



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

**St. Patrick's, Greencastle      Our Lady of the Wayside, Broughderg**

**Second Sunday in Ordinary Time [Year C] (20th January, 2013)**

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

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**Sunday 20th January is both Ecumenical Sunday and World Day of Prayer for Migrants and Refugees.**

It is especially important that we take time to familiarise ourselves with the work that many ecumenical agencies – local, national and international do to promote understanding and cooperation among Christians and others in our community. The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity began on Friday 18th January and continues until Friday 25th January and the theme for this year is *What does God Require of Us? [Micah 6:6-8].*

**Refugee and Migrant Sunday:** We are reminded to celebrate with thanks the diversity of peoples in Ireland today. The Church, like the nation, is made up of peoples from many different countries with different languages and customs. We are also invited today to pray for migrants and refugees that they may be welcomed warmly into our midst. This year's World Day for Migrants theme is *Migrations: Pilgrimage of Faith and Hope*. Read Pope Benedict XVI's message on online at [vatican.va/holy\\_father/benedict\\_xvi/messages/migration/documents/hf\\_ben-xvi\\_mes\\_20121012\\_world-migrants-day\\_en.html](http://vatican.va/holy_father/benedict_xvi/messages/migration/documents/hf_ben-xvi_mes_20121012_world-migrants-day_en.html)

Liturgy Schedule for the Second Week in Ordinary Time [Year C] (21st January, 2013 – 27th January, 2013)			
<b>Saturday Evening (19th January)</b> Vigil Mass for Sunday <b>Sunday 20th January</b> Second Sunday in Ordinary Time [Year C]	St. Patrick's  St. Patrick's Our Lady of the Wayside	<b>5.30pm</b> Confessions <b>6:00pm</b> Mass <b>9.00am</b> Mass (Missa Pro Populo) <b>10.30am</b> Confessions <b>11.00am</b> Mass <b>10.00am</b> Mass	
<b>Monday 21st January</b> St. Agnes (virgin and martyr)	St. Patrick's	<b>10.00am</b> Mass	
<b>Tuesday 22nd January</b> St. Vincent (deacon and martyr)	St. Patrick's	<b>10.00am</b> Mass	
<b>Wednesday 23rd January</b> Second Week in Ordinary Time	St. Patrick's	<b>10.00am</b> Mass	
<b>Thursday 24th January</b> St. Francis de Sales	St. Patrick's	<b>10.00am</b> Mass	
<b>Friday 25th January</b> Conversion of St. Paul (Apostle)	Our Lady of the Wayside	<b>8.00pm</b> Mass: Peter Daly (Month's Mind)	
<b>Saturday Morning (26th January)</b> St. Timothy and St. Titus (bishops)	St. Patrick's	<b>10.00am</b> Mass	
<b>Saturday Evening (26th January)</b> Vigil Mass for Sunday <b>Sunday 27th January</b> Third Sunday in Ordinary Time [Year C]	St. Patrick's  St. Patrick's Our Lady of the Wayside	<b>5.30pm</b> Confessions <b>6:00pm</b> Mass <b>9.00am</b> Mass (Missa Pro Populo) <b>10.30am</b> Confessions <b>11.00am</b> Mass	

<b>Weekly Offerings:</b> Thank you for your generosity to last week's collection which amounted to <b>£935</b> .
<b>Remembering Our Dead:</b> We pray for <b>Eileen Carson</b> whose anniversary occurs at this time.
<b>Parish Buildings and Maintenance Committee Meeting:</b> Monday 28th January at 9.00pm
Today the Holy Father appointed Msgr. Eamon Martin as coadjutor archbishop of the metropolitan archdiocese of Armagh (area 2,550, population 333,758, Catholics 227,120, priests 187, religious 391), Ireland. The bishop-elect, previously diocesan administrator of the diocese of Derry since 2010, was born in 1961 in Derry, Ireland, and was ordained to the priesthood in 1987. Msgr. Martin was appointed chaplain to His Holiness in 2011. As the faith-community of Greencastle parish we offer Monsignor Martin our best wishes and the support of our prayers at this time and into the future. May God's Holy Spirit guide him in every way. <i>If you wish you write him personally you may do so at Bishop's House, PO Box 227, Derry. BT48 9YG</i>
<b>Medjugorje Pilgrimage 2013:</b> For information contact (028) 8224 1888 or Pilgrimage to Medjugorje with Monsignor Danny Monaghan and Maria Bradley from Sept. 4th - 11th. Price £499 which includes Half Board and insurance. <i>Call Maria at (028) 8164 8357 for further details</i>
<b>St. Valentine's Ball:</b> Youth 2000 invites all young adults between the ages of 18-35 to this showpiece event on Saturday 9th February in the Armagh City Hotel. <i>For more details visit <a href="http://youth2000.ie">youth2000.ie</a> or call 00353 1675 3690</i>
<b>Next Sundays Readings:</b> Nehemiah 8:2-6, 8-10; Psalm 18:8-10, 15; 1 Corinthians 12:12-30; Luke 1:1-4, 4:14-21; (Lectionary I, page 841) <b>(Sunday: Year C) (Weekday: Year 1)</b>
<b>Lotto Results:</b> E – H – J – L – U (3 people with 3 letters – £20 each) <b>Next Jackpot:</b> £2,600

<b>6.00pm Saturday Vigil</b> <u>Saturday 19th January</u> The family of <b>Michael Clarke</b>	<b>Offertory Gifts Rota</b> Second Sunday in Ordinary Time	<b>9.00am Sunday Morning</b> <u>Sunday 20th January</u> The family of <b>Sean and Tara Conneely</b>
<u>Saturday 26th January*</u> The family of <b>Molly Clarke</b>	Third Sunday in Ordinary Time	<u>Sunday 27th January</u> The family of <b>Matthew Conway</b>
<u>Saturday 2nd February</u> The family of <b>Ryan Coyle</b>	Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time	<u>Sunday 3rd February</u> The family of <b>Eoin McCullagh</b>
<u>Saturday 9th February</u> The family of <b>Cayla Donnelly</b>	Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	<u>Sunday 10th February</u> The family of <b>Shea McElhatton</b>
<u>Saturday 16th February</u> The family of <b>Cathal Keenan</b>	First Sunday of Lent	<u>Sunday 17th February</u> The family of <b>Sorcha-Rose Meenan</b>
As the wider parish community we thank these young people and their families for this important task. <b>*Do This In Memory Program (week 5)</b> <b>**Do This In Memory Program (week 6)</b>		
God speaks in the silence of the heart, and we listen. And then we speak to God from the fullness of our heart, and God listens. And this listening and this speaking is what prayer is meant to be... <i>Mother Teresa</i>		
<b>Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes (Monday 1st – Saturday 6th July):</b> The cost is £575. An application form is available from Rosemary at The Pastoral Centre, 164 Bishop Street, Derry BT48 6UJ – (028) 7136 2475 (Monday to Thursday, 9.30am to 1.30pm). Special forms for registered sick, youth and helpers are also available. Gift vouchers are also available for whatever amount you wish to give, contact Rosemary. The office is open Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 11.00am to 1.00pm.		
<b>Do This In Memory:</b> Our First Holy Communion parish programme will continue at the Vigil Mass in Greencastle next weekend (Saturday 26th January).		
<b>Certificate in Lectio Divina Facilitation at Drumalis:</b> Drumalis, in association with St. Mary's University College are delighted to announce the launch of a new certificate course in Lectio Divina Facilitation, beginning in January 2013. For further details or to book a place, please contact Drumalis on (028) 2827 2196 / (028) 2827 6455 (Mon- Fri, 9.00am-5.00pm), <a href="mailto:maura@drumalis.co.uk">maura@drumalis.co.uk</a> . <i>Registration forms and course outline can also be downloaded from <a href="http://drumalis.co.uk">drumalis.co.uk</a></i>		
<b>New Child Safeguarding Materials Launch:</b> Diocesan Administrator Monsignor Eamon Martin invites the priests of the diocese and their Local Safeguarding Reps (Parish Reps) to the launch of new Child Safeguarding Materials, in An Grianan Hotel, Burt, Co. Donegal on Thursday 24th January at 7.30pm. The new safeguarding materials have been developed by members of the Diocesan Safeguarding Committee and include: 1. Parents' Handbook      2. Guidance booklet for Altar Servers The 'Annual Safeguarding Report (2012)' of the Diocesan Safeguarding Committee will also be presented on the evening.		
<b>S.T.A.N.D.:</b> Bullies come in all shapes, sizes ages and environments. Contrary to prevailing wisdom, putting up with bullies does NOT have be part of the growing up experience. Nor should it be. Bullying does not have to be part of an adult's life, either. There are appropriate and positive ways of dealing with the issue of bullying. Some of these resources are featured here and certainly a search engine will take you to helpful information at many different locations. S.T.A.N.D. "Start Today A New Direction" is one way of inviting personal change. One person at a time. learn to speak up for yourself first. And then consider, safely, speaking up for others. I was bullied as a child. I remember the circumstances vividly and the child I bullied was named Charlie. He adored me and I acted out on him some of the bullying that had been acted out upon me. it is an unfortunate cycle. Thankfully, being a bully did not match my core being. And that single experience helped me never bully again and to stand up for kids that were being bullied. I am grateful that it's part of my life experience to continue to stand up for people that have not yet found their voice and way to speak up for and protect themselves. Where is your voice? And how do you use it for good on your own behalf and on behalf of others. Start. Today. A New Direction. Courage does not always roar. Sometimes it is the quiet voice at the end of the day saying "I will try again tomorrow". <i>Mary Anne Radmacher</i>		
<b>Responsible Sports – Coaching Toolkit:</b> Introducing 'Filling the Emotional Tank' to Your Team. At the start of the season let your players know: Each one of them has an emotional tank that fills and drains when they receive praise and criticism. You don't want to be alone when Filling Tanks. You want them to act as tank-fillers for each other. In an environment where players are receiving five tank fillers for every one tank drainer (the 5:1 'Magic ratio') their enjoyment and performance will increase. Teams that play at home will have a 60% chance of winning. We can take this 'home field advantage' with us wherever we play, if we focus on filling each other's tanks with truthful and specific praise. This will help us win more.		
<b>Greencastle Youth Club Rota</b>	Monday 21st January	P6 and P7 Sean McCann
	Tuesday 22nd January	P4 and P5 Years 8, 9 and 10 Terina McDermott Ann Coyle
<b>BADA – Upcoming Events:</b> <b>Every Friday Night at 8.30pm</b> Card playing with light supper served		
<b>Additional Parish Notices:</b> Notices came from the following organisations requesting inclusion in the newsheet this week: <b>Care For Cancer, Loreto Grammar School Omagh, Dean Maguirc College Carrickmore, Dun Uladh and Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann</b> , as we do not have room to print them please read them at the online version, thank you.		

<p><b>Pope Benedict XVI's Intentions for January (please remember these in your personal prayer)</b>  <b>General – The Year of Faith:</b> That in this Year of Faith Christians may deepen their knowledge of the mystery of Christ and witness joyfully to the gift of faith in him.  <b>Missionary – Christians of the Middle East:</b> That the Christian communities of the Middle East, which frequently suffer discrimination, may receive the strength of fidelity and perseverance of the Holy Spirit.</p>
<p><b>Pilgrimage to Rome and San Giovanni Rotondo, Italy (Monday 26<sup>th</sup> August – Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September):</b>          With Father Francis Bradley. Staying four nights at the Irish College, Rome taking in the sights of the Eternal City and an Audience with the Holy Father, and three nights at the Shrine of Padre Pio, taking in the shrine of Manoppello and the Abbey of Montecassino. Price £850, including all coach transfers to/from Dublin and whilst in Italy, flights with Aer Lingus, accommodation on a half board basis in Rome and full board in San Giovanni, and the assistance of a Travel Representative throughout (single supplement at £20 per night). A £200 deposit before Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> January will secure you a seat.  <i>For more info call Fr. Bradley on (028) 7136 2475 [W] / (028) 7135 1718 [H] or email fbradley@derrydiocese.org</i></p>
<p><b>Institute of Irish Leadership, Pomeroy – Upcoming Events / Classes:</b>  <b>Free Computer Classes</b> Commencing January  <b>A Talk on the Men who Built Britain   6 Week Funded Community Pharmacy Project (enrol now)</b>  <b>History of Irish Labour in the British Construction by Ultan Cowley</b>  <i>Full / half day conference facilities available</i>  <b>T: 028 87 757800 E: kathleenburnsill@gmail.com</b>          20 The Diamond, Pomeroy. Co Tyrone <a href="http://instituteofirishleadership.org/">http://instituteofirishleadership.org/</a></p>
<p><b>Family Care Society – Adoption:</b> Could you make a child happy again after a difficult start in life? Family Care Society is presently seeking adoptive families who would be interested in parenting children aged under 8 and who need the love and attention of a caring and understanding family. Could this be you?  <i>For more information contact Family Care Society on (028) 9069 1133 (Belfast) or (028) 7136 8592 (Derry) email@familycaresociety.org familycaresociety.net</i></p>
<p><b>St. Joseph's Church, Galliagh, Derry – Annual Diocesan Mass for those with Special Needs and their Families and Friends:</b> Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March at 3.00pm. Bishop Lagan will celebrate. If you have a child who wishes to receive the Sacraments of Confirmation or First Holy Communion at this Mass please contact the Catechetical Centre on (028) 7126 4087 or email ddcc@derrydiocese.org.</p>
<p><b>Our Parish cemeteries</b> 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.</p>
<p><b>Prayer for the Diocese of Derry at this time</b>          God our Father, we your people of the diocese of Derry, turn to you in prayer, as our ancestors have done, In good times and bad, since the days of Saint Columba and Saint Eugene, Saint Lurach and Saint Mura. Although aware that we are unworthy of your grace, with confidence in your love we ask your help. Support and care for our bishops in their retirement, give courage and vision to those who are called on to administer the diocese at this time. Grant your wisdom and discernment to those charged with the task of choosing your next bishop. We ask you this in the name of Jesus, your Son, our Lord.  <b>Mary Mother of the Church, pray for us, Saint Columba, pray for us, Saint Eugene, pray for us, Saint Lurach pray for us, Saint Mura pray for us, all you saints of the diocese pray for us.</b>  <i>Fr. Kieran Devlin P. Em (Badoney Lower, 2012)</i></p>
<p><b>Barnardo's Main Office Line for the Child Bereavement Service in Belfast Number Change:</b>          Please note that this number is no longer (028) 9069 4000 anymore and is now (028) 9066 8333.</p>
<p><b>ACCORD Marriage Preparation Courses 2012-2013</b> (028)8224 2439 <a href="mailto:accordomagh@btopenworld.com">accordomagh@btopenworld.com</a>          8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> March 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> April 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> May 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> June          Applications to Secretary, ACCORD, Mount St., Columba Pastoral Centre, 48, Brook Street, Omagh BT78 5HD          Courses are limited to 15 couples and must be completed at least 6 months before your wedding</p>

Parish Liturgy for January, 2013	St. Patrick's (6.00pm Vigil Mass)	St. Patrick's (9.00am Mass)	Our Lady of the Wayside (11.00am Mass)
Readers	John Enright	Nuala Glass	Sean Clarke
Eucharistic Ministry	Brigid Keenan	Eugene McCullagh	Patricia Donnelly
Prayers of Intercession	Megan McKenna	Patrick Clarke	Emmett Bradley
Collectors	Margaret Morris Michael McNamee	Mickey Beggs Cathal Keenan	Tony Donnelly Brendan Daly
Altar Society	Mary Conway, Brendan Conway and Mary Meenan		Anne McDermott Mary Bradley
New choir members will always be welcome, contact Sinead			
<b>Altar Servers Needed:</b> Please notice the important role of altar servers in the prayer life of our faithful community, we currently need new volunteers to strengthen the teams already serving so if you will commit, please do so as soon as possible.			
<b>Dun Uladh – Upcoming Classes:</b>		<b>Refreshments served. For More info Contact (028) 8224 2777</b>	
<b>Traditional Music</b> Classes for banjo, flute, fiddle, concertina, singing, accordion, adult tin whistle and uilleann pipes		Tuesdays from 7.00pm to 9.00pm	
<b>Irish Language</b>		Tuesdays from 7.00pm to 9.00pm Fridays from 10.00am to 11.30am	
<b>Giorcal Comhrá</b>		Fridays from 11.30am to 1.00pm	
<b>Guidelines on Use of Modern Technology when Working with Children: - Use of photography and video</b> 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• It is always good practice to seek <i>written</i> 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);</li><li>• Neither names nor any personal information should be displayed alongside any photographs;</li><li>• 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.</li><li>• 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 everyone to make the choice whether or not to be photographed.</li></ul> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>The notice comes from the Safeguarding Policy and Procedures and is published on behalf of the <b>Diocesan Safeguarding Committee</b></i></p>			
<b>London Marathon (Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April):</b> Why not join team Foyle Hospice for a thrill of a lifetime running/walking one of the world's most exciting marathons, the Virgin London Marathon which takes place Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> April? This run takes in all the major sites and attractions in London with thousands of spectators all along the course. Places in this event will be difficult to get, but Foyle Hospice has some guaranteed entries for the marathon. <p style="text-align: right;"><i>For further information contact Noel McMonagle, Community Fundraising Manager noel@foylehospice.com, (028) 7135 9888</i></p>			
<b>Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann:</b> Guitar lessons will be commencing in St. Peter's Primary School on Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> January at 6.30pm. Anyone interested should call (028) 8164 8719 or 07842 903 949. Sean Nós dancing recommences in Gortin-Rouskey Social Centre on Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup> January. Beginners 5.00pm-5.45pm / Improvers 5.45pm -6.30pm.			
<b>Cappagh Badoney Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann:</b> This month's session will be held on Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> January in Plumbridge Hall. All musicians are invited to take part. <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Everybody is welcome to come along for a good night's craic and entertainment</i></p>			

## IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE DIARY IN 2013

### Sacramental Celebrations

<b>Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March</b>	St. Patrick's	<b>6.30pm</b> First Confession
<b>Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April</b>	Our Lady of the Wayside	<b>2.00pm</b> Sacrament of Confirmation (Monsignor Eamon Martin)
Fourth Sunday of Easter		
<b>Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May</b>	St. Patrick's	<b>11.00am</b> First Holy Communion
Feast of the Ascension		

### Solemn Annual Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

<b>Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May</b>	St. Patrick's
<b>Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> August</b>	Our Lady of the Wayside

### Derry Diocesan Society Masses in our Parish

<b>Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May   Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July</b>	St. Patrick's
<b>Friday 30<sup>th</sup> August   Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October</b>	
<b>Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Our Lady of the Wayside

### Public Prayers for our Deceased (Cemetery Sunday) (6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> July)

<b>Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July</b>	St. Patrick's	Directly after <b>6.00pm</b> Vigil Mass
<b>Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July</b>	Our Lady of the Wayside	Directly after <b>11.00am</b> Mass
<b>Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> November</b>	St. Patrick's	<b>6.00pm</b> Commemoration of All Souls (remembering all who died during the year)

'Do This In Memory' liturgies for candidates preparing for the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion

<b>Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March</b>	Sixth Palm Sunday	<b>6.00pm</b> Vigil Mass
<b>Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Holy Thursday	<b>7.30pm</b> Mass of the Lord's Supper
<b>Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Third Sunday of Easter	<b>6.00pm</b> Vigil Mass
<b>Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> June</b>	Feast of Corpus Christi	<b>6.00pm</b> Vigil Mass

**Looking for a book for your parish study group? Consider *The Mystery of Work*:** This is a book that teaches how to turn ordinary acts into acts of prayer, a collection of insights by saints, popes and mystics about how work itself can be prayer. Recommended for spiritual development by Fr. Raphael Simon, OCSO, Trappist monk and Retreat Master. Excerpt: "I believe quite simply that it is Jesus Himself, hidden deep in my poor little heart, who works within me in a mysterious manner and inspires all my daily actions." (St. Therese of Lisieux) Free Study Guide downloadable from our website. Purchase indiv. copies at Amazon.

### Rouskey Community Centre – Upcoming Classes:

<b>Pilates with Breda</b>	Monday 14th January at 7.00pm for 5 weeks at £25 (money must be paid in full). I will be in Centre Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> January from 7.00pm to 8.00pm
<b>Zumba</b>	Begins Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> January at 8.15pm. £4 per night for all age groups. Classes for over 50s and people with physical conditions will start Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> January at 10.00am
<b>Crocheting and Knitting with Mary</b>	Begins Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> January at 2.00pm for £5. For beginners and amateurs. Open to all and a great opportunity to learn new stitches and patterns.
<b>Drama / Dance with Ciodhna</b>	Academy classes will return Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> January, £2.50. P1, P2 and P3 (6.00pm to 7.00pm) // P4 upwards (7.00pm to 8.00pm).
Contact Bridie on (028) 8164 8706 or 07847459428 / 07591047556 or leave and message on phone. For the hire of the centre or equipment contact Sheena on (028) 8164 8186.	

### Questions people ask:

Fr. Silvester O'Flynn OFM Cap ([silvesteroflynn@gmail.com](mailto:silvesteroflynn@gmail.com))

- Q. At the wedding in Cana there were six large jars, each holding twenty to thirty gallons. That would come to five hundred bottles or more! Are these numbers to be taken literally or symbolically?
- A. Common sense demands that we look for symbolism. The setting is the marriage of an unnamed couple. The evangelist John is interested in the wedding of God and humanity in the mission of Jesus. As the multiplication of the loaves and fishes prepared the disciples to accept the consecration of the bread at the Last Supper, similarly the miracle of the wine foreshadowed the consecration of the wine into the blood of Christ. It was the blood of Christ which sealed the new covenant as a marriage bond by which people are adopted as the children of God.

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

- Monday 21<sup>st</sup> January – St. Agnes (virgin and martyr)** Wealthy and beautiful, was martyred for her virginity in the last persecutions in Rome, in the early 4<sup>th</sup> century. Patron of betrothed couples, gardeners and young girls.
- Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January – St. Vincent (deacon and martyr)** Deacon of the church of Saragossa, Spain, martyred in 304 in Valencia after prolonged torture.
- Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> January – St. Francis de Sales (bishop and Doctor of the Church) [1567-1622]** Bishop of Geneva, founder of the Visitation Sisters. He worked with gentleness and love to rebuild the Catholic faith after the Reformation. Patron Saint of writers, editors and journalists.
- Friday 25<sup>th</sup> January – The Conversion of St. Paul (Apostle)** St. Paul preached the power of God at work in the lives of each one of us. His own conversion shows that power in his own life. Out of a persecutor God made a preacher and teacher of the peoples.
- Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> January – St. Timothy and St. Titus (bishops)** Close to St. Paul as followers and later in their work with him. Tradition makes Timothy the first Bishop of Ephesus. And from Paul's advice to him to take some wine for his stomach's sake, he has been invoked as a Patron Saint in cases of stomach complaint. Titus was sent to organise the Church in Crete.
- Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January – St. Angela Merici (virgin and religious) [1474-1540]** Founder of the Ursulines, devoted herself to Christian education based on love, kindness with firmness and concern for the individual. [Not celebrated this year]

### Seeing your life through the lens of the gospels – John 2:1-11:

John Byrne OSA ([john@orlagh.ie](mailto:john@orlagh.ie))

- The story is a story of abundance, the abundance of the blessings God gives us. How have you been aware of the abundance of God's blessings? Let the memories lead you to prayer of thanks and praise for the times in your life when that joy and fulfilment have been very real to you..
- John uses a number of images (marriage, wine, feast, etc.) to symbolise the abundance of God's love. What are your favourite images of the abundance of God's love and blessings?
- The hour of Jesus had not yet come when the glory of God would be fully revealed, yet even so something of the glory of God was revealed in the sign that took place. For us also the revelation of the full glory of God lies in the future, but we do get glimpses along the way. Recall some of the signs that have revealed to you something of the glory of God, e.g., nature, art, friendship, etc.
- Mary/Jesus. It is interesting to note that despite the apparent rebuff, Mary is the first person in the narrative to show (at the level of the action of the story) that the correct response to the presence of Jesus is to trust in him. When have you trusted in the word of Jesus like that? What relationships do you have that you can trust like that? Do you recall times when your trust was rewarded even when you had been initially disappointed?

### The Deep End – Wedding Feast at Cana:

Jane Mellett ([janemellett@yahoo.com](mailto:janemellett@yahoo.com))

As we leave behind the Christmas season, we move into the stories of Jesus' earthly ministry. In the Church calendar we have entered into what is called 'Ordinary Time'. However, there is nothing 'ordinary' about 'Ordinary Time' as it is during these weeks that we hear about all the extra-ordinary things that Jesus did during his earthly life. Today's Gospel of the Wedding at Cana is no exception. It follows on from the story of the Wise Men, and of Jesus' Baptism in revealing to us who Jesus is.

For Jews, a wedding was a great symbol of the Kingdom of God. John calls this account a sign, something that is pointing us to a deeper reality. We don't know whose wedding it is and no one is addressed by their name apart from Jesus. It is a strange story. We can focus on the generosity of the gift in this story. Each stone jar could hold between 20 and 30 gallons of water, six of those would be 120 gallons of water. So how much wine did Jesus provide for the wedding? Let's say about 120 gallons (500 litres!). This was no small amount of wine that Jesus gifts to the couple. It is showing huge generosity and quality (he saved the best wine until last). We can thank God today for the abundance of gifts that he has given us – family, friends, creation, food, health. What else are you thankful for today?

## Message of his Holiness Pope Benedict XVI for the World Day of Migrants and Refugees (2013)

### *Migrations: pilgrimage of faith and hope*

Dear Brothers and Sisters!

The Second Vatican Ecumenical Council, in the Pastoral Constitution *Gaudium et Spes*, recalled that “the Church goes forward together with humanity” (No. 40); therefore “the joys and the hopes, the grief and anguish of the people of our time, especially of those who are poor or afflicted, are the joys and hopes, grief and anguish of the followers of Christ as well. Indeed, nothing genuinely human fails to raise an echo in their hearts” (*ibid.*, 1). The Servant of God Paul VI echoed these words when he called the Church an “expert in humanity” (*Populorum Progressio*, 13), as did Blessed John Paul II when he stated that the human person is “the primary route that the Church must travel in fulfilling her mission... the way traced out by Christ himself” (*Centesimus Annus*, 53). In the footsteps of my predecessors, I sought to emphasise in my Encyclical *Caritas in Veritate* that “the whole Church, in all her being and acting – when she proclaims, when she celebrates, when she performs works of charity – is engaged in promoting integral human development” (No. 11). I was thinking also of the millions of men and women who, for various reasons, have known the experience of migration. Migration is in fact “a striking phenomenon because of the sheer numbers of people involved, the social, economic, political, cultural and religious problems it raises, and the dramatic challenges it poses to nations and the international community” (*ibid.*, 62), for “every migrant is a human person who, as such, possesses fundamental, inalienable rights that must be respected by everyone and in every circumstance” (*ibid.*).

For this reason, I have chosen to dedicate the 2013 World Day of Migrants and Refugees to the theme “Migrations: pilgrimage of faith and hope”, in conjunction with the celebrations marking the fiftieth anniversary of the opening of the Second Vatican Ecumenical Council and the sixtieth anniversary of the promulgation of the Apostolic Constitution *Exsul Familia*, and at a time when the whole Church is celebrating the Year of Faith, taking up with enthusiasm the challenge of the new evangelisation.

Faith and hope are inseparable in the hearts of many migrants, who deeply desire a better life and not infrequently try to leave behind the “hopelessness” of an unpromising future. During their journey many of them are sustained by the deep trust that God never abandons his children; this certainly makes the pain of their uprooting and separation more tolerable and even gives them the hope of eventually returning to their country of origin. Faith and hope are often among the possessions which emigrants carry with them, knowing that with them, “we can face our present: the present, even if it is arduous, can be lived and accepted if it leads towards a goal, if we can be sure of this goal, and if this goal is great enough to justify the effort of the journey” (*Spe Salvi*, 1).

In the vast sector of migration, the Church shows her maternal concern in a variety of ways. On the one hand, she witnesses the immense poverty and suffering entailed in migration, leading often to painful and tragic situations.

This inspires the creation of programmes aimed at meeting emergencies through the generous help of individuals and groups, volunteer associations and movements, parochial and diocesan organisations in cooperation with all people of good will. The Church also works to highlight the positive aspects, the potential and the resources which migrations offer. Along these lines, programmes and centres of welcome have been established to help and sustain the full integration of migrants, asylum seekers and refugees into a new social and cultural context, without neglecting the religious dimension, fundamental for every person’s life. Indeed, it is to this dimension that the Church, by virtue of the mission entrusted to her by Christ, must devote special attention and care: this is her most important and specific task. For Christians coming from various parts of the world, attention to the religious dimension also entails ecumenical dialogue and the care of new communities, while for the Catholic faithful it involves, among other things, establishing new pastoral structures and showing esteem for the various rites, so as to foster full participation in the life of the local ecclesial community. Human promotion goes side by side with spiritual communion, which opens the way “to an authentic and renewed conversion to the Lord, the only Saviour of the world” (*Porta Fidei*, 6). The Church always offers a precious gift when she guides people to an encounter with Christ, which opens the way to a stable and trustworthy hope.

Where migrants and refugees are concerned, the Church and her various agencies ought to avoid offering charitable services alone; they are also called to promote real integration in a society where all are active members and responsible for one another’s welfare, generously offering a creative contribution and rightfully sharing in the same rights and duties. Emigrants bring with them a sense of trust and hope which has inspired and sustained their search for better opportunities in life. Yet they do not seek simply to improve their financial, social and political condition. It is true that the experience of migration often begins in fear, especially when persecutions and violence are its cause, and in the trauma of having to leave behind family and possessions which had in some way ensured survival. But suffering, great losses and at times a sense of disorientation →

← before an uncertain future do not destroy the dream of being able to build, with hope and courage, a new life in a new country. Indeed, migrants trust that they will encounter acceptance, solidarity and help, that they will meet people who sympathise with the distress and tragedy experienced by others, recognise the values and resources the latter have to offer, and are open to sharing humanly and materially with the needy and disadvantaged. It is important to realise that “the reality of human solidarity, which is a benefit for us, also imposes a duty” (*Caritas in Veritate*, 43). Migrants and refugees can experience, along with difficulties, new, welcoming relationships which enable them to enrich their new countries with their professional skills, their social and cultural heritage and, not infrequently, their witness of faith, which can bring new energy and life to communities of ancient Christian tradition, and invite others to encounter Christ and to come to know the Church.

Certainly every state has the right to regulate migration and to enact policies dictated by the general requirements of the common good, albeit always in safeguarding respect for the dignity of each human person. The right of persons to migrate – as the Council’s Constitution *Gaudium et Spes*, No. 65, recalled – is numbered among the fundamental human rights, allowing persons to settle wherever they consider best for the realisation of their abilities, aspirations and plans. In the current social and political context, however, even before the right to migrate, there is need to reaffirm the right not to emigrate, that is, to remain in one’s homeland; as Blessed John Paul II stated: “It is a basic human right to live in one’s own country. However this rights become effective only if the factors that urge people to emigrate are constantly kept under control” (Address to the Fourth World Congress on the Pastoral Care of Migrants and Refugees, 9 October 1998). Today in fact we can see that many migrations are the result of economic instability, the lack of essential goods, natural disasters, wars and social unrest. Instead of a pilgrimage filled with trust, faith and hope, migration then becomes an ordeal undertaken for the sake of survival, where men and women appear more as victims than as agents responsible for the decision to migrate. As a result, while some migrants attain a satisfactory social status and a dignified level of life through proper integration into their new social setting, many others are living at the margins, frequently exploited and deprived of their fundamental rights, or engaged in forms of behaviour harmful to their host society. The process of integration entails rights and duties, attention and concern for the dignified existence of migrants; it also calls for attention on the part of migrants to the values offered by the society to which they now belong.

In this regard, we must not overlook the question of irregular migration, an issue all the more pressing when it takes the form of human trafficking and exploitation, particularly of women and children. These crimes must be clearly condemned and prosecuted, while an orderly migration policy which does not end up in a hermetic sealing of borders, more severe sanctions against irregular migrants and the adoption of measures meant to discourage new entries, could at least limit for many migrants the danger of falling prey to such forms of human trafficking. There is an urgent need for structured multilateral interventions for the development of the countries of departure, effective countermeasures aimed at eliminating human trafficking, comprehensive programmes regulating legal entry, and a greater openness to considering individual cases calling for humanitarian protection more than political asylum. In addition to suitable legislation, there is a need for a patient and persevering effort to form minds and consciences. In all this, it is important to strengthen and develop understanding and cooperation between ecclesial and other institutions devoted to promoting the integral development of the human person. In the Christian vision, social and humanitarian commitment draws its strength from fidelity to the Gospel, in the knowledge that “to follow Christ, the perfect man, is to become more human oneself” (*Gaudium et Spes*, 41).

Dear brothers and sisters who yourselves are migrants, may this World Day help you renew your trust and hope in the Lord who is always at our side! Take every opportunity to encounter him and to see his face in the acts of kindness you receive during your pilgrimage of migration. Rejoice, for the Lord is near, and with him you will be able to overcome obstacles and difficulties, treasuring the experiences of openness and acceptance that many people offer you. For “life is like a voyage on the sea of history, often dark and stormy, a voyage in which we watch for the stars that indicate the route. The true stars of our life are the people who have lived good lives. They are lights of hope. Certainly, Jesus Christ is the true light, the sun that has risen above all the shadows of history. But to reach him we also need lights close by – people who shine with his light and so guide us along our way” (*Spe Salvi*, 49). I entrust each of you to the Blessed Virgin Mary, sign of sure hope and consolation, our “guiding star”, who with her maternal presence is close to us at every moment of our life. To all I affectionately impart my Apostolic Blessing.

BENEDICTUS PP. XVI

From the Vatican (Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October, 2012)

# **DEAN MAGUIRC COLLEGE**

## **CARRICKMORE**

**Open Day for Year 7 Pupils**  
**MONDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY**

**Open Night for Parents and Pupils**  
**BEGINS IN ASSEMBLY HALL AT 7.30PM (SHARP)**  
**Followed by PRINCIPAL'S ADDRESS**

**LORETO**  
GRAMMAR SCHOOL



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## **OPEN NIGHT**

**ALL P7 GIRLS AND THEIR**  
**PARENTS / GUARDIANS ARE WELCOME**

**WEDNESDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> JANUARY**

**REGISTRATION FROM 6.00PM**  
**PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME AT 6.30PM**

*As parking is restricted in the school grounds visitors are requested to use adjacent public car parks*