

Diocese of Derry, Parish of Greencastle, Co. Tyrone

Saint Patrick's Church
Greencastle

Our Lady of the Wayside Church
Broughderg

The Second Sunday of Easter. 19th April, 2009

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

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**Today is the anniversary of the election in 2005 of Pope Benedict XVI as Supreme Pastor of the Church
Please remember him and his ministry in your prayers**

Mass Schedule for the Fifth Week of Easter. 20th April – 26th April, 2009

Monday 20 th April Second Week of East	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Tuesday 21 st April Second Week of East	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass: (John Anthony McCullagh – 3 rd Anniversary) (Sarah-Ann McCullagh – 9 th Anniversary)
Wednesday 22 nd April Second Week of East	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Thursday 23 rd April Second Week of East	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass: (Mary Ellen Daly – 12 th Anniversary)
Friday 24 th April Second Week of East	Saint Patrick's	6.30pm First Confessions 8.00pm Mass: (Mary Morris – 7 th Anniversary)
Saturday 25 th April Second Week of East	Saint Patrick's	No Morning Mass 6.00pm Vigil Mass for Sunday
Sunday 26 th April Sixth Sunday of Easter	Saint Patrick's Our Lady of the Wayside	9.00am Mass: 'Misso Pro Populo' 11:00am Mass

Confession Schedule

Friday 24 th April	Saint Patrick's	6:30pm (First Confessions of P4 children)
Saturday 25 th April	Saint Patrick's	5:30pm (before Vigil Mass)
Sunday 26 th April	Our Lady of the Wayside	10:30am (before Mass)

Weekly Offerings: Thank you for your generosity to last week's collection which amounted to **£1,275**. Thank you also for the **£190** raised in aid of the Good Friday retiring collection for the Holy Land (**£130** in 2008). We will report on the Trócaire Lenten Collection soon, please return outstanding envelopes as soon as you can. We also sent to the bishop's office the total amount collected for the Education & Formation of Priests taken up on St. Patrick's Day which totalled **£790 (£1,000** in 2008).

Remembering Our Dead: We pray this week for **John Anthony and Sarah-Ann McCullagh, Sr. Victor Keenan, Mary Ellen Daly, Barney McCullagh, Mary Morris** and **Fr. John McCullagh** whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Welcome: As a parish community we welcome into our Christian family **Laurence James McCrory** and **Emma Rose Breadean** who were baptised recently. May our adult community offer our newly baptised, their parents and sponsors prayerful support and good example in our commitment to Christian living.

Special Olympics Appeal: Tyrone Fundraising Coordinator Carolyn McKeown has appealed for support for national collection day on **24th April, 2009**. Their aim is to raise one million pounds in one day. Money raised will go towards providing sports training and competition for special needs athletes.

Our Parish cemeteries are special places providing a focus for our prayerful remembrance of the dead. Please cooperate in their maintenance and care with respect, dignity and honour. Remove flowers and wreaths that have withered. Please do not dump them anywhere in the graveyard. Ask Monumental Sculptors who have completed their work to take rubble away and not dispose of it at the side of the cemetery.

Next Sunday's Readings: Acts of the Apostles 3:13-15, 17-19; Psalm 4; 1 John 2:1-5; Luke 24:35-48 (Lectionary I, page 465)

Dates for Easter Sunday (2009 – 2022)

12 th April, 2009	27 th March, 2016
4 th April, 2010	16 th April, 2017
24 th April, 2011	1 st April, 2018
8 th April, 2012	21 st April, 2019
31 st March, 2013	12 th April, 2020
20 th April, 2014	4 th April, 2021
5 th April, 2015	17 th April, 2022

Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock: Bishop Hegarty asks for your support on **Sunday 7th June**

(there will be no Lourdes Pilgrimage in 2009). The timetable is:

2.30pm: Anointing of those who are sick.

3.00pm: Concelebrated Mass with Bishop Hegarty.

4.00pm: Solemn Blessing of those who are sick, Benediction, Rosary and Procession to the Shrine.

Our Lady's Shrine, Knock, Co. Mayo: The pilgrimage season opens next weekend (26th April) and continues until 11th October. See the poster on the church notice boards or visit the website: www.knock-shrine.ie
Telephone: 00353 94938 8100 // Fax: 00353 94938 8295. Also check out:

Knock Summer Youth Festival: 23rd – 26th July, 2009 book now..... www.knock-shrine.ie/youthfestival

Seeing your life through the lens of the gospels – **John 20: 19-31:**

- 'Peace be with you' was the greeting of Jesus on meeting his frightened apostles. Who has come to you bringing peace at times when you were afraid? To whom have you been able to bring peace?
- Thomas, doubting and questioning, is possibly a person with whom we can identify. What part have doubting and questioning played on your faith journey? How has your faith been strengthened by such moments?
- Note the way that Jesus dealt with Thomas. He did not give out because he doubted. He accepted how he felt and led him along to see the truth of his resurrection. Who has been that kind of teacher for you, gently taking you where you were and leading you to a deeper knowledge about some truth about life? For whom have you been that kind of teacher?
- 'Blessed are they who have not seen and yet believed.' That requires great trust. Perhaps you have had the experience of being trusted without having to justify every step along the way. What was it like to be trusted in that way? Who have you been able to trust in a similar manner?

John Byrne OSA (john@orlagh.ie)

The Deep End – **Locked Doors:**

I don't know if you're into symbolism, but try this for size: locked doors that mean nothing to the resurrected Jesus. Signifying security to the disciples, they are of no hindrance whatsoever to the power of Jesus' resurrection entering that sealed room in today's Gospel reading (John 20:19-31), or to that same power going out.

John doesn't describe Jesus as walking through the doors. No Hollywood special effects here. He states simply that Jesus 'came and stood among them' (v. 19). Such simplicity conveys clearly just how insignificant locked doors are.

So how about our 'locked doors'? God's word is telling us that God's power can be with us even though we are locked into ourselves. We don't have to open them first for God to enter!

Just think of that and what it implies! We can burden ourselves with all sorts of baggage on our journey through life. We can lock out people and events from our mind and heart to preserve our sanity or our comfort. We can circle the wagons and live in fear of life's threats and dangers. We can run from life and its challenges. Our locked doors can be all sorts of things: prejudices, fears, neuroses, mé-féin-ism, anger, whatever. Now this is the important bit of the symbolism. We don't have to unlock those doors for God to come and stand with us. In fact, we wouldn't be able to.

Mission doesn't demand perfection. The disciples got their mission behind locked doors. So do we: to proclaim that God stands among us.

Fr. Tom Cahill SVD, Divine Word Missionaries, Donamon, Co Roscommon (tomcee@eircom.net)

Lotto Numbers: 2, 7, 16, 21 (1 winner with 3 numbers – £50) **Next Jackpot:** £1,950

Questions people ask:

- Q. Why do the Gospels put such an emphasis on the risen Jesus showing the disciples his hands and feet?
- A. The wounds in his hands and side served to remove any doubts as to the identity of Jesus and the reality of his crucifixion. The Lord invited Thomas to touch his wounds and in doing so, Thomas made the highest act of faith by anybody in the Bible. There is a message here for people of all times. The risen Lord showed his wounds to let us know that we can meet him in our wounded condition. Many people have experienced a wonderful development of faith in meeting their wounded Lord through their own wounds of pain, failures or addiction.

Fr Silvester O'Flynn OFM Cap (silvesteroflynn@gmail.com)