



Parish of Greencastle, Co. Tyrone (Diocese of Derry)
 St. Patrick's, Greencastle Our Lady of the Wayside, Broughderg
 Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi) [Year A] (22nd June, 2014)
 The Parochial House, 164, Greencastle Road, Sheskinshule, Omagh, BT79 7RU
 Website: greencastleparish.com Tel: (028) 8164 8474 Email: greencastlepp@yahoo.com



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

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

If you wish to share your ideas or offer your support, please contact Fr. Hasson or any member of the Parish Maintenance Committee before Friday 24th July.

Liturgy Schedule for the Twelfth Week in Ordinary Time [Year A] (23rd June, 2014 – 29th June, 2014)

Saturday Evening (21st June) <i>Do This In Memory (week 10)</i>	St. Patrick's	5.30pm Confessions 6:00pm Vigil Mass
Sunday 22nd June Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi) [Year A]	Our Lady of the Wayside	9.00am Mass (Missa Pro Populo) 11.00am Mass
Monday 23rd June Twelfth Week in Ordinary Time	St. Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Tuesday 24th June Nativity of St. John the Baptist	St. Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Wednesday 25th June Twelfth Week in Ordinary Time	Our Lady of Lourdes PS	10.00am Mass in thanksgiving for the school year
Thursday 26th June Twelfth Week in Ordinary Time	St. Patrick's	10.00am Mass:
Friday 27th June Most Sacred Heart of Jesus	St. Patrick's	8.00pm Mass: Gold and silver pins will be presented to pioneers who achieved these awards
Saturday 28th June Immaculate Heart of Mary	St. Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Saturday Evening (28th June)	St. Patrick's	5.30pm Confessions 6:00pm Vigil Mass
Sunday 29th June St. Peter and St. Paul (Apostles) [Year A]	St. Patrick's Our Lady of the Wayside	9.00am Mass (Missa Pro Populo) 10.30am Confessions 11.00am Mass

Weekly Offerings: Thank you for your generosity to last week's collection which amounted to **£795**.

Peter's Pence – Pope's Collection: To be taken up this weekend (21st and 22nd June). *Use the special envelope in your box*
 The Peter's Pence Collection gives Catholics a chance to unite in solidarity with the Holy Father and the faithful worldwide. The pope uses the collection's proceeds to provide emergency assistance and aid to the most disadvantaged around the world. Through this worldwide collection the pope is able to exercise the ministry of charity on behalf of the entire Church. Offerings to the collection support church needs, humanitarian initiatives (such as aid of victims of war, oppression and natural disasters) and other human promotion projects around the world. It also assists seminaries and institutes of Christian formation in many developing countries. The pope is able to do these things thanks to the generosity of our parishioners and Catholics from around the world.
Please be generous to the collection and, in doing so, cast the love of Christ upon the world

Remembering Our Dead: As a parish faith community we pray for **Charlie Quinn (Broughderg)** whose requiem took place last Tuesday. We offer his brothers and sisters and family circle our sympathy and support. Charlie was caretaker at Our Lady of the Wayside Church from 1998 until the time of his death.

Parish Finance Committee – Meeting: Monday 23rd June at 9.00pm.

Next Sunday's Readings: Acts of the Apostles 12: 1-11; Psalm 33: 2-9, r/v 5; 2 Timothy 4: 6-8, 17-18; Matthew 16: 13-19; (Lectionary I, page 981) **Sunday [Year A] • Weekday [Year 2]**

GAA Lotto Results: M • N • P • R • T (1 with 4 letters winning £100) **Next Jackpot:** £2,600

6.00pm Saturday Vigil Saturday 21 st June* The family of Aoibhin Coyle	Offertory Gifts Rota Corpus Christi	9.00am Sunday Morning Sunday 22 nd June The family of Micael McCann
Saturday 28th June The family of Neamh Donnelly	St. Peter and St. Paul	Sunday 29th June The family of Daniel McCrory
As a wider parish community we thank these young people and their families for this valued task of leadership. What can you volunteer? *Do This In Memory (week 10) Thanks to all who participate		

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

Lough Derg Youth Pilgrimage: Inviting all 16 – 30 year olds who are up for a challenge! Bishop Donal McKeown will lead a youth pilgrimage to Lough Derg on Friday 28th to Sunday 30th June.
Application forms can be downloaded from derrydiocese.org • Under 18's need parental consent • The cost is £50

Greencastle Parish Pilgrimage Sunday to the Mass Rock in the Townland of Dorville (3rd August):
 For 3.00pm. There are three penal Mass sites in the parish and in previous years we have made pilgrimage to Formil (2012) and Crouck (2013). Dorville will be a physically challenging experience as well as an opportunity to express our faith. *Please mark this date into your diary and volunteer your services to help prepare for it*
Lough Derg Pilgrimage Season (1st June to 13th August): Check out the Lough Derg website for details.

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.

Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage (1st to 6th July): £599. The new Bishop of Derry, Bishop Donal McKeown, is delighted to be able to lead the Pilgrimage this year. *As many pilgrims as possible is appreciated*

Children in Crossfire – Camino De Santiago Pilgrimage 2014: Monday 26th June to Saturday 3rd July. We will embark on a 100km journey to Santiago de Compostela.
For info email shauna.oneill@childrenincrossfire.org / call office on (028) 7126 9898

Green Elves Playgroup – Graduation Ceremony: Wednesday 25th June at 6.30pm in Old School House.

Public Prayers for the Faithful Departed: These will take place on the evening of Saturday 5th July directly after the Vigil Mass in the cemetery at St. Patrick's and at Our Lady of the Wayside, and the former St. Mary's Church Broughderg after 11:00am Mass on Sunday 6th July. Bring holy water with you to sprinkle on the graves when directed to do so.

Al-Anon Family Groups: Is someone in your family addicted to alcohol? Is the addiction causing stress in the family and problems in your home? If so, there is help for you at Al-Anon family groups. These currently run on Thursday evenings at 8.30pm and Sunday evenings at 8.00pm in Melrose Day Centre, Glendermott Road, Waterside, Derry or White Oaks Centre, Derryvane, Muff. Co Donegal on Tuesday evenings at 8.00pm.
Contact Al-Anon family groups on (028) 9068 2368 for further details

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.

All-Ireland Rally For Life: This year's Annual Rally for Life will be held in Belfast on Saturday 5th July, thousands are expected to travel from all over Ireland. Let us make our voice heard loud and clear for Ireland's unborn babies.
To book your seat on the coach leaving from your area call the committee on (028) 9027 8484 or email info@preciouslife.com

I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen: not only because I see it, but because by it I see everything else. CS Lewis

Pope Francis' Intentions for June (please remember these in your personal prayer)
Universal: That the unemployed may receive support and find the work they need to live in dignity.
For Evangelisation: That Europe may rediscover its Christian roots through the witness of believers.

Parish Liturgy for June, 2014	St. Patrick's (6.00pm Vigil Mass)	St. Patrick's (9.00am Mass)	Our Lady of the Wayside (11.00am Mass)
Readers	Aisling Donaghy	Monica Coyle	Sean Clarke
Eucharistic Ministry	Kathleen Bradley	Louise Coyle	Peter Noel McAleer
Prayers of Intercession	Emma Clarke	Patrick Clarke	Grace Conneely
Collectors	Gerry McDermott Noel McElhatton	Mickey Beggs Colm Keenan	Brian Gillen Perry McCrory
Altar Society	Kathleen Beggs, Joanne Beggs And Mary McCullagh		Anne McDermott Martina McBride

Anyone wishing to volunteer for these ministries should make yourself known
 Thank you for everything you do in our parish-faith community

Council for Marriage and the Family of the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference
Marriage and Family at the Heart of the Parish:

Saturday 14th June at the Holy Cross Diocesan Centre, Clonliffe College, Dublin. The conference will explore how parishes can support families in their calling to live, pass on and share their faith, given the pastoral challenges that affect families today. The day will involve an opening address by Archbishop Diarmuid Martin, input from Dr. Tony Fahey of UCD and from Ms. Colette Furlong (Sligo Parishes Cluster Catechist) and drama presentations followed by reflection and discussion.

The three conference aims are:
 To explore the 'pastoral challenges to the family in the context of evangelisation' (Pope Francis)
 To explore how the parish community supports families in their Christian calling to share their faith
 To inform the work of the Council for Marriage and the Family

Participants:
 This conference is offered to leaders in parishes and dioceses, and others exercising faith and pastoral leadership, including parents, grandparents, teachers, members of Parish Pastoral Councils as well as other groups and organisations serving the Church's mission.

Further information is available from Ms. Trish Conway at Columba Centre, Maynooth, Co Kildare, Tel: 087 6220 349 and bookings can be made to cmfconference@iecon.ie.

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**

Following our recent parish finance committee meeting we publish today our annual summary financial statement

Greencastle Parish Summary of Financial Statement for Year Ended 31st December, 2013

	INCOME	2013	2012	SPECIFIC EXPENSES	2013	2012
Routine income (envelopes etc.)		50,461	52,207	Light and Heat	6,066	7,342
Investment Income		105	3,101	Maintenance	10,632	12,174
Exceptional Items (Ins. Claim, Special Donations)		906	7,649	Normal Requisites	2,420	4,012
		51,472	62,957	Insurances	3,689	3,689
	EXPENDITURE			Rates	1,077	827
Property Expenses (Rates, Insurance, Maintenance etc.)		23,884	28,044		23,884	28,044
Administration Expenses (Salaries etc.)		25,434	23,196	Telephone etc.	1,791	1,299
		49,318	51,240	Accountancy	1,920	1,008
NET PARISH INCOME		2,154	11,717	Bank Charges	322	423
				Bank Interest	664	---
					4,679	2,730
				Pass Through	5	(30)
					4,702	2,760
				Diocesan Assessment	6,787	7,196
					11,489	9,897

Prepared by Patrick Friel (Accountant) - High Street, Omagh, Co. Tyrone

Reflection on Exams: Exams are a test of knowledge or skill. They have their importance. However, they are not a measure of the worth of the individual. They indicate one aspect of us, but we are much more than any exam can show. Success or failure does not give the full measure of our worth. Each one of us is unique and precious with our own gifts and talents. God made us that way. God wants us to use those talents. Exams can be an anxious time. But remember, we are more than our exam results. We are loved for who we are, not for our achievements. God wants us to discover all our wonderful gifts.
Missionaries of the Sacred Heart Support Centre

This Week's Calendar of Feasts and Saints:

Tuesday 24th June – Nativity of St. John the Baptist We rejoice at the coming of John the Baptist, a man of self-denial, integrity of life and purpose, and an uncompromising prophetic voice. John means, 'The Lord has shown favour'. This feast relates to the summer solstice, when the days begin to grow shorter, recalling John's words, 'He must increase, but I must decrease'.

Friday 27th June – St. Cyril of Alexandria (bishop and doctor of the Church) [370-444] Patriarch of Alexandria and fought against Nestorianism at the Council of Ephesus, 431, which proclaimed Mary, Mother of God.

Saturday 28th June – St. Irenaeus (bishop and martyr) Lived just after the time of the apostles and knew those who had seen and talked with them. He became bishop of Lyon, the largest trading centre in Gaul. The note of moderation, the desire to win people to Christianity by love rather than fear, was apparent in all of Irenaeus' work.

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

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

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.

Seeing your life through the lens of the gospels – John 6:51-58:

John Byrne OSA (john@orlagh.ie)

1. Jesus tells us that to have life we need more than physical nourishment. How have you been aware of deeper hungers? What has met that deeper longing in you?
2. Jesus tells us that it is not just something he gives us which will give us life, but himself in his life, death and resurrection. How has your faith in the person of Jesus fed you?
3. Jesus speaks about 'drawing life' from him. In day to day living what are the practices which support your faith and help you to draw life from Jesus?
4. The Eucharist is one of the ways in which we draw life from Jesus. Recall with gratitude how the Eucharist has been a source of nourishment and life for you.
5. Perhaps you can also think of human examples of people drawing life from one another. From whom have you drawn life? Who has been able to draw life from you?

The Deep End – Presence:

Triona Doherty, Athlone, Co. Roscommon (trionad@gmail.com)

Some videos doing the rounds of social media recently showed young people who had emigrated abroad returning home for a surprise visit to family members and friends. Their sudden, unexpected presence reduced their loved ones to tears, laughter, and the odd bout of swearing! There is no substitute for the presence of a loved one, in spite of how easy it is to stay in touch these days with the help of email, instant messaging and video chats. 'It's like you're in the next room' is just not the same as a hug and some real live company. We recognise the importance of the presence of our loved ones. But when this same word, 'presence', is used to talk about Christ in the Eucharist, we are not so sure what it means. We know of course that Jesus was present with his followers during his earthly life, and that he was present with them again after he rose from the dead. But it didn't all end after he ascended into heaven. We, too, have the gift of Christ's presence. We are not getting by on memories and stories. He is really present to us in the Eucharist.

He makes a gift of Himself. We, too, are experiencing the solidarity of God with man, a solidarity that never runs out, a solidarity that never ceases to amaze us: God draws near to us. Let us ask ourselves, adoring the Christ truly present in the Eucharist: do I let myself be transformed by Him? *Pope Francis*

Musings

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

In his beautiful poem, An Chéad Aoine ('The First Friday'), Seán Ó Leocháin reflects on the monthly ritual of the local priest bringing 'the food of life' to the poet's father. What strikes him most, however, is not the ritual itself, but the manner in which Christ arrives: 'ach Críost a theacht i gcar athláimhe a cheannaigh an sagart ó fhear i Ros Comáin' ('that Christ would come in a second-hand car that the priest had bought from a man in Roscommon'). Isn't it so often the case that Christ comes, in that other poet, Patrick Kavanagh's words, 'where life pours ordinary plenty'?

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

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
Public Prayers for our Deceased (Cemetery Sunday) (5th and 6th July)	Saturday 5th July	St. Patrick's	Directly after 6.00pm Vigil Mass
	Sunday 6th July	Our Lady of Wayside St. Mary's, Broughderg	Directly after 11.00am Mass
	Saturday 1st November	St. Patrick's	6.00pm Vigil Mass: Commemoration of All Souls (remembering all who died in 2013)
'Do This In Memory' liturgies for candidates preparing for the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion			
Saturday 22nd June	Feast of Corpus Christi		6.00pm Vigil Mass

Let Us Imitate Jesus in Facing the Human Troubles We Encounter Every Day

Vatican City (Saturday 14th June) [VIS]

This morning in St. Peter's Square the Holy Father met with the National Confederation for Mercy and the Fratres, Italian groups of blood donors. "All your service takes its meaning and form from this word: 'mercy', a Latin word whose etymological root is 'miseris cor dare', 'to give one's heart to the poor'. This is what Jesus did: he opened his heart wide to man's suffering". The Pope underlined that the Gospel shows clearly "the gratuity of His love for the suffering and the weak", and "the closeness, goodness, the tenderness with which Jesus drew alongside the suffering and consoled them, brought them relief, and often healed them".

He went on to emphasise that we too are called upon "to be close to and to share the conditions of the people we encounter. Our words, gestures and attitudes must express our solidarity, the desire not to remain removed from the pain of others, and must do so with fraternal warmth and without descending to any form of paternalism". He continued, "there is the risk of being spectators, highly informed but detached from these realities, or of making beautiful speeches that conclude with verbal solutions but a lack of commitment with regard to real problems. Instead, we are required to let ourselves get involved in the human hardships that call out to us every day. Let us imitate Jesus: He went out on the streets and did not plan His encounters with the poor, or the sick, or the incapacitated who crossed His path; however, He stopped with the first He saw, offering succour, a sign of God's closeness which is goodness, providence and love".

The Church is Rejuvenated by Motherhood

Vatican City (Tuesday 17th June) [VIS]

At 7 p.m. yesterday in the Paul VI Hall the Holy Father met with the representatives of the diocese of Rome, gathered to participate in the Diocesan Pastoral Congress on the theme "A people who raise children. Community and family in the major stages of Christian initiation". During his address, Pope Francis spoke on the issue of the "society of orphans": of parents who do not spend enough time playing with their children because of their long working hours, and because of their fatigue when they arrive home that leads the young to be deprived of time spent freely with their parents. He emphasised that nowadays we need this sense of gratuity within the family, in parishes, in society as a whole, and that the Lord is revealed to us in gratuity, or rather as Grace: "But if we do not have a sense of gratuity within the family, at school, in the parish, it will be very difficult to understand what the grace of God is: that grace that cannot be bought or sold, that is a gift from God, and is indeed God Himself". He also commented on other social aspects that contribute to the "orphanhood" of the young: "a technological society that multiplies to infinity the opportunities for pleasure, distraction and curiosity, but is not able to lead man to true joy", and added that only by encountering Jesus can be encounter true joy and understand that we do not lead our lives in vain, as a task has been conferred to each one of us".

The Holy Father went on to describe the Church as a mother who knows how to raise her children. "The great challenge faced by the Church is that of being a mother", he said, "not a well-organised NGO full of pastoral plans. ... The Church needs to rediscover her maternity. She must be a mother; maternity is the grace that we must now ask of the Holy Spirit in order to go ahead in our pastoral and missionary conversion. However, the Church grows not by proselytism but by maternal attraction, through tenderness, through the testimony of her many children". The Pope remarked that the Mother Church has aged somewhat, to the risk of becoming "Grandmother Church", and that she must therefore be rejuvenated, "but not by taking her to a cosmetic surgeon, no! The Church becomes younger when she is able to generate more sons; the more children she has, the younger she becomes".

The Pontiff added that this means recovering the memory of the Church. In a world in which there exists little sense of history and fear of time, a world in which the present reigns supreme, in which language is increasingly abbreviated and everything becomes rapid, making us slaves to our situation, we must recover the memory of God's patience. "God is not hasty during our history of salvation, and has accompanied us throughout history". The Pope therefore urged the priests and clergy present not to close the doors of their churches, but rather to welcome all with an open heart, as a family, asking the Lord to make them able to participate in their difficulties and in the problems that children and the young frequently encounter in their lives.

"People hope to find Jesus' gaze in us, often without realising it; they seek a serene and joyful gaze that enters the heart. But the whole parish must transform into a welcoming place, not only the priests and catechists". The Pope encouraged those present to ask themselves whether their parishes were truly welcoming, whether their celebrations were scheduled to favour the participation of the young, if they spoke the language of youth and if their communities kept their doors open.

Before concluding, the Pope acknowledged that the work carried out by priests is not easy. "It is easier to be a bishop", he affirmed, "because we can always maintain a distance and hide ourselves behind the title of 'Your excellency', and defend ourselves in this way. But being a priest, when the parishioners knock on the door, when they talk to you about their problems ... it is not easy". He commented that the Church in Italy is strong because of her priests, and urged them not to forget the memory of evangelisation and always to stay close to the faithful. "We want a Church of faith, who believes that the Lord is able to make her a mother, to give her many children; our Holy Mother Church".

Around this time the following priests in our diocese will be celebrating special jubilee. Please pray for them and make direct contact with them if you wish. Please pray for and do what you can to encourage more vocations to priesthood and religious life – a very counter-cultural choice in our challenging times.

Fr. George Doherty was curate in this parish of from 1954 to 1957, his first appointment after his ordination

60 years	Fr. George Doherty	20 th June, 1954	CC of Desertegney, Co. Donegal
50 years	Fr. Neil Carlin	31 st May, 1964	Columba Community, Derry
	Fr. Liam Donnelly	21 st June, 1964	CC of Ballykelly
	Fr. Brian McGoldrick	21 st June, 1964	PP of Urney and Castlefin, Co. Donegal
45 years	Fr. Stephen Kearney	15 th June, 1969	CC of Knockmoyle
	Fr. Edward Kilpatrick	15 th June, 1969	PP of Clonleigh
	Fr. Anthony Mailey	28 th June, 1969	CC of Drung
40 years	Fr. John Forbes	8 th June, 1974	PP of Badoney Lower
	Fr. Andrew McCloskey	9 th June, 1974	Bishop's House
35 years	Fr. John Farren	31 st March, 1979	PP of Iskaheen
	Fr. Neil Farren	1 st April, 1979	PP of Ardmore
30 years	Fr. John Downey	3 rd June, 1984	CC of Moneyneena
	Fr. Patrick O'Hagan	10 th June, 1984	PP of Moville, Co. Donegal
25 years	Fr. Patrick Baker	25 th June, 1989	PP of Lavey
	Fr. Manus Bradley	11 th June, 1989	Montreal, Canada
	Fr. Thomas Canning	11 th June, 1989	CC of Carnhill, Co. Derry
	Fr. John Gilmore	18 th June, 1989	PP of Termonamongan
	Fr. Kevin McElhennon	2 nd July, 1989	PP of Cappagh.
20 years	Fr. Edward Gallagher	12 th June, 1994	Adm. Long Tower
15 years	Fr. Dermott McGirr	4 th July, 1999	CC of Drumragh