



Parish of Greencastle, Co. Tyrone (Diocese of Derry)

St. Patrick's, Greencastle Our Lady of the Wayside, Broughderg
Eight Sunday in Ordinary Time [Year C] (27th February, 2022)
 Parochial House, 164, Greencastle Road, Sheskinshule, Omagh, BT79 7RU
Website: greencastleparish.com • **Email:** greencastlepp@yahoo.com • **Tel:** (028) 816 48474



Thought on Temperance Sunday: "Alcohol confronts us with our own frailty and weakness. Even those who are not addicted need the support of a higher power in the journey through life if we are to avoid the perils of addiction. We need the support of friends, of family and of God. Indeed, there may be people around us who need our support. The love and support of God is mediated through people just like us when we reach out to others, bringing God's love and care into our world." *Pastoral Letter from the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference (2017)*

Saturday 26th February	St. Patrick's	12.00pm Wedding Mass 6.00pm Vigil Mass: Maggie Bradley (6 th Anniversary)
Sunday 27th February Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time [Year C]	Our Lady of Wayside	11.30am Mass: Laurence O'Neill (Month's Mind)
Tuesday 1st March	St. Patrick's	9.30am Mass
Wednesday 2nd March Ash Wednesday	St. Patrick's Our Lady of Wayside	12.00pm Mass 8.00pm Mass
Thursday 3rd March	St. Patrick's	10.00am Mass followed by Confessions
Friday 4th March St. Casimir	St. Patrick's	7.30pm Mass followed by Padre Pio Devotions: Jim and Rose Kirk (25 th and 8 th Anniversary)
Saturday 5th March St. Kieran (bishop)	St. Patrick's	6.00pm Vigil Mass: Benny Clarke (2 nd Anniversary)
Sunday 6th March First Sunday of Lent [Year C]	Our Lady of Wayside	11.30am Mass

Remembering Our Dead: We pray for the happy repose of the soul of **Maggie Bradley (6th)** whose anniversary occurs at this time and for those recently deceased and enrolled in the Derry Diocesan Society for the period ending Friday 31st December, 2021 **Francis (Jack) Cahill, Jim Morris and Patrick McNulty.**

Baptism Schedule: Recently we announced that as restrictions ease it would be possible to do more than one baptism at a time and so that is the case now from the first weekend of March. It was also intimated that the baptism schedule would be revised. This means that baptism will take place at a set time once a month in each church of the two parishes. This will be as follows:
 Greencastle – 1st Saturday • Rouskey – 2nd Sunday • Gortin – 3rd Saturday • Broughderg – 4th Sunday
 This is the practice in any parishes and is particularly necessary here when we have only one priest between two parishes and four churches. Baptism dates for March therefore will be as follows:
 Saturday 5th March at 3.00pm in Greencastle • Sunday 13th March at 12.30pm in Rouskey
 Saturday 19th March at 3.00pm in Gortin • Sunday 27th March at 12.30pm in Broughderg

Parish Office Opening Hours: Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 11.00am to 3.00pm
Tel: (028) 8164 8203 **Email:** greencastlepp@yahoo.com
All bookings to be done through the Parish Office please

Monthly Devotions Through the Intercession of St. Pio of Pietrelcina:
 Friday 4th March after 7.30pm Mass in St. Patrick's Church. *Relic of saint will be there for veneration and blessing*

Pope Francis' Intention for March (please remember this in your personal prayers)
For a Christian Response to Bioethical Challenges: We pray for Christians facing new bioethical challenges; may they continue to defend the dignity of all human life with prayer and action.

Next Week's Readings: Deuteronomy 26:4-10 • Psalm 90:1-2, 10-15, R/v 15 • Romans 10:8-13
 Luke 4:1-13 • Lectionary 1:207 **Sunday [Year C] • Weekday [Year 1]**

Parish Liturgy for March	St. Patrick's (6.00pm Vigil)	Our Lady of the Wayside (11.30am)
Readers	Francis McDermott	Geraldine Scullion
Eucharistic Ministry	Brigid Keenan	Josephine Clarke
Prayers of Faithful	Claire O'Brien	Ciaran Morris and Gearoid McNamee
Ushers	Nuala Clarke, Margaret Morris, Rose McCullagh and JP2 Students	Pat Coyle and Stephen McNamee
Altar Society	Maria Morris, Ava Morris and Kathleen Tracey	Mary Bradley

Townland Rota			
Saturday 26th February	St. Patrick's	6.00pm	Formil, Cashel, Leaghan, Brackagh South
Sunday 27th February	Our Lady of Wayside	11.30am	Broughderg, Crock, Carnanrancy

Ash Wednesday and Lent: This year the challenge of one priest and two parishes becomes apparent. It is impossible to provide as before. Here is the proposed schedule for Mass
 10.00am in Gortin • 12.00pm in Greencastle • 7.00pm in Rouskey • 8.00pm in Broughderg
 Ashes will still not be distributed as before, but it is hoped that a small packet will be made available for each family to administer at home. These will be blessed at the masses and left for collection after mass and throughout the day. Please take one per family or one for your neighbour who may not be able to attend. During the Season of Lent it is proposed that mass will be celebrated on Mondays at 6.30am in Greencastle and Thursdays at 6.30am in Rouskey as well as at the regular times. You are of course free to attend in either or both churches. Stations of the Cross will be celebrated after 10.00am on Thursday in Greencastle and Friday in Gortin.

Dromantine Retreat Centre – Upcoming Events: Tel: (028) 3082 1964 Email: admin@dromantineconference.com

Lenten Day of Reflection	Sunday 6 th March, 9.30am to 5.30pm. Provides time and space to reflect and pray on Lenten themes in preparation for the celebration of Holy Week and Easter. Led by Fr. Damian Bresnahan SMA. £35 / €40 (including full lunch)
The Wonder of Creation The Miracle of Life	Friday 11 th March, 5.00pm to Sunday 13 th March, 2.00pm. In contemplating the wonder of our Common Home and current threats to its integrity we will explore an ecological vision in responding to the cry of the poor at this time of unprecedented planetary change. Led by Sr. Nellie McLaughlin RSM. £220 / €260 (including full board)

Greencastle Club and Community – 10 Year Plan surveymonkey.co.uk/r/GREENCASCADE22
 Paper copies will be available at Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School and the O'Neill's Centra.

No Greater Love – Five-week 'Zoom' Programme: Each session lasting one hour with a time for prayer, sharing and reflection. This programme is considered a great way to prepare our hearts and minds for the holiest of seasons in the Church calendar. In a series of short films shot on location in the Holy land, No Greater Love is a biblical pilgrimage, taking us through the key events of Christ's passion and revealing His amazing love for us. Best-selling author Edward Sri will guide us through the final hours of Christ's life. You will walk step by step with Jesus through the Scriptures from the Garden of Gethsemane to Mount Calvary. Hosted by the Living Church Office in Down and Connor diocese, these are the starting options to choose from:
 Tuesday 8th March at 7.30pm • Wednesday 9th March at 7.30pm
 Thursday 10th March at 11.00am or 7.00pm • Monday 14th March at 11.00am or 7.00pm
Please consider participating! To book your place visit forms.office.com/r/TZkWFSAHR

Exploring Priesthood – Zoom with Seminarians and Priests: On Tuesday 1st March at 8.00pm there will be an opportunity for men to join in on a Zoom to find out more about priesthood and to hear directly from a priest and from two young men who are currently studying for the priesthood in our National Seminary in Maynooth. The event is being run by the National Vocations Office. The Zoom session should end by 9.30pm at the latest. There will be a short time spent watching YouTube videos on priesthood and vocation and a questions and answers session with the seminarians and the panel. *For more info and registration details email info@vocations.ie or visit vocations.ie/zoom*

Wednesday 2nd March Ash Wednesday	Thursday 31st March at 7.00pm First Confession (Greencastle)	Saturday 9th April at 11.00am Confirmation (Greencastle)
Saturday 14th May at 11.00am First Communion (Greencastle)	Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th June Blessing of the Graves in Greencastle / Broughderg	

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

Kindercare Fostering NI: Could you help a child in need? 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) 9094 1690 • **Email:** gillian.devlin@kindercare.co.uk • **Website:** kindercareni.co.uk

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

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*

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

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.

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 to endure what cannot be avoided, for your will is health and wholeness; you are God and we need you. *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.

Our Faith – Developing What We Were Taught in School:

- Was RE just a subject in school? Would you like to really to understand it in practice?
- Are you open to deepening your understanding of your Catholic Faith?
- Do you want to better understand the Mass - the celebration to the Eucharist?
- Would you like to explore, discuss and reflect upon issues and questions of faith, the Church, and how to link faith to your everyday life?

The Pathways Adult Faith Programme by Drumalis Retreat Centre, Larne, addresses these questions and more.

This two-year faith development programme, delivered one Saturday per month from October to June is available either in-house at Drumalis or by Zoom video-conferencing. *More info, enrolment visit drumalis.co.uk/pathways*

Prayer for Synod on Synodality (2021 – 2023)

We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name. With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts; Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it.

We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder. Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions.

Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right. All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever. *Amen*

Radio Maria Ireland: An Irish-run Catholic Talk-Radio Station with commercial-free broadcasting of Prayer, Catechesis, Music, Talks, Interviews and Testimonies based at St. Anthony's Business Park, Ballymount Road, Dublin 22. If you are not already a follower of the station Radio Maria Ireland encourage you to join their growing faith family! Prayer / song requests welcome. "A Catholic voice in your home". Fr Eamonn McCarthy is Director.

You can tune in to the station in a variety of ways:

Digital TV - Saorview Channel 210 / Freeview TV (Channel number varies per location in NI)

Download FREE App "RADIO MARIA IRELAND"

Streaming on radiomarie.ie (subscribe and donate here also)

'Listen Live Radio' link on Facebook Page. (Like, Share and Follow us on Facebook)

Phone – get live radio feed by calling 003531 437 3277 (no extra charges apply).

Kindercare Fostering NI: Could you help a child in need? 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) 9094 1690 • **Email:** gillian.devlin@kindercare.co.uk • **Website:** kindercareni.co.uk

Catholic Engaged Encountered – Marriage Preparation Course:

Planned for Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th April in the Drummond Hotel, Ballykelly, Co. Derry.

A positive way of preparing for Marriage where you will discover how you can enrich your future relationship.

For more information and to book call (028) 2763 8512 or visit marriageencounter.ie

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

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 call (028) 8224 2439 or email omagh@accordni.com*

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

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

What Is Spiritual Communion? It has long been a Catholic understanding that when circumstances prevent one from receiving Holy Communion, it is possible to make an Act of Spiritual Communion, which is a source of grace. Spiritual Communion is an ardent desire to receive Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament and lovingly embrace him at a time or in circumstances when one cannot receive Him in sacramental Communion. The most common reason for making an Act of Spiritual Communion is when a person cannot attend Mass. Acts of Spiritual Communion increase our desire to receive sacramental Communion and help us avoid the sins that would make us unable to receive Holy Communion worthily.

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

Barnardo's NI – Can You Foster? Could you give a home to a vulnerable child when they need it most? Fostering is about giving them a safe, secure place to live for a few weeks, months or even years. Barnardo's Fostering NI is looking for foster carers. Foster placements can be long-term, short-term, emergency, short breaks and parent and child together. You must be over 21 to foster and must have a spare bedroom in your home. Foster carers are offered a fostering fee and allowances; they are given training and support.

To learn more call (028) 9065 2288 or visit barnardos.org.uk/foster

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

2020	PARISH STATISTICS	2021
(17) 8 Boys • 9 Girls	Baptisms	10 Boys • 7 Girls [17]
(11) 4 Boys • 7 Girls	First Communion	7 Boys • 9 Girls [16]
(14) 7 Boys • 7 Girls	Confirmation	10 Boys • 6 Girls [16]
0 within parish • 1 outside parish	Weddings	5 within parish • 2 outside parish [7]
8	Deaths and Burials	12

Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes: Although mindful of all the uncertainties we face at this time, the Pilgrimage Director and staff have begun planning for a return to Lourdes in early summer of 2022. While it is still too early to provide details, it is intended that the date and duration will be as in recent years and hopefully these will be confirmed and announced by the end of 2021. We ask for the prayers of the people of the diocese so that, by the grace of God and intercession of Our Lady of Lourdes, we may return to Lourdes once more.

Northern Ireland Adoption and Foster Care:

With an increase in children and young people needing foster homes across Northern Ireland, we need you now. Every child deserves to have a happy, loving and safe home where they'll feel cared for, valued and supported.

It's always the right time for fostering.

Call us on 0800 0720 137 or visit adoptionandfostercare.hscni.net

#HSCNIFosterCare #FosterForYourCommunity #CouldYouFoster

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%

Prayer for the End of the Virus: Almighty and merciful Father, who show your love to all your creation. We come before you asking for an end of the Coronavirus currently ravaging our world. Hear graciously the prayers we make for those affected by the virus in various parts of the world. Grant healing to the sick, eternal life to the dead and consolation to the bereaved families. We pray that an effective medicine to combat the sickness be speedily found. We pray for the relevant governments and health authorities, that they take appropriate steps for the good of the people. Look upon us in your mercy and forgive us our failings. Amen

This Week's Calendar of Feasts and Saints:

Friday 4th March – St. Casimir [1458-1484] Strove to promote peace and the unity of Western Europe. Though a young prince he chose a life of prayer and penance. Patron Saint of Poland.

Saturday 5th March – St. Kieran (bishop) Kieran of Saigir was born in Cape Clear, Co. Cork. He is Numbered among the pre-Patrician saints of Ireland. He went to the Continent, where he was baptised and later ordained priest and bishop. He returned to his father's territory, Ossory where he lived as a hermit. Disciples soon joined him and Saigir became a well-known monastery.