • Donna's Hair Studio • Gene Stewarts Music Shop, Dungannon

**Institute of Irish Leadership – Upcoming Events:** Email: kathleenburnsill@gmail.com • Tel: (028) 8775 7800

**Walking Group:** Meet every Monday in Pomeroy Forest Car Park, 11.00am-12.00pm

**Month's Mind Masses:** Now taking bookings for light refreshments afterwards

**Green Elves Playgroup – Bingo Club:** Every Wednesday at 8.00pm (doors open at 7.30pm).

**Flaxmill Centre, Drumduff Sixmilecross – Grand Christmas Bazaar:** Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 7.00pm sharp  
*Lots of very valuable prizes to be won • Look forward to seeing you all there! • (028) 8077 1174*

**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*

**Family Care Adoption Services:** We are seeking to recruit adoptive families for babies and young children  
 For a free information pack contact us using any of the following details  
 Tel: (028) 9069 1133 / (028) 7136 8592 • Email: anne.ohagan@familycaresociety.org • Website: familycaresociety.co.uk

**Prayer to Blessed Michael Archangel: Blessed Michael the Archangel, defend us in our hour of conflict. Be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God restrain him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, thrust Satan down to hell and all the evil spirits, who wander through the world for the ruin of souls. Amen**

**Pope Francis' Intention for December (please remember this in your personal prayers)**  
**The Elderly:** That the elderly, sustained by families and Christian communities, may apply their wisdom and experience to spreading the faith and forming the new generations.

**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*

**Strule Arts Centre – Irish Cultural Activities Every Wednesday**  
**Sean-Nós and Set Dancing** 6.00pm to 7.00pm • **Singing in Irish** 7.00pm to 8.00pm  
**Irish Language Classes for Beginner, Improver and Advanced Levels** 8.00pm to 9.30pm  
**Email:** kevin.goodwin@fermanaghmagh.com • **Tel:** 07747 899 249

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**ACCORD – Relationship Counseling:** A service which facilitates couples and individuals to explore, reflect upon and resolve difficulties in their marriages and relationships in a confidential, sensitive, respectful and non-judgmental setting.  
*An appointment can be arranged by calling the Omagh Centre on (028) 8224 2439 or emailing omagh@accordni.com*

**Support Foyle Hospice by hosting a Coffee / Tea Morning with friends, family, groups or work colleagues:**  
 All funds you raise will play a vital role in funding the essential care and support Foyle Hospice provide to people in our communities affected and living with terminal illness  
*For a free pack and more info call Michelle McGinn on (028) 7135 9888 or email michellemcginn@foylehospice.com*

**Sacrament of Reconciliation / Confession:** The Sacrament of Reconciliation better known as Confession is very important and vital part of our lives as Catholics. The times for Confession will be as follows.  
**St. Patrick's:** Eve of First Friday from after 10.00am Mass until 11.00am when mass is celebrated with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament during that time except when there is a funeral or no mass  
 First Saturday of each month from after mass until 11.00am with Adoration unless there is a 12noon wedding  
 Each Saturday Evening 5.30pm-5.45pm and after Vigil Mass on request after Mass  
**Our Lady of the Wayside:** Each Sunday 10.30am to 10.45am and after 11.00am Mass on request after Mass

**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*

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

**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

**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

**MARA (Maximising Access in Rural Areas):** Find out if you're missing out on benefits, services or grants by booking your FREE home visit. Referrals can be made for benefits checks, home safety visits, occupational therapy assessments as well as others. You'll also receive a FREE bag containing £25 worth of items to help keep you warm this winter.  
*Call Carol on (028) 8225 1559 to book*

Parish Liturgy for December, 2017	St. Patrick's (6.00pm Vigil Mass)	St. Patrick's (9.00am Mass)	Our Lady of the Wayside (11.00am Mass)
<b>Readers</b>	Francis McDermott	Catriona McCullagh	Barry Maguire
<b>Eucharistic Ministry</b>	Frankie Bradley	Maria Bradley	Josephine Clarke
<b>Prayers of Intercession</b>	Eimear Bradley	Lauryn Hollywood	Grace Conneely
<b>Collectors</b>	Margaret Morris Michael McNamee	Brendan Conway Eugene Tracey	Sean Clarke Perry McCrory
<b>Altar Society</b>	Helen Tracey and Mary Bradley		Anne McDermott Carmel McCrory

**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*

**Irish Episcopal Council for Emigrants – Emigrant Information Pack:** Contains practical information for intending Irish emigrants, such as visa requirements, advice on health insurance, gaining employment, accommodation and other information pertaining to each of the main receiving countries. It also provides information for Irish emigrants planning to return to Ireland after a period living abroad as well as other articles and information on the theme.  
**If interested in receiving a free copy(s) of this booklet please contact Teresa at the Derry Diocesan Office**  
**Email:** t.mcmenamain@derrydiocese.org • **Tel:** (028) 7126 2302 • **Website:** catholicbishops.ie/tag/emigrants

**Children in Crossfire Recruitment – Office Based Volunteer and Parish-Based Volunteers for Advent:**  
 Please call (028) 7126 9898 or email shauna.oneill@childrenincrossfire.org as soon as possible  
*By volunteering together we can make a difference! Thank you.*

**Volunteer at White Oaks Acorn Organic Farm:** If you have an interest in organic growing and have a few hours to spare, why not spend them with us? Contact us using the details below.  
**Address:** IOSAS Centre and Celtic Prayer Garden, Lenamore Road, Derryvane, Muff, Co. Donegal  
**Tel:** (00353) (0) 74 9384866 • **Website:** celticprayergarden.com • **Facebook:** IOSASCentre • **Twitter:** IOSASCentre

**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

**DATES FOR THE DIARY IN 2018**

<b>Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February at 7.30pm</b> Service of Light (Primary 7 Children and Families)	<b>Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> March at 7.00pm</b> First Confession (Primary 4 Children and Families)
<b>Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> April at 2.00pm</b> Confirmation	<b>Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> May at 12 noon</b> First Holy Communion
<b>Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June at 6.00pm in St. Patrick's Cemetery</b> Annual Service of Intercession for the Dead	
<b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> July at 11.00am Mass in Our Lady of the Wayside</b> Annual Service of Intercession for the Dead followed by Broughderg Old Cemetery	

**Seeing your life through the lens of the gospel – John 1:6-8, 19-28:** *John Byrne OSA (jbyrneosa@gmail.com)*

1. 'There is one among you whom you do not know'. We can know about Jesus but do we know him? What helps you to know Jesus in a way that enables you to follow in his footsteps, trusting God as he did, and seeing other people as he did?
2. John the Baptist came to bear witness to Jesus. Who have been the people who have borne witness to you of the good news that God loves you – a friend, a parent, a teacher, etc.? To whom have you borne that witness?
3. John appears in the story as one who had the courage to be himself in the face of loud and aggressive people. He was also a person who knew his own value, did not make exaggerated claims and was content with his mission. Can you recall times when you have been able to be yourself, even in the face of criticism from others?
4. John was 'the voice of one crying out in the wilderness' – announcing confidently to those in the wilderness that they must not despair because God's grace may come to them at any moment. Have you had the experience of being in the wilderness, feeling lost? From whom did you hear a voice that gave you hope? Have you been able to give hope to other people when they were in the wilderness?

**The Deep End – Light and Darkness:** *Jane Mellett (mellettj@gmail.com)*

Last week we were introduced to John the Baptist as part of our Advent journey. We hear his story again today, and in this account, from the fourth gospel, we hear John's voice and his testimony about Jesus. Light and darkness is a key theme of the fourth gospel and its opening verses proclaims that this light has always shone in the dark; the darkness cannot overpower it. The evangelist goes on to tell us that John the Baptist's mission is that he has been sent by God to 'speak for the light'. John is a light-bearer, he is not the light, but he points to the light. He is a witness to the light of God in our world, a light that cannot be put out.

We celebrate this light today on Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete means 'rejoice'; we light the pink candle and we celebrate with joy. It might be a good opportunity to ask today: 'who have been the light-bearers on your own faith journey'? Who testified to the Light of God and passed the torch on to you? We thank God for them.

Lord there is much darkness in society and in our church ... We become cynical and settle for mediocrity. We thank you that someone always comes on the scene, sent by you as a witness to speak for the light ... teachers, community leaders, grandparents, children, a friend ... they bear witness to the rest of us that somewhere in the dark a light shines that darkness cannot overcome.  
*Michel de Verteuil*

**This Week's Calendar of Feasts and Saints:**

**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> December – St. John of Kanty (priest) [1390-1473]** Taught Theology and Scripture in the university of Cracow, Poland. He is also remembered for his austerity of life and generosity.

**Foyle Hospice – Become a Compassionate Neighbour:** Do you have 1-2 hours free once a week to support Foyle Hospice's Compassionate Communities 'Reach Out' voluntary befriending service. It might be as simple as calling in for a cup of tea and a chat, or taking someone out to do a bit of shopping. A volunteer's visit is invaluable to someone who is feeling lonely and isolated due to an illness. Full training and ongoing support with additional training opportunities are offered to all volunteers.

*Call Tracy Gray, Volunteer Coordinator on 07841 101 932 or email [tracy@compassionatecommunitiesnw.com](mailto:tracy@compassionatecommunitiesnw.com)*

**2016 PARISH STATISTICS**

<b>Baptisms (18)</b> 7 Boys 11 Girls	<b>First Holy Communions / Reconciliations (16)</b> 10 Boys 6 Girls	<b>Confirmations (21)</b> 10 Boys 11 Girls
<b>Marriages (16)</b> 7 within parish 9 outside parish	<b>Funerals (10)</b> 8 within parish 2 outside parish	<b>Station Masses in October</b> 8
<b>Events</b> The death of retired Bishop of Derry Most Rev. Dr. Edward Daly is announced on Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> August Mass with Padre Pio Relic Celebrated in St Patrick's Church on Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> October		