

## Diocese of Derry, Parish of Greencastle, Co. Tyrone

**Saint Patrick's Church**  
Greencastle

**Our Lady of the Wayside Church**  
Broughderg

**The Third Sunday in Ordinary Time. 25<sup>th</sup> January, 2009**  
**Conversion of Saint Paul, Apostle and World Leprosy Day**

The Parochial House, 164, Greencastle Road, Sheskinshule, Omagh, BT79 7RU  
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Liturgy Schedule for the Third Week in Ordinary Time. 26 <sup>th</sup> January – 1 <sup>st</sup> February, 2009			
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> January St. Timothy and St. Titus	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass	<b>Catholic Schools Week begins</b>
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> January St. Angela Merici	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass	
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> January St. Thomas Aquinas, priest and doctor of the Church	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass (Malachy Coyle – 4 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary)	
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> January Third Week in Ordinary Time	Saint Patrick's St. Eugene's Cathedral, Derry	10.00am Mass 12.30pm Mass celebrating Catholic Schools Week	
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> January St. Aidan, bishop	Saint Patrick's	8.00pm Mass	
Saturday 31 <sup>st</sup> January St. John Bosco, priest	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass	
Saturday Evening	Saint Patrick's	6.00pm Vigil Mass for Sunday	
Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> February Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Saint Patrick's Our Lady of the Wayside	9.00am Mass: 'Misso Pro Populo' 11:00am Mass (St. Brigid's crosses will be blessed after Holy Communion)	

Confession Schedule		
Saturday 31 <sup>st</sup> January	Saint Patrick's	5:30pm (before Vigil Mass)
Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> February	Our Lady of the Wayside	10:30am (before Mass)

**Weekly Offerings:** Thank you for your generosity to last week's collection which amounted to **£805**. The Stewardship Trust Fund will be taken up today.

**Remembering Our Dead:** We pray for **Mary Kate McAleer** who died this week and offer our sympathy to her family and all who mourn her. We also pray for **John Francis Fox** and **Malachy Coyle** whose anniversaries occur at this time.

**Sick and housebound** will be attended Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February, beginning after 10.00am Mass. Please let them know if you live nearby. If you know of anyone who is sick or housebound and would like a visit please inform Fr. Hasson.

**Today is 56<sup>th</sup> Annual World Leprosy Day:** Over 250,000 people worldwide still suffer from Hansen's Disease and today we are asked to express our solidarity with a disease often ignored by the media. Please remember sufferers, their families and their helpers in your prayers.

**Catholic Schools Week begins 26<sup>th</sup> January:** Bishop Hegarty extends an invitation to parish schools, staff and boards-of-governors to the Annual Diocesan Mass at **12.30pm on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January in St. Eugene's Cathedral, Derry**. You can also check out [www.catholicbishops.ie](http://www.catholicbishops.ie) for additional resources.

**The Pope's Intentions for February 2009:** **General:** That the pastors of the Church may always be docile to the action of the Holy Spirit in their teaching and in their service to God's people. **Missionary:** That the Church in Africa may find adequate ways and means to promote reconciliation, justice and peace efficaciously, according to the indications of the Synod of the Bishops' Special Assembly for Africa.

**Please remember these intentions in your personal prayer throughout February**

**Next Sunday's Readings:** Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Psalm 94; 1 Corinthians 7:32-35; Mark 1:21-28 (Lectionary I, page 745)

**Independent Commission for the Location of Victims' Remains:** See appeal on the Church notice boards.

**Lotto Numbers:** 6, 8, 16, 17 (4 winners with 3 numbers – £15 each) **Next Jackpot:** £1,350

Parish Volunteers: Please sign up for service in your parish. The following are some ways in which you can minister. There are more but you need to volunteer.			
Parish Liturgy for February 2009	St. Patrick's (6.00pm Vigil Mass)	St. Patrick's (9.00am Mass)	Our Lady of the Wayside (11.00am Mass)
Readers	Francis McDermott	Monica Coyle	Sean Clarke
Prayers of Intercession	Daniel McElhatton		
Eucharistic Ministry	Kathleen Bradley	Louise Coyle	Peter Noel McAleer
Collectors	Gerry McDermott Noel McElhatton	Emmett Clarke Eoghan Clarke	Perry McCrory Francis Keenan
Altar Society	Mary Conway Brenda Conway	Mary Meenan	Anne McDermott

**Offertory Gifts:** The Confirmation class of 2009 and their families taking responsibility for presenting the Offertory gifts at each Sunday Mass are as follows:-

Week	6.00pm Saturday Vigil	Offertory Gifts Rota	9.00am Sunday Morning
22	Saturday 31 <sup>st</sup> January The family of <b>Brianna Clarke</b>	Fourth Sunday In Ordinary Time	Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> February The family of <b>Ryan Clarke</b>
23	Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup> February The family of <b>Gary Conway</b>	Fifth Sunday In Ordinary Time	Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> February The family of <b>Niamh Coyle</b>
24	Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup> February The family of <b>Rebecca Coyle</b>	Sixth Sunday In Ordinary Time	Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> February The family of <b>Eadaoin Fox</b>
25	Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup> February The family of <b>Seannan Fox</b>	Seventh Sunday In Ordinary Time	Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February The family of <b>Brianna Gillen</b>
26	Saturday 28 <sup>th</sup> February The family of <b>Gemma Kelly</b>	First Sunday of Lent	Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> March The family of <b>Niamh Kelly</b>

As the wider parish community we support these young people and their families with our prayers and we thank them for what they are doing for us. ***If you find yourself unable to attend please ensure that you have arranged with another family for the gifts to be presented.***

**Vocations Information Day:** Could you be called to serve God and God's people as a priest in the diocese of Derry. *Come and see* on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> February 11am-4pm. Thornhill Retreat Centre, Derry.  
 Contact: **Fr. Paul Farren** (tel: (028) 7126 4087, email: [ddcc@derrydiocese.org](mailto:ddcc@derrydiocese.org))  
 or **Fr. Colm O'Doherty** (tel: (028) 8166 1475, email: [collydoc2000@hotmail.com](mailto:collydoc2000@hotmail.com))

**Lourdes:** Bishop Hegarty has decided that there will not be a diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes in 2009 due to a prohibitive increase in cost. However he would like to invite you to keep **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> June** available for the diocesan pilgrimage to Knock. He asks for your support.

**Workshop on Sacred Music:** Presented by two well known American composers **Marty Haugen & Tony Alonso** at St. Patrick's College, Dungannon on **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February from 7.30pm-9.30pm**. All attending must register by **Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> January** by telephoning Armagh Diocesan Youth Office. Tel: (028) 3752 5592.

**Pope Recalls The Sixth World Meeting of Families:** At the end of this week's general audience, the Pope addressed some remarks to Spanish speaking pilgrims inviting them, with reference to the recently concluded Sixth World Meeting of Families, to "give thanks to God for that important event, and accompany with your prayers the preparations for the next meeting, to be held in Milan, Italy. May the Lord support all families with His grace" he added in conclusion, "that they may be filled with living faith, reciprocal respect, sincere love and mutual understanding. I entrust this intention to the protection of the Sacred Family of Nazareth.

GREENCASTLE YOUTH CLUB – Parent Rota		
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> January	6.30pm – 8.00pm	Muriel McGuigan (P4 and P5)
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> January	8.00pm – 9.30pm	Years 8, 9, 10 and 11 boys Mary McCrory – Alcohol Awareness Talk (all children must attend) <i>All parents welcome</i>
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> January	6.30pm – 8.00pm	Ann Bradley (P6 and P7)

*"Grant to Barack Obama, the President of the United States, and to all in authority your grace and good will. Bless them with your heavenly gifts, give them wisdom and strength to know and to do your will."* prayed the Rev. Andy Stanley, one of numerous clerics from several religions to speak.

*Washington National Cathedral (20<sup>th</sup> January, 2009)*

**ANNUAL CLOTHING APPEAL – CARRICKMORE:** The annual collection of clothes at St. Colmcilles G.F.C. grounds in Carrickmore will take place on the weekend of Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January to Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February and again from Friday 6<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> February. This year we are donating all proceeds to the destitute of **PERU**.  
Collection Times:- Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January and Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February, 3.00pm to 6.00pm.  
Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> January and Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February, 10.00am to 5.00pm.  
Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February and Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2.00pm to 5.00pm.  
**PLEASE DO A BIG CLEAR OUT.** All types of clothing, shoes, bed linen, curtains, towels etc. are very acceptable. Cash donations also gratefully accepted. Please bag all goods. No sorting necessary. Any further queries contact (028) 8076 0667, (028) 8224 4145 or (028) 8076 1594

**ENGAGED? Getting married within the next year?**

An Engaged Encounter Weekend is a recognised form of marriage preparation. It is a communication enrichment workshop designed for couples preparing for marriage. The weekend is non-residential and will take place in the Thornhill Centre, Derry on 21<sup>st</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> February. Early booking is advised. For information contact:  
**Telephone:** (028) 7930 0340 or (028) 2763 8512. (after 4.30 pm)  
**Email:** engagedencounter@marriageencounter.ie  
**Website:** www.marriageencounter.ie (click on *Engaged Encounter*)

**The Feast of St. Brigid, Secondary Patron of Ireland (1<sup>st</sup> February):** This is not celebrated this year because it falls on a Sunday, However if you wish to have your traditional crosses blessed bring them to Mass with you on that Sunday morning. St. Brigid is renowned for her hospitality, almsgiving and care of the sick. She was born c.454. When she was young her father wished to make a very suitable marriage for her but she insisted in consecrating her virginity to God. She received the veil and spiritual formation probably from St. Mel and prayed for a period under his direction in Ardagh. Others followed her example and this led her to found a double monastery in Kildare with the assistance of Bishop Conleth. She died in 524 and her cult is widespread not only throughout Ireland but in several European lands.

**Bonhoeffer:** "Christian life is learned and lived through the cultivation of specific habits and practices of forgiveness in the service of holiness that enable persons simultaneously to unlearn their habits"

**Seeing your life through the lens of the gospels – Luke 1:14-20:**

1. 'The time is fulfilled' – this is a decisive moment in the life of Jesus. His public ministry is about to begin. Recall turning points in your own life when something new happened and with hindsight you can say the time was ripe for it to happen, 'the time was fulfilled'.
2. 'Repent and believe the good news.' Jesus called for a change of heart, as a response to the good news. A new level of faith in yourself leads to a new way of seeing yourself. A new way of understanding God leads to a conversion in how we relate to God, a change of heart. A growth in awareness of who we are can lead us to a new level of self-confidence, another change of heart. Can you recall times when 'good news' led you to a change of heart?
3. The Spirit of God who was at work in Jesus calling the disciples continues to work in our day and in our lives. In the everyday events of our own lives we can see the grace of God at work. When have you had what you would consider a 'call experience' that led you to a different style of life? Who was the 'Jesus person' through whom the call came to you? To whom have you been a 'Jesus person' in this way?

**Questions people ask:**

- Q. Jesus often spoke about the kingdom of God, especially in his parables. Was he referring to the next life or to life here on earth?
- A. Sometimes the kingdom means the next life, but, more often in the Gospels, the kingdom or reign of God refers to living according to the rule of God here on earth. It means the end of the reign of sin as the ideals of Christ become the rule of life in society. This is what Jesus proclaimed at the start of his public mission. We pray for this in saying 'Thy kingdom come.'

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

**The Deep End – Revolution:**

Paul makes more strange statements this week. Take today's Second Reading, 'Let those who have wives be as though they had none, and those who mourn as though they were not mourning' (1 Cor 7:29-31). He's convinced that the age in which he lives is ending. He's right in one sense, and wrong in another. He's wrong if he means the end of the world in terms of chronological time. He's right if he means the end of this world for the Christian in terms of its ways and values. That has a ring to it that needs to be heard every bit as urgently today as it did in Paul's time in Corinth.

In fact, in today's Gospel reading (Mark 1:14-20) we have Jesus preaching just that as his first public proclamation in the Gospel of Mark: 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.'

Note the sequence here. Repent first; then believe. Clearly, acceptance of the news that Jesus brings as good is not possible without a change of heart and mind. And what is that news? Well, at this stage it's the fact that the kingdom of God is at hand. Later, in the light of Jesus' resurrection it becomes clear that entry into that kingdom brings resurrected life: new, full and everlasting.

When, like Paul, we believe that such a destiny can be ours then we'll look on this present world as passing, and act accordingly. Counter-cultural is what some people call it. Revolutionary is what I'd say it is!

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