

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

St. Patrick's, Greencastle Our Lady of the Wayside, Broughderg
Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time [Year B] (29th August, 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: "A good school provides a rounded education for the whole person. And a good Catholic school, over and above this, should help all its students to become saints."
Pope Benedict XVI

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| Saturday 28th August St. Augustine (bishop and doctor of Church) | St. Patrick's | 6.00pm | Vigil Mass: Maureen McKnight (2 nd Anniversary) |
| Sunday 29th August Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time [Year B] | Our Lady of Wayside St. Patrick's | 9.00am 11.00am | Mass Mass: Joanne Tracey (3 rd Anniversary) |

Note that there will be NO MASS on Monday 30th and Tuesday 31st August

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| Wednesday 1st September | St. Patrick's | 2.00pm to 4.00pm | Adoration |
| Thursday 2nd September | St. Patrick's | 10.00am | Mass: Jeannie Morris (2 nd Ann.) Followed by Confession |
| Friday 3rd September St. Gregory the Great (pope and doctor of Church) | St. Patrick's | 7.30pm | Mass: Vincent Donnelly (2 nd Ann.) followed by Padre Pio Devotions |
| Saturday 4th September | St. Patrick's | 6.00pm | Vigil Mass: Rita Fox (6 th Ann.) |
| Sunday 5th September Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time [Year B] | St. Patrick's | 11.00am | Mass |

Wedding: We offer our best wishes and prayers to
James Murphy (Portadown) and Paula Meenan (Greencastle)
 who shared the Sacrament of Matrimony with each other Thursday 19th August in St. Patrick's Church

Sick and Housebound: Fr. Gallagher will visit those in his care on Friday 3rd September morning and afternoon. All of the sick, both at home and in hospital, will be remembered and prayed for at mass on Thursday 3rd September at 10.00am.

Remembering Our Dead: We pray for the happy repose of the soul of **Laurence McCrory (Maryville)** who died this week, the souls of **Maureen McKnight (2nd)**, **Jeannie Morris (2nd)**, **Vincent Donnelly (2nd)** and **Joanne Tracey (3rd)** whose anniversaries are at this time and all who have died due to Covid-19.

Weekly Collection: £600 *Thank you for your continued generosity*

Volunteer Required: Fr. Gallagher urgently needs a volunteer to carry out the 'fogging' or sanitising of the two parishes churches once a week. This should take less than an hour of your time. This can be done in the evenings after which the church would be locked until the following morning. Training will also be offered. *If interested call Fr. Gallagher as soon as possible on (028) 8164 8474 or email greencastlepp@yahoo.com*

Monthly Devotions Through the Intercession of St. Pio of Pietrelcina:
 Friday 3rd September after the 7.30pm Mass in St. Patrick's Church.
 A relic of the saint will be used during the blessing at the end.

Walk with Zest in Remembrance of Imelda Saturday 18th September.
 Leaving Greencastle Hall at 3.00pm and walking over Mullydoo Road, onto Crocanboy and up via Chapel.
Donations welcome as we carry our buckets • Everyone welcome

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

Pope Francis' Intention for September (please remember this in your personal prayers)
Universal – Environmentally Sustainable Lifestyle: We pray that we all will make courageous choices for a simple and environmentally sustainable lifestyle, rejoicing in young people who are resolutely committed to this.

Next Week's Readings: Isaiah 35:4-7 • Psalm 145:7-10, R/ v1 • James 2:1-5
 Mark 7:31-37 • Lectionary 1:796 **Sunday [Year B] • Weekday [Year 1]**

Townland Mass Rota

Some changes to the townland groupings have been made, please check below to see if your townland (or part of it) has been changed. Mass for Broughderg is not broadcast so you may need to follow either the mass on YouTube from either the Vigil Mass from Greencastle or Gortin. Please note that the 11.00am mass time may be changed later in the month to 11.30am.
Cashel, Leaghan, Brackagh South now with Formil • All of Aughascribba Road now with Aughascribba, Binnefreaghan now with Sheskinshule and Crocanboy.

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|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Sat. 28th August | St. Patrick's | 6.00pm | Teebane East, Aughminacroy, Muninamale, Aughascribba, Alworries |
| Sun. 29th August | Our Lady of Wayside St. Patrick's | 9.00am 11.00am | Broughderg, Crock, Carnanrancy, Coneyglen Sheskinshule, Crocanboy |
| Sat. 4th September | St. Patrick's | 6.00pm | Formil, Cashel, Leaghan, Brackagh South |
| Sun. 5th September | St. Patrick's | 11.00am | Sheskinshule, Crocanboy, Binnefreaghan |
| Sat. 11th September | St. Patrick's | 6.00pm | Teebane East, Muninamale, Aughascribba Road, Aughminacroy, Alworries |
| Sun. 12th September | Our Lady of Wayside | 11.00am | Broughderg, Crock, Carnanrancy, Coneyglen |
| Sat. 18th September | St. Patrick's | 6.00pm | Formil, Cashel, Leaghan, Brackagh South |
| Sun. 19th September | St. Patrick's | 11.00am | Sheskinshule, Crocanboy, Binnefreaghan |
| Sat. 25th September | Our Lady of Wayside | 6.00pm | Broughderg, Crock, Carnanrancy, Coneyglen |
| Sun. 26th September | St. Patrick's | 11.00am | Teebane East, Muninamale, Aughascribba Road, Aughminacroy, Alworries |

Greencastle / Badoney Lower Parish Proposals: Following our meetings with the Pastoral Councils of both parishes we can now move forward with some of our proposals. These are provisional arrangements which will be trialed until next January when they will be reviewed. *Your understanding and cooperation is greatly appreciated*
 For the next few weeks the Saturday Vigil / Sunday Mass schedule will remain the same. If and when the new schedule is required its commencement will hopefully be announced a week or two in advance. However some of the proposals need to be started from next week. For most weekdays the schedule for the two parishes will be as follows except when any announcements are made to the contrary.
Fr Eddie Gallagher PP

Week Beginning Monday 6th September (please check bulletin weekly)

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| Monday St. Patrick's, Gortin at 10.00am | Tuesday St. Patrick's, Greencastle at 10.00am | Wednesdays St. Mary's, Rouskey at 7.30pm |
| Thursdays St. Patrick's, Greencastle at 10.00am | Fridays St. Patrick's, Gortin at 10.00am • St. Patrick's, Greencastle at 7.30pm | |

Months Mind / First Anniversary Masses
 Wednesdays St. Mary's, Rouskey, 7.30pm • Thursdays St. Patrick's, Gortin / Our Lady of the Wayside, 7.30pm
 Friday St. Patrick's Greencastle 7.30pm • Saturday Vigil and Sunday Masses are also available, but as it is the Parish Sunday Mass, readings and Prayers of the Faithful for the particular Sunday will be used, if there is a Parish Choir due to sing at the mass they will come before any singers brought in by the family. .

Baptisms Beginning the First Weekend of October

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|---|---|---|
| First Saturday of Month Greencastle, 3.00pm | First Sunday of Month Broughderg, 12.30pm | Second Sunday of Month Greencastle, 12.30pm |
| Third Saturday of Month Gortin, 3.00pm | Third Sunday of Month Rouskey, 12.30pm | Fourth Sunday of Month Gortin, 12.30pm |

A fuller version of these proposals are available on the Parish website and Facebook page.
 Please see there or in next week's bulletin further information

Prayer for the New School Year
 Lord Jesus, I ask for Your help as I begin this new school year. Allow me to experience Your presence in the many blessings You put before me. Open my eyes to the new challenges and exciting opportunities that this new school year brings. Open my heart and mind to new friends and new teachers. Give me a generous spirit to be enthusiastic with my studies and courage to accept new opportunities. Help me to be attentive to my teachers and let me experience Your presence in my new friends. Jesus, inspire me to do my best this year! *Amen*

SUSE+ New Courses Starting in September: Are you currently unemployed? SUSE+ can offer help and support to get into further education, training and employment. We complete job searches, CV building, interview preparation.
Mentors work 1-to-1 with participants to help secure opportunities in the local area.
New courses include Foundation Skills in Working with Children, Personal Success and Wellbeing, Digital Skills, Progression to Employment, Customer Service, Money Management and Business Administration.
For more information email tracy.sharkey@swc.ac.uk or call 074 3653 3475

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

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 • **Website:** kindercareni.co.uk

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 or listened to on the phone via a live radio feed by calling +353 (0) 1 437 3277 (no extra charges apply)

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

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

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@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

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

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.

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. Applications for the Autumn intake close Monday 30th September.
For more info call the Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre on 0044 (028) 7126 4087 or email 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

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*

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*

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

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%

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).

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*

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 or emailing dyc@derrydiocese.org

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

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*

Seeing your life through the lens of the gospel: *John Byrne OSA (jpbyrneosa@gmail.com)*

1. Certain sections of the Jewish people put great store on the importance of rules and conventions as a measure of the goodness of a person. Jesus challenges this view. Where have you seen goodness in unconventional people? What brought it home to you that being a good person meant more than getting appearances right?
2. Even fidelity in religious practice is not enough. 'This people honours me with their lips, but their heart is far from me'. How have you experienced the importance of carrying your faith beyond attendance at Mass on Sundays? When have you seen that in others? What brought this home to you?
3. What Jesus seeks are followers whose faith is whole-hearted and warm, people whose religion is not seen primarily in dutiful observance but in enthusiasm for life and care for one another. It is good to be with them. Give thanks for the people you know who are like that.
4. 'It is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come.' It is also from within that good intentions come. We have choices. When have you been faced with the choice between good and evil? When did you realise the importance of accepting responsibility for your own life and choices? How has this helped your growth as a person?

Priory Institute – Online Theology Courses (to degree level): Is this for you? Attend Saturday lectures in Tallaght or from the comfort of your own home. Register now for Autumn, 2021. *For more info visit prioryinstitute.com*

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 11th and Sunday 12th 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

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

The Deep End – What's on the Inside:

Triona Doherty (trionad@gmail.com)

'It's what's on the inside that counts.' How often do we hear this? Yet we get contradictory messages and we are also bombarded with messages about how we should dress or act, or what is appropriate behaviour. Rules about outward behaviour govern many aspects of life, from our school and work environments to our churches.

Today, Jesus has something to say about the tension between outward appearances and what's on the inside. To the religious authorities who challenge Jesus, outer appearances and traditions are important, and they rebuke Jesus for allowing his disciples to eat with 'unclean hands'. However, Jesus explains that it is not external actions that make a person unclean. It is what's on the inside that indicates the true nature of our hearts. 'Lip-service' is not worth much if our hearts are not in tune with God. As Jesus puts it, 'You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human traditions.'

It is an invitation to examine how we put our faith into practice, individually and as a church community. Which human traditions do we 'cling' to? Do we become so focused on outward rituals that we risk losing sight of the teaching of Jesus and its radical implications? Do we treat our religious life as checklist of observances, or as a real encounter with Jesus?

The words of the Sacred Scripture were not written to remain imprisoned on papyrus, parchment or paper, but to be received by a person who prays, making them blossom in his or her heart.

Pope Francis

This Week's Calendar of Feasts and Saints:

Sunday 29th August – *The Beheading of John the Baptist (martyr)* Herod had imprisoned John because he reproved Herod for divorcing his wife (Phasaelis), and unlawfully taking Herodias, the wife of his brother Herod Philip I. On Herod's birthday, Herodias' daughter (traditionally named Salome) danced before the king and his guests. Her dancing pleased Herod so much that in his drunkenness he promised to give her anything she desired, up to half of his kingdom. When the daughter asked her mother what she should request, she was told to ask for the head of John the Baptist on a platter. Although Herod was appalled by the request, he reluctantly agreed and had John executed in the prison.

Friday 3rd September – *St. Gregory the Great (pope and doctor of the Church) [540-604]* Bishop of Rome from 3rd September, 590 to his death. He is known for instigating the first recorded large-scale mission from Rome, the Gregorian Mission, to convert the then-pagan Anglo-Saxons in England to Christianity. Gregory is also well known for his writings, which were more prolific than those of any of his predecessors as pope.

Saturday 4th September – *Bl. Dina Bélanger [1897-1929]* Known in Québec City for being a concert pianist (trained at a NY conservatory) and a gifted composer prior to entering the order of the Religieuse de Jésus-Marie at the age of 24. What sets Bl. Dina (in religious life, Mère Marie Sainte-Cécile de Rome) apart and makes her especially worthy of our esteem was her interior life. Like Thérèse of Lisieux immediately before her and Faustina Kowalska after her, Bl. Dina was privileged to be a mystic, a bride of Christ in whom he confided the depths of his merciful love for every human being.

Bl. Mary Stella and Her Ten Companions (virgins and martyrs) Nuns of the Holy Family of Nazareth who arrived in Nowogrodek in September, 1929. Nowogrodek was a small town in the eastern lands of the Republic of Poland (now Belarus). Its population was very diversified because it included Poles, Jews, Muslims, Belarusians and Russians and others.