



Parish of Greencastle, Co. Tyrone (Diocese of Derry)
St. Patrick's, Greencastle Our Lady of the Wayside, Broughderg
Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time [Year A] (20th July, 2014)
 The Parochial House, 164, Greencastle Road, Sheskinshule, Omagh, BT79 7RU
Website: greencastleparish.com **Tel:** (028) 8164 8474 **Email:** greencastlepp@yahoo.com



Best wishes to everyone travelling for their summer holidays, may your journeys be safe and your time away renewing and refreshing. For everyone staying at home may the weather be kind and may we all make the most out of it. **You are welcome to begin each day with daily Mass**

Liturgy Schedule for the Sixteenth Week in Ordinary Time [Year A] (21st July, 2014 – 27th July, 2014)

Saturday Evening (19th July)	St. Patrick's	5.30pm Confessions 6:00pm Vigil Mass
Sunday 20th July Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time [Year A]	St. Patrick's Our Lady of the Wayside	9.00am Mass (Missa Pro Populo) 10.30am Confessions 11.00am Mass: Fr. Vincent McCrory + his brother Francis
Monday 21st July St. Lawrence of Brindisi (priest and doctor of the Church)	St. Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Tuesday 22nd July St. Mary Magdalene	St. Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Wednesday 23rd July St. Bridget of Sweden (religious and Patron of Europe)	St. Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Thursday 24th July St. Charbel Makhluf (priest) and St. Declan (bishop)	St. Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Friday 25th July St. James (apostle)	St. Patrick's	8.00pm Mass
Saturday 26th July St. Joachim and St. Anne (parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary)	St. Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Saturday Evening (26th July)	St. Patrick's	5.30pm Confessions 6:00pm Vigil Mass
Sunday 27th July Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time [Year A]	St. Patrick's Our Lady of the Wayside	9.00am Mass (Missa Pro Populo) 10.30am Confessions 11.00am Mass: Charlie Quinn (Month's Mind)

Weekly Offerings: Thank you for your generosity to last week's collection which amounted to **£920**.
Peter's Pence – Pope's Collection: A further **£25** was realised.

Remembering Our Dead: We pray for **Fr. Vincent McCrory and his brother Francis** whose anniversaries occur at this time.

St. Patrick's Church Cemetery: We have asked a local architect to draw up a plan for our cemetery with the information that you shared with us last year. Please look carefully at the plan which is now available online at the parish website and also in the church porch at St. Patrick's Church. Our intention is to create pathways through the cemetery as on the drawing and lay out the space available for future burials in an orderly way.

We intend to get this project finished as soon as we can afford to get it done

Your comments are much appreciated (a period of five weeks will be set aside for this from Saturday 21st June).

If you wish to share your ideas or offer your support, please put your comments in writing to Fr. Hasson or any member of the Parish Maintenance Committee before Friday 25th July

Greencastle Parish Pilgrimage Sunday to the Mass Rock in the Townland of Dorville:

Sunday 3rd August at 3.00pm. Our new bishop, Bishop Donal McKeown has accepted our invitation to lead us on this occasion and we will have the opportunity of giving him and all our pilgrims a warm welcome to our parish community. Dorville will be a physically challenging experience as well as an opportunity to express our faith.

Someone to take responsibility for organising traffic control would be more than helpful • Your support is needed

Please mark this date into your diary and invite your friends to join us

Pilgrimage to Medugorje: Accompanied by Fr. Mark Monaghan SMA For info call Maria Bradley on (028) 8164 8357

Next Sunday's Readings: 1 Kings 3: 5, 7-12; Psalm 118, r/v 97; Romans 8: 28-30; Matthew 13: 44-52;
 (Lectionary I, page 682) **Sunday [Year A] • Weekday [Year 2]**

GAA Lotto Results: B • E • Q • U • W (1 with 4 letters winning £100) **Next Jackpot:** £2,800

Offertory Gifts: During the summer months there will be no formal rota, instead families are invited to perform this role for us. As a wider parish community we thank these young people and their families for this valued task of leadership throughout the year.
Do not be shy about doing this on behalf of the whole community

Musings

Salvador Ryan (St. Patrick's College, Maynooth)

The Second Reading today reminds us that often 'we do not know what we ought to pray for'. In other words, should we always and on every occasion trust that we know what's best for us and that God, acknowledging our far-sightedness, should simply respond positively to our every demand? Let's reflect for a moment on all that we have prayed for over the years. Had every request been granted precisely as we had requested it, how might our lives be different today?

Youth 2000 Summer Festival: Cistercian College, Roscrea, Co. Tipperary from Thursday 14th to Sunday 17th August. An opportunity for young people to experience faith and meet many new people. The festival is donation only. Free buses available from towns throughout Ireland. **Web:** youth2000.ie • **Tel:** 07598 876399

London to Paris Bike Ride for Foyle Hospice: september 2015 only 20 places! register now!

The London to Paris bike ride takes you through beautiful English villages and into the stunning countryside of rural France. You'll pass historic...al landmarks and famous battlefields from World War I until you reach Paris, undoubtedly one of the most magical places on earth. The sense of achievement you'll experience will be one you will cherish forever.

If you would like to take part in this fantastic event please let me know asap as it's on a first come basis.

If you require any further information contact Michelle McGinn on (028) 71359888 or email michellemcginn@foylehospice.com

Now that school is out, it's fair to ask, What's in? By Fr. William J. Byron SJ (Catholic News Service).

Find out in the online news sheet

Croagh Patrick National Pilgrimage 2014 – Reek Sunday: Sunday 27th July. Confessions begin on the summit at 7.30am and continue until 2.00pm. The first Mass on the summit will be at 8.00am and every half-hour thereafter until the last Mass which commences at 2.00pm.

A Farmer's Prayer

Jesus, you are the Bread of Life,
 Food for our journey,
 You are the Vine and we are the branches,
 Drawing our life from you.
 As we seek to make out living from the land,

Bless the work of our hands. Each day we touch the
 beauty of your creation,
 Renew your love in our hearts.
 And as we see your plan at work in each season,
 Bring your peace to our home and to those we love.

Amen

Lough Derg Three Day Pilgrimage: You may begin your pilgrimage on any day of the week from Sunday 1st June to Wednesday 13th August. Cost includes boat fare and accommodation.

Web: loughderg.org • **Email:** info@loughderg.org • **Tel:** (028) 6863 2391 • **Address:** Lough Derg Office, Pettigo, Co. Donegal

Our Lady's Shrine, Knock, Co. Mayo – Pilgrimage Season: Sunday 4th May to Sunday 12th October.

You might consider a private pilgrimage or go with an organised group this year

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/or 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.

Prayer for Ministry of Child Safeguarding in Parishes

Holy Spirit of God,
 We ask your blessing
 On everyone in our parish community.
 We pray a particular blessing
 On those whose ministry it is
 To ensure that he young and
 vulnerable are cared for and protected.

Help them and all of us
 To lead lives worthy of our Christian calling
 And may honesty and respect
 Integrity and justice be the hallmark of all our
 relationships.
 We make this prayer
 In the name of Jesus Christ, our Saviour and brother.

Amen

An Bruach Dearg Community Centre – Upcoming Events:

Sunday 10th August Dancing to Larry & Co.

Sunday 24th August Dancing to Cascades

Pope Francis' Intentions for July (please remember these in your personal prayer)

Universal: That sports may always be occasions of human fraternity and growth.

For Evangelisation: That the Holy Spirit may support the work of the laity who proclaim the Gospel in the poorest countries.

Parish Liturgy for July, 2014	St. Patrick's (6.00pm Vigil Mass)	St. Patrick's (9.00am Mass)	Our Lady of the Wayside (11.00am Mass)
Readers	Mary Slane	Catriona McCullagh	Martina McBride
Eucharistic Ministry	Mary Tracey	Eileen McKenna	Mary McCrory
Prayers of Intercession	Peter Fox	TBC	Claire Coyle
Collectors	Francis McLaughlin Mary Bradley	Patrick Tuohey Michael Clarke	Pat McGuigan Francis Keenan
Altar Society	Nuala Glass and Rosemary Conway		Anne McDermott Josephine Clarke

Anyone wishing to volunteer should make themselves known
Thanks for everything you do in our parish-faith community

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

Safeguarding Information for parents of Altar Servers: A Parents' Safeguarding Information Pack, which has been developed by the Derry Diocesan Safeguarding Office, is available for parents of altar servers. In each pack there is an Information Leaflet and Information Booklet for parents and two Leaflets for the children. If you are a parent of an altar server/s, and require a copy, please leave your request for an Information Pack in the sacristy; alternatively, or you can obtain it from the Safeguarding office, Pastoral Centre, Bishop Street, Derry (office hours Monday -Wednesday, 1.30pm to 5.00pm, Tel 71362475). This material may also be viewed in the Safeguarding section of the Diocesan website.

Rural Support: Provides a listening and signposting service for farming and rural families through its helpline. Rural support can provide practical and emotional support with regards to a variety of issues including farm paperwork, financial concerns, physical and mental health and general stress. The helpline is confidential and operated from 8.00am to 11.00pm seven days a week (voicemail and support options available at all other times). The helpline number is 0845 606 7607. Rural support is currently recruiting volunteers for various roles within the organisation. If you would be interested in volunteering with Rural Support you can visit ruralsupport.org.uk

IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE DIARY IN 2014

Solemn Annual Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament		Sunday 24th August	Our Lady of the Wayside
Derry Diocesan Society Masses in our Parish	Saturday 19th July • Monday 8th September • Wednesday 29th October		St. Patrick's
Saturday 1st November	St. Patrick's	6.00pm Vigil Mass: Commemoration of All Souls (remembering all who died in 2013)	

Now that school is out, it's fair to ask, *What's in?*

By Fr. William J. Byron SJ (Catholic News Service)

That's a question parents should be considering. They have to be concerned with how their youngsters are occupying themselves during the summer vacation. The vacationing students have to be concerned as well. Parents and their offspring should work together on summer plans; otherwise valuable time will be lost and so will opportunities for personal growth.

Sports, travel, summer jobs and summer camp, in some combination, are capable of making June, July and August speed by. Camp and travel will be out of reach for some, and jobs are often hard to find.

However, no youngster has more hours or days in a summer week than any other, and all have an equal opportunity to engage in some form of volunteer or community service. Boredom is not an option for those who have a pulse and even a modest measure of ambition.

Any productive, growth-producing summer should begin with a reading list — at least five good, age-appropriate, mind-stretching books to be read by summer's end. Librarians are always willing to assist parents in putting a good list together; the kids should have a say in making the selections.

The trick is first to make the list, then post it in the kitchen, check off what has been read, and schedule a dinner-table report opportunity for the young reader for each book read. Family conversations will ensue and passive television viewing will decline. Reading can be a good alternative to TV for children in the summer. (Thinkstock)

As a matter of fact, summer reading can ease the grip that television often has on the minds and time of the young. Summer writing is not out of the question. Let the kids try their hand at short stories. There could be neighbourhood competitions, if parents are resourceful enough to organize them.

Inexpensive daytrips can be planned for the out-of-school young by imaginative parents. There are museums, gardens, libraries, factories, city halls, fire houses, police stations, airports and lots of other interesting places to be visited.

Summer offers time for performance in plays or concerts, if adults provide organizational support as they so often do in organizing summer leagues for young athletes.

Large metropolitan areas offer the opportunity for foreign-language immersion experiences for the young, if only some interested adults are willing to get the kids — particularly Hispanic and Anglo — talking.

It can be fun and it need not be at all expensive. It is really just a question of letting a community become what it was intended to be: a collection of people communicating with one another. Summer provides the time it takes to get the conversations going.

You may have noticed that there is an opportunity in all of this for the church to get involved. Pastors cannot be expected to do it all, but resourceful pastors can ask their parishioners to step up to the challenge.

Much of what I'm suggesting here could happen on church property and that might have the indirect benefit of bringing the kids closer to all of the other good things the parish has to offer year-round.

Jesuit Fr. Byron is university professor of business and society at St. Joseph's University, Philadelphia (wbyron@sju.edu)

The Deep End – *The Mustard Seed Revolution:*

Jane Mellett (janemellett@yahoo.com)

The mustard seed parable is often explained away by stating how God takes a tiny seed and makes a big tree out of it. There is, as usual, a lot more going on here. Matthew strategically places the mustard seed parable in the middle of a story about gardening. Jesus surprises his listeners by telling them not to cut the weeds out of the wheat. The mustard seed's growth could also be compared to wild weeds that grow through cracks in footpaths or a vine that vigorously takes over an area. There is an ancient text which forbade planting mustard seeds in Palestinian gardens because the shrub takes over, like how yeast works its way through dough! It is wild, out of control, and attracts unwanted birds. Author and activist, Shane Claiborne, compares it to kudzu, a wild vine that could blanket entire mountain areas, smother trees, even crack cement buildings

People of Jesus' time may have preferred the image of the lofty 'cedars of Lebanon' to explain God's kingdom, where the nations could build nests like the eagles do. Now that image may have gotten a few cheers from the crowd! Mustard plants however, only stand a few feet tall. Jesus is turning the ideals of power and triumph on their head again. The image we have here is of the unwanted, detestable birds who find a home in this little shrub which cannot be curtailed. It will grow even where it is not wanted.

This Week's Calendar of Feasts and Saints:

Monday 21st July – St. Lawrence of Brindisi (priest and doctor of the Church) [1559-1619]

A Capuchin who preached the Counter-Reformation.

Tuesday 22nd July – St. Mary Magdalene Mary stood by the cross with Jesus; with two other women she discovered the empty tomb; she was granted an appearance of the Risen Lord early on the same day, from which incident she has been described as apostle to the apostles. The Gospels give no warrant for identifying her with the woman who was a sinner who anointed Christ's feet (Luke 7:37) or with Mary the sister of Martha (John 12:3).

Wednesday 23rd July – St. Bridget of Sweden (religious and Patron of Europe) Born in Sweden in 1303, Bridget brought up 8 children and after the death of her husband dedicated herself to an aesthetical life. She later founded the Bridgettine Order and lived in Rome. She wrote many works about her mystical appearances. She was declared a Patron of Europe in 2000.

Thursday 24th July – St. Charbel Makhluf (priest) Became a monk at the monastery of St. Maron at Annaya and was ordained in 1859. He became a hermit from 1875 until his death in 1898. His counsel was much sought after and he had a great devotion to the Blessed Sacrament.

St. Declan (bishop) Is considered to be one of the pre-Patrician saints. Colman, a local priest, baptised him. After travelling to Europe where he was ordained priest, and possibly bishop, he settled in Ardmore and evangelised the Decies country.

Friday 25th July – St. James (apostle) James, son of Zebedee and brother of John, was put to death by Herod Agrippa about the year 44, being the first of the Apostles to die for Christ. His shrine is at Compostela in Spain.

Saturday 26th July – St. Joachim and St. Anne (parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary) Both received the vision of an angel, who announced that Anne would conceive and bear a most wondrous child. The couple rejoiced at the birth of their daughter, whom Anne named Mary. When the child was three years old, Joachim and Anne, in fulfilment of her divine promise, brought Mary to the Temple at Jerusalem, where they left her to be brought up. This event became so important in church doctrine that by 1585 Pope Sixtus V included in the Western church calendar the liturgical feast of the Presentation of the Virgin Mary (21st November). Although this festival originated early in the East, probably at Jerusalem in 543, its first Western observance was recorded in England in the 11th century. Anne is the Patron of Brittany and Canada and of women in labour.

Appeal on behalf of Family Care Society: Family Care Society is a voluntary adoption agency with its roots in the Catholic Church and we provide an adoption service throughout all of Northern Ireland.

A core part of our work is to place children with new adoptive families. These children are often from the care system and may have had a difficult start in life. We are experienced in finding families for these children but given the number of children being referred and their specific needs we are always looking for families to come forward. We would like to thank you for the support you have provided to date. It has proved to be a very successful way of finding adoptive families. Given however our urgent need presently to find families for more young children, we are again respectfully asking for your help.

Adoption: Family Care Society is presently seeking adoptive families who would be interested in parenting children aged between 2 to 6 years and need the love and attention of a caring and understanding family. Could this be you?

Tel: (028) 9069 1133 [Belfast] // (028) 7136 8592 [Derry] • **Email:** email@familycaresociety.org • **Web:** familycaresociety.co.uk

Seeing your life through the lens of the gospels – Matthew 13:24-43:

John Byrne OSA (john@ortlagh.ie)

1. The owner of the field who allowed the wheat and the darnel to grow together is a reminder to us to be patient with ourselves and with others when we see everything is not right. Sometimes a preoccupation with the negative (the darnel) can blind us to seeing the positive in our own lives and in the lives of others. When have you found that a willingness to live with the messiness of the present created the conditions for future growth?
2. Have you ever found that it was through accepting the darnel that you learned important lessons for life, e.g., learning by making mistakes, or asking stupid questions, or taking foolish risks?
3. The parables of the mustard seed and the leaven are reminders that seemingly insignificant things can have very positive results. Have you ever been surprised by the benefit to yourself or others of a kind gesture, a small initiative, or a word of encouragement?

Engaged Encounter – Rules for Arguing: Couples who discover they have a disagreement are invited by Engaged Encounter to share their opinions in the following manner. The sentences following the rules are Jay Keenan's comments from his perspective as an Engaged Encounter leader with his wife Suzanne.

NO NAME CALLING This includes using affectionate names sarcastically

NO THIRD PARTIES The argument is between the two of you

NO PAST HISTORY If it's already been settled, don't bring it up again

STICK TO THE SUBJECT Identify the real problem — don't go to other issues

NO CHEAP SHOTS Don't use the other's weakness to gain advantage; you may win the argument, but injure your relationship

DON'T GO TO BED ANGRY Finish the argument or call a truce and agree on a time to continue

MAINTAIN A SENSE OF HUMOUR Don't take yourselves too seriously; laughter can be the best medicine

HOLD HANDS WHILE ARGUING This helps to keep your focus where it belongs — on the person who means more to you than anyone in the world

Prayer for the Diocese of Derry at this time

Fr. Kieran Devlin P. Em (Badoney Lower, 2012)

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.

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.