



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

St. Patrick's, Greencastle      Our Lady of the Wayside, Broughderg

**Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time [Year B] (20<sup>th</sup> June, 2021)**

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

**Website:** greencastleparish.com • **Email:** greencastlepp@yahoo.com • **Tel:** (028) 816 48474



**Thought for the Week:** "As the sun rises, Lord, Let your light shine on me. Destroy the darkness about me, Scatter the darkness before me, Disperse the darkness behind me, Dispel the darkness within me. Let your light shine on me. As the sun rises, Lord, Let your light shine on me. The warmth of your Presence, The brightness of your love, The radiance of your joy, The shining of your hope. Let your light shine on me. As the sun rises, Lord, Let your light shine on me. Your light to guide, Your light to lead, Your light to direct, Your light to brighten. Let your light shine on me."

*Power Lines: Celtic Prayers About Work by David Adam*

<b>Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> June</b>	St. Patrick's / YouTube	<b>6.00pm</b> Vigil Mass
<b>Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> June</b> 13 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time [Year B]	St. Patrick's / YouTube	<b>11.00am</b> Mass
<b>Monday 28<sup>th</sup> June</b> St. Irenaeus (bishop and martyr)	Gortin / YouTube	<b>10.00am</b> Mass
<b>Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> June.</b> Solemnity of St. Peter and St. Paul (apostles)	St. Patrick's / YouTube	<b>10.00am</b> Mass
<b>Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> June</b>	St. Patrick's	<b>2.00pm to 4.00pm</b> Adoration <b>7.30pm</b> Mass
<b>Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> July</b> St. Oliver Plunkett (bishop and martyr)	St. Patrick's / YouTube	<b>10.00am</b> Mass
<b>Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> July</b>	St. Patrick's / YouTube	<b>10.00am</b> Mass followed by Confession
<b>Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> July</b>	St. Patrick's / YouTube	<b>12 noon to 1.00pm</b> Confession <b>6.00pm</b> Vigil Mass and Blessing of Graves Peter Fox (7 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary)
	Our Lady of the Wayside	<b>8.00pm</b> Mass and Blessing of Graves
<b>Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> July</b> 14 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time [Year B]	St. Patrick's / YouTube	<b>11.00am</b> Mass and Blessing of Graves <b>1.00pm</b> Mass and Blessing of Graves <b>3.00pm</b> Mass and Blessing of Graves

**Please note:** For Blessing of Graves Masses please refer to notice opposite  
From next week reference to YouTube will no longer be made  
Please presume all masses from St Patrick's will be broadcast on YouTube

**Sick and Housebound:** Fr. Gallagher will visit those in his care on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> July from 11.30am.  
*They will also be remembered and prayed for during the morning mass that day*

**Remembering Our Dead:** We pray for all our deceased relatives and friends as we prepare for the Blessing of the Graves in the parish next weekend.

**Weekly Collection:** £535      *Thank you for your generosity*

**Institute of Irish Leadership – Upcoming Events:** 20 The Diamond Pomeroy, Co Tyrone – (028) 8775 7800

**Online Feile Gaeltacht Thir Eoghan:** Monday 28<sup>th</sup> June to Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> July – Enrol for £60.  
*For more info email lmcgurk@gmail.com*

**Walking Group:** Continues every Monday (11.00am – 12.00 noon). Meet in Pomeroy forest car park.

**Pope Francis' Intention for July (please remember this in your personal prayers)**  
**Universal – Social Friendship:** We pray that, in social, economic and political situations of conflict, we may be courageous and passionate architects of dialogue and friendship.

**Next Week's Readings:** Ezekiel 2:2-5 • Psalm 122, R/ v 2 • 2 Corinthians 12:7-10  
Mark 6:1-6 • Lectionary 1:772      **Sunday [Year B] • Weekday [Year 1]**

### Townland Mass Rota

<b>Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> June</b>	St. Patrick's	<b>6.00pm</b>	Formil
<b>Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> June</b>	St. Patrick's	<b>11.00am</b>	Crockanboy, Binnefreaghan
<b>Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> and Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> July</b>	*See Blessing of the Graves notice below		
<b>Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> July</b>	St. Patrick's	<b>6.00pm</b>	Formil
<b>Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> July</b>	St. Patrick's	<b>11.00am</b>	Binnefreaghan, Cashel, Leaghan, Brackagh South
<b>Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> July</b>	St. Patrick's	<b>6.00pm</b>	Sheskinshule, Crockanboy
<b>Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> July</b>	Our Lady of Wayside	<b>9.00am</b>	Broughderg, Crock, Carnanrancy, Coneyglen
	St. Patrick's	<b>11.00am</b>	Teebane East, Aughminacrory, Muninamale, Aughascribba, Alworries
<b>Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> July</b>	St. Patrick's	<b>6.00pm</b>	Binnefreaghan, Cashel, Leaghan, Brackagh South
<b>Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> July</b>	St. Patrick's	<b>6.00pm</b>	Formil
<b>Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> July</b>	St. Patrick's	<b>6.00pm</b>	Teebane East, Aughminacrory, Muninamale, Aughascribba, Alworries
<b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> August</b>	Our Lady of Wayside	<b>9.00am</b>	Broughderg, Crock, Carnanrancy, Coneyglen
	St. Patrick's	<b>11.00am</b>	Sheskinshule, Crockanboy

**Blessing of the Graves:** This year we will be having a scaled down Blessing of the Graves ceremony. It will consist of mass offered for the now 5 areas of the parish broken into townlands. At the end of the mass families will be invited to make their way to their graves where they can pray at the grave and sprinkle it with Holy Water. A prayer will be provided for you as you come in or leave the church. You can of course do this any time if the mass time for your area doesn't suit you. The prayer will be available in card form and in the parish bulletin. For those intending to go to mass please stick to your Townland. Weather permitting, you may choose to remain in the graveyard during mass. A church gate collection for the upkeep of our Parish Cemeteries will take place as you leave. Schedule is as follows:

<b>Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> July</b>	St. Patrick's, 6.00pm	Binnefreaghan, Cashel, Leaghan, Brackagh South
	Our Lady of Wayside, 8.00pm	Broughderg, Crock, Carnanrancy, Coneyglen
<b>Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> July</b>	St. Patrick's, 11.00am	Teebane East, Aughminacrory, Alworries, Aughascribba, Muninamale
	St. Patrick's, 1.00pm	Sheskinshule, Crockanboy
	St. Patrick's, 3.00pm	Formil, (including Aughascribba Road, part of Formil)

**End of School Year:** As the summer holidays begin for our children we take this opportunity to thank all who were part of the education team particularly here in the parish. We thank Mrs. McCann for her leadership of the school during the time of lockdown last year and part of this year and to Mrs. Donnelly since taking up the role of principal in May and all the teachers and other staff in the school; our parents who had to step up and try to supplement the online learning being provided to the children, and of course the children themselves both in Our Lady of Lourdes and in secondary schools who have had their daily school work, assessments and exams in extraordinary circumstances. We pray that further strides can be made towards a more normal school year in the autumn.

*Thank you to all and may God keep all safe over the summertime*

**Certificate in Christian Thought:** Drumalis Retreat Centre, in association with St. Mary's University College, Belfast, invites applications for this two-year, part-time, intensive course which begins in September 2021. The course will be delivered over 7 Saturdays in each of two successive years, from 10.00am to 4.30pm. The Certificate in Christian Thought programme aims to offer a space where adults can explore, reflect upon, discuss and study faith and how it relates to life in today's world, both at a personal and community level. During the course, participants will cover topics on Spirituality, Pastoral Theology, The Eucharist, Living the Christian Life, The Sacraments, The Scriptures, Where in the World is God? And much more.  
*Full details are available at [derrydiocese.org/news/certificate-in-christian-thought](http://derrydiocese.org/news/certificate-in-christian-thought)*

### Giving Thanks for Summer

Father, Creator of all, thank You for summer! Thank you for the warmth of the sun and the increased daylight. Thank You for the beauty I see all around me and for the opportunity to be outside and enjoy Your creation. Thank You for the increased time I have to be with my friends and family, and for the more casual pace of the summer season. Draw me closer to You this summer. Teach me how I can pray no matter where I am or what I am doing. Warm my soul with the awareness of Your presence and light my path with Your Word and Counsel. As I enjoy Your creation, create in me a pure heart and a hunger and a thirst for You. *Amen*

**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*

**Catholic Engaged Encountered – Online Marriage Preparation Course via Zoom:**  
Planned for Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> September. This 2-day course is 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](http://marriageencounter.ie)*

**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](mailto:gillian.devlin@kindercare.co.uk) • **Website:** [kindercareni.co.uk](http://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*

**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](http://radiomaria.ie) or listened to on the phone via a live radio feed by calling +353 (0) 1 437 3277 (no extra charges apply)*

**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*

**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

**SUSE+ New Courses:** Are you currently unemployed? SUSE+ can help you, we are currently offering help and support to gain qualification and employment. We run Job Searches, CV Building, Interview Preparation. Mentors work 1:1 with participants to help secure a job in local area.  
New courses include Foundation Skills in Working with Children, Personal Success & Wellbeing, Progression to Employment, Customer Service, Money Management, Retail, Business Administration, Barista and Essential Skills in Numeracy and Literacy. *For more information email [tracy.sharkey@swc.ac.uk](mailto:tracy.sharkey@swc.ac.uk) or call 074 3653 3475*

**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](http://towardspeace.ie) • **Tel:** 01 505 3028 • **Email:** [towardspeace@iecon.ie](mailto:towardspeace@iecon.ie)

**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](mailto:lisah@millenniumforum.co.uk)*

**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.

**SUSE+ New Courses:** Are you currently unemployed? SUSE+ can help you, we are currently offering help and support to gain qualification and employment. We run Job Searches, CV Building, Interview Preparation. Mentors work 1:1 with participants to help secure a job in local area.  
New courses include Foundation Skills in Working with Children, Personal Success & Wellbeing, Progression to Employment, Customer Service, Money Management, Retail, Business Administration, Barista and Essential Skills in Numeracy and Literacy. *For more information email [tracy.sharkey@swc.ac.uk](mailto:tracy.sharkey@swc.ac.uk) or call 074 3653 3475*

**Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre in Partnership with St. Mary's University, Twickenham**  
**Masters in Catholic School Leadership:** This is a post-graduate degree dedicated to the professional development and spiritual formation of Catholic school leaders. It is a great opportunity for those currently in leadership roles and those who aspire to, or have an interest in, leadership roles within the Catholic School system. The next intake will be Autumn, 2021.  
*For more info call the Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre on 0044 (028) 7126 4087 or email [tferry@derrydiocese.org](mailto:tferry@derrydiocese.org)*

**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](mailto:marie.devlin@agewellpartnership.org)*

**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*

**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](http://barnardos.org.uk/foster)*

**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.

**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.

#### 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%

#### 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

**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](http://derryyouthcommunity.com) or emailing [dyc@derrydiocese.org](mailto:dyc@derrydiocese.org)*

#### 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*

**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*

#### The Net – June Edition: Sharing the fruits of the faith in the Derry Diocese.

Only be available on the Diocesan website, will be available again in parishes when the restrictions are lifted.

For coverage of faith stories just email [editorthenet15@gmail.com](mailto:editorthenet15@gmail.com).

Draperstown pupils create garden for Our Lady • St. Eithne's PS May procession  
 Diocesan Confirmation preparation commended • Memories of Fan the Flame  
 St. Columb's College to reflect on role in Derry life • Derry Youth Ministry Scholarship  
 Renewal – Parish leader mentoring • Baroness O'Loan inspires at Pope John Paul II Awards by Hollie Frystal  
 Young writers share thoughts on Difficulties in praying, Sacraments of Initiation, Martyrdom, Education and Poverty  
 Little Way Novena • Children's Catechism Club – C3 by Veronica Harley  
 Derry faithful delighted to attend St. Columba Feast Day Mass  
 Colmcille wood sculptures have new home in The Wells by Ivor Doherty  
 Columba Community reflect on yielding to the Spirit  
 Waterside faithful mark 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Immaculate Conception Church  
 Fr. Michael Canny appointed as Vicar General • Newtownstewart mystery walk by Fr. Roland Colhoun CC  
 Creggan man Martin McLaughlin publishes life story • Tribute to the late Fr. Brian O'Donnell (Waterside and Lavey)  
 Fr. John Downey reflects on priesthood and the Pioneers • Pioneers share thoughts on their pledge  
 Reflections on martyrdom and journeying with Jesus • Bishop Donal introduces new Diocesan Safeguarding Team  
 Lord, I am not worthy by Fr. Johnny Doherty CSsR  
 Marriage is a three-partner relationship by Geraldine McNamee, ACCORD  
 Ardú Céime do Chnoc Mhuire - Irish Page by Fr. Oliver Crilly  
 Getting the message out there by Fr. John McLaughlin SSC

**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](mailto:omagh@accordni.com)*

#### Seeing your life through the lens of the gospel:

*John Byrne OSA ([jbyrneosa@gmail.com](mailto:jbyrneosa@gmail.com))*

1. Like this woman, have you had the experience of a cure, an improvement, a success, after a long period of nothing happening? What was that like for you? What made the difference? On that occasion was there anything different in you, in others, in the circumstances – something that paved the way for the change or improvement?
2. 'Who touched me?' Jesus asked. It seems a strange request with crowds milling around. Many people brushed against him, but the woman made contact in a different way. The same can happen in our relationships. We brush against many people but make real contact only with a few. Who are the people you have touched, and who has touched you? What difference has this made to you and to them?
3. Jesus said to the woman, 'Your faith has made you well'. What difference does it make to you that you have faith? In what ways does your faith make you well?
4. When Jairus asked Jesus to come and cure his daughter, some thought there was no point. Sometimes a situation can look like a lost cause. Has it ever happened to you that subsequent events showed there was hope where you thought there was none?
5. Some people have the gift of infusing new life and energy into individuals, or into groups, or into a cause. Perhaps you yourself have done this at times? Recall these experiences and the lessons you have learned from them.

**The Deep End – Talitha Cum:** *Jane Mellett (mellettj@gmail.com)*

In today's Gospel we hear two healing stories: Jairus' daughter and the woman with a haemorrhage. At first glance these stories might not seem to have a lot in common. The woman is a complete social outcast because of her condition, yet Jesus calls her 'daughter'. He does not let social convention dictate who can be called a child of God. Jesus reminds the people of this woman's true identity. The synagogue official surprises us, pleasantly, with his faith in Jesus and his message. What these two characters have in common is faith against all the odds as they reach out to Jesus in faith-filled action. There are those in the story who laugh when Jesus says he can bring back Jairus' daughter. They are sent away. Jesus' healing breaks down the barriers that isolate us from one another and from God.

We can all recall times when we were struggling. We needed something to move us, to help us forgive, to help us walk away or to relieve us of physical pain. In the end it can be the simple gestures that save us: a kind word, someone praying for us, a gentle touch or we reach out to someone and like the woman with the haemorrhage we suddenly feel within ourselves that we are healing. These accounts show us something of how God's grace can enter our lives and transform situations.

Mark leaves untranslated Jesus' native language when he restores the young girl to life: 'Talitha cum' – a beautiful phrase meaning: 'Little girl, get up!'. Jairus' daughter has been given new life; the woman has also been given new life. Both have overcome barriers that were keeping them from being free. We know what those barriers are for each of us. God's grace is gentle yet can bring life to situations of death. What do you need healing from today? Bring this to prayer.

**This Week's Calendar of Feasts and Saints:**

- Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> June – St. Peter and St. Paul (apostles)** St. Peter suffered martyrdom under Nero, in A.D. 66 or 67. He was buried on the hill of the Vatican where recent excavations have revealed his tomb on the very site of the Basilica of St. Peter's. St. Paul was beheaded in the Via Ostia on the spot where now stands the basilica bearing his name. Down the centuries Christian people in their thousands have gone on pilgrimage to the tombs of these Apostles. In the second and third centuries the Roman Church already stood pre-eminent by reason of her apostolicity, the infallible truth of her teaching and her two great figures.
- Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> June – St. Irenaeus (bishop and martyr)** Greek bishop noted for his role in guiding and expanding Christian communities in what is now the south of France and, more widely, for the development of Christian theology by combating heresy and defining orthodoxy. Originating from Smyrna, he had seen and heard the preaching of Polycarp, the last known living connection with the Apostles, who in turn was said to have heard John the Evangelist.
- Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> July – St. Oliver Plunkett (bishop and martyr)** Came from Irish nobility. His family supported King Charles I. Ordained in Rome in 1654 he became a professor of theology from 1654 through 1669. He was appointed Archbishop of Armagh in 1669 and was forced to conduct a covert ministry during the suppression of priests. He was arrested and tried at Dundalk in 1679 for conspiring against the State. It was seen that Oliver would never be convicted in Ireland, and he was moved to Newgate prison, London. St. Oliver Plunkett was found guilty of high treason for 'promoting the Catholic faith' and condemned to a gruesome death. He was martyred on 1<sup>st</sup> July, 1681 at Tyburn by hanging, disembowelling, quartering and beheading, He was the last Catholic to die for his faith At Tyburn, and the first of the Irish martyrs to be beatified. His body was initially buried in two tin boxes next to five Jesuits who had died before; with his head in St. Peter's Church, Drogheda; most of his body is at Downside Abbey, England; some relics are elsewhere in Ireland.

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2019	PARISH STATISTICS	2020
(19) 8 Boys • 11 Girls	<b>Baptisms</b>	(17) 8 Boys • 9 Girls
(25) 12 Boys • 13 Girls	<b>First Communion</b>	(11) 4 Boys • 7 Girls
(16) 9 Boys • 7 Girls	<b>Confirmation</b>	(14) 7 Boys • 7 Girls
1 within parish • 6 outside parish	<b>Weddings</b>	0 within parish • 1 outside parish
11	<b>Deaths and Burials</b>	8