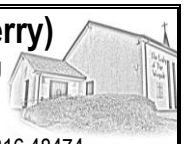
Parish of Greencastle, Co. Tyrone (Diocese of Derry)



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

Third Sunday of Lent [Year C] (20th March, 2022)

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

Website: greencastleparish.com • **Email:** greencastlepp@yahoo.com • **Tel:** (028) 816 48474

Thought for Trócaire: "In the spirit of faith and in the spirit of humanity, I want to appreciate the support of the people of Ireland. I would also like to appeal to you to open your hearts as much as possible; especially regarding food shortages, livelihoods, sanitation, education and health, these are our needs. And I would say that we have nothing much to give you back, we are always grateful to you, and every Sunday, when our people gather, we can assure you of our prayers for your generosity. I can only encourage you all to keep this partnership in the spirit of our faith." *Archbishop Alex Kaliyanil of Bulawayo, Zimbabwe*

Saturday 19th March	St. Patrick's	**6.00pm**	Vigil Mass: John Tuohey Jnr. (14th Anniversary)
Sunday 20th March Third Sunday of Lent [Year C]	Our Lady of Wayside	**11.30am**	Mass
Monday 21st March	St. Patrick's	**6.30am**	Mass
Tuesday 22nd March	St. Patrick's	**9.30am**	Mass
Wednesday 23rd March	St. Patrick's	**2.00pm to 4.00pm**	Adoration
Thursday 24th March	St. Patrick's	**10.00am**	Mass followed by Stations of the Cross
Friday 25th March Solemnity of Annunciation of Lord	St. Patrick's	**7.30pm**	Mass: Oliver McCullagh (Month's Mind)
Saturday 26th March	St. Patrick's	**6.00pm**	Vigil Mass
Sunday 27th March Fourth Sunday of Lent [Year C]	Our Lady of Wayside	**11.30am**	Mass

Weekly Collection: £980 *Thank you for your continued generosity*

Sick and Housebound: Fr. Gallagher will visit those in his care on Friday 1st April at the usual times. The sick at home and in hospitals and nursing homes will be remembered and prayed for during mass on the Eve of First Friday at 10.00am on Thursday 31st March.

Remembering Our Dead: We pray for the happy repose of the soul of ***Oliver McCullagh*** whose Month's Mind is this week and for the soul of ***John Tuohey Jnr. (14th)*** whose anniversary occurs at this time.

Parish Bulletin: During much of the last two years while the churches were in various stages of lockdown our Parish Bulletin has been available in printed form at the Centra Store in Greencastle, the Post Office in Broughderg and the Church Porches from late Friday afternoon, this weekend will mark the end of that arrangement. I wish to sincerely thank all those who accommodated us in this way. Now, with all areas of the parish are able to go mass each weekend once more it is time to return to picking up the bulletin at mass. The online edition of the bulletin will continue to be available on the Parish website (greencastleparish.com) and the Greencastle Parish Facebook Page from 5.30pm every Friday. Any notices or anniversaries for inclusion should be emailed to greencastlepp@yahoo.com by Wednesday at 7.30pm at the latest.

Greencastle Club and Community – Final Part of Our Picture *surveymonkey.co.uk/r/GREENCASTLE22*

As part of our engagement we would like to invite you to an evening of conversation / consultation that will help us conclude our process on Wednesday 23rd March at 8.00pm in Greencastle Community Centre.

Our online questionnaire is open until Monday 21st March

Baptism Dates: Saturday 19th March at 3.00pm in Gortin • Sunday 27th March at 12.30pm in Broughderg

Parish Office Opening Hours: Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 11.00am to 3.00pm

Tel: (028) 8164 8203 **Email:** greencastlepp@yahoo.com

All bookings to be done through the Parish Office please

Next Week's Readings: Joshua 5:9-12 • Psalm 33:2-7, R / v 9 • 2 Corinthians 5:17-21
Luke 15:1-3, 11-32 • Lectionary 1:284 **Sunday [Year C]** • **Weekday [Year 1]**

Derry Diocesan Trust – *Job Advertisements*

POSITION	LOCATION	CLOSING DATE
Parish Office Manager (35 hours per week)	St. Eugene's Cathedral, Templemore Parish	Tuesday 22nd March
Sacristan and Caretaker (16 hours per week)	Ardmore Parish, Derry	Tuesday 22nd March

Seeing your Life through the Lens of the Gospel: *John Byrne OSA (jpbyrneosa@gmail.com)*

1. Jesus rejects the idea that personal misfortune is God's punishment for sin. Yet a serious illness or accident can serve as a wake-up call about how we live our lives. How have such experiences given you a greater appreciation of the value of your life and relationships, and of the time, and opportunities at your disposal?
2. 'I'll wait till tomorrow to do that'. Have you ever said that and then found the chance is gone the next day? In the story we are called to recognise God at work in our lives and respond to Him. NOW is the opportune moment. When have you been glad you did not put off action to the following day?
3. Perhaps there have been times when you saw yourself like the tree in the parable – useless, merely a waste of space, unable to achieve what you wanted. Think of friends who came to you at such a time, people who saw your potential and were prepared to give you another chance, people who also dug the soil around you and gave you the help you needed to grow. Perhaps in your turn you have been able to do this for others.

An Caisleán Glas, Sperrin Óg and Fr. Shield's Club – *Membership Overdue*: There will be a club registration night in the hall Thursday 24th March from 7.30pm to 8.30pm to allow you to register for the coming year. *It can also be renewed via the Foireann System (see Facebook for step-by-step details) or by contacting Rosie Morris*

Fr. Shields Camogie Club, Greencastle: An invitation is extended to anyone who would like to try camogie for the first time or return to the game they love. We welcome anyone who would like to try at the following training sessions:

Mondays, 7.30pm to 8.30pm (seniors) Wednesdays, (post-primary, 7.00pm to 8.00pm (U14s and U16s)

Thursdays, 6.30pm to 7.10pm (U6s and U7s) *Support will be given to those who have never played before*

We can assist with online registration, sticks and helmets can be provided during training sessions and matches

Add our club page and message us or come on the nights at the above times

@frshields.greencastle or call Kira on +44 7833 4188 50

Our Faith – *Developing What We Were Taught in School*:

- Was RE just a subject in school? Would you like to really to understand it in practice?
- Are you open to deepening your understanding of your Catholic Faith?
- Do you want to better understand the Mass - the celebration to the Eucharist?
- Would you like to explore, discuss and reflect upon issues and questions of faith, the Church, and how to link faith to your everyday life?

The Pathways Adult Faith Programme by Drumalis Retreat Centre, Larne, addresses these questions and more. This two-year faith development programme, delivered one Saturday per month from October to June is available either in-house at Drumalis or by Zoom video-conferencing. *More info, enrolment visit drumalis.co.uk/pathways*

Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre in Partnership with St. Mary's University, Twickenham

***Masters in Catholic School Leadership*:** This is a post-graduate degree dedicated to the professional development and spiritual formation of Catholic school leaders. It is a great opportunity for those currently in leadership roles and those who aspire to, or have an interest in, leadership roles within the Catholic School system. Applications for the Autumn intake close Monday 30th September.

For more info call the Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre on 0044 (028) 7126 4087 or email tferry@derrydiocese.org

Wednesday 2nd March Ash Wednesday	**Thursday 31st March at 7.00pm** First Confession (Greencastle)	**Saturday 9th April at 11.00am** Confirmation (Greencastle)
Saturday 14th May at 11.00am First Communion (Greencastle)	**Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th June** Blessing of the Graves in Greencastle / Broughderg	

Prayer for Lent: Lord, grant me the serenity to accept the people I cannot change, the courage to change the one I can, and the wisdom to know that person is me.

Pope Francis' Intention for March (please remember this in your personal prayers)
For a Christian Response to Bioethical Challenges: We pray for Christians facing new bioethical challenges; may they continue to defend the dignity of all human life with prayer and action.

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

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

The Spiritual Benefits of Weekly Eucharistic Adoration

It helps us to grow in holiness. Jesus is ready to lavish on us, many extra graces and blessings, when we come and spend time with Him in Adoration. It helps us to appreciate Priesthood. Remember, "No Priests, no Eucharist". It is an established fact that where Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is worshipped and adored vocations flourish. When we spend time with Jesus in Eucharistic Adoration each week or more often, we experience a great peace and contentment.

"…of all devotions, that of adoring Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is the greatest after the Sacraments themselves". *Pope St. John Paul II*

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

Epilepsy Action NI: Are you, or someone you care for, living with epilepsy or brain injury? Epilepsy Action NI and Headway work in partnership to deliver a community-based counselling service in Omagh. The Counselling service is for people over the age of 18 who are affected by epilepsy and / or brain injury or are caring for someone with epilepsy / brain injury and would like some emotional support.

A Prayer for Now: God of the present moment, God who in Jesus stills the storm and soothes the frantic heart; Bring hope and courage to us as we wait in uncertainty. Bring hope that you will make us the equal of whatever lies ahead. Bring us to endure what cannot be avoided, for your will is health and wholeness; you are God and we need you. *Amen*

Parish Liturgy for March	St. Patrick's (6.00pm Vigil)	Our Lady of the Wayside (11.30am)
Readers	Francis McDermott	Geraldine Scullion
Eucharistic Ministry	Brigid Keenan	Josephine Clarke
Prayers of Faithful	Claire O'Brien	Ciaran Morris and Gearoid McNamee
Ushers	Nuala Clarke, Margaret Morris, Rose McCullagh and JP2 Students	Pat Coyle and Stephen McNamee
Altar Society	Maria Morris, Ava Morris and Kathleen Tracey	Mary Bradley

Pope Francis' Prayer for Protection: O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick. At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith. You know what we need. We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine. Love to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us: He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen. We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God. Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test – and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

Kindercare Fostering NI: Could you help a child in need? 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) 9094 1690 • **Email:** gillian.devlin@kindercare.co.uk • **Website:** kindercareni.co.uk

Prayer for Synod on Synodality (2021 – 2023)

We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name. With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts; Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it. We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder. Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions.
Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right. All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever. *Amen*

Radio Maria Ireland: An Irish-run Catholic Talk-Radio Station with commercial-free broadcasting of Prayer, Catechesis, Music, Talks, Interviews and Testimonies based at St. Anthony's Business Park, Ballymount Road, Dublin 22. If you are not already a follower of the station Radio Maria Ireland encourage you to join their growing faith family! Prayer / song requests welcome. "A Catholic voice in your home". Fr Eamonn McCarthy is Director.
You can tune in to the station in a variety of ways:
Digital TV - Saorview Channel 210 / Freeview TV (Channel number varies per location in NI)
Download FREE App "RADIO MARIA IRELAND"
Streaming on radiomarie.ie (subscribe and donate here also)
'Listen Live Radio' link on Facebook Page. (Like, Share and Follow us on Facebook)
Phone – get live radio feed by calling 003531 437 3277 (no extra charges apply).

Kindercare Fostering NI: Could you help a child in need? 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) 9094 1690 • **Email:** gillian.devlin@kindercare.co.uk • **Website:** kindercareni.co.uk

Accord Counselling Services: Ireland's leading agency supporting marriage and relationships, nationwide through its 60 Centres. Our aim is to help couples prepare for, achieve and sustain their marriage and family relationships, offer ongoing support and assist them in times of difficulty or crisis. Available to couples regardless of their faith, denomination or none. *To avail of this call (028) 8224 2439 or email omagh@accordni.com*

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

Eucharistic Adoration Prayer Intentions for each hour of weekly Adoration
12noon – 1.00pm Vocation to Priesthood and Religious Life
1.00pm – 2.00pm Married couples and those preparing for Marriage
2.00pm – 3.00pm Sick and the Housebound • **3.00pm – 4.00pm** Strengthening of Faith in our young people
4.00pm – 5.00pm Parish Unity • **5.00pm – 6.00pm** Protecting life and the Earth
6.00pm – 7.00pm The Holy Souls and the Bereaved

The Millennium Forum – *Changing Place Facility*: This is a space which provides a private area for people who require an adult changing bench, hoist and toilet. Over ¼ million people need Changing Places toilets to enable them to get out and about and enjoy the day-to-day activities many of us take for granted. The Millennium Forum Changing Place is open to all members of the public, not only people attending the theatre.
Call our Access and Inclusion Officer Lisa Heaney on (028) 7126 4455 (choose option 1) or email lisah@millenniumforum.co.uk

Catholic Engaged Encountered – *Marriage Preparation Course*:
Planned for Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th April in the Drummond Hotel, Ballykelly, Co. Derry.
A positive way of preparing for Marriage where you will discover how you can enrich your future relationship.
For more information and to book call (028) 2763 8512 or visit marriageencounter.ie

What Is Spiritual Communion? It has long been a Catholic understanding that when circumstances prevent one from receiving Holy Communion, it is possible to make an Act of Spiritual Communion, which is a source of grace. Spiritual Communion is an ardent desire to receive Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament and lovingly embrace him at a time or in circumstances when one cannot receive Him in sacramental Communion. The most common reason for making an Act of Spiritual Communion is when a person cannot attend Mass. Acts of Spiritual Communion increase our desire to receive sacramental Communion and help us avoid the sins that would make us unable to receive Holy Communion worthily.

Mid Ulster Agewell: Are you over 50 years old? Do you live in the Mid Ulster Council area? Would you like a free phone call in the morning to reduce the feeling of loneliness and isolation, reassurance and a listening ear and help keep you up to date with social activities in your local area? A phone call can be arranged between 8.30am and 12.30pm from Monday to Friday.
For more info call Marie Devlin on (028) 796 32170 or email marie.devlin@agewellpartnership.org

Barnardo's NI – *Can You Foster*? Could you give a home to a vulnerable child when they need it most? Fostering is about giving them a safe, secure place to live for a few weeks, months or even years. Barnardo's Fostering NI is looking for foster carers. Foster placements can be long-term, short-term, emergency, short breaks and parent and child together. You must be over 21 to foster and must have a spare bedroom in your home. Foster carers are offered a fostering fee and allowances; they are given training and support.
To learn more call (028) 9065 2288 or visit barnardos.org.uk/foster

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@iecon.ie

2020	PARISH STATISTICS	2021
(17) 8 Boys • 9 Girls	**Baptisms**	10 Boys • 7 Girls [17]
(11) 4 Boys • 7 Girls	**First Communion**	7 Boys • 9 Girls [16]
(14) 7 Boys • 7 Girls	**Confirmation**	10 Boys • 6 Girls [16]
0 within parish • 1 outside parish	**Weddings**	5 within parish • 2 outside parish [7]
8	**Deaths and Burials**	12

Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes: Although mindful of all the uncertainties we face at this time, the Pilgrimage Director and staff have begun planning for a return to Lourdes in early summer of 2022. While it is still too early to provide details, it is intended that the date and duration will be as in recent years and hopefully these will be confirmed and announced by the end of 2021. We ask for the prayers of the people of the diocese so that, by the grace of God and intercession of Our Lady of Lourdes, we may return to Lourdes once more.

Northern Ireland Adoption and Foster Care:
With an increase in children and young people needing foster homes across Northern Ireland, we need you now.
Every child deserves to have a happy, loving and safe home where they'll feel cared for, valued and supported.
It's always the right time for fostering.
Call us on 0800 0720 137 or visit adoptionandfostercare.hscni.net
#HSCNIFosterCare #FosterForYourCommunity #CouldYouFoster

Deanery of Tyrone Statistics
17 Parishes in West Tyrone and East Donegal. An estimated Catholic population of 65,670 people are currently served by 20 Derry Diocesan priests under retirement age with assistance of 3 priests in residence and a chaplain to the Polish community.
8 parishes (47%) have a Catholic population of less than 3,000
6 parishes (35%) have a Catholic population of 3,000-7,000 people
3 parishes (18%) have a Catholic population of greater than 7,000 people
The largest parish serves an estimated 11,500 Catholics
7 parishes have 1,500 parishioners or less (7,900 combined) each with a resident priest. Is this sustainable?
In 2008 there were 27 diocesan clergy under retirement age ministering in the Tyrone Deanery, as of 2018 that number is 20. 7 Parish Priests currently serving in the deanery will reach 75 before 2025.
The maximum number of ordinations across the Derry Diocese by 2025 is 3.
Age profile: 1 priest is in his 30s, 1 in 40s, 7 in 50s, 6 in 60s and 5 in 70s
The clergy population has dropped 26% between 2008 and 2018 and by 2025 will have dropped by 52%

Prayer for the End of the Virus: Almighty and merciful Father, who show your love to all your creation. We come before you asking for an end of the Coronavirus currently ravaging our world. Hear graciously the prayers we make for those affected by the virus in various parts of the world. Grant healing to the sick, eternal life to the dead and consolation to the bereaved families. We pray that an effective medicine to combat the sickness be speedily found. We pray for the relevant governments and health authorities, that they take appropriate steps for the good of the people. Look upon us in your mercy and forgive us our failings. *Amen*

This Week's Calendar of Feasts and Saints:

Friday 25th March – ***Solemnity of Annunciation of Lord*** Celebrates the coming of the Angel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary to announce to her the special mission God had chosen for her in being the mother of His only son.

We are continually reminded of the importance of this feast to our salvation in various devotional prayers. Two examples that highlight the importance of this feast are the joyous mysteries of the Rosary and the Angelus.

The feast of the Annunciation began to be celebrated on this day during the fourth and fifth centuries, soon after the date for celebrating Christmas was universalized throughout the Church. This feast celebrates the Incarnation of the Second Person of the Trinity and the salvation of all mankind. This point of our salvation was deeply discussed by many of the Church fathers, to explain it to the faithful and to show the deep love God has for us. Some of the Church fathers who wrote on this were St. Athanasius, St. Gregory of Nyssa and St. Augustine.