

Parish of Greencastle, Co. Tyrone, Diocese of Derry

Saint Patrick's Church
Greencastle

Our Lady of the Wayside Church
Broughderg

The Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time. 23rd August, 2009

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 for the remainder of the summer holidays

You are welcome to begin each day with daily Mass

Liturgy Schedule for the Twenty-First Week in Ordinary Time. 24th August – 30th August, 2009

Monday 24th August St. Bartholomew, Apostle	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Tuesday 25th August Twenty-First Week in Ordinary Time	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass for the DDS (members and benefactors)*
Wednesday 26th August Twenty-First Week in Ordinary Time	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Thursday 27th August St. Monica	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Friday 28th August St. Augustine, bishop and doctor of the Church	Saint Patrick's	8.00pm Mass
Saturday 29th August Beheading of St. John the Baptist	Saint Patrick's	10:00am Mass
Saturday Evening	Saint Patrick's	6.00pm Vigil Mass for Sunday
Sunday 30th August Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time	Saint Patrick's	9:00am Mass: 'Misso Pro Populo'
	Our Lady of the Wayside	11:00am Mass

Confession Schedule

Saturday 29th August	Saint Patrick's	5:30pm (before Vigil Mass)
Sunday 30th August	Our Lady of the Wayside	10:30am (before Mass)

Weekly Offerings: Thank you for your generosity to last week's collection which amounted to **£920** and for your support in the Sisters of Nazareth taken up on 15th August of **£830.00** (£860 in 2008).
Please support your parish by using your envelope even when you are on holiday or if for some reason you must attend Mass outside your parish – Thank you.

Envelopes received from visitors coming to Mass in Greencastle are promptly returned to those parishes.

Remembering Our Dead: We pray for **Annie McCullagh** and **Tom Neville** whose anniversaries occur this week.

Sick and housebound will be attended **Tuesday 1st September**.

Please note the change for this month and if you live close by, let your neighbours know.

Institute of Irish Leadership, 20 The Diamond, Pomeroy – Introduction to Computers Course:
Commencing Monday 7th September, 10.00am-12.30pm. This course is **FREE**. For more information and enrolment contact the centre. **Irish Language Classes** beginning Wednesday 2nd September, 7.00pm-8.30pm. Contact Kathleen@instituteofirishleadership.ie

Zipline Across the Lagan For 'Children in Crossfire': Children in Crossfire need 100 people on 19th September to zip 1,000 feet across the River Lagan. 140 feet up at 40mph, this is a truly thrilling and safe experience, a challenge for everyone. For more details and an application form please call (028) 7126 9898. Email: events@childrenincrossfire.org

Help to contain the swine flu impact: Everyone can play their part, and simple measures such as regular hand-washing and using a tissue can go some way towards mitigating this pandemic's impact.

Irish News (18th July, 2009)

Naomh Padraig GAA: Under 13 training at 7.00pm Monday 24th August.

Greencastle parish supports the Tyrone Senior Football Team in today's All-Ireland Semi-Final

Next Sunday's Readings: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8; Psalm 14; James 1:17-18, 21:22-27;
Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23 Lectionary I, page 791

Lotto Numbers: 7, 11, 19, 20 (4 winners with 3 numbers – £15 each) **Next Jackpot:** £1,300

For those making life choices

ACCORD Marriage-Preparation Courses 2009-2010

16th and 17th October, 2009 15th and 16th January, 2010; 5th and 6th February, 2010
13th and 14th November, 2009 5th and 6th March, 2010; 16th and 17th April, 2010
4th and 5th December, 2009 14th and 15th May, 2010; 11th and 12th June, 2010

Applications to the Secretary, ACCORD, Mount St. Columba Pastoral Centre, 48, Brook Street,

Omagh BT78 5HD Tel: (028) 8224 2439. Email: accordomagh@btopenworld.com

Courses are limited to **15 couples**. Course should be completed at least **six months** before your wedding.

Monastic Experience: Weekend for Women – Carmelite Monastery, Delgany, Co. Wicklow: Single women interested in finding out more about **A Carmelite Monastic Vocation** are invited to join our life of prayer, liturgy and work for the weekend of **28th-30th August, 2009**. Preferred age 25-45. For more information visit our website: www.carmelitemonasterydelgany.ie. Email: conact@carmelitemonasterydelgany.ie. Write to Prioress, Carmelite Monastery, Delgany, Co. Wicklow.

Pilgrimages and Retreats

Lough Derg Pilgrimages One Day Retreats: Places are still available (cost €29 including boat and light lunch):
23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 30th and 31st August. 1st, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 12th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 19th, 20th, 21st and 22nd September
Family Day – Saturday 29th August Quiet Day – Wednesday 2nd September
Reservations essential. Book at the Lough Derg Office.
Tel/fax: 00353 7198 61518 or email info@loughderg.org. Check out loughderg.ie for other events

Ards Friary Retreat & Conference Centre, Creeslough, Co. Donegal:

Saturday 12th and Sunday 13th September	Carers Retreat (open to everyone)
Monday 21st and Thursday 24th September	St. Padre Pio OFM Triduum
Saturday 29th August	Gospel Concert and Workshops – Of interest to choirs and choir members (see poster on church notice boards)

Website: ardsfriary.ie Tel: 00353 7491 38909 Email: info@ardsfriary.ie

Carmelite Retreat Centre, Termonbacca, Derry: Tel: (028) 7126 2512 during office hours.
Mass for the Sick: Tuesday 18th August at 8.00pm.

Adult Faith Development (beginning in September)

Interested in developing your faith? Thornhill Centre has a number of short and long courses starting in October and November 2009: Pastoral Ministry: There is a Variety of Gifts; Liturgy: 'Foundations in Liturgy'; Scripture: 'Saint Luke'; Aspects of Faith: 'So What Should We Teach Them?' and Personal Development: 'Dreams Workshop'. For further details contact Thornhill Centre at (028) 7135 1233.

Have you ever wanted to share the faith with your children more easily or to know more about our faith to speak with others at work or at home? **The ECHOES Programme** is a Parish Course to help in passing on the faith. It will lead you to appreciate even more the treasures of the faith and will equip you for handing on Christ in his Church to others. The Programme consists of a series of eleven sessions on each Wednesday at 8.00pm in the Pastoral Centre, Brook Street, Omagh and repeated on each Thursday at 10.30am. You can choose between the morning and evening session. It will begin on Wednesday 16th September 2009 (or Thursday 17th September). Each session will last no more than an hour and a half and will focus on a different aspect of passing on the faith. It is sufficient to attend the session and no further study will be required. Light refreshments will also be available. Enrolment forms are available in Drumragh Parish Office or at the back of the Church and you are asked to please return them by Wednesday 2nd September, 2009.

Study Theology from Home: A Theology programme for lay people offered by distance learning with the Dominicans. This means that you can study for a certificate, diploma or degree in Theology and even more importantly become educated in the Faith, from the comfort of home.
For further information contact The Priory Institute. Tallaght Village, Dublin 24.
Tel: (00353) 1404 8124 or email enquiries@prioryinstitute.com and visit website www.prioryinstitute.com

***Derry Diocesan Society for sick & infirm priests:** 1. Any person may become a member, sharing in all its privileges with a donation of at least **£20**. 2. Likewise, any person whosoever may have a deceased relative or friend placed on the Register of Members of the Society, the deceased person thereby becoming a sharer in all the Masses and prayers offered for members. These Masses go on all the time.
Privileges of members – deceased: 1. A Mass every day in a parish in the Diocese (**this will take place in Our Lady of the Wayside on Tuesday 25th August**). 2. The prayers of every congregation in the Diocese on the first three Sundays of each quarter.
Living: 1. Mass will be offered each month, as listed on the Church notice board. 2. When a living member dies the name is transferred to the list of deceased members without further payment. **Please attend Mass on Tuesday if you can**

Rural Link Community Transport: Rural Link's Social Car Scheme operates utilising a pool of volunteer drivers who use their own vehicle to transport members from their own homes to predetermined destinations. To book a journey members contact the Rural Link office. The fare for transport provided by a volunteer car is based on a 40pence per mile rate. The mileage is charged from your pick up point, for the distance of your trip and ends when the volunteer returns you to your home. Rural Link *currently* incurs the cost of the mileage from the volunteer's base to your pick up point and the return. This is subject to funding availability. Passengers will be invoiced for their journeys at the end of the month. All Rural Link Community Transport Ltd. Drivers have undergone Access NI checks. Bookings can be made to allow access to a range of activities e.g. hair appointments, shopping, and doctors appointments to name but a few. We will also encourage you to use this service to access local Ulsterbus services. To start using this service you must become a member of Rural Link. Membership is free. Rural Link is based at The Milestone Centre, Carrickmore. To book the service or if you would like more information you can call into the Rural Link office, or telephone us on (028) 8076 0740.

This Week's Calendar of Saints

Monday 25th – St. Louis of France. Louis (1214-1270), King of France, father of eleven children, Franciscan tertiary, man of integrity, died in Tunisia on his second crusade. He is patron of French monarchy and military, and of barbers.

Thursday 27th – St. Monica (332-387). Converted her pagan husband Patricius to the faith and by her prayers and tears brought her son St Augustine to Christianity and a moral life. She is the patron saint of mothers.

Friday 28th – St. Augustine, bishop and doctor of the Church. Augustine (354-430) was Bishop of Hippo where he lived with a community until his death. His theological influence has been most significant in the Church, especially on understanding God's grace. Patron of theologians.

Saturday 29th – The Beheading of St. John the Baptist, martyr.

The Deep End – Take It or Leave It:

There's very much a take-it-or-leave-it approach evident in today's Gospel (John 6:60-69). There's no attempt at gentle persuasion. Jesus has just told the Jews that he is the living bread from heaven and that anyone who eats it will live forever. Does he think that the Jews will jump for joy at hearing this? Strangely, instead of laughing him to scorn, or just turning their back on him as a crackpot, as you might expect, they dispute among themselves what he means. Now why would they do that? Why would they take seriously someone who makes so outlandish a claim?

Two reasons perhaps. First, there's something about Jesus that demands he be taken seriously, no matter what. There's an intensity of presence, charisma and power in him that tells you he's not the type to make nonsensical statements. Whatever about his statements being enigmatic, you know they can never be idiotic. Therefore, the Jews take him seriously and try to understand him.

Second reason: his works. Jesus has publicly performed works of extraordinary power. Miracles we call them. Because we've not experienced directly such works ourselves we cannot fully appreciate their effect. Just imagine if you witnessed someone performing even one of the healings attributed to Jesus would you not be totally gobsmacked? Would you not take seriously every utterance of such a person?

Jesus presents his followers with a take-it-or-leave-it claim. Why? Because if what he has done does not convince, then words won't either. As St Francis noted, we should preach the gospel at all times, using words when necessary.

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

Seeing your life through the lens of the gospels – John 6: 60-69:

1. In this chapter Jesus teaches that the meaning of his life, and the meaning of all human life, lies in being prepared to give of oneself. When have you learned that life was more worthwhile when you were prepared to do that?
2. 'This teaching is difficult', complained his hearers, including some of his own followers. Perhaps at times you also have wondered if you could go along with it. What helped you to overcome your resistance?
3. 'Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the message of eternal life.' In the midst of your doubts perhaps you have held on to belief because, like Peter, Jesus offered you a more hopeful message than you could find anywhere else. How has the gospel message been more attractive to you than any other?
4. 'The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life.' Recall the teachings of Jesus have particularly spoken to you.

John Byrne OSA (john@orlagh.ie)

Questions people ask:

- Q. How can anyone today take St Paul seriously when he says that the husband is the head of his wife and wives should submit to their husbands in everything?
- A. To be fair to Paul read the full passage in Ephesians 3:21-32. Paul makes even greater demands on the husband. 'Husbands should love their wives just as Christ loved the Church and sacrificed himself for her to make her holy.' In fact, Paul was a pioneer in advocating the equality of male and female because he recognised how Christ Jesus destroyed the inequalities between Jew and Gentile, between slave and free, between male and female, 'for you are all one in Christ Jesus' (Gal 3:28).

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