

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

Saint Patrick's Church  
Greencastle

Our Lady of the Wayside Church  
Broughderg

The Fifth Sunday of Lent. 29<sup>th</sup> March, 2009

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

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**Congratulations** to the young people *Confirmed in their faith* by Bishop Lagan last Wednesday evening (25<sup>th</sup> March). May you continue to grow and mature individually and as members of our Church faith community in every way throughout your lives. Thanks to everyone who contributed to making last Wednesday such a blessed experience in our parish. I invite you to spend some time in prayer at our Annual Solemn Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament today.

### Liturgy Schedule for the Fifth Week of Lent. 30<sup>th</sup> March – 5<sup>th</sup> April, 2009

Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> March Fifth Week of Lent	Saint Patrick's	8.00pm Mass followed by a Lenten Reflection – <i>The Crucifixion</i>
Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> March Fifth Week of Lent	Saint Patrick's	7.30pm Stations of the Cross – for children 8.00pm Mass
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> April Fifth Week of Lent	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April Fifth Week of Lent	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April Fifth Week of Lent	Saint Patrick's	7.30pm Stations of the Cross – for teenagers 8.00pm Mass: (Joe McGarvey – 1 <sup>st</sup> Anniversary)
Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> April Fifth Week of Lent	Saint Patrick's	10.00am Mass 6.00pm Vigil Mass for Sunday: 'Do This In Memory' Programme (Felix McAneny – 7 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary)
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> April Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion	Saint Patrick's Our Lady of the Wayside	9:00am Mass: 'Misso Pro Populo' 11:00am Mass for the DDS (members and benefactors)

### Confession Schedule

Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	Saint Patrick's	7.00pm (before Mass)
Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	Saint Patrick's	5:30pm (before Vigil Mass)
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> April	Our Lady of the Wayside	10:30am (before Mass)

**Weekly Offerings:** Thank you for your generosity to last week's collection which amounted to **£1,160** and the annual collection for Clerical Education and Ongoing Formation taken up on St. Patrick's Day which raised **£130**.

**Remembering Our Dead:** We pray for **Joe McGarvey** and **Joe Daly** whose anniversaries occur at this time.

**Welcome:** As a parish community we welcome into our Christian family **Mary Joe Morris** who was baptised recently. May our adult community offer our newly baptised, her parents and sponsors prayerful support and good example in our commitment to Christian living.

**Sick and housebound** will be attended Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April. 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.

**Keep Trócaire's Lenten Appeal 2009 before you for the next two weeks**

**To do for Lent: Read a CTS booklet, available at the Church entrances**

**Lenten Reflections:** Join with Guided Prayer leaders on the Mondays of Lent, straight after 8.00pm Mass in a 20-25 minute reflection. The theme this week is *The Crucifixion*, this is the final reflection.

**Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March** is the anniversary of the Episcopal Ordination of our retired bishop, the **Most Rev. Edward Daly (31<sup>st</sup> March, 1974)**. Please pray for him, especially on Saturday.

**Solemn Annual Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.** This will take place in Saint 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, and those of our wider parish community and world. However to ensure a continuity of worshippers I invite people from the named areas to take responsibility and ensure a presence at specific times. **"Teach us the lesson of silence, of prayer, of quiet – Lord hear us."**

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

**Parish Volunteers:** Please sign up for service in your parish. Here are some ways in which you can minister:

Parish Liturgy for April 2009	St. Patrick's (6.00pm Vigil Mass)	St. Patrick's (9.00am Mass)	Our Lady of the Wayside (11.00am Mass)
Readers	John Enright	Roisin Hood	Cairine Gormley
Prayers of Intercession	Daniel McEhatton		
Eucharistic Ministry	Francis Bradley	Maria Bradley	Josephine Clarke
Collectors	Gerry McCullagh Mary Bradley	Dominic Warnock Leo Donnelly	Colm Beggs Sean McKenna
Altar Society	Anne McAleer, Ailish Warnock, Eileen McKenna, and Denise & Maria Bradley		Anne McDermott

**New choir members will always be welcome**

**Offertory Gifts:** The Confirmation class of 2009 and their families taking responsibility for presenting the Offertory gifts at each Sunday Mass are as follows:-

6.00pm Saturday Vigil	Offertory Gifts Rota	9.00am Sunday Morning
<u>Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April</u> The family of <b>Niall Tracey</b>	Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion	<u>Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April</u> The family of <b>Claire Tuohey</b>
<u>Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> April (Easter Vigil)</u> The family of <b>Calvin Wilkinson</b>	Easter Sunday Feast of the Lord's Resurrection	<u>Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April</u> The family of <b>Brianna Clarke</b>
<u>Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April</u> The family of <b>Ryan Clarke</b>	Second Sunday of Easter	<u>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April</u> The family of <b>Gary Conway</b>
<u>Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April</u> The family of <b>Niamh Coyle</b>	Third Sunday of Easter	<u>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April</u> The family of <b>Rebecca Coyle</b>
<u>Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May – 6.00pm</u> The family of <b>Eadaoin Fox</b>	Fourth Sunday of Easter	<u>Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May – 9.00am</u> The family of <b>Seannan Fox</b>

As the wider parish community we support these young people and their families with our prayers and we thank them for what they are doing for us. **If you find yourself unable to attend please ensure that you have arranged with another family for the gifts to be presented.**

**The Pope's Intentions For April, 2009: General:** That the Lord may bless the farmers with an abundant harvest and sensitise the richer populations to the drama of hunger in the world. **Mission:** That the Christians who work in areas where the conditions of the poor, the weak and the women and children are most tragic, may be signs of hope, thanks to their courageous testimony to the Gospel of solidarity and love.

**'Do This In Memory':** Our First Holy Communion parish programme will continue at the Vigil Mass next weekend (Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April). In preparation there will be a choir practice on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April in the Church at 7.30pm and for others actively involved. *More singers will be welcomed.*

**Next Sunday's Readings:** Procession: Mark 11:1-10 (Lectionary I, page 344)

Mass: Isaiah 50:4-7; Psalm 21; Philippians 2:6-11; Mark 14:1-15:47 (Lectionary I, page 346)

**Lotto Numbers:** 16, 17, 19, 22 (1 winner with 3 numbers – £50) **Next Jackpot:** £1,800

<b>B.A.D.A. An Bruach Dearg Community Centre.</b> Upcoming Events:	
<b>Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Usual fortnightly dance continues, music by 'Country Traditions'

**Carmelite Retreat Centre, Termonbacca, Derry – Weekend Retreat:** Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April – Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April.  
For further details and bookings call (028) 7126 2512 during office hours.

**Special Olympics Appeal:** Tyrone Fundraising Coordinator Carolyn McKeown has appealed for support for national collection day on 24<sup>th</sup> April, 2009. Their aim is to raise one million pounds in one day. Money raised will go towards providing sports training and competition for special needs athletes.

**Annual Diocesan Mass for those with special needs**, and their families and friends, will take place in *Saint Joseph's Church, Galliagh, Derry* on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May, 2009 at 3.00pm. Bishop Hegarty will celebrate the Mass. If you have a child who wishes to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation or First Communion at this Mass please contact the Catechetical Centre on (028) 7126 4087.

**Pilgrimage to the Holy Land:** Flying directly from Belfast, Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> September to Monday 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2009. £1,090stg. For further information and bookings contact Charlie Gillespie on 075 3333 0756.

**Pilgrimage to Medjugorje and San Giovanni:** Flying directly from Belfast, Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May to Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May, 2009. £689. For further information and bookings contact Pat Mullan on (028) 7130 1474.

**Greencastle Senior Citizens:** Annual General Meeting in 'Eddie's Quiet Room' on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March at 7.30pm. *New volunteers needed*

**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.

**Catholic Christian Attitude to Faith and Religion:** "We, unlike some of them, do not announce a Gospel of prosperity, but Christian realism. We do not announce miracles, as some do, but the sobriety of Christian life. We are convinced that all this sobriety and realism which announce a God Who became man (therefore a profoundly human God, a God Who also suffers with us) gives meaning to our own suffering. In this way, announcement has a broader horizon and a greater future. We also know that these sects are not very stable. The announcement of prosperity, of miraculous healing, etc., may do good in the short term, but we soon see that life is difficult, that a human God, a God Who suffers with us, is more convincing, truer, and offers greater help for life".  
*Pope Benedict XVI en route to Africa (17<sup>th</sup> March, 2009)*

**Seeing your life through the lens of the gospels – John 12:20-30:**

1. Jesus seems to sense that a crisis point has arrived, and he agonises over saying 'yes' to what lies before him. He opts to stay faithful to the mission given him by God. Can you recall decisions over which you agonised? What was that like for you? What was it like when you made a decision that you dreaded, or were anxious about, but believed it was the right one for you?
2. Sometimes our emotions rebel at the thought of what lies ahead and we feel like praying *Father, save me from this hour*. Then a realisation may come for you as a parent, a teacher, a spouse, a friend: *No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour*. Recall times when you have accepted pain or hassle and been a source of life to others for doing good.
3. The story presents the death of Jesus as the moment of his glorification by God. It is the moment when the love of Jesus for us is shown in its greatest depth in his gift of himself, a gift he was able to make because God enabled him to do it. We are also glorified when the grace of God enables us to give generously of ourselves. When have you experienced this in yourself or in another?
4. *This voice has come for your sake and not for mine*. The angel spoke that we might recognise the love being shown us by Jesus. Sometimes it requires the voice of another to draw our attention to love which is being offered to us. When was this your experience?

*John Byrne OSA (john@orlagh.ie)*

**Questions people ask:**  
Q. I've always wondered, what is meant by the line in the Apostles Creed, 'He descended into hell'?  
A. A more recent translation of this creed states that Jesus descended to the dead. This makes it clearer that it wasn't into the hell of the damned that he descended, but that his death was real and brought him to all the dead who were waiting on the Redeemer. To quote the Catechism of the Catholic Church: 'Jesus did not descend into hell to deliver the damned, nor to destroy the hell of damnation, but to free the just who had gone before him.'  
*Fr Silvester O'Flynn OFM Cap (silvesteroflynn@gmail.com)*

**The Deep End – As You Like It:**  
Usually I pick the bits of scripture that I like. But not now. Verse 8 in today's Second Reading (Heb 5:7-9) grabs my attention and won't let go. The reason? It makes no sense: Jesus learning obedience through suffering! Does that mean that had he not suffered he would have been disobedient? If so, to whom? His Father? Unthinkable!  
So, what is the author saying? Thank God for academics! Even though Richard Rohr in *Things Hidden* writes, 'In fact none of the Bible appears to be written out of or for academic settings' nevertheless thanks to someone's academic study of scripture a person like me can discover that in Greek there's a play on words here. The Greek for 'learned' is *emathen*, while the Greek for 'suffered' is *epathen*. The purpose of this wordplay may be to convey the close relationship between faithfulness to God and ability to face the suffering that results from such faithfulness in a sinful world.  
So instead of verse 8 being a conundrum, pessimistic and negative in tone, it's now a positive and upbeat statement. It tells us that obedience (better still 'faithfulness') to God's will and suffering go hand-in-hand to some degree. But most important of all: the suffering doesn't harm the faithfulness. It can even perfect it. Furthermore, it tells us that faithfulness to God permeates all of life. Faith does not dwell in compartments, but apartments. There are no God-free zones. Facing God means facing life with all its joys and sorrows. Perhaps I should pay more attention to the bits I don't like.  
*Fr. Tom Cahill SVD, Divine Word Missionaries, Donamon, Co Roscommon (tomcee@eircom.net)*