

Parish of Greencastle, Co. Tyrone (Diocese of Derry)
Third Sunday of Easter [Year A] (26th April, 2020)

Thought for the Easter Season: "The great gift of Easter is hope – Christian hope which makes us have that confidence in God, in his ultimate triumph, and in his goodness and love, which nothing can shake." *Cardinal Basil Hume*

Liturgy Schedule for the Third Week of Easter [Year A] (26th April – 3rd May)

Saturday 25th April	Facebook Live	12 noon Regina Coeli and Rosary 6.00pm Vigil Mass: Jane McNamee (9 th Anniversary)
Sunday 26th April Third Sunday of Easter	Facebook Live	11.00am Mass (Missa pro Populo) 12 noon Regina Coeli and Rosary 2.00pm Sacrament of Confirmation for Our Primary 7s
Monday 27th April	Facebook Live	10.00am Mass: Rose Hollywood (8 th Anniversary) 12 noon Regina Coeli and Rosary 7.30pm Scripture Walk – Acts of the Apostles
Tuesday 28th April	Facebook Live	10.00am Mass 12 noon Regina Coeli and Rosary 7.30pm Scripture Walk – Acts of the Apostles
Wednesday 29th April Catherine of Siena	Facebook Live	5.00pm Adoration 6.30pm Regina Coeli, Rosary, Reflection and Benediction 7.30pm Mass
Thursday 30th April	Facebook Live	10.00am Mass 12 noon Regina Coeli and Rosary 7.30pm Scripture Walk – Acts of the Apostles
Friday 1st May St. Joseph the Worker	Facebook Live	10.00am Mass for sick and housebound 12 noon Regina Coeli and Rosary 5.30pm Parish Announcements
Saturday 2nd May	Facebook Live	12 noon Regina Coeli and Rosary 6.00pm Vigil Mass: Pete Tracey (1 st Anniversary)
Sunday 3rd May Fourth Sunday of Easter	Facebook Live	11.00am Mass (Missa pro Populo) 12 noon Regina Coeli and Rosary

Weekly Collection: £451 *Thank you for your continued generosity*

Remembering our Dead: We pray for the happy repose of the souls of **Mary Ellen Daly, Rose Hollywood (8th), Sean Conway (8th), Jane McNamee (11th) and Mary Morris (35th)** whose anniversaries occur at this time and for all those who have died due to Covid-19.

Cemeteries: Unfortunately, access to our cemeteries is still under restriction. The logic of such a measure, scientific or otherwise while other places such as parks are open defy understanding. This weekend we have placed aerial photos of our three parish cemeteries at St. Patrick's, the Old St. Mary's and Our Lady of the Wayside on our website at greencastleparish.com and our Parish of Greencastle, Co. Tyrone Facebook Page. Many thanks go once more to Aidan Glass for providing these photos in another generous act for the parish and community. While nothing can replace a visit to the grave of your loved ones perhaps some will receive some solace from this form of virtual visit.

Anniversary Masses and Names: As mass continues to be celebrated every day from the Parochial House Oratory it is still possible to request a mass for deceased loved ones. The mass can be offered as the intention for each day apart from Sunday which is Missa pro Populo (Mass for the People of the Parish). You can also continue to have the names of the deceased prayed for at the weekend masses and included in the Parish Bulletin Online / Facebook and in the restricted number of printed copies. Call Fr. Gallagher on (028) 8164 8474 or leave a note at the Parochial House or in the new letterbox on the side door of the Sacristy facing the road.

Confirmation Service: Originally our parish celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation with Bishop Donal McKeown was to take place on Sunday 26th April at 2.00pm. To mark what would have been a wonderful occasion and looking forward to what will be an important day for the Primary 7 Children of Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School, when this situation passes we will have a short service of readings, reflection and music to mark this day.
The Service will be available live from 2.00pm on the above date on our Parish Facebook Page

Sick and Housebound: Fr. Gallagher will call those in his care by phone on Fri. 1st May between 11.30am and 1.00pm.
Join us in prayer for them during Mass and Rosary on that date

Pope Francis' Intention for May (please remember this in your personal prayers)
For Deacons: We pray that deacons, faithful in their service to the Word and the poor, may be an invigorating symbol for the entire Church.

Next Week's Readings: Acts 2:14, 36-41 • Psalm 22:1-6, R/ v 1 • 1 Peter 2:20-25
 John 10:1-10 • Lectionary 1:487 **Sunday [Year A] • Weekday [Year 1]**

Scripture Walk: Over the past few weeks our Rosary Walks across the four corners of the parish have been very helpful and edifying for many. It is envisaged that the nine routes travelled will be used again in the future for a slightly different type of walk, perhaps a Eucharistic Blessing Walk. Sadly, it is unlikely we will be gathering in church for quite some time so we need to find ways within the restrictions to unite the parish and people together in prayer and other means. For the next couple of weeks I will engage in a less onerous walk. In fact, I will do this walk from the Parochial House behind a desk. This will take place on Monday 27th, Tuesday 28th and Thursday 30th April at 7.30pm on Facebook Live and available later on the parish website in recorded form. The walk will be a journey through Scripture and in particular a journey through the New Testament book which we are reading in the liturgy these days, the Acts of the Apostles. I intend on a few evenings per week to talk for about 30 minutes on this fascinating book which gives us an insight into the beginnings of the Church from Pentecost to St. Paul's conversion and Missionary Journeys and concluding just before his trial in Rome. We will look at the dating, authorship and some of the main themes and events covered in Acts of the Apostles. This may be of interest to those who may simply wish to increase their religious knowledge but also to students (or potential students) of AS/A Level RE in schools where this particular course is taken (ie Dean Maguire College). There will be no PowerPoints or Whiteboard to help me just my bible and my notes from way back in the days (1983-85) when I myself studied this course. I hope to publish a short summary each evening afterwards on Facebook. So get your bible at the ready and please spread the word particularly to our students who may have an interest in this.
St. Luke the Evangelist pray for us

Day of Fasting and Prayer (Virtual Pilgrimage): Bishop McKeown is inviting people to join him on Friday 1st May on a 'virtual pilgrimage' to fast and pray, asking God to free us from this pandemic and to support those who are fighting it; to comfort those who have been afflicted with this pandemic; and to ask God for the wisdom to know how to live now and in the aftermath of the pandemic. It is proposed that the time of prayer and penance at home will take its shape from core elements of the 3-day Lough Derg pilgrimage. Each person is invited to participate in whatever parts of the penitential 'virtual pilgrimage' that they feel able to adopt. If anyone is suffering from weakness or ill health, they should not overexert themselves. At the heart of the full Lough Derg pilgrimage are the following:

Fasting	To join spiritually with the Bishop on this 'virtual pilgrimage' people are invited, if they are physically able, to adopt the Lough Derg-style Fast from 12.00 midnight on Thursday night until after 7.00am on Saturday morning. The Lough Derg Fast consists of water or black tea or coffee (sugar is permitted) with dry bread, toast and oatcakes at one time during the day. 'Pilgrims' can drink water, tea or coffee anytime.
Praying the Lough Derg Stations	Throughout the first day, participants on Lough Derg would normally pray three 'Stations' outside. However, in this case, participants are invited to pray three Stations at home during the course of the day. They can join through webcam with Bishop McKeown in praying these three Stations. Details of the Station prayers will be made available later.
Night Vigil	During the Night Vigil, four Stations are prayed. Bishop McKeown proposes to stay in the Cathedral during Friday night and lead the four Stations on the webcam – at 12 midnight, 1.30am, 3.00am and 4.30am. The Vigil will end with the special 'Mass in time of a Pandemic', as proposed by Pope Francis, at 6.00am. on Saturday 2 nd May.

The Messenger: Messenger Publications are offering a free online copy of the May edition (and possibly further editions) of The Messenger, given that it is impossible to distribute the paper copy in the usual manner. To access the May edition, visit issuu.com/messengerpublications/docs/05_messenger_may_2020. Even if you do not normally receive The Messenger you are welcome to access this link.
If you have any difficulty accessing the link or if you have any further queries please email c.henry@messenger.ie

Part-Time Certificate in Religious Education (Primary) with Online delivery: St Angela's College, Sligo is inviting applications for this course, which begins Autumn. The course is open to Qualified primary school teachers and Qualified post-primary school teachers who wish to transfer to primary school teaching. Parents, sacramental preparation teams and parish catechists who have a specific interest in the area of primary religious education may also apply. Closing date for applications is Friday 15th May. For more info and application forms contact Mary Kearns, Education Department, St. Angela's College, Lough Gill, Sligo: mkearns@stangelas.nuigalway.ie or visit stangelas.nuigalway.ie

Regina Coeli Prayer: This prayer in honour of our Lady and our Lord to mark the Lord's Resurrection replaces the Angelus during the Easter Season which concludes on Pentecost Sunday.
 Queen of Heaven rejoice, alleluia: Pray for us to God, alleluia.
 For He Whom you did merit to bear, alleluia, Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.
 Has risen as He said, alleluia. For the Lord has truly risen, alleluia.
 Let us pray. O God, Who gave joy to the world through the resurrection of Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, grant we beseech Thee, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, His mother, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life.
 Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen

St. Vincent de Paul Helpline: For those in need of assistance please call 07738 837 992

Alcoholics Anonymous: Can't stop? There is a solution.
Call AA on (028) 9035 1222 or email csoofaa@btinternet.com. alcoholicsanonymous.ie.

Drink Wise, Age Well: Are you over 50? Are you worried about your own or someone else's alcohol use?
For confidential information, advice and support call (028) 8283 9240

Accord Counselling Services: Ireland's leading agency supporting marriage and relationships, nationwide through its 60 Centres. Our aim is to help couples prepare for, achieve and sustain their marriage and family relationships, offer ongoing support and assist them in times of difficulty or crisis. Available to couples regardless of their faith, denomination or none. *To avail of this service call (028) 8224 2439 or email omagh@accordni.com*

Trócaire – Recruiting Volunteers: To support their fundraising, campaigning and education work in Ireland.
If you are interested in volunteering visit trocaire.org/getinvolved/volunteer or call (028) 9080 8030 for more info

Epilepsy Action NI: Are you, or someone you care for, living with epilepsy or brain injury?
Epilepsy Action NI and Headway work in partnership to deliver a community-based counselling service in Omagh. The Counselling service is for people over the age of 18 who are affected by epilepsy and / or brain injury or are caring for someone with epilepsy / brain injury and would like some emotional support.

Mid Ulster Agewell: Are you over 50 years old? Do you live in the Mid Ulster Council area? Would you like a free phone call in the morning to reduce the feeling of loneliness and isolation, reassurance and a listening ear and help keep you up to date with social activities in your local area? A phone call can be arranged between 8.30am and 12.30pm from Monday to Friday.
For more info call Marie Devlin on (028) 796 32170 or email marie.devlin@agewellpartnership.org

Rural Support: We could help you with financial stress by
Providing free, confidential face-to-face support • Easing the burden of dealing with debt
Helping you identify a way forward • Supporting you to take action
Email: info@ruralsupport.org.uk **Website:** ruralsupport.org.uk
To speak with someone in confidence call our helpline on 0845 606 7 606

The Millennium Forum – Changing Place Facility: This is a space which provides a private area for people who require an adult changing bench, hoist and toilet. Over ¼ million people need Changing Places toilets to enable them to get out and about and enjoy the day-to-day activities many of us take for granted. The Millennium Forum Changing Place is open to all members of the public, not only people attending the theatre.
Call our Access and Inclusion Officer Lisa Heaney on (028) 7126 4455 (choose option 1) or email lisah@millenniumforum.co.uk

Accord Counselling Services: Available to couples regardless of their faith or denomination.
If you would like to avail call (028) 8224 2439 or email omagh@accordni.com

Join the Derry Youth Community (DYC) Adventure: If you are between the ages of 18 and 25 and considering a Gap Year experience why not consider one with a difference? The DYC are a community of faith and service located in the heart of Derry City and serving the young people of the Diocese of Derry.
If faith is important in your life, and you are attracted to the ideal of service, you can find more information by visiting derryyouthcommunity.com or emailing dyc@derrydiocese.org

Kindercare Fostering NI: Could you help a child in need? Northern Ireland is currently experiencing a severe shortage of foster carers and particularly carers from the Catholic Community. We are a not-for-profit organisation which works to find safe, secure and loving homes for children and young people in need in Northern Ireland. If you are interested in finding out more:
Tel: (028) 90941690 • **Email:** gillian.devlin@kindercare.co.uk • **Website:** kindercareni.co.uk

Eucharistic Adoration Prayer Intentions for each hour of weekly Adoration

12noon – 1.00pm Vocation to Priesthood and Religious Life
1.00pm – 2.00pm Married couples and those preparing for Marriage
2.00pm – 3.00pm Sick and the Housebound • **3.00pm – 4.00pm** Strengthening of Faith in our young people
4.00pm – 5.00pm Parish Unity • **5.00pm – 6.00pm** Protecting life and the Earth
6.00pm – 7.00pm The Holy Souls and the Bereaved

Red Cross: Can you spare 1 hour a week? Would you like to help the Red Cross care for people in your local community? We are looking for volunteers for our wheelchair service and volunteer drivers to help with deliveries and collections. No experience necessary. Full training provided and volunteer expenses reimbursed.
Call Julie White on (028) 7186 3764 / (078) 0302 4011

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***

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 / 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. *See poster at entrance*

The Spiritual Benefits of Weekly Eucharistic Adoration

It helps us to grow in holiness. Jesus is ready to lavish on us, many extra graces and blessings, when we come and spend time with Him in Adoration. It helps us to appreciate Priesthood. Remember, "No Priests, no Eucharist". It is an established fact that where Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is worshipped and adored vocations flourish. When we spend time with Jesus in Eucharistic Adoration each week or more often, we experience a great peace and contentment.

"...of all devotions, that of adoring Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is the greatest after the Sacraments themselves". *Pope St. John Paul II*

Towards Peace: A spiritual support service designed for those who have experienced sexual, physical, emotional or spiritual abuse by Catholic Church personnel in Ireland. Support is also available for family members of abuse survivors. The vision of Towards Peace is to provide a safe supportive space, where people who have been affected by abuse in a Church context can be accompanied as they seek their own experience of spiritual peace, one step at a time. Towards Peace provides spiritual support through one-to-one spiritual direction sessions, with a qualified spiritual companion. Up to 9 sessions are offered and they are free.

Website: towardspeace.ie • **Tel:** 01 505 3028 • **Email:** towardspeace@jecon.ie

Covid-19 – Notice: All GAA activities, card playing and community activities suspended until further notice

Commercial Free Catholic Talk-Radio Station for Ireland – Radio Maria Ireland (RMI):

Commercial free prayer, catechesis, uplifting music, talks, interviews and testimonies
 Listen via the app 'RADIO MARIA IRELAND' on mobile devices, streaming on radiomaria.ie or
 listened to on the phone via a live radio feed by calling +353 (0) 1 437 3277 (no extra charges apply)

Foster Carers – Urgently Required in the WHSCT Area:

To meet the unfortunate demand for foster placements. If you think you can help call 0800 0720 137

Church Candles / Sanitiser: When lighting candles in St. Patrick's Church please use the sanitiser for your hands on the table beside the candelabra and spray the lighter each time with the cleanser provided and then wipe with the kitchen towel and place in the bin below.

DO NOT PLACE ANYTHING ELSE, ESPECIALLY MATCHES IN THE BIN

A Prayer for Now: God of the present moment, God who in Jesus stills the storm and soothes the frantic heart; Bring hope and courage to us as we wait in uncertainty. Bring hope that you will make us the equal of whatever lies ahead. Bring us courage to endure what cannot be avoided, for your will is health and wholeness; you are God and we need you. *Amen*

An Caisleán Glas agus Sperrin Óg GAA / Greencastle Community Association: Like all communities at the minute Greencastle is about to enter into unfamiliar territory as we face the influx of the Covid-19 coronavirus. No one knows what the incoming days and weeks bring, however, what we are sure of, is that we as a community will be supporting each other. We have a number of volunteers within our community who have already put their names forward to help where needed. If you, your family or someone you know is currently in self isolation and require some help please contact any of the individuals below. We would encourage everyone to make a call to your neighbour as they may need help and again please contact any of the individuals below. We have a team of volunteers willing to help where required, it may be something like picking up some shopping, posting some mail, lifting a prescription or just a friendly phone call. *For up to date info and advice visit*

www.publichealth.hscni.net/news/covid-19-coronavirus

Collie Touhey: 07970 379 741 Fiona Teague: 07813 935 996 Briege Beggs: 07799 058 273

2018	PARISH STATISTICS	2019
(16) 7 Boys • 9 Girls	Baptisms	(19) 8 Boys • 11 Girls
(14) 8 Boys • 6 Girls	First Communion	(25) 12 Boys • 13 Girls
(17) 10 Boys • 7 Girls	Confirmation	(16) 9 Boys • 7 Girls
3 within parish • 3 outside parish	Weddings	1 within parish • 6 outside parish
10	Deaths and Burials	11

Lent 2020 in the parishes of the Diocese of Derry

Throughout Lent resources and parish events for Lent will be published on the diocesan website and its social media channels. You are encouraged to follow and share these resources:

Web: derrydiocese.org **Twitter:** @DioceseOfDerry **Facebook:** @derrydiocese

You are also asked to recite daily during Lent the following Diocesan Lenten Prayer

Loving Father, to prepare for His mission of proclaiming Your kingdom to the world your Son Jesus was guided by Your Holy Spirit to the quiet of the desert. In these Lenten days, I pray that I will be guided by that same Spirit, to a place of renewal in my heart and mind, so that I will seek opportunities for daily personal prayer, personal sacrifices and acts of kindness. With Your help, may I too be truly prepared to share in the story of the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus Your Son, our Lord. *Amen*

Pope Francis' Prayer for Protection: O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick. At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith. You know what we need. We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine. Love to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us: He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen. We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God. Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test – and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

Deanery of Tyrone Statistics

17 Parishes in West Tyrone and East Donegal. An estimated Catholic population of 65,670 people are currently served by 20 Derry Diocesan priests under retirement age with assistance of 3 priests in residence and a chaplain to the Polish community.

8 parishes (47%) have a Catholic population of less than 3,000

6 parishes (35%) have a Catholic population of 3,000-7,000 people

3 parishes (18%) have a Catholic population of greater than 7,000 people

The largest parish serves an estimated 11,500 Catholics

7 parishes have 1,500 parishioners or less (7,900 combined) each with a resident priest. Is this sustainable?

In 2008 there were 27 diocesan clergy under retirement age ministering in the Tyrone Deanery, as of 2018 that number is 20. 7 Parish Priests currently serving in the deanery will reach 75 before 2025.

The maximum number of ordinations across the Derry Diocese by 2025 is 3.

Age profile: 1 priest is in his 30s, 1 in 40s, 7 in 50s, 6 in 60s and 5 in 70s

The clergy population has dropped 26% between 2008 and 2018 and by 2025 will have dropped by 52%

Family Care Adoption Services *Presently seeking to recruit adoptive families for babies and young children*

For free info contact us **Tel:** (028) 7136 8592 / (028) 9069 1133 (Monday to Friday, 9.00am to 5.00pm)

Email: anne.ohagan@familycaresociety.org • **Website:** familycaresociety.co.uk