

Parish of Greencastle, Co. Tyrone, Diocese of Derry

Saint Patrick's Church
Greencastle

Our Lady of the Wayside Church
Broughderg

The Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time. 28th June, 2009

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

Website: greencastleparish.com Tel: (028) 8164 8474 Email: greencastlepp@yahoo.com

School holidays have begun: Best wishes to the children and young people with free time until September, this is a time for relaxation, rest and play. May the weather be kind and may everyone make the most out of this time. One suggestion, begin each morning with daily Mass to bless your day.

Liturgy Schedule for the Thirteenth Week in Ordinary Time. 29th June – 5th July, 2009

Monday 29th June Sts. Peter and Paul, Apostles	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Tuesday 30th June First Martyrs of the Church of Rome	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Wednesday 1st July St. Oliver Plunkett, Bishop and Martyr	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Thursday 2nd July Thirteenth Week in Ordinary Time	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Friday 3rd July St. Thomas, Apostle	Saint Patrick's	8.00pm Mass First Friday of the Month
Saturday 4th July St. Elizabeth of Portugal Saturday Evening	Saint Patrick's, Greencastle	6.00pm Vigil Mass for Sunday followed by Public Prayers for the Faithful Departed
Sunday 5th July Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Saint Patrick's Our Lady of the Wayside, Broughderg	9:00am Mass: 'Misso Pro Populo' 11:00am Mass followed by Public Prayers for the Faithful Departed

Confession Schedule

Friday 3rd July	Saint Patrick's	7:30pm (before Mass)
Saturday 4th July	Saint Patrick's	5:30pm (before Vigil Mass)
Sunday 5th July	Our Lady of the Wayside	10:30am (before Mass)

Weekly Offerings: Thank you for your generosity to last week's collection which amounted to **£800. Peter's Pence Collection** will be taken up after Holy Communion, please be generous. We can show our solidarity with the Holy Father and our suffering brothers and sisters abroad through our support of this week's Collection. These funds allow him to provide emergency assistance to victims of war, disaster, oppression and disease.

Sick and housebound will be attended **Monday 6th July**. 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.

Wednesday 1st July is the feast of St. Oliver Plunkett, let us remember this:-

Prayer to St. Oliver Plunkett

"Glorious Martyr, Oliver, who willingly gave your life for your faith,
help us also to be strong in faith.

May we be loyal like you to the See of Peter.

By your intercession and example may all hatred and bitterness
be banished from the hearts of Irish men and women.

May the Peace of Christ reign in our hearts, as it did in your heart, even at the moment of your death.

Pray for us and for Ireland.

Amen."

Check out greencastleparish.com/newsheetarchive.htm for extra notices not printed here

Parish Volunteers: Please sign up for service in your parish. Here are some ways in which you can minister. There are more, but you need to volunteer.

Parish Liturgy for July 2009	St. Patrick's (6.00pm Vigil Mass)	St. Patrick's (9.00am Mass)	Our Lady of the Wayside (11.00am Mass)
Readers	Mary Slane	Monica Coyle	Brendan McKenna
Prayers of Intercession	Readers Needed	Readers Needed	Readers Needed
Eucharistic Ministry	Mary Tracey	Eileen McKenna	Mary McCrory
Collectors	Gerry McDermott Noel McElhatton	Eamon Duffin Patrick Tuohey	Francis Keenan Eoin Clarke
Altar Society	Mary McNamee, Patta McDermott and Mary McCrory		Anne McDermott

New choir members will always be welcome – contact Sinead Donnelly

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 Lourdes, 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.

For the attention of our young people

Diocesan Catechetical Centre Hike to Croagh Patrick: A trip for young people aged 16 to 35 on Saturday 4th July. Cost £25, includes transport, a guide and dinner in Westport. Book before Monday 29th June by telephoning (028) 7126 4087 or email ddcc@derrydiocese.org. This hike will be of interest to young people interested in achieving the John Paul II award.

Knock Summer Youth Festival: 24th – 27th July at Our Lady's Shrine, Knock, Co. Mayo. An invitation to 18-35 year olds from our parish. For more info and to book contact: 00353 9493 88100 / (087) 6927 850 or check out knock-shrine.ie/youthfestival

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.

Pope Benedict's Intentions For July:

General: That the Christians of the Middle East may live their faith in full freedom and be an instrument of peace and reconciliation.

Mission: That the Church may be the seed and nucleus of a humanity reconciled and reunited in God's one and only family, thanks to the testimony of all the faithful in every country in the world.

Next Sunday's Readings: Exodus 2:2-5; Psalm 29; 2 Corinthians 12:7-10; Mark 6: 1-6 (Lectionary I, page 772)

Medjugorje Irish Centre – Grand Prize: Every week for a year we are giving away one week's free apartment accommodation for up to 4 people. Text the word **pilgrim** followed by your full name and county to **53030 (Republic of Ireland) and 60777 (N. Ireland and UK)** or phone us and we can enter you into the draw for free. Texts cost 25p or 30c plus standard rate. New Apartments to rent from as little as €20 per person.
Website: www.med-irishcentre.com. NI and UK : (028) 8224 1888

An email arrived this week from the McCourt Family, Dromore and Mullin Family, Tattreagh acknowledging **£9,000** raised in memory of Marie McCourt RIP and Mary Mullin RIP for the Macmillan Cancer Support Team.

Lotto Numbers: 1, 9, 13, 18 (2 winners with 3 numbers – £25 each) **Next Jackpot:** £1,350

Next Weekend (4th and 5th July) – Public Prayers for the Faithful Departed in our Parish Cemeteries: Bring holy water with you to sprinkle on the graves when directed to do so.

Discussion Questions on this Sunday's Scripture: These questions based on each of today's scripture readings can be used for family, group or individual reflection.

First Reading – The Book of Wisdom, Chapter 1, Verses 13-15; Chapter 2, Verses 23-24:

1. "For God formed man to be imperishable; the image of his own nature he made him." What in humankind's nature is made in God's own image? Is it true of everyone or just of Christians?
2. God's love and presence transform all human existence, says theologian Karl Rahner. Discuss this statement of his: "Humans remain always graced by an inner dynamism thrusting toward the God who calls and gives Godself."

Second Reading – Second Letter to the Corinthians, Chapter 9, Verses 7, 9, 13-15:

1. To which do you think the myriad poor people in the world respond better, a wealthy God or a poor God? Explain. With which do you feel more comfortable? Why?
2. How do you feel when you share some of your gifts or wealth with those less fortunate? Ask yourself what your own real wealth might be.

Gospel – According to Mark, Chapter 5, Verses 21-43:

1. The woman with the hemorrhage had a condition unacceptable to the culture of the time. What did she risk when she joined the crowd to touch Jesus' garment? What did Jairus risk? Does your faith involve you in risk-taking? Explain.
2. Are there still people today who are shunned because of diseases? Are women oppressed in harsh cultures? Do children die from malnutrition and disease in third world countries? What kinds of miracles or what small acts can you perform in Jesus' name to alleviate the suffering?

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

Copyright © 2009, The Center for Liturgy at Saint Louis University. All rights reserved.

Permission is hereby granted to reproduce for personal or parish use.

Vatican doing great cutting fossil fuel use, says U.S. energy expert

Vatican City: Vatican engineers are doing an impressive job trying to cut Vatican City's dependency on fossil fuels by tapping into renewable energy resources and finding ways to cut energy consumption, said a visiting U.S. expert on energy efficiency. Mark Hopkins, director of the United Nations Foundation's energy policy program, said that prior to his June 12 visit to Vatican City he had no idea the tiny city-state was involved in so many "significant projects" aimed at reducing its own carbon footprint. "It's impressive they're actually doing what some people only talk about and (they) are doing it in a significant way," Hopkins told Catholic News Service June 12. He said "conceivably, Vatican City could become the first state to be powered by renewable" energy and become the first carbon-neutral nation in the world, partly as a result of its plans to build a large solar farm on property it owns on the outskirts of Rome. Such a status would put "the church in a great moral position" from which to encourage other nations and individuals to do more in promoting and using clean energy, he said. The U.S. Embassy to the Vatican invited Hopkins to Rome to speak to journalists about his 35 years of experience in promoting energy efficiency as well as his current work with the United Nations Foundation, which seeks to find solutions to the world's most urgent problems.

This Week's Calendar of Saints:

Tuesday 30th – The First Martyrs of Rome. In addition to Saints Peter and Paul, the first martyrs of Rome died under Nero in the year 64.

Wednesday 1st – St. Oliver Plunkett, bishop and martyr. Oliver from Irish nobility, whose family supported King Charles I was ordained in Rome in 1654. Appointed Archbishop of Armagh in 1669, he was forced to conduct a covert ministry during the suppression of priests. Found guilty of high treason he was martyred on 1st July 1681 at Tyburn by hanging, disembowelling, quartering and beheading. His head is in St Peter's Church at Drogheda, Ireland; most of his body is at Downside Abbey, England; some relics in Ireland.

Friday 3rd – St. Thomas, Apostle. Thomas is said to have preached the gospel in India where he was martyred. The faith that led him to know Christ in his wounds also sent him to the farthest places to preach Christ.

Saturday 4th – St. Elizabeth of Portugal. Elizabeth (1271-1336) of the House of Aragon had an unhappy marriage with the King of Portugal. She persevered in prayer and good works and as a widow lived in poverty as a Franciscan tertiary.

Seeing your life through the lens of the gospels – Mark 5:21-43:

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. It can happen that there are many occasions when we brush against Jesus, and other occasions when we have a sense that we are in contact with him. What deepens your contact with Jesus?
4. 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?
5. 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?

John Byrne OSA (john@orlagh.ie)

Questions people ask:

- Q. About the people who were dead but brought back to life by Jesus, where were their souls between dying and coming back to life?
- A. Normally a person is pronounced dead when the vital organs cease to function in supporting life. That is physical death. However, the departure of the spirit or soul on its final journey towards God's revealing light may take longer. The custom of waking the dead grew out of the idea of accompanying the soul on its journey from this life. Perhaps we could say of the Lazarus and the daughter of Jairus, they were dead but not yet departed.

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

The Deep End – Made for Life:

One venomous description of a gossip I came across recently was: someone who won't tell a lie if the truth can do more damage. Yet I suspect that today's First Reading (Wis 1:13-15, 2:23-24) refers to that type of thing in some way when it tells us that God did not make death and does not delight in the death of the living (v. 13). Our God is the one who creates and loves life – is the one who sends his Son so that we may have life in its fullness (John 10:10). Realising that we are made in God's image, we too should not 'make death' nor delight in the death of anyone – not just their physical death, but in anything that diminishes the quality of their life.

Every day we have life and death in our hands, in a manner of speaking. We can raise up, or bring down. We can praise, or criticise. We can work with, or plot against. We can bring joy, or instil fear. We can have people love us, or hate us. The choice is ours.

Temperament has a lot to do with this, but not everything. Much depends on our awareness and our generosity. Somebody once remarked that since we have to look someday it might as well be happy. So too, since we have to speak someday it might as well be positively.

There is so much gloom and doom around at times, you'd wonder if we really realise in whose image and likeness we're made: the God of life and creativity.

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