

## Diocese of Derry, Parish of Greencastle, Co. Tyrone

Saint Patrick's Church  
Greencastle

Our Lady of the Wayside Church  
Broughderg

The Feast of the Most Holy Trinity, 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2008

The Parochial House, 164, Greencastle Road, Sheskinshule, Omagh, BT79 7RU

Website: greencastleparish.com Tel: (028) 8164 8474 Email: greencastlepp@yahoo.com

### Mass Schedule for the Seventh Week in Ordinary Time. 19<sup>th</sup> May – 25<sup>th</sup> May, 2008

Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> May Seventh Week in Ordinary Time	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> May St. Bernadine of Siena, priest	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass (Bridget Coyle – 13 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary)
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> May St. Christopher Magallanes Priest and Companions, martyrs	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May St. Rita of Cascia, religious	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	Saint Patrick's	8.00pm Mass
Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass 6.00pm Vigil Mass for Sunday (John J. Donnelly – 11 <sup>th</sup> anniversary) – 'Do This In Memory of Me' Programme
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> May Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ – 'Corpus Christi'	Saint Patrick's Our Lady of the Wayside	9.00am Mass – 'Misso Pro Popolo' 11.00am Mass

### Praying the Rosary during the Month of May

During the month of May members of the Legion of Mary supported by others in our congregation will lead us praying the Rosary **30 minutes before** the beginning of Mass each day. Please join them or make the Rosary your special family prayer during this month.

### Confession Schedule

Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	Saint Patrick's	5.30pm (before Vigil Mass)
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> May	Our Lady of the Wayside	10.30am (before Mass)

**Weekly Offerings:** Thank you for your generosity to this week's collection which amounted to **£950** and for your contribution of **£650** to the **Diocesan Purposes** collection taken up last weekend. The annual **Lourdes Hospitalite Collection takes place next weekend (25<sup>th</sup> / 24<sup>th</sup> May)**. See message below for further details.

**Lourdes Hospitalite Fund:** An annual collection for the support of sick pilgrims in need of medical care during the diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes will be taken next weekend after Holy Communion – please give as generously as you can. Over 100 people have requested medical support this year. The strength of the collection determines the number of sick and the medical helpers that can travel.

**Remembering Our Dead:** Please remember in your prayers **Maureen Fox, Cashel**, who's Requiem took place last Monday. As a parish community we extend our sympathy and support to her family. We pray this week for the following whose anniversaries occur at this time: **Brigid Fox** and **Brigid Coyle**. This weekend we also remember the most recently enrolled deceased members of the Derry Diocesan Society **Brenda Brennan, Pauline Montague, Gerald Myles McCullagh, Jim McLaughin, Fr. Patrick McCrea** and **John Tuohy**.

**'Do This In Memory of Me' Final Session:** Our First Holy Communion parish programme will conclude at the Vigil Mass in Greencastle next weekend (Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> May). **In preparation there will be a practice for the choir and for others involved in the programme on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May in the Church at 7.00pm. More singers will be welcomed.**

**Next Sunday's Readings:** Deuteronomy 8:2-3, 14-16; Psalm 147; 1 Corinthians 10:16-17; John 6:51-58

**Lotto Numbers:** 1, 2, 15, 20 (3 winners with 3 numbers – £20 each) **Next Jackpot:** £7,050

**Aware Defeat Depression Omagh Support Group:** The Tara Centre 11, Holmview Terrace, Omagh meets at 7.30pm on the second & last Thursday of each month. There is no charge and no need to register. Telephone (028) 7126 0602 for information. Volunteers needed in the Omagh area. Full training and support provided.

**Monthly Devotions in Honour of Our Lady:** Carmelite Retreat Centre, Termonbacca, Derry on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May, starting with Confessions at 7.30pm, followed by Rosary and Mass.

**A Vision For Catholic Education in Ireland 2008:** Cardinal Brady has sent a Pastoral letter to us on the Catholic School in Ireland. In the light of changes in our society he asks us to engage the new and old questions surrounding Catholic education. Questions like:- 'Why Catholic schools in modern Ireland? What is the special character of such schools? How do they contribute to society and educational system of which they are such a significant part? You can access the letter at [www.catholiccommunications.ie](http://www.catholiccommunications.ie) Cardinal Brady and our Bishops would encourage parents, principals, teachers, pupils, Boards of Management of Catholic Schools, clergy and religious to read and discuss this letter. They welcome responses from all concerned with and about education in Ireland today and they look forward to a fruitful dialog.

**Lough Derg One Day Retreats 2008:** May 19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>. August 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup>. September 1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup>. The retreats are open to all adults (**they are not suited to children**). Those unable to make the traditional Three Day Pilgrimage are particularly welcome. The retreats do not require fasting or walking bare-footed. Numbers are limited, so advance booking is essential. Each retreat begins at 10am and ends at approx 5pm. Cost £22.00, includes boat fare and lunch.  
**Bus to Lough Derg for a One Day Pilgrimage from Greencastle Parish:** Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May. Final opportunity to sign up immediately after Mass.

### Calendar of Saints for the Week beginning Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May:

**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup>** – St. Bernadine of Siena, priest. St. Bernadine was born in Siena in 1380. He became a Franciscan and travelled through Italy, preaching with great success. He promoted devotion to the Holy Name and to St. Joseph. He died in 1444.

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup>** – Saints Christopher Magallanes priest, and Companions, martyrs. These twenty-five priests and laymen were executed in 1927 in Mexico.

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup>** – St. Rita of Cascia, religious. St. Rita, 1386-1457, was married for eighteen years. Her husband, an ill-tempered and abusive man, was murdered. Later Rita entered the Augustinian convent in Cascia and spent forty years in prayer and charity and working for peace in the region.

### Questions people ask: **Q. Is it true that the 2000 years from Abraham to Christ was the era of God the Father, then we had 2000 years of God the Son and now we have entered the era of the Holy Spirit?**

A. This notion has no biblical or theological foundation. It was popularised a thousand years ago at the beginning of the second millennium. The idea is promoted by people who want to dispense with the role of the Church in favour of making religion solely a matter of private hotline with the Holy Spirit. History shows that this notion leads to crazy preachers and breakaway groups. Let us not seek to divide the unity of the three persons in the Blessed Trinity.  
*Fr. Silvester O'Flynn OFM Cap (silvesteroflynn@gmail.com)*

### The Deep End: **God by Any Other Name**

'Trinity', a cold, abstract word is all head and no heart. Putting 'holy' before it, even 'most holy', doesn't do much for it. 'Holy' is a little on the remote side too. Listen to today's first reading (Exod 34: 4-6, 8-9) and see if calling the God we meet there 'Trinity' does God justice.

Putting names on God (we have to use at least one to know whom we're talking about) does God no favours – nor us either. It can give the illusion of comprehending God to a degree that may not be true. It takes mystery from God. It seems to make God more approachable – or should that be manageable? But removing God's mystery removes God's challenge.

We call God, 'Father'. We call God, 'Love'. These are the closest approximations of human language to what God is. But even these fail to do God justice. God is everything good that these words could ever imply, and much, much more besides. 'Father' and 'Love' are but tips of icebergs in a sea of mystery.

Today we celebrate God as is: Father, Son, and Spirit. We celebrate God's mystery and unknowability. For, if God could be 'known', God would not be God. Our journey to the 'God in a cloud' of Exodus peaks when we meet the God in our heart of today. Breathtaking!

*Fr. Tom Cahill SVD, Divine Word Missionaries (tomcee@eircom.net)*