

Parish of Greencastle, Co. Tyrone, Diocese of Derry

Saint Patrick's Church
Greencastle

Our Lady of the Wayside Church
Broughderg

The Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time. 26th July, 2009

The Parochial House, 164, Greencastle Road, Sheskinshule, Omagh, BT79 7RU

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Best wishes to everyone travelling for their summer holidays, may your journeys be safe and your time away renewing and refreshing. For everyone staying at home may the weather continue to be kind and may we all make the most out of it. **You are welcome to begin each day with daily Mass**

Liturgy Schedule for the Seventeenth Week in Ordinary Time. 27th July – 2nd August, 2009

Sunday 26th July	Our Lady of the Wayside See notice opposite*	11.00am – 4.30pm Solemn Annual Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Monday 27th July Seventeenth Week in Ordinary Time	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Tuesday 28th July Seventeenth Week in Ordinary Time	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Wednesday 29th July St. Martha	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Thursday 30th July St. Peter Chrysologus, bishop and doctor of the Church	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Friday 31st July St. Ignatius Loyola, priest	Saint Patrick's	8.00pm Mass
Saturday 1st August St. Alphonsus Liguori, bishop and doctor of the Church	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Saturday Evening	Saint Patrick's	6.00pm Vigil Mass for Sunday
Sunday 2nd August Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Saint Patrick's Our Lady of the Wayside	9:00am Mass: 'Misso Pro Populo' 11:00am Mass
The Indulgence of St. Mary of the Portiuncula may be gained by visiting the Parish Church		

Confession Schedule

Saturday 1st August	Saint Patrick's	5:30pm (before Vigil Mass)
Sunday 2nd 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 **£1,015**. **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 **Ferdinand McCrory** whose anniversary occurs at this time.

Sick and housebound will be attended **Monday 3rd August**. 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.

The Indulgence of St. Mary of the Portiuncula (2nd August): On 2nd August a plenary indulgence may be acquired in parish churches. The practice prescribed for the obtaining of the indulgence is a devout visit to the church and recitation there of the Our Father and Creed and in addition a sacramental confession, Holy Communion and prayer for the intentions of the Pope. This indulgence may be acquired only once. The visit may be made from noon the previous day until midnight of the day itself.

Next Sunday's Readings: Exodus 16:2-4, 12-15; Psalm 77; Ephesians 4:17, 20-24; John 6:24-35
Lectionary I, page 782

The Pope's Intentions For August, 2009: General: That public opinion may be more aware of the problem of millions of displaced persons and refugees and that concrete solutions may be found for their often tragic situation. **Mission:** That those Christians who are discriminated against and persecuted in many countries because of the name of Christ may have their human rights, equality and religious freedom recognised in order to be able to live and profess their own faith freely.

Lotto Numbers: 7, 10, 11, 24 (3 winners with 3 numbers – £25 each) **Next Jackpot:** £1,100

***Solemn Annual Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.** This will take place in Our Lady of the Wayside Church, Broughderg **today**. You are welcome to attend at any time throughout the day to pray for your personal needs or blessings, and those of our wider parish community and world. However to ensure a continuity of worshippers I invite people from the named areas to take responsibility and ensure a presence at specific times.

"Teach us the lesson of silence, of prayer, of quiet – Lord hear us."

Time	Townland	Time	Townland
11.30am	Formil West	2.00pm	Cashel / Brackagh / Leaghan
12.00noon	Broughderg / Evishession	2.30pm	Teebane / Carnanrancy
12.30pm	Formil East / Aughascribba	3.00pm	Crockanboy / Sheskinshule
1.00pm	Muniamale / Alworries	3.30pm	Maryville / Sheskinshule View
1.30pm	Benefreaghan	4.00pm	Crock / Conevglen / Glenhull / Aughminacrory
4.30pm Concluding Prayers and Benediction			

People Serving our faith-community in Greencastle parish

Parish Volunteers: Please sign up for service in your parish.

Parish Liturgy for August 2009	St. Patrick's (6.00pm Vigil Mass)	St. Patrick's (9.00am Mass)	Our Lady of the Wayside (11.00am Mass)
Readers	Anne Coyle	Caitriona McCullagh	Sean Clarke
Prayers of Intercession	Readers Needed	Caitriona Gillen	Readers Needed
Eucharistic Ministry	Frankie Bradley	Maria Bradley	Josephine Clarke
Collectors	Francis McLaughlin Seamus Keenan	Michael Clarke Enda Clarke	Colm Beggs Sean McKenna
Altar Society	Anne Donnelly, Anne Tuohey and Alice Keenan		Anne McDermott.
New choir members will always be welcome			

Buildings, Grounds and Maintenance: The physical environment for worship and prayer in our parish is important. The appearance, condition and function of the parish buildings and grounds must be well attended. If you would like to become involved in a committee responsible for our two churches, St. Patrick's, Greencastle and Our Lady of the Wayside, Broughderg our cemeteries and the Parochial house, please make contact with Fr. Hasson. Currently the maintenance is performed by contract. People with building, electrical, carpentry, landscaping skills or knowledge of same would be an advantage.

'Do This In Memory': This is a parish program supporting families of children preparing for First Holy Communion. The organisers would like to invite you to join their team and help in their work. Please make contact any member of the team, Maria, Rose, Caitriona or Helen.

For the attention of our young people

Clanmacnoise Youth Festival: 13th – 16th August. 'Know that the Loving God is with You' (James 3:10). For 16 to 35 years. Catholic Youth Festival – bring a sleeping bag. No cost – subscription by donation. Contact Youth 2000 Office on 00353 1675 3690. See posters on church notice boards.

Youthlife – Young People's Beginning Experience Residential: This is a structured programme designed to help young people work through the 'stages' of the grief process that can result from death, divorce or separation of their parents. The experience is open to young people from age 11 upwards. Contact Bridie or Pat at (028) 7137 7227 or email youthlife_be@hotmail.com. Web: youthlife.btk.com

ACCORD Marriage-Preparation Courses 2009-2010

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

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)*

Questions on Sunday's Readings for use by discussion groups, prayer groups or for individual prayer

First Reading – *Second Book of Kings, Chapter 4, Verses 42-44:*

1. Twenty loaves won't be sufficient to feed the crowd. The man knows this. He has to trust God over his own logic. Is this leap-of-faith kind of trust ever required in your life? Discuss whether this kind of trust becomes easier with practice.
2. Both Elisha and the man from Baal had to trust that a miracle would happen. Do you consider anything besides "something that breaks the laws of nature" a miracle? What are the miracles in your life?

Second Reading – *Letter to the Ephesians, Chapter 4, Verses 1-6:*

1. Paul reminds us we have to "strive" to preserve unity. Explain how this directive holds true for us now everywhere but especially in the church.
2. Which would be better, to preserve the peace by not talking to anyone with whom we disagree, or preserve the unity by staying at the table and talking it out?

Gospel – *According to John, Chapter 6, Verses 1-15:*

1. One theologian offers the possible explanation that Jesus' sharing encouraged all the others to share their food... the first potluck. What negative qualities in human nature does sharing eliminate? Using this interpretation of the feeding of 5,000, what are the implications regarding the inequality of resources and starvation all over the world?
2. What do you think God is more likely to do, miraculously drop food where there is starvation or inspire people to help their neighbors solve their problems? If the latter, can you help (through the Holy Spirit) in your diocese, parish, office or with yourself personally?

By Anne Osdieck of the *Center for Liturgy at Saint Louis University*

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

Monday 27th and Friday 31st July	Transformation Retreat with Fr. Donal Dorr
Sunday 2nd and Saturday 8th August	Scripture Retreat with Francis Hogan
Saturday 15th and Saturday 22nd	Association of Iconographers – Contemplation and Prayer
Saturday 12th and Sunday 13th	Carers Retreat (open to everyone)
Monday 21st and Thursday 24th	St. Padre Pio OFM Triduum
Saturday 29th	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	

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.

Questions people ask:

- Q. I read your answer on why the Church is against pre-marital sex. But is there any better way of preparing for eventual marriage than living together to find if the couple are compatible?
- A. You seem to be blind to the fact that there is a much higher rate of break-up among couples who cohabited before marriage than among those who did not. It is very likely that couples who did not cohabit before marriage had stronger religious beliefs and developed a spirit of self-sacrifice in their relationship. These factors are hugely important in strengthening the bonds of a mature relationship.

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

Seeing your life through the lens of the gospels – *John 6: 1-15:*

1. At the heart of this story we are told that Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks and distributed them. In our day this reminds us of the Eucharist, the bread of life with which Jesus feeds us. By sharing the bread and wine in the Eucharist we symbolise our unity with one another and with God. Can you recall a particular Eucharist that was especially nourishing for you? What was it that made it different?
2. *Take, give thanks, distribute.* The actions of Jesus also suggest an attitude to time, gifts and living. We take what we are given, give thanks, and use what we have. Have you found that having a grateful heart for what you have been given has made it easier for you to share with others?
3. From what seemed meagre and inadequate resources many were fed. When have you found that when you gratefully use what little resources you have the results are beyond your expectations?
4. Jesus chose to involve those around him in feeding the people. Have there been times when you have experienced benefits from calling on those around you to use their gifts to help with a task?

John Byrne OSA (john@orlagh.ie)

The Deep End – *In Need of Friends:*

Someone once pointed out that the best time to make friends is before you need them. Paul's passionate plea for unity in today's Second Reading (Eph 4:1-6) is a reminder of that fact. Paul, of course, doesn't package his plea in such self-serving terms. However, in its own street-wise fashion the remark is true. Unity is good, disunity is not. It's as simple as that.

Paul uses language here that many people, particularly men perhaps, may find difficult to identify with in terms of relating to others. He pleads for 'humility', 'gentleness', 'patience' and that awful thing called 'love'. In an age when, in the name of so-called entertainment, we are bombarded with images of just the opposite of these – anger, hate, violence and abuse – we might be pardoned for wondering which is the norm in life: humility or arrogance, gentleness or aggression, patience or frenzy, love or hate. A constant diet of grim actors on TV, and on the big screen, aping antisocial antics as if life consisted of never-ending rows fuelled by mindless jealousy can result in a build-up of bile. So, whether we suffer from indigestion or not is up to us. Which do we want: to be hurtful or helpful, coarse or courteous, aggressive or friendly? Those who feed on anger, hate and violence are no strangers to fear. These take more out of us than they give. It's the caring, the friendship and the love that makes life pleasant and fulfilling. Ask any angry, jealous and friendless role model you can find.

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