



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

St. Patrick's, Greencastle Our Lady of the Wayside, Broughderg
Fifth Sunday of Easter [Year C] (28th April, 2013)
 The Parochial House, 164, Greencastle Road, Sheskinshule, Omagh, BT79 7RU
Website: greencastleparish.com **Tel:** (028) 8164 8474 **Email:** greencastlepp@yahoo.com



Last Monday the Derry Diocesan Consultors selected Fr. Francis Bradley (a native of Badoney Lower) to become Diocesan Administrator until a new Bishop is appointed. He succeeds Monsignor Eamon Martin. *Please support him with your prayers*

Liturgy Schedule for the Fifth Week of Easter [Year C] (29 th April, 2013 – 5 th May, 2013)			
Saturday Evening (27th April) Vigil Mass for Sunday	St. Patrick's	5.30pm Confessions 6:00pm Mass: Mary Morris (11 th Anniversary)	
Sunday 28th April Fifth Sunday of Easter [Year C]	St. Patrick's Our Lady of the Wayside	9.00am Mass (Missa Pro Populo) 10.30am Confessions 11.00am Mass	
Monday 29th April St. Catherine of Siena (virgin and doctor of the Church, patron of Europe)	Our Lady of the Wayside	8.00pm Mass: Rose Hollywood (1 st Anniversary)	
Tuesday 30th April St. Pius V (Pope)	St. Patrick's	9.30am Public Recitation of the Rosary 10.00am Mass: John McCullagh (3 rd Anniversary)	
Wednesday 1st May St. Joseph the Worker	St. Patrick's	9.30am Public Recitation of the Rosary 10.00am Mass	
Thursday 2nd May St. Athanasius (bishop and doctor of the Church)	St. Patrick's	9.30am Public Recitation of the Rosary 10.00am Mass	
Friday 3rd May St. Philip and St. James (apostles)	St. Patrick's	7.30pm Public Recitation of the Rosary and Confessions 8.00pm Mass	
Saturday Morning (4th May) St. Conleth (bishop)	St. Patrick's	9.30am Public Recitation of the Rosary 10.00am Mass	
Saturday Evening (4th May) Vigil Mass for Sunday	St. Patrick's	5.30pm Public Recitation of the Rosary and Confessions 6:00pm Mass: David O'Hagan (1 st Anniversary)	
Sunday 5th May Sixth Sunday of Easter [Year C]	St. Patrick's Our Lady of the Wayside	9.00am Mass (Missa Pro Populo) followed by Solemn Annual Exposition 10.30am Public Recitation of the Rosary and Confessions 11.00am Mass	
An Evening Prayer and Benediction in St. Patrick's will conclude the Solemn Annual Exposition			

Weekly Offerings: Thank you for your generosity to last week's collection which amounted to **£975**.

Diocesan Purposes Collection: To be taken up after Holy Communion next Sunday, see special envelope in your box.

Remembering Our Dead: We pray for **Mary Morris, Rose Hollywood** and **John McCullagh**, whose anniversaries occur now.

Sick and housebound: These will be attended **Monday 6th May**. Please let them know if you live nearby.
If you know of anyone sick or housebound and who would like a visit please inform Fr. Hasson.

Pope Francis' Intentions for May (please remember these in your personal prayer)
General – Administrators of Justice: That those who administer justice will always act with integrity and upright conscience.
Missionary – Seminarians: That seminarians especially from mission Churches, may always be pastors according to the heart of Christ, fully devoted to the proclamation of the Gospel.

During the month of May members of the Legion of Mary will lead us praying the Rosary 30 minutes before the beginning of Mass each day. Please join them or make the Rosary your special family prayer during this month

The Glorious Mysteries (Sunday and Wednesday)	The Joyful Mysteries (Monday and Saturday)	The Sorrowful Mysteries (Tuesday and Friday)	The Mysteries of Light (Thursday)
The Resurrection	The Annunciation	The Agony in the Garden	Jesus is baptised in the Jordan
The Ascension	The Visitation	The Scourging at the Pillar	Jesus at the wedding feast of Cana
The Descent of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles	The Birth of the Lord	The Crowning with Thorns	Jesus proclaims the Kingdom of God and calls us to conversion
The Assumption of our Lady into Heaven	The Presentation in the Temple	The Carrying of the Cross	The Transfiguration
The Crowning of our Lady as Queen of Heaven	The Finding of the child Jesus in the Temple	The Crucifixion and Death of our Lord	The Last Supper and Institution of the Eucharist

Next Sundays Readings: Acts of the Apostles 15: 1-2, 22-29; Psalm 66; Apocalypse 21: 10-14, 22-23; John 14: 23-29; Lectionary I, page 539
(Sunday: Year C) (Weekday: Year 1)

Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School Vandalism: Mr. McGinn, our school principal has informed us that the school has been vandalised in a series of incidents over the past few weeks. This behaviour has its impact upon the life of the school and especially on its budget. He wants us to be aware of this so that if we know who is responsible then we can bring some good influence to bear upon them. Vandalism hurts firstly our children and everyone in the community – it is disruptive and expensive. *Your support would be greatly appreciated*

Parish Liturgy for May, 2013	St. Patrick's (6.00pm Vigil Mass)	St. Patrick's (9.00am Mass)	Our Lady of the Wayside (11.00am Mass)
Readers	Francis McDermott	Siobhan McKenna	Geraldine McNamee
Eucharistic Ministry	Brigid Keenan	Eugene McCullagh	Patricia Donnelly
Prayers of Intercession	Aileen Tuohy	Ciaran Tuohy	James McCullagh
Collectors	Raymond Bradley Lawrence McBride	Peter Tracey Colm Keenan	Sean McKenna Francis Keenan
Altar Society	Mary McNamee, Mary McCrory and Patta McDermott		Anne McDermott Mary Bradley

New choir members will always be welcome, contact Sinead

Altar Servers Needed: Please notice the important role of altar servers in the prayer life of our faithful community, we currently need new volunteers to strengthen the teams already serving so if you will commit, please do so soon.

6.00pm Saturday Vigil	Offertory Gifts Rota	9.00am Sunday Morning
Saturday 27 th April The family of Claire O'Brien	Fifth Sunday of Easter	Sunday 28 th April The family of Sorcha-Rose Meenan
Saturday 4 th May The family of Laoise Teague	Sixth Sunday of Easter	Sunday 5 th May The family of Eunan Morris
Saturday 11 th May, 6.00am	Feast of the Ascension of the Lord <i>First Holy Communion</i> 11.00am Mass in St. Patrick's 9.00am in OLW, Broughderg	Sunday 12 th May, 11.00am Our Lady of Lourdes PS Year 4 Class
Saturday 18 th May The family of Eimear Tracey	Pentecost Sunday	Sunday 19 th May The family of Serene Morris
Saturday 25 th May The family of Ciaran Warnock	Feast of the Holy Trinity	Sunday 26 th May The family of Luke O'Connor

As the wider parish community we thank these young people and their families for this important.

Solemn Annual Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: This will take place in St. Patrick's Church, Greencastle next weekend. Please feel welcome to attend at any time throughout the day to pray for your personal needs or blessings as well as those of our wider parish community and world. To ensure a continuity of worshippers I invite people from the named townlands to take responsibility to ensure presence at specific times. **Teach us the lesson of silence, of prayer, of quiet – Lord hear us**

Time	Townland	Time	Townland
10.00am	Glenhull / Aughminacory	1.30pm	Benefreaghan
10.30am	Muniamale / Alworries	2.00pm	Cashel / Brackagh / Leaghan
11.00am	Crock / Coneyglen	2.30pm	Teebane / Camanrancy
11.30am	Aughascribba	3.00pm	Crockanboy
12.00pm	Broughderg / Evishession	3.30pm	Maryville / Sheskinshule View
12.30pm	Formil East	4.00pm	Sheskinshule
1.00pm	Formil West	4.30pm	Concluding Prayers and Benediction

Mass Times: First Holy Communion will take place on Sunday 12th May and the 11.00am Mass on that date will take place in St. Patrick's Church, Greencastle. Mass in Our Lady of the Wayside Church, Broughderg on that date will take place at 9.00am.

Launch of Spiritual Books in Irish published by Foilseacháin Ábhair Spioradálta: Tuesday 30th April at 7:30pm in Omagh Library. Launch by Canon Marron, Fintona. Short talks also at this event on culture and faith by Linda Irvine, East Belfast and Fr. Kevin Mc Elhennon, Cappagh Parish.

A Song for Columba: The year 2013 has been designated as the "Year of Faith", as well as the city of Derry celebrating its year as the "City of Culture". This year also marks the 1,450th Anniversary of the Departure of St. Columba from Derry to Iona. The Parish of Templemore is organizing a series of events to celebrate this anniversary. One of the central events is "A Song for Columba" – composers and musicians are invited to set to music a text attributed to or connect with Saint Columba. The winner will be awarded a prize of £500 and the performance of the winning entry at a special concert on Sunday 2nd June in St. Cecilia's College, Derry. *Poster in church porch notice board / entry form in sacristy. Musicians and composers should respond*

Care for Cancer – Open Day: Wednesday 1 st May from 11.00am to 7.00pm at 1 Campsie Place Omagh				<i>RSVP</i>
BADA Events	Every Friday Night at 8.30pm	Card playing	Every Wednesday Night at 8.30pm	Local History

Lough Derg Traditional Three Day Pilgrimage: €70, inc. boat, accommodation, services and Lough Derg meals 31st May to 15th August with boats between 11.00am and 3.00pm daily until 13th August.

Lough Derg One Day Retreats (9.15am to 4.00pm): €40, inc. boat, tea and coffee, services and lunch
4th, 5th, 6th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 25th, 26th and 27th May
17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th and 31st August
1st, 3rd, 7th, 10th, 11th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 21st, 22nd and 23rd September
Additional information can be found in the online news sheet

Music Trail at the IOSAS Centre and Celtic Prayer Garden: You are invited to a night of storytelling, music and song at the IOSAS Centre and Celtic Prayer Garden, Lenamore Road, Muff on Friday 10th May at 7.30pm. The Celtic Prayer Garden will come alive with traditional song and story. This is a free event but donations are welcome. Places are limited so booking is essential. For further details or to book call (00353) (0)74 9384866 or email goldenagecentre@hotmail.com

Year of the Gathering: When Irish people are being invited home. The Columba Community is inviting Christian missionaries to a special celebration at the IOSAS Centre, Lenamore Road, Muff 7th to 9th June. Please contact us if you have a family member who is a missionary. We would be delighted to invite them. *For further details contact Fr. Neal Carlin (00353)7493 84866*

Rural Support: Emergency Fund: Rural Support has established an Emergency Fund to assist farmers and rural dwellers who have been adversely affected by the recent severe weather conditions. Applicants must be experiencing exceptionally difficult circumstances and priority will be given (but not exclusively) to applicants in the Dromara Hills, the Glens of Antrim, the Mourne and the Sperrins. Given the limited resources available, funds will be limited to a maximum of £300 per application. Rural Support requests that a one page application form be completed and returned to our office. The form can be requested from the Rural Support office by telephone 028 867 600 40 and is also available to be downloaded from our website www.ruralsupport.org.uk

Saturday 4th May is designated as a special **Day of Prayer for Unborn Life** at Our Lady's Shrine, Knock. Parishes are asked to consider focussing, on that day, on prayer for the intention of protecting unborn life.

Time for a New Challenge: ACCORD Catholic Marriage Care Service is a voluntary agency of the Catholic Church, providing a nationwide professional service to couples preparing for or seeking a deeper commitment within the sacrament of marriage. The Omagh Centre are seeking new members to train as facilitators. We are looking for people who are currently married 5 years in the Catholic Church or currently in a marriage recognised by the Catholic Church, have the ability to convey a positive attitude to marriage, have an openness and commitment to working within a Catholic organisation, relate easily to people, are able to be part of a team and are sensitive, warm, caring and accepting. An Information evening regarding this will be held in Mount St. Columba Pastoral Centre, 48 Brook Street, Omagh on Monday 22nd April at 8pm. Please feel free to come along, no commitment needed, have your questions answered and learn more about what ACCORD can offer you. (028) 8224 2439

ACCORD Associate Counsellor Recruitment: ACCORD Catholic Marriage Care Service is a voluntary agency of the Catholic Church, providing a nationwide professional service to couples preparing for or seeking a deeper commitment within the sacrament of marriage. The Omagh Centre are seeking new members to join their team as Associate Counsellors. Applications are invited from graduates of an approved counselling training programme that included 100 hours of supervised client work and that meets the criteria for accreditation by a recognised counselling accreditation body. Preference will be given to applicants who have delivered 100 hours or more of supervised counselling, post-graduation. An Information evening regarding this will be held in Mount St. Columba Pastoral Centre, 48 Brook Street, Omagh on Monday 22nd April at 8.00pm. Feel free to come along, no commitment needed, have your questions answered and learn more about what ACCORD can offer you.

Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes (Monday 1st – Saturday 6th July): The cost is £575. An application form is available from Rosemary at The Pastoral Centre, 164 Bishop Street, Derry BT48 6UJ – (028) 7136 2475 (Monday to Thursday, 9.30am to 1.30pm). Special forms for registered sick, youth and helpers are also available. Gift vouchers are also available for whatever amount you wish to give, contact Rosemary. The office is open Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 11.00am to 1.00pm.

ACCORD Marriage Preparation Courses 2012-2013 (028)8224 2439 accordomagh@btopenworld.com
10th and 11th May 7th and 8th June

Applications to Secretary, ACCORD, Mount St., Columba Pastoral Centre, 48, Brook Street, Omagh BT78 5HD
Courses are limited to 15 couples and must be completed at least 6 months before your wedding.

Derry Diocesan Society for Sick and Infirm Priests:

1. Any person may become a member, sharing in all its privileges by paying at least £20. **2.** Likewise, any person whomsoever may have a deceased relative or friend placed on the Register of Members of the Society, the deceased person thereby becoming a sharer in all the Masses and prayers offered for members. These Masses go on all the time. **Privileges of members: Deceased: 1.** A Mass every day in a parish in the Diocese (**this will take in Our Lady of the Wayside, Broughderg on Sunday 7th April at 11.00am**). **2.** The prayers of every congregation in the Diocese on the first three Sundays of each quarter. **Living: 1.** Mass will be offered each month, as listed on the Church notice board. **2.** When a living member dies the name is transferred to the list of deceased members without further payment.

Prayer for the Diocese of Derry at this time

God our Father, we your people of the diocese of Derry, turn to you in prayer, as our ancestors have done, In good times and bad, since the days of Saint Columba and Saint Eugene, Saint Lurach and Saint Mura. Although aware that we are unworthy of your grace, with confidence in your love we ask your help.

Support and care for our bishops in their retirement, give courage and vision to those who are called on to administer the diocese at this time.

Grant your wisdom and discernment to those charged with the task of choosing your next bishop.

We ask you this in the name of Jesus, your Son, our Lord.

Mary Mother of the Church, pray for us, Saint Columba, pray for us, Saint Eugene, pray for us, Saint Lurach pray for us, Saint Mura pray for us, all you saints of the diocese pray for us.

Fr. Kieran Devlin P. Em (Badoney Lower, 2012)

Omagh Volunteer Centre Supports Volunteering in the Omagh Council Area: We are based at Community House in the town. Current opportunities include Promotional and Fundraising roles (Foyle Hospice) and Volunteer Mentoring (Include Youth). For further information on these and other volunteering opportunities, contact us on (028) 8224 0772. If you have a little spare time and think you might like to volunteer, or if you have volunteering opportunities that you would like us to promote for you, please get in touch.

Pilgrimage to Rome and San Giovanni Rotondo, Italy (Monday 26th August – Monday 2nd September):

With Father Francis Bradley. Staying four nights at the Irish College, Rome taking in the sights of the Eternal City and an Audience with the Holy Father, and three nights at the Shrine of Padre Pio, taking in the shrine of Manoppello and the Abbey of Montecassino. Price £850, including all coach transfers to/from Dublin and whilst in Italy, flights with Aer Lingus, accommodation on a half board basis in Rome and full board in San Giovanni, and the assistance of a Travel Representative throughout (single supplement at £20 per night). A £200 deposit before Thursday 31st January will secure you a seat.

For more info call Fr. Bradley on (028) 7136 2475 [W] / (028) 7135 1718 [H] or email fbradley@derrydiocese.org

Looking for a book for your parish study group? Consider *The Mystery of Work*: This is a book that teaches how to turn ordinary acts into acts of prayer, a collection of insights by saints, popes and mystics about how work itself can be prayer. Recommended for spiritual development by Fr. Raphael Simon, OCSO, Trappist monk and Retreat Master. Excerpt: "I believe quite simply that it is Jesus Himself, hidden deep in my poor little heart, who works within me in a mysterious manner and inspires all my daily actions." (St. Therese of Lisieux) Free Study Guide downloadable from our website. Purchase indiv. copies at Amazon.

Our Parish cemeteries are special places providing a focus for our prayerful remembrance of the dead. Please cooperate in their maintenance and care with respect, dignity and honour. Remove flowers and wreaths that have withered. Please do not dump them anywhere in the graveyard. Ask Monumental Sculptors who have completed their work to take rubble away and not dispose of it at the side of the cemetery.

I always see advertisements for Bullying Prevention and We Teach Bully Prevention. Bullying, or the perception of bullying cannot be prevented as long as people interact with each other; the only possible way would be to stay isolated, forever. However, you can teach kids how to handle and deal with people who they feel are bullying.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE DIARY IN 2013

Sacramental Celebrations

Sunday 12th May Feast of the Ascension	St. Patrick's	11.00am First Holy Communion
Solemn Annual Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament		
Sunday 5th May	St. Patrick's	
Sunday 25th August	Our Lady of the Wayside	
Derry Diocesan Society Masses in our Parish		
Wednesday 22nd May Thursday 11th July Friday 30th August Saturday 19th October	St. Patrick's	
Sunday 7th April	Our Lady of the Wayside	
Public Prayers for our Deceased (Cemetery Sunday) (6th and 7th July)		
Saturday 6th July	St. Patrick's	Directly after 6.00pm Vigil Mass
Sunday 7th July	Our Lady of the Wayside	Directly after 11.00am Mass
Saturday 2nd November	St. Patrick's	6.00pm Commemoration of All Souls (remembering all who died during the year)
'Do This In Memory' liturgies for candidates preparing for the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion		
Saturday 1st June	Feast of Corpus Christi	6.00pm Vigil Mass

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 everyone to make the choice whether or not to be photographed.

*The notice comes from the Safeguarding Policy and Procedures and is published on behalf of the **Diocesan Safeguarding Committee***

Seeing your life through the lens of the gospels – John 13:31-35:

John Byrne OSA (john@orlagh.ie)

1. Judas leaves and Jesus announces that the moment has come for God's power to be made manifest. This is unexpected at a moment of imminent betrayal. Have there been times for you when the power of God was made manifest in strange circumstances?
2. 'I shall not be with you much longer.' Jesus announces a parting of the ways. There are places we have to go in life where others cannot come with us. There are places others have to go and we cannot accompany them. When have you experienced this going on alone as necessary for a fuller life for yourself or for someone else?
3. Jesus proclaims love as the distinguishing characteristic of his followers. Have there been times when reaching out to others has heightened your sense of walking in the footsteps of Jesus?
4. Who are the individuals or communities whose love for one another and for others has been a witness to you?

This Week's Calendar of Feasts and Saints:

- Sunday 28th April** – **St. Peter Chanel (priest and martyr)** Born in France 1803, joined the Marist. He worked on the island of Futuna, Oceania, where he was clubbed to death for baptizing the chief's son. He is honoured as the first martyr of the church in Oceania. [Not celebrated this year]
St. Louis Marie Grignion de Montfort (priest) [1673-1716] A priest whose calling was to preach missions and to care for the sick and the poor. His writings concern Mary's role in the mystery of salvation. He strongly promoted the praying of the rosary.
 [Not celebrated this year]
- Monday 29th April** – **St. Catherine of Siena (virgin and doctor of the Church, Patron of Europe)**
 Humble and dauntless Dominican tertiary, who brought peace to her native Siena, to Italy, and to fourteenth century Europe, spent all her energies for the Church, being able to achieve the Pope's return from Avignon to Rome. She is remembered also as a mystic And reformer of religious life. Proclaimed doctor of the Church in 1970 and patron of Europe in 2000.
- Tuesday 30th April** – **St. Pius V (Pope) [1504-1572]** Dominican, elected Pope in 1565, he implemented the reforms of the Council of Trent, including the Breviary, Missal and Catechism. He is noted for his defense of Christendom against the Ottoman empire.
- Wednesday 1st May** – **St. Joseph the Worker**
- Thursday 2nd May** – **St. Athanasius (bishop and doctor of the Church)** Athanasius was born in Alexandria in 295. He fought ceaselessly against the Arian heresy, defending the true and equal divinity of Christ.
- Friday 3rd May** – **St. Philip and St. James (apostles)** In the Gospel of John, Philip asks to see, and having seen, he tells the good news to others. Formerly a disciple of John the Baptist, he became a follower of Christ. James was the son of Alphaeus and a cousin of the Lord. He ruled the Church at Jerusalem, wrote an Epistle and led a life of penance. He converted many people of Jerusalem to the faith and was martyred in the year 62.
- Saturday 4th May** – **St. Conleth (bishop)** Believed to have come from the Wicklow area. While living as a hermit he was persuaded by Brigid to act as priest for her community in Kildare. He was venerated as a great saint and Cogitosus, in his '*Life of Brigid*' calls him bishop and abbot of the monks of Kildare. He was buried beside Brigid in the great church there.

Celebrations to mark the Tercentenary of the death of Dean Bryan Maguirc

To mark the occasion a number of events are being organised which hopefully will bring home to all of us the immense contribution Dean Maguirc made to the life of the Catholic Church in Ireland during the worst ravages of the Penal Times in the 17th and 18th centuries. He was born in the parish of Termonmagurk, probably in 1635. According to a local tradition Aghnacreggan was the townland of his birthplace. He received a thorough education in Ireland where many of the old Gaelic families cultivated a high standard of learning and in 1660 he was ordained priest. In the early years of his priesthood he ministered as parish priest of Termonmagurk, Errigal Ciaran and Aghaloo. Ten years after Dean Maguirc's ordination, St Oliver Plunkett arrived in Armagh as Archbishop in 1670 and within two years he appointed Bryan Maguirc Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Armagh. Two years later St Oliver Plunkett appointed Dean Maguirc, whom he described as a 'learned and exemplary man', Vicar General of the Diocese of Raphoe and within a few years in 1679 he was appointed Vicar General of Derry. On the 13 February 1713, Dean Bryan Maguirc died in Armagh Gaol.

*There's a story of a martyr
 Back in the Penal times
 Who gave his life for his belief
 Like many of his kind* *At the church they built a monument
 To that great man and his work
 And every Christian passing by
 Remembers Dean Maguirk*

April Pageant performed by pupils of Dean Maguirc College
July Tour of local sights associated with Dean Bryan Maguirc
August Festival of celebration involving clubs and societies

Ards Friary Retreat & Conference Centre, Creeslough. Co. Donegal – Retreats in 2013: Tel: 00353 7491 38909 Email: info@ardsfriary.ie Website: ardsfriary.ie Ards Friary is open throughout the year for individuals and groups whether lay, religious, clerical, ecumenical or anyone who wishes to have some quiet time, rest and prayer in beautiful relaxed surroundings. The following retreats are available for 2013:	
Friday 26th – Sunday 28th April	Legion of Mary Retreat
Friday 3rd – Thursday 9th May	Open Retreat (directed by Fr. Dermot Lynch, OFM Capuchin)
Friday 17th – Sunday 19th May	Joe Dalton Healing and Renewal Weekend. Joe suffered depression for 31 years and tried everything medically to be cured. He was though, miraculously healed by God, Joe will share his gift of healing with others, on their journey to knowing God better
Sunday 2nd – Thursday 6th June	Inter-Diocesan Priests' Retreat (directed by Monsignor John Armitage, Brentwood Diocese). <i>To love you is to serve you</i>
Saturday 8th and Sunday 9th June	Cursillo Renewal Weekend (directed by Fr. Silvester O'Flynn, OFM Capuchin) <i>Christ is counting on You</i>
Monday 10th – Friday 14th June	Transformation Retreat (directed by Fr. Donal Dorr and Dr. Noel Bradley D.Theol)
Friday 21st – Thursday 27th June	Open Retreat (directed by Fr. Francis Maple, OFM Capuchin) <i>Living with Christ through the main events of his life</i>
Monday 1st – Saturday 6th July	Friends of Francis Hogan Reunion
Friday 12th – Saturday 13th July	One Day Silent and Guided Retreat for Women guided by Benedictine Monks of the Abbey of Saint Joseph, France. This retreat reflects Ignatian Spirituality by centering on Jesus with conferences, spiritual guidance and confessions.
Saturday 14th – Friday 19th July	Five Day Silent and Guided Retreat for Men guided by the Benedictine Monks of the Abbey of Saint Joseph. These five-day retreats are a shortened form of the full Spiritual Exercises of Saint Ignatius of Loyola. The Exercises are a synthetic and practical presentation of the central truths of the Catholic faith.
Saturday 20th – Wednesday 7th August	Christendom College, USA
Friday 9th – Sunday 11th August	John Pridmore <i>Healing the Wounds of your past</i>
Sunday 11th – Sunday 18th August	Association of Iconographers – Learning to Write an Icon
Monday 19th – Thursday 22nd August	Course for priests in the Latin Mass
Monday 26th August – Thursday 1st September	The Foyer of Charity – Five Day Silent Retreat (directed by Fr. Kilian Byrne) <i>If you but knew the gift of God</i>
Thursday 3rd – Sunday 8th October	CURSILLO (men)
Thursday 10th – Sunday 13th October	CURSILLO (women)
Saturday 30th November – Sunday 1st December	Advent Retreat (directed by Fr. Kieran Shorten, OFM Capuchin)

The Deep End – Step By Step:

Triona Doherty, Athlone, Co. Roscommon (trionad@gmail.com)

I had the pleasure of speaking to some members of various religious congregations recently about the work they carry out and how their mission has evolved over the past fifty or so years. While many are no longer involved in traditional teaching and nursing roles, they are making their mark in other areas as chaplains, social workers, counsellors, retreat workers and lecturers, working with prisoners, asylum seekers, those with addiction problems and others. They are deliberately diversifying to meet the needs of their communities.

From the writings of Catherine McAuley, founder of the Sisters of Mercy, we read: 'Let us take one day only in the hands at a time, merely making a resolve for tomorrow. Thus we may hope to go on, taking short, careful steps, not great strides... Each day is a step we take towards Eternity... The final step will bring us into the presence of God.'

These words came to mind when reading today's First Reading, which describes the travels of Paul and Barnabas to encourage the early Church members in their faith. They 'put fresh heart into the disciples' – a lovely expression. Step by step they were building up the church.

Those religious I spoke to are doing the same, many in a quiet, humble way. They are optimistic about the future and looking for new ways to interpret the goals and teachings of their founders, and to communicate and live out the Gospel message of love.

Questions people ask:

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

- Q. Why did Jesus call his teaching about loving one another a new commandment? The Old Testament already had that teaching. What was new in Jesus' teaching?
- A. Jesus was speaking of a standard of love that is new in its source, model and scope. The source of Christian love is the Holy Spirit by whose supernatural power a person can go far beyond the sort of love based on natural attraction. The model of this loving is Jesus, 'as I have loved you'. His love inspired him to give up his life for us. The scope of Christian love is all-inclusive. It is not confined to those we get on with, it does not depend on conditions, it overcomes injustice and finds the energy of forgiveness. Christian love is supernatural.