



**Parish of Greencastle, Co. Tyrone (Diocese of Derry)**  
**St. Patrick's, Greencastle      Our Lady of the Wayside, Broughderg**  
**Fifth Sunday of Lent [Year B] (18<sup>th</sup> March, 2018)**  
 Parochial House, 164, Greencastle Road, Sheskinshule, Omagh, BT79 7RU  
**Website:** greencastleparish.com • **Email:** greencastlepp@yahoo.com • **Tel:** (028) 8164 8474



**Thought for St. Patrick's Day:** "So I am first of all a simple country person, a refugee, and unlearned. I do not know how to provide for the future. But this I know for certain, that before I was brought low, I was like a stone lying deep in the mud. Then he who is powerful came and in his mercy pulled me out, and lifted me up and placed me on the very top of the wall. That is why I must shout aloud in return to the Lord for such great good deeds of his, here and now and forever, which the human mind cannot measure. *St. Patrick's Confession 12*

**Liturgy Schedule for Fifth Week of Lent [Year B] (Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> March – Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> March)**

<b>Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> March</b> St. Patrick (bishop and Principal Patron of Ireland)	St. Patrick's	<b>6.00pm</b>	Vigil Mass: Philomena Feeney (3 <sup>rd</sup> Anniversary)
<b>Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> March</b> Fifth Sunday of Lent [Year B]	St. Patrick's	<b>9.00am</b>	Mass (Missa Pro Populo)
	Our Lady of Wayside	<b>11.00am</b>	Mass
<b>Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March</b>	St. Patrick's	<b>6.45am</b>	Mass • <b>10.00am</b> Mass
<b>Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> March</b>	St. Patrick's	<b>9.00am</b>	Mass
<b>Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> March</b> St. Enda (abbot)	St. Patrick's	<b>12 noon to 7.00pm</b>	Adoration
		<b>7.00pm to 7.20pm</b>	Confessions • <b>7.30pm</b> Mass
<b>Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> March</b>	St. Patrick's	<b>10.00am</b>	Mass
<b>Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March</b>	St. Patrick's	<b>6.45am</b>	Mass • <b>10.00am</b> Mass followed by Stations of Cross
		<b>7.30pm</b>	Mary Fox (Month's Mind)
<b>Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March</b> St. Macartan (bishop)	St. Patrick's	<b>6.00pm</b>	Vigil Mass: John Tuohy (10 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary)
			<i>Do This in Memory (week 8)</i>
<b>Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> March</b> Palm Sunday [Year B]	St. Patrick's	<b>9.00am</b>	Mass (Missa Pro Populo)
	Our Lady of Wayside	<b>11.00am</b>	Mass
	St. Patrick's	<b>3.00pm</b>	Penitential Service

**Penitential Services:** Please make the celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation the culmination of all your Lenten efforts and a central part of your Easter preparation. *Confession will be available in this area as follows*

<b>Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>3.00pm</b> Greencastle • <b>5.00pm</b> Gortin • <b>7.30pm</b> Newtownstewart
<b>Monday 26<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>8.00pm</b> Sacred Heart, Omagh
<b>Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>7.30pm</b> Plumbridge
<b>Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>8.00pm</b> Christ the King, Strathroy

*"Come to me, all who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest" Matthew 11:28*

**Weekly Collection:** £1,050

*Thank you for your generosity*

**Remembering Our Dead:** We pray for the repose of the soul of **Philomeena Feeney (3<sup>rd</sup>)** whose anniversary occurs at this time and for the soul of **Mary Fox** whose Month's Mind occurs Friday.

**Palm Sunday:** The blessing of Palms and short Procession will commence at 6.00pm Saturday and 11.00am Sunday at the Calvary in the parish graveyard in St. Patrick's and Our Lady of the Wayside (weather permitting).

**Trócaire Lenten Campaign:** This St. Patrick's weekend we celebrate the huge change brought about in the developing world which is made possible by the generosity of people in Ireland. Trócaire reached 2.6 million people last year with support – parents trying to feed their children, communities struck by disaster, refugees fleeing conflict, men and women whose rights were being trampled. This support can only be provided by the ongoing solidarity shown by people here at home. [trocaire.org](http://trocaire.org)

*"...to lend your neighbour a helping hand is to keep the commandments" Ecclesiasticus / Sirach 29:1*

**Prayer for Life:** Rosary on the Coast for Life and Faith Ireland are asking that we offer our rosaries for the protection of unborn children. In November over 30,000 Irish people gathered at our coasts to pray, now attention turns to our Mass Rocks on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> March at 2.30 pm.

*Rosary will be prayed at Crockanboy Hill Mass Rock at that time • All are welcome*

**Next Week's Readings:** Isaiah 50:4-7 • Psalm 21:8-9, 17-20, 23-24, R/ v 2 • Philippians 2:6-11

Mark 14:1-15:47 • Lectionary 1:346

**Sunday [Year B] • Weekday [Year 2]**

6.00pm Saturday Vigil	Offertory Gift Rota	9.00am Sunday Morning
Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup> March • Clodagh Brogan	Fifth Sunday of Lent	Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> March • Tara Haughey
Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup> March • Marcus Conway	Palm Sunday	Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> March • Gearoid McNamee
<b>If you cannot attend please ensure that you have arranged with another family for the gifts to be presented</b>		
<b>*Do This in Memory Programme (week 8)</b> We need new volunteers in every aspect of life		

**Mid-Ulster Festival of Amateur Drama 2018:** Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March at

8.00pm nightly in The Patrician, Carrickmore. Box Office open from Monday 12<sup>th</sup> March.

*See local press and Facebook for programme • 10.00am to 5.00pm daily • (028) 8076 1906*

**Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes – Nurses Needed:** Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> to Friday 6<sup>th</sup> July

Led by Bishop McKeown • 2018 marks the 160<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the apparitions at Lourdes

**Address:** Pilgrimage Office, 164 Bishop Street, Derry. BT48 6UJ • **Tel:** (028) 7126 0293 • **Email:** derrypilgrim@outlook.com

**Lenten Talk with Andrea Begley and Youth Mass:** Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March at 7.30pm in St. Patrick's Church, Gortin  
**The Family - Where we learn to cope with challenges**

Andrea Begley, originally from Pomeroy, developed a serious eye condition which meant she was registered blind from the age of nine. With the support of her family and local primary school Andrea continued her education, progressing to study law and politics at Queens University Belfast. At 21, she entered the Northern Ireland Civil Service as a graduate entrant and completed a masters in law and governance in 2014. Andrea has always maintained a huge interest in singing and performing, from the early days of the parish choir. Music is definitely a family affair with her aunt being Philomena Begley, the local country music legend. In 2013, with Danny O'Donoghue from the Script acting as her mentor, Andrea won the second Series of the Voice UK and later that year, her debut album reached no. 7 in the UK charts. Since then she has performed across Ireland, the UK as well as China. Andrea also acts as an ambassador for the RNIB (Royal National Institute of Blind People) in Northern Ireland, regularly speaking and campaigning for the organisation. Throughout her life Andrea has relied on the support of her family and faith has also played an important part in giving her strength on what has sometimes been a challenging journey.

**Parish Adoration Committee Meeting:** Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> March after 7.30pm Mass.

**South West College – Dungannon Campus Open Day:** Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> March from 2.00pm to 8.00pm.

Come along to learn about the excellent courses on offer. Meet with the lecturers, talk to current students and view the brilliant facilities and equipment on site.

**Gaeltacht Summer Course:** If anyone (adult or child) is interested in attending to learn Irish please call Sinéad Warnock on 07849 394 001 and she will keep you updated on Scholarship opportunities. Ulster ladies currently have some available and the deadline for applications is Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> March.

**Irish Language Collection:** After each mass this weekend. This money will go towards helping our local children with the cost of attending the summer Gaeltacht Colleges to learn Irish. We have a long tradition of the Irish language in our area and this is a great way to continue this tradition.  
*For info on scholarships or to register your child to be eligible call Sinéad Warnock on 07849 394 001*

**Last Ever Colour Run:** Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> March. Let's make it the best!

*Register online at [childrenincrossfire.org](http://childrenincrossfire.org) or call (028) 7126 9898*

**Cappagh / Badoney CCE – Cherish the Ladies Concert:** Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September in Mellon Country Hotel.

*Tickets (£15) • For more info call Tom Blee on 07704 526 870*

**World Meeting of Families 2018 Prayer**

God, our Father, we are brothers and sisters in Jesus your Son, one family, in the Spirit of your love.

Bless us with the joy of love. Make us patient and kind, gentle and generous, welcoming to those in need. Help us to live your forgiveness and peace. Protect all families with your loving care, especially those for whom we now pray [PAUSE AND REMEMBER FAMILY MEMBERS AND OTHERS BY NAME].

Increase our faith, strengthen our hope, keep us safe in your love, make us always grateful for the gift of life that we share. This we ask, through Christ our Lord, Amen. Mary, mother and guide, pray for us.

Saint Joseph, father and protector, pray for us. Saints Joachim and Anne, pray for us.

Saints Louis and Zélie Martin, pray for us

<p><b>Pope Francis' Intention for March (please remember this in your personal prayers)</b>  <b>Evangelisation – Formation in Spiritual Discernment:</b> That the Church may appreciate the urgency of formation in spiritual discernment, both on the personal and communitarian levels.</p>
<p><b>Accord Counselling Services:</b> Available to couples regardless of their faith or denomination.  <i>If you would like to avail call (028) 8224 2439 or email omagh@accordni.com</i></p> <p><b>Accord Marriage Preparation Course (2018 / 2019):</b> 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> May • 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> June • 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> June  <i>accord-ni.co.uk</i></p>
<p><b>Drink Wise, Age Well:</b> Are you over 50? Are you worried about your own or someone else's alcohol use?  <i>For confidential information, advice and support call (028) 8283 9240</i></p>
<p><b>Support Foyle Hospice by hosting a Coffee / Tea Morning with friends, family, groups or work colleagues:</b>  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  <i>For a free pack and more info call Michelle McGinn on (028) 7135 9888 or email michellemcginn@foylehospice.com</i></p>
<p><b>ACCORD – Relationship Counseling:</b> 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.  <i>An appointment can be arranged by calling the Omagh Centre on (028) 8224 2439 or emailing omagh@accordni.com</i></p>
<p><b>Beginning Experience – Weekend Away for a Lifetime of Change:</b> The loss of a partner through death, separation or divorce is devastating. Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> to Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> March in Drumalis, Larne. The Support group continues Wednesday evenings at 8.00pm in St. Bride's Hall, Derryvolgie Ave., Belfast.  <i>To find out more call Phil on (028) 9020 7645, Marie on 07896 119 669 or email bebelfast@hotmail.com</i></p>
<p><b>Derry Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage:</b> Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> to Friday 6<sup>th</sup> July. Led by Bishop Donal McKeown. Cost £669  <b>Address:</b> 164 Bishop Street, Derry BT48 6UJ • <b>Email:</b> derrypilgrim@outlook.com • <b>Tel:</b> (028) 7126 0293  <b>Hours:</b> Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, 11.00am to 1.00pm from Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> February</p>
<p><b>String Instrument Music Lessons:</b> Every Thursday evening in Greencastle Hall  For kids to learn banjo, guitar and violin with qualified tutor Frank Nugent  <b>Beginners:</b> 6.00pm to 6.45pm • <b>Advanced:</b> 6.45pm to 7.30pm • Call Sinead on 07788 266 387 to book a place</p>
<p><b>Rural Support:</b> 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  <b>Email:</b> info@ruralsupport.org.uk <b>Website:</b> ruralsupport.org.uk  To speak with someone in confidence call our helpline on 0845 606 7 606</p>
<p><b>Family Care Adoption Services:</b> 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  <b>Tel:</b> (028) 9069 1133 / (028) 7136 8592 • <b>Email:</b> anne.ohagan@familycaresociety.org • <b>Online:</b> familycaresociety.co.uk</p>
<p><b>Red Cross:</b> 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.  <i>Call Julie White on (028) 7186 3764 / (078) 0302 4011</i></p>
<p><b>ASPIRE Employability Programme – Free CSR Card and Forklift Licence Training</b>  To be eligible you must be unemployed or working less than 16 hours a week.  <b>Omagh Office:</b> (028) 8224 6535 • <b>Enniskillen Office:</b> (028) 6632 6478 • <b>Facebook:</b> Aspire Employability Programme  <i>The Aspire Employability Programme is part funded by the European Social Fund and Department for the Economy</i></p>
<p><b>Dún Uladh Cultural Heritage Centre – Traditional Music and Singing Classes:</b>  Every Tuesday night. Why not learn an instrument or a song or two in 2018?  <i>For details and booking call (028) 8224 2777 or visit dunuladh.ie</i></p>

Parish Liturgy for March, 2018	St. Patrick's (6.00pm Vigil Mass)	St. Patrick's (9.00am Mass)	Our Lady of the Wayside (11.00am Mass)
<b>Readers</b>	Roisin Scullion	Orla Scullion	Brendan/Helen McKenna
<b>Eucharistic Ministry</b>	Mary Tracey	Eileen McKenna	Mary McCrory
<b>Prayers of Intercession</b>	Michaela Gillen	Rosemary McCullagh	Colleen Brogan
<b>Collectors</b>	Megan Coyle Orla Coyle	Ronan Hollywood Patrick Tuohy	Brendan Daly Patrick McGuigan
<b>Altar Society</b>	Maria Morris, Kathleen Tracey, Louise O'Brien and Alannah Coyle		Ann McDermott, Martina McBride, Lucy-Marie McCrory and Leanne Morris

<p><b>Medjugorje Irish Centre Pilgrimages:</b> 7 nights B&amp;B and Airport Shuttle Service from €279 per person  Book any flight, any time and we provide guaranteed airport shuttle service  <i>To book dates call 00353 1443 4510 or (020) 3239 8662 or email reservations@med-irishcentre.com</i></p>
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<p><b>Foyle Hospice – Become a Compassionate Neighbour:</b> 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.  <i>Call Tracy Gray, Volunteer Coordinator on 07841 101 932 or email tracy@compassionatecommunitiesnw.com</i></p>
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<p><b>This Week's Calendar of Feasts and Saints:</b></p> <p><b>Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> March – St. Cyril of Jerusalem (bishop and Doctor of the Church)</b> St. Cyril became the Archbishop of Jerusalem at 35. He was present at the Council of Constantinople in 381, where Jerusalem was first recognised as a patriarchal See, along with Rome, Antioch, Alexandria and Constantinople. This council is responsible for the Nicene Creed which was promulgated in its final form. Died on the 18<sup>th</sup> March, 386 at the age of 70, after 35 years as a bishop, of which 16 were spent in exile.</p> <p><b>Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> March – St. Enda (abbot)</b> Considered to be one of the three great late vocations (athlaech) of Ireland. His sister Faenche, a nun, set his thoughts on a religious vocation. He made a small foundation in Cell Aine, Co. Louth and after studies in Scotland under Ninian made several foundations in the Boyne valley. On Faenche's urging he went to Aran. Thought to have died in 520 and is considered as one of the early models of ascetic monasticism in Ireland.</p> <p><b>Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March – St. Turibius of Mongrovejo (bishop) [1538-1606]</b> A layman when he was appointed archbishop of Lima, Peru by King Philip II. He combated all the abuses of the conquerors in Peru and built up the Church there.</p> <p><b>Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March – St. Macartan (bishop)</b> Belongs to a very early generation of saints in Ireland and is recognised as the first 'Bishop of Clogher'. He is known as Patrick's 'Strong Man' for his dedication and faithfulness.</p>
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<p><b>Towards Peace:</b> 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.  <b>Website:</b> towardspeace.ie • <b>Tel:</b> 01 505 3028 • <b>Email:</b> towardspeace@iecon.ie</p>
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<p><b>MARA (Maximising Access in Rural Areas):</b> 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.  <i>Call Carol on (028) 8225 1559 to book</i></p>
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## DATES FOR THE DIARY IN 2018

<b>Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> March</b> St. Patrick's Day	<b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> April</b> Easter Sunday	<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>Tuesday 21<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> August in Dublin</b> World Meeting of Families	
<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		

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

**ASPIRE:** Kickstart your career for the new year with the launch of new learning and training opportunities. ASPIRE provide assistance to anyone aged 16 years old and over who is currently unemployed or working less than 16 hours a week and is seeking paid work. The ASPIRE programme is part funded through the Northern Ireland European Social Fund 2014-2020 and the Department for the Economy.

*For further information on the ASPIRE Programme, please contact the Omagh Office on (028) 8224 6535 or the Enniskillen Office on (028) 6632 6478. Alternatively, you can find us on Facebook*

**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

**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*

**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

### 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

**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

### 2017 PARISH STATISTICS

<b>Baptisms (26)</b> 10 Boys • 16 Girls	<b>First Holy Communions / Reconciliations (14)</b> 8 Boys • 6 Girls	<b>Confirmations (15)</b> 7 Boys • 8 Girls
<b>Marriages (5)</b> 2 within parish • 3 outside parish		<b>Funerals (12)</b> 11 within parish • 1 outside parish
<b>April:</b> Parishioners and pupils of Dean Maguirc College took part in Holy Thursday mass in RTÉ Studio in Dublin on Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> April		
<b>December:</b> Weekly Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament began 13 <sup>th</sup> December in St Patrick's Church		

### Seeing your life through the lens of the gospel – *John 12:20-30:* John Byrne OSA (jpbyrneosa@gmail.com)

- The parable of the grain of wheat reminds us of a truth that any parent can testify to, namely that it is in dying to ourselves that we can give life to others. We will never be of benefit to others if we remain wrapped up in ourselves. In what ways has your dying to yourself brought life to another? How has the generous giving of another brought life to you?
- Sometimes our emotions rebel at the thought of what lies ahead and we feel like praying Father, save me from this hour. Then a realisation may come for you as a parent, a teacher, a spouse, a friend: No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Recall times when you have accepted pain or hassle and been a source of life to others for doing so.
- The story presents the death of Jesus as the moment of his glorification by God. We are also glorified when the grace of God enables us to give generously of ourselves. When have you experienced this in yourself or in another?
- 'This voice has come for your sake and not for mine.' The angel spoke that we might recognise the love being shown to us by Jesus. Sometimes it requires the voice of another to draw our attention to love that is being offered to us. When was this your experience?

### Musings:

You do not have to be good.  
You do not have to walk on your knees  
for a hundred miles through the desert, repenting.  
You only have to let the soft animal of your body  
love what it loves.  
  
Tell me about despair, yours, and I will tell you mine.  
Meanwhile the world goes on.  
Meanwhile the sun and the clear pebbles of the rain  
are moving across the landscapes,

*Mary Oliver (Wild Geese)*  
over the prairies and the deep trees,  
the mountains and the rivers.  
Meanwhile the wild geese, high in the clean blue air,  
are heading home again.  
Whoever you are, no matter how lonely,  
the world offers itself to your imagination,  
calls to you like the wild geese, harsh and exciting –  
over and over announcing your place  
in the family of things.

### The Deep End – *We should like to see Jesus:*

*Triona Doherty, Athlone, Co. Roscommon (trionad@gmail.com)*

Those poor Greeks. Did you notice that they never actually get to meet Jesus? At the start of today's gospel some Greeks who are followers of Jesus come to Jerusalem. They are travellers, outsiders, and would like to meet Jesus in person. But when Philip and Andrew relay the request, Jesus begins to talk about how his 'hour' is coming. It is the last we hear of the Greeks, who disappear from the story altogether.

But they are important nonetheless. Firstly, they indicate that word about Jesus is spreading, that in the words of the Pharisees, 'the world has gone after him'. More importantly, they prompt Jesus to reveal that, when his hour comes, he will draw 'all people' to himself. In the space of a few short verses, we go from a brief mention of a group of foreigners seeking Jesus, to Jesus making it crystal clear that his saving mission is for all people, of all nations, both Jews and Gentiles – including those Greeks! There is no suggestion from Jesus that some groups are 'in' and others 'out'. All are included. All are invited. All are welcome.

I remember once hearing someone describe their home as a domestic church, a place of 'indiscriminate welcome'. As we continue our journey through Lent, and soon into Holy Week, let us listen carefully to these words of Jesus. He came for all. He wishes to draw all people to himself. Are our churches, parishes, communities and homes open to all, outsiders included? Are they places of welcome and inclusion, where all who enter experience God's love?

**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*

**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***

**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 free sessions are offered

**Website:** [towardspeace.ie](http://towardspeace.ie) • **Tel:** 01 505 3028 • **Email:** [towardspeace@iecon.ie](mailto:towardspeace@iecon.ie)

**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.mcmenamin@derrydiocese.org](mailto:t.mcmenamin@derrydiocese.org) • **Tel:** (028) 7126 2302 • **Website:** [catholicbishops.ie/tag/emigrants](http://catholicbishops.ie/tag/emigrants)