



Parish of Greencastle, Co. Tyrone (Diocese of Derry)
St. Patrick's, Greencastle Our Lady of the Wayside, Broughderg
Seventeenth Week in Ordinary Time [Year A] (24th July, 2011)
 The Parochial House, 164, Greencastle Road, Sheskinshule, Omagh, BT79 7RU
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Liturgy Schedule for the Seventeenth Week in Ordinary Time [Year A] (25 th July, 2011 – 31 st July, 2011)			
Saturday Evening Vigil (23rd July)		St. Patrick's	5.30pm Confessions 6.00pm Vigil Mass for Sunday
Sunday 24th July Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time [Year A]		St. Patrick's Our Lady of the Wayside	9.00am Mass: Misso Pro Populo 10.30am Confessions 11.00am Mass: Felix Slane (Anniversary)
Monday 25th July St. James (apostle)		St. Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Tuesday 26th July St. Joachim and St. Anne (parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary)		St. Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Wednesday 27th July Seventeenth Week in Ordinary Time		St. Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Thursday 28th July Seventeenth Week in Ordinary Time		St. Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Friday 29th July St. Martha		St. Patrick's	8.00pm Mass
Saturday 30th July St. Peter Chrysologus (bishop and doctor of the Church)		St. Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Saturday Evening Vigil (30th July)		St. Patrick's	5.30pm Confessions 6.00pm Vigil Mass for Sunday
Sunday 31st July Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time [Year A]		St. Patrick's Our Lady of the Wayside	9.00am Mass: Misso Pro Populo 10.30am Confessions 11.00am Mass

Weekly Offerings: Thank you for your generosity to last week's collection which amounted to **£910**.
Please support your community by using your envelope even if you must attend Mass outside your parish, thank you. Envelopes received from visitors coming to Mass in Greencastle are returned to those parishes.
 Please remember the parish when making your will. If you are a taxpayer please consider a Gift-Aid declaration, your contribution will be worth 25% more to your parish.
Peter's Pence Collection: A further **£10** was donated.

Remembering Our Dead: We pray for **Felix Slane** whose anniversary occurs at this time.

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*

Next Sunday's Readings: Isaiah 55: 1-3; Psalm 144; Romans 8: 35, 37-39, Matthew 14: 13-21;
 Lectionary I (page 685) **(Sunday: Year A) (Weekday: Year 1)**

Lotto Results: J – N – O – P – Z (2 people with 3 letters – £25 each) **Next Jackpot:** £5,400

Bringing the Offertory Gifts to the Altar: During the summer months there will be no formal rota. Anyone may volunteer spontaneously to bring the gifts forward.
Do not be shy about doing this

If you or anyone you know has a child safeguarding 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.

Lough Derg – Three Day Pilgrimage: (€55 includes boat fare and accommodation) You may begin your pilgrimage on any day of the week from Wednesday 1st June until Saturday 13th August.
 For further information please visit loughderg.org, email info@loughderg.org,
 Tel: (028) 6863 2391 (from NI). The Lough Derg Office, Pettigo, Co. Donegal.

Youth 2000 Summer Festival (Clonmacnoise, Co. Offaly): Thursday 4th to Sunday 7th August. For young people aged between 16 and 35, an opportunity not to be missed to experience the Catholic faith and meet many new friends. Donation only. Free buses available from around Northern Ireland.
For more information contact 07706 736 677 (from NI) or book online at youth2000.ie

Pilgrimage to Medugorje: 21st-28th August to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the apparitions. £489 direct from Belfast. Accompanied by Monsignor Danny Monaghan. Details from Maria Bradley (028) 8164 8357.

Seeing your life through the lens of the gospels – Matthew 13: 44-52:
 1. Have you ever found yourself saying 'that was worth it' after giving up something (time, pleasure, money etc.)? What was the treasure that made the sacrifice worthwhile?
 2. The 'kingdom of heaven' is when God is really the ruler in our life. What treasures have you obtained when you allow God to be at the centre of your life?
 3. In life we gather a lot of things, some good and some bad. The wise person in the kingdom of heaven knows how to sit down and make decisions on what to keep and what to discard. When have you undertaken that kind of discernment? What have you discarded? What have you retained?
John Byrne OSA (john@orlagh.ie)

Questions people ask:
 Q. How might a person apply the parable of the hidden treasure to life today? What is this hidden treasure?
 A. This is one of seven parables about the kingdom of God. The kingdom, or reign of God, means that a person accepts the importance of God in life and resolves to live by God's law. It is the key to inner peace. Sadly, for many the treasure remains hidden because they search in the wrong places. As C. S. Lewis put it, there is a God-shaped emptiness in the human heart. Knowing Christ Jesus is a treasure awaiting discovery.
Fr. Silvester O'Flynn OFM Cap (silvesteroflynn@gmail.com)

The Deep End – Have You Understood?
 'Have you understood all this?' Jesus asks his disciples.
 Over the past few weeks we have heard Jesus speak in many parables as he moves around Galilee, speaking to the crowds from an offshore boat and explaining the parables privately to his disciples. You can imagine the crowds outside still puzzling over what Jesus has said, even as the privileged disciples get the benefit of his interpretation. And we, too, are treated to this 'insider' view.
 The parables of Jesus challenge us to look at the world in a different way. Jesus uses them to keep his listeners' attention. They are not supposed to be straightforward; they are more like riddles, intended to tease the mind. The parables often begin 'The kingdom of heaven is like...', and today's Gospel contains three such comparisons to illustrate the supreme value of the kingdom of heaven – it is like treasure hidden in a field, a pearl, a haul of fish which will be separated into good and bad.
 The succession of metaphors can be confusing as we try to get our head around what Jesus is trying to tell us about the mysteries of his kingdom. Which one resonates with you?
Triona Doherty, Athlone, Co. Roscommon (trionad@gmail.com)

Dates for the Diary in 2011
Solemn Annual Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Sunday 21st August	Our Lady of the Wayside
Derry Diocesan Society Masses in our Parish (St. Patrick's)	
Tuesday 30 th August	Wednesday 19 th October
The weekday Masses will be celebrated at 10.00am in St. Patrick's Church while the Sunday Mass will be celebrated at 11.00am in Our Lady of The Wayside Church.	
Wednesday 2nd November	St. Patrick's 8.00pm Commemoration of All Souls (remembering all who died during the year)

Couples planning to Marry in 2011 please confirm your details with Fr. Hasson as soon as possible.

Pope Benedict XVI's Intentions for July (please remember these in your personal prayers)

General: That Christians may contribute to alleviating the material and spiritual suffering of AIDS patients, especially in the poorest countries.

Missionary: For the religious who work in mission territories, that they may be witnesses of the joy of the Gospel and living signs of the love of Christ.

ACCORD – Time for a New Challenge: ACCORD is a voluntary agency of the Catholic Church providing services to couples preparing for or seeking a deeper commitment within the sacrament of marriage. The Omagh Centre is seeking new members to train as facilitators. We are looking for people who are currently married 5 years in the Catholic Church or currently in a marriage recognised by the Catholic Church, have the ability to convey a positive attitude to marriage, have an openness and commitment to working within a Catholic organisation, relate easily to people, are able to be part of a team and are sensitive, warm, caring and accepting. An Information evening regarding this will be held in Mount St. Columba Pastoral Centre, 48 Brook Street, Omagh on Tuesday 3rd May at 8.00pm. Please feel free to come along, no commitment needed, have your questions answered and learn more about what ACCORD can offer you. *Tel: 028 82242439*

Children in Crossfire – Zipline Across the River Foyle: You are invited on Saturday 20th August. A deposit of £15 secures your place with further fundraising of £135. All proceeds are going towards vital life changing projects for some of the world's most vulnerable children.

Tel: +44 (0)28 71269898 **Email:** events@childrenincrossfire.org **Online:** childrenincrossfire.org

Knock Marriage Introduction Bureau: The aim of the Bureau is to introduce people considering marriage to a suitable marriage partner. Over 800 marriages have taken place as a result of these introductions. If you are searching for a suitable partner, why not consider applying? For further information contact the Bureau at Knock, Co. Mayo. Phone 00353 94937 5960 or visit our website at www.knockmarriagebureau.com and read about the workings of the Bureau.

Family Care Society – Adoption: Could you make a child happy again after a difficult start in life? Family Care Society is presently seeking adoptive families who would be interested in parenting children aged between 0 and 8 years and who need the love and attention of a caring and understanding family. Could this be you?

For more information contact Family Care Society on (028) 9069 1133 (Belfast) or (028) 7136 8592 (Derry) email@familycaresociety.org familycaresociety.net

Age NI First Connect Service: First Connect offers emotional and practical support at difficult times to people later in life. The First Connect Coordinator will visit each client at home or at an alternative suitable venue, to discuss their needs and provide them with information on the services that are available. This could be as simple as involving them in the community by organising access to a day centre or community group, a benefits check to ensure they are getting what they are entitled to, providing home safety measures, etc. In agreement with the client, the First Connect Coordinator will signpost them to the services and make sure they are in place.

For more information or to make a referral to the First Connect service contact Age NI at:
Freephone 0808 808 7575

Alternatively you can contact the First Connect Coordinator for the Western Area, Eimear McKearney on:
07425 620 194 or email eimear.mckearney@ageni.org

Foyle Hospice – Free Adult Counseling Service: Offered on Tuesdays to help support those with a life limiting illness and their families / carers. Counseling is also available for the bereaved and there is a children's bereavement support group. *For more info please contact the Hospice on (028) 7135 1010*

St. Mary's University College Alumni Association: We aim to offer past students of the undergraduate, postgraduate and international programmes the opportunity to be actively involved in maintaining and extending the positive community spirit that is remembered by all those who have an affinity with the current University College, St. Mary's College or St. Joseph's College (Trench House). By establishing a formal connection among past students, the Alumni Association will facilitate social and professional networking.

For more information, visit smucb.ac.uk/alumni

Camara: This is a charity which takes in used computers, refurbishes them and sends them to schools and colleges in Africa. In 2011 we will refurbish over 10,000 computers which will be supplied to schools in Uganda, Lesotho, Kenya, Ethiopia, Zambia, Tanzania and Rwanda. Every summer Camara sends teams of Volunteers for four very busy weeks to Africa to assist our local partners deliver essential training to teachers in the schools we supply. The assignment is for four or five weeks, departing Ireland in early July or early August depending on destination.

Camara Belfast, Unit 23 and 24 Townsend Enterprise Park, Townsend Street, Belfast BT13 2ES

Tel: (028) 9033 2470 **Email:** belfast@camara.ie **Online:** camara.ie

National Grandparents' Pilgrimage to Our Lady of Knock Shrine, Knock (Sunday 11th September):

Chief Celebrant: Archbishop Michael Neary (Archbishop of Tuam and Patron of the Catholic Grandparents' Association). 2.00pm Anointing of the Sick 3.00pm Pilgrimage Mass followed by the Rosary. Guest singers: Dana, Fr Liam Lawton, Ann Marie Gibbons and Daniel Furlong (winner of 2011 RTE All Ireland Talent Show).

Children's Prayer Appeal: Children are invited to write a prayer for their grandparents. All prayers will be blessed at the pilgrimage.

University of Ulster welcome applications for our part-time Irish language courses (Diploma/Degree) in our various centres at Magee (Derry), Annagry, Downings and Letterkenny. Please call (028)71675277 or email mf.oneill@ulster.ac.uk for further information.

Cuireann Ollscoil Uladh fáilte roimh iarratais do chúrsaí Gaeilge páirtaimseartha (Diplóma/Céim) sna hionaid éagsúla seo a leanas: Doire, Anagaire, Na Dúnaibh agus Leitir Ceanainn. Cuirtear scairt ar (028)71675277 nó ríomhphost chuig mf.oneill@ulster.ac.uk.

This Week's Calendar of Feasts and Saints:

Sunday 24th July – St. Declan (bishop) Declan 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. *Not celebrated this year*
St. Charbel Makhluf (priest) Charbel 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.

Not celebrated this year

Monday 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.

Tuesday 26th July – St. Joachim and St. Anne (parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary) Traditionally named the parents of Mary and grandparents of the Lord. St. Anne is patron of Canada, women in labour, miners, cabinet-makers and home-makers.

Sunday 31st July – Feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola Not celebrated this year.

At the end of a special luncheon Cardinal Sedono gave the Pope an offering for the poor of Rome "in view of the urgent needs of so many Romans as well as immigrants and refugees."

The Pope responded: *"This is a moment of gratitude for the Lord's guidance; for everything He has given me and forgiven me over these years", he said. "Yet it is also a moment to remember. In 1951 the world was completely different: there was no television, there was no internet, there were no computers, there were no mobile phones. The world from which we come truly seems prehistoric. Above all, our cities were in ruins, the economy destroyed, there was great material and spiritual poverty. Yet there was also a great energy and a will to rebuild this country and to renew... the community on the foundation of our faith.*

Then came Vatican Council II where all the hopes we had seemed to come true. This was followed by the cultural revolution of 1968, difficult years during which the ship of the Lord appeared to be taking on water, almost about to sink. Nonetheless the Lord, Who seemed then to be sleeping, was present and He led us forward. Those were the unforgettable years in which I worked alongside Blessed Pope John Paul II. Finally, came the unexpected day of 19 April 2005 when the Lord called me to a new task and, only by virtue of His strength, abandoning myself to Him, was I able at that moment to say 'YES'.

Over these sixty years nearly everything has changed; but the Lord's faithfulness has remained", the Holy Father added in conclusion. "He is the same, yesterday, today and forever. This is our certainty, which shows us the way to the future. The time to remember, the time of gratitude is also a time of hope.

Pope Benedict XVI during the celebration of the Diamond Jubilee of his Ordination to Priesthood (29th June)

Benedict XVI: Sixty Years of Memories, Gratitude and Hope Vatican City (2nd July, 2011 (VIS))

At the end of a luncheon today, offered by the College of Cardinals to the Pope to mark the sixtieth anniversary of his ordination as a priest, Cardinal Angelo Sodano, dean of the College, congratulated the Holy Father and, in the name of all those present, gave him an offering for the poor of Rome, the Pope's own diocese, "in view", he said, "of the urgent needs of so many Romans, as well as of numerous immigrants and refugees".

The Holy Father, having thanked the cardinals for their gift, made some remarks. "This is a moment of gratitude for the Lord's guidance; for everything He has given me and forgiven me over these years", he said. "Yet it is also a moment to remember. In 1951 the world was completely different: there was no television, there was no internet, there were no computers, there were no mobile phones. The world from which we come truly seems prehistoric. Above all, our cities were in ruins, the economy destroyed, there was great material and spiritual poverty. Yet there was also a great energy and a will to rebuild this country and to renew ... the community on the foundation of our faith".

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Pope Benedict XVI's words reflecting on the Diamond Jubilee of his Ordination to Priesthood are worthy of our consideration today

Presentation of Twenty-Sixth World Youth Day: Vatican City (28th June, 2011 (VIS))

A press conference was held this morning in the Holy See Press Office to present the twenty-sixth World Youth Day (WYD), which will be held in the Spanish capital city of Madrid from 16th to 21st August. The conference was presented by Cardinal Stanislaw Rylko, president of the Pontifical Council for the Laity; Cardinal Antonio Maria Rouco Varela, archbishop of Madrid; Yago de la Cierva, executive director of WYD 2011; Elsa Vazquez Maggio, an international volunteer, and Jose Antonio Martinez Fuentes, secretary general of WYD 2011.

"Each World Youth Day is an extraordinary experience for a Church which is friend to young people, which shares their problems", said Cardinal Rylko. "A Church which places herself at the service of the new generations. It is an experience of Universal Church - unique of its kind - which embraces the entire planet, of a young Church full of enthusiasm and missionary vigour. It is an epiphany of the Christian faith which has truly planetary dimensions. And young people, especially in the old and profoundly secularised continent of Europe, have particular need of all this".

The cardinal recalled how this is the second occasion that Spain has "generously welcomed" WYD, and he spoke of the last time the event was held in that country, at Santiago de Compostela in 1989. It was there, he said, "that World Youth Day came to be structured as we know it today: three days of catechesis, a prayer vigil on the Saturday night, then the closing Eucharistic celebration and the dispatch of young people as missionaries. Also at Santiago de Compostela, pilgrimage came to be an essential factor of young people's journey in the footsteps of Peter's Successor. "Over succeeding years", he added, "each WYD has brought something new to the programme: the Way of the Cross at Denver, U.S.A., in 1993; preparatory days spent in dioceses prior to the main event and the 'Festival of Youth' (a kind of cultural programme) at Paris, France, in 1997; the 'Feast of Forgiveness' (300 confessionals crowded with young people in the Circus Maximus) at Rome in 2000; the 'Vocations Fair' at Toronto, Canada, in 2002, and the adoration of the Eucharist at Cologne, Germany, in 2005. Thus the proposal made to young people on each occasion is in continual evolution, seeking to respond to the true spiritual needs of today's youth".

The cardinal also provided some statistics, noting that "WYD in Madrid is going to be a very significant event". Four hundred thousand young people have already signed up; they will be accompanied by 14,000 priests and by 744 bishops, of whom 263 will be responsible for catechesis. Two hundred and fifty sites have been assigned for catechesis, which will be delivered in thirty languages, and 700,000 copies of "YOUCAT" will be distributed in six languages. Twenty-four thousand volunteers from different countries will be involved in various services. Finally, before reaching Madrid, the young people will be welcomed in sixty-eight Spanish dioceses, "in confirmation of the fact that the entire Church in Spain is directly involved in the WYD experience", said the cardinal. For those unable to reach Madrid, "simultaneous gatherings of young people have been organised in countries such as Ukraine, Burundi and Madagascar. They will be linked to the main event in Madrid by television and internet. "The Pope's presence is the culminating moment of any WYD", said the president of the Pontifical Council for the Laity, noting that the forthcoming event in Madrid "will take place in the light of the recent beatification of John Paul II, founder of World Youth Days. Thus John Paul II will return among the young people he loved so much, and who loved him. He returns as blessed, patron and protector. Indeed, the Eucharistic celebration welcoming the youth to Madrid, presided by Cardinal Antonio Maria Rouco Varela, archbishop of the city, on 16 August, will be dedicated to the new blessed".