

 <b>Parish of Greencastle, Co. Tyrone (Diocese of Derry)</b> St. Patrick's, Greencastle      Our Lady of the Wayside, Broughderg Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time [Year C] (30 <sup>th</sup> October, 2016) Parochial House, 164, Greencastle Road, Sheskinshule, Omagh, BT79 7RU Website: greencastleparish.com • Email: greencastlepp@yahoo.com • Tel: (028) 8164 8474		
<b>Year of Mercy Quote from Pope Francis</b> Misericordiae Vultus (paragraph 24) "Mary attests that the mercy of the Son of God knows no bounds and extends to everyone, without exception. Let us address her in the words of the Salve Regina, a prayer ever ancient and ever new, so that she may never tire of turning her merciful eyes upon us, and make us worthy to contemplate the face of mercy, her Son Jesus." <b>Liturgy Schedule for the Thirty-First Week in Ordinary Time [Year C] (30<sup>th</sup> October, 2016 – 6<sup>th</sup> November, 2016)</b>		
<b>Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> October</b> St. Colman (bishop) <i>Do This in Memory (week 2)</i> <b>Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> October</b> Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time [Year C]	St. Patrick's   Our Lady of Wayside	<b>10.00am</b> Mass followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament until <b>11.00am</b> <b>6.00pm</b> Vigil Mass: Jim McCullagh (3 <sup>rd</sup> Anniversary) <b>9.00am</b> Mass (Missa Pro Populo) <b>10.30am – 10.45am</b> Confession <b>11.00am</b> Mass
<b>Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October</b> Blsd Dominic Collins (martyr)	St. Patrick's Our Lady of Wayside	<b>NO 10.00am MASS</b> <b>8.00pm</b> Vigil Mass
<b>Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November</b> All Saints' Day	St. Patrick's	<b>11.00am</b> Mass of Holy Day
<b>Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November</b> All Souls' Day	St. Patrick's	<b>7.30pm</b> Mass of Intercession for Faithful Departed
<b>PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE WILL BE NO MASS ON THURSDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> AND FRIDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER</b>		
<b>Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November</b> Thirty-First Week in Ordinary Time <b>Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> November</b> Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time [Year C]	St. Patrick's  Our Lady of Wayside	<b>5.30pm – 5.45pm</b> Confessions <b>6.00pm</b> Vigil Mass: Michael Conway (8 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary) <b>9.00am</b> Mass (Missa Pro Populo) <b>10.30am – 10.45am</b> Confession <b>11.00am</b> Mass
<b>PARISH COLLECTIONS</b> Sunday Weekly: £900 • Mission Sunday: £800 so far <i>If you are a taxpayer please consider a Gift-Aid declaration, your contribution will be worth 25% more</i>		
<b>Remembering Our Dead:</b> We pray for the repose of the soul of <b>Jim McCullagh</b> whose anniversary occurs now.		
<b>Pilgrimage to Medugorje:</b> Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> to Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> September, 2017 £619 for half-board (£499 if paid by Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> December) • Price increase due to falling rate of sterling For more information call (028) 8164 8357 or 07768 395 038		
<b>Annual Mass of Intercession for the Faithful Departed:</b> Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November at 7.30pm in St. Patrick's.		
<b>Annual Pioneer Retreat:</b> Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> December in Termonbacca. <i>Contact any Committee Member to book</i>		
<b>Station Masses:</b> A sincere thank you to the families who hosted a Station Mass this year. It was once again a great example of the parish community gathering together in prayer and maintaining this important tradition. It was also nice to gather together socially afterwards. A special thanks also to all family, friends and neighbours in the various townlands who attended. <i>During the Greencastle Parish 125 Celebrations it is hoped to have some special Station Masses next October</i>		
<b>Pope Francis' Intentions for November (please remember these in your personal prayers)</b> <b>Universal – Countries Receiving Refugees:</b> That the countries which take in a great number of displaced persons and refugees may find support for their efforts which show solidarity. <b>Evangelisation – Collaboration of Priests and Laity:</b> That within parishes, priests and lay people may collaborate in service to the community without giving in to the temptation of discouragement.		
<b>Next Week's Readings:</b> 2 Maccabees 7:1-2, 9-14 • Psalm 16:1, 5-6, 8, 15, R/ v 15 2 Thessalonians 2:16-3:5 • Luke 20:27-38 <b>Sunday [Year C] • Weekday [Year 2]</b>		

Notices for the bulletin should be left with or sent to Fr. Gallagher no later than 10.00am on Thursday mornings  
 Check out greencastleparish.com/newsheetarchive.htm for extra notices printed here

<b>Parish Liturgy for November, 2016</b>	<b>St. Patrick's (6.00pm Vigil Mass)</b>	<b>St. Patrick's (9.00am Mass)</b>	<b>Our Lady of the Wayside (11.00am Mass)</b>
<b>Readers</b>	Mary Slane	Monica Coyle	Sean Teague
<b>Eucharistic Ministry</b>	Mary Tracey	Eileen McKenna	Mary McCrory
<b>Prayers of Intercession</b>	Ryan Clarke	Rosemary McCullagh	Cayla Donnelly
<b>Collectors</b>	Margaret Morris Michael McNamee	Eugene Tracey Brendan Conway	Pat McGuigan Francis Keenan
<b>Altar Society</b>	Nuala Glass and Rosemary McCullagh		Anne McDermott Mary Bradley
<b>6.00pm Saturday Vigil</b>		<b>Offertory Gift Rota</b>	<b>9.00am Sunday Morning</b>
<u>Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> October*</u> The family of <b>Alice McGlinchey</b>	Thirty-First Sunday In Ordinary Time	<u>Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> October</u> The family of <b>Aimee Gumley</b>	
<u>Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November</u> The family of <b>Vanessa Chojak</b>	Thirty-Second Sunday In Ordinary Time	<u>Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> November</u> The family of <b>Odhran Hughes</b>	
<u>Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November</u> The family of <b>Francis McNamee</b>	Thirty-Third Sunday In Ordinary Time	<u>Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November</u> The family of <b>Cody McAleer</b>	
<b><i>If you cannot attend please ensure that you have arranged with another family for the gifts to be presented</i></b> <b><i>*Do This in Memory Programme (Week 2)</i></b> We need new volunteers in every aspect of life			
<b>Irish Pilgrimage Trust:</b> Have you ever wanted to volunteer and help others? If you are interested in volunteering with The Irish Pilgrimage Trust to travel to Lourdes as a carer for a week next Easter please contact Mary on 00353 87796 2047 for more information. All volunteers pay their own fare which is €650 / £560stg (€425 or £360stg for students). Visit <a href="http://irishpilgrimagetrust.ie">irishpilgrimagetrust.ie</a> <b>Pilgrimage to Lourdes (Easter Sunday):</b> Applications are now welcome from young people with A medical condition, physical disability or illness (aged 9-18) • A learning disability (aged 11-21) Very seriously ill (under age 9) - accompanied by a parent or close relative Young adults between the age of 19 and 30 with a disability or illness. The young person travels without their family but are accompanied by experienced adult carers in the group. The Irish Pilgrimage Trust covers the cost of those young people selected to travel. Contact Margaret Rose on 07922 237 986 or Alice O'Hagan on 00353 86346 0522 for further details and an application form. <i>Closing date for applications is Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October.</i>			
<b>Thornhill Ministries – Upcoming Events:</b> <b>Tel:</b> (028) 7135 1233 • <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:thornhillministries@derrydiocese.org">thornhillministries@derrydiocese.org</a> • <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://thornhillministries.co.uk">thornhillministries.co.uk</a> <b>“Living with Grief”:</b> Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> and 21 <sup>st</sup> November at 7.30 pm in Thornhill Convent, Culmore Road, Derry. A two-part seminar to explore the spiral of grief. We can be drawn back into the pain of loss in unexpected ways and are often ambushed by our emotions. This seminar allows us to touch into that reality. <b>Facilitator:</b> Bairbre Cahill • <b>Donation:</b> £10 per evening <b>“Come and Sing”:</b> Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup> November from 10.00am to 12.30 pm in Thornhill Convent, Culmore Road, Derry. A sing through both new and older material to help resource those involved in parish music. Pre-registration by Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> November essential for the provision of music. <b>Suggested Donation:</b> £10			
<b>Broughderg Community Centre – Upcoming Events:</b> <b>Card Playing:</b> Resumes Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> October at 8.00pm. Refreshments served <b>Denise Hagan Concert:</b> Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup> November from 8.00pm to 10.00pm in aid of Northern Ireland Cancer Fund for Children. Tickets are £10 at Broughderg Post Office and other locations or call Kerry on 07585 514 417 <b>Youth Adult Development Programme (14 to 18 year olds):</b> Begins Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November from 7.00pm to 8.30pm. Gain an ONC Level 2 qualification. Course includes Team-Building, Communication Skills, Relationships, Assertiveness Skills, Health / Mind Matters and Goal Setting. A very valuable course to help teenagers build necessary life skills. <i>For more information call Course Co-ordinator Colm Mc Gurk on (028) 8076 1310 or Rouskey Centre on one of the numbers below</i> <b>Colum Sands Returns to Rouskey Community Centre:</b> Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> November at 8.00pm. £10 including refreshments. Colum Sands is a universal storyteller who draws on a long Irish tradition of poetic musicality to weave songs for the world. <b>Bridie:</b> 07591 047 556 / 07847 459 428 / (028) 8164 8706 • <b>Clare Ann:</b> 07798 941 452 • <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:rouskeycommunity@yahoo.com">rouskeycommunity@yahoo.com</a>			
<b>Prayer Request from Trócaire for Syria:</b> The world stood by in 1994 as genocide was unleashed on Rwanda. One year later, we again stood aside as thousands were massacred in Srebrenica. When is 'never again' going to finally mean never again? The United Nations special envoy to Syria, Staffan De Mistura, has warned that Aleppo will be "totally destroyed" by Christmas. We can't let this happen. We can't let Aleppo become another Srebrenica. Pope Francis has called us to urgently pray for peace. We ask you to pray in your homes communities and parishes for peace. Please find here this prayer that you can use <i>Lord our God, Father of all humanity; change the hearts of all peoples and their rulers, so that peace may be established among the nations on the foundation of justice, love and righteousness. May the Spirit of Peace descend upon the people of Syria and upon our world until all conflicts cease and peace reigns on earth. AMEN</i>			

**ACCORD – Marriage Preparation Course:** Each year over 20,000 people marry in the Catholic Church in Ireland. Despite the recession, numbers getting married have only fallen slightly in recent years. ACCORD Omagh provides Marriage Preparation Courses for couples marrying in the Catholic Church. Feedback from participants is very positive. Courses take place at the address below and can be booked via the following information.

**Address:** Accord Suite, Mount St. Columba Pastoral Centre • **Website:** [accord.ie](http://accord.ie) • **Tel:** (028) 8224 2439  
**Date:** Friday 4<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November

**The Net – October Edition:** Now on sale, with coverage including:

Omagh Ulster Project Thanksgiving • Urney and Castlefinn Parish Retreats  
Dregish celebrates Fr. Macawille's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary • Maghera Lough Derg Retreat  
Dungiven Mass Rock ceremony • Burt Biker Blessing • Moville Mercy Walk and Shrove Oratory feature  
Glenullin tribute to Fr. Haan • Bellaghy Mercy Walk • Desertegney Mass in memory of Sr. Anne  
Ardmore Lough Derg Retreat • Melmount Faith Story • Fatima Rosary Rally • Walk to Knock feature  
Cursillo weekend • City Mercy Pilgrimage • Diocesan Pilgrimage to Rome  
Irish Wakes of Bygone Days feature • Divine Providence feature  
Children's Catechism Club • Parish Post-its • Diocesan Diary

*For coverage of your parish or school faith activities just send an email to [editorthenet15@gmail.com](mailto:editorthenet15@gmail.com) or call/text 07809 292 852*

**Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre – MA in Catholic School Leadership:** In Partnership with St. Mary's College, Twickenham beginning Autumn 2016. 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 who aspire to, or have an interest in, leadership roles within the Catholic School system.

*For more info call The Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre on 0044 28 71264087 or email [tferry@derrydiocese.org](mailto:tferry@derrydiocese.org)*

**Greencastle Community Association – Proposal to Create Capital Development Plan for Community Centre:** We are proposing this plan will have short, medium and long term objectives that benefit all our community. In order to allow us to develop these plans and secure potential funding we are calling on the help of our local community. If there are specific requirements / suggestions in relation to capital developments and or services that you or your group feel should be included within the plan the Community Association want to hear from you. *For info email [fionatea@live.co.uk](mailto:fionatea@live.co.uk)*

**MARA (Maximising Access in Rural Areas):** Find out if you're missing out on benefits, services or grants by booking your FREE home visit. Referrals can be made for benefits checks, home safety visits, occupational therapy assessments as well as others. You'll also receive a FREE bag containing £25 worth of items to help keep you warm this winter.

*Call Carol on (028) 8225 1559 to book*

**St. Michael's Apostolate of Prayer for Priests:** The co-ordinators in the Derry Diocese wish to raise awareness of the Apostolate of Prayer for Priests and to invite people from across the diocese to join in this prayer initiative. The Apostolate prayer card offers us a special opportunity to spend ten minutes each day in pray for a priest.

The co-ordinators for the diocese and their contact details are: [prayerforpriests.com](http://prayerforpriests.com)  
**Rosemary Johnson** 07810 387 825 - [brendan\\_rosemary@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:brendan_rosemary@yahoo.co.uk) • **Ethna Hill** 07528 249 838 - [ethna776@yahoo.com](mailto:ethna776@yahoo.com)  
**Siobhan Sweeney** 07880 588 041 - [siobhanswen1@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:siobhanswen1@yahoo.co.uk) • **Eamon Cassidy** 077435 02165 - [e\\_cassidy@hotmail.com](mailto:e_cassidy@hotmail.com)

**Family Care Society – Interested in Adoption?** We specialise in finding forever families for children aged 3 years old and upwards and for brothers and sisters. This year we have successfully placed more brothers and sisters together and half of them were over the age of 3. Many more children need forever families. Could you be their new family? We are also seeking families who would be interested in becoming concurrent carers for babies under 2 years old. If you want to talk to one of our specialist adoption practitioners contact.

**Rachael (Belfast Office):** (028) 9069 1133 • **Julie or Brian (Derry Office):** (028) 7136 8592  
**Email:** [email@familycaresociety.org](mailto:email@familycaresociety.org) • **Website:** [familycaresociety.co.uk](http://familycaresociety.co.uk)

**Irish Episcopal Council for Emigrants – Emigrant Information Pack:** Contains practical information for intending Irish emigrants, such as visa requirements, advice on health insurance, gaining employment, accommodation and other information pertaining to each of the main receiving countries. It also provides information for Irish emigrants planning to return to Ireland after a period living abroad as well as other articles and information on the theme of emigration.

**If interested in receiving a free copy(s) of this booklet please contact Teresa at the Derry Diocesan Office**  
**Email:** [t.mcmenamin@derrydiocese.org](mailto:t.mcmenamin@derrydiocese.org) • **Tel:** (028) 7126 2302 • **Website:** [catholicbishops.ie/tag/emigrants](http://catholicbishops.ie/tag/emigrants)

**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/or 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 entrances*

**Family Care Society:** We are presently seeking to recruit adoptive families for babies and young children. For more information contact us via the following details (offices open weekdays from 9.00am to 1.00pm)  
**Tel:** (028) 9069 1133 or (028) 7136 8592 • **Email:** [email@familycaresociety.org](mailto:email@familycaresociety.org) • **Website:** [familycaresociety.co.uk](http://familycaresociety.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*

**Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre – MA in Catholic School Leadership:** In Partnership with St. Mary's College, Twickenham beginning Autumn 2016. 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 who aspire to, or have an interest in, leadership roles within the Catholic School system.

*For more info call The Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre on 0044 28 71264087 or email [tferry@derrydiocese.org](mailto:tferry@derrydiocese.org)*

**ACCORD – Relationship Counseling:** A service which facilitates couples and individuals to explore, reflect upon and resolve difficulties in their marriages and relationships in a confidential, sensitive, respectful and non-judgmental setting.

*An appointment can be arranged by calling the Omagh Centre on (028) 8224 2439 or emailing [omagh@accordni.com](mailto:omagh@accordni.com)*

**Volunteer at White Oaks Acorn Organic Farm:** If you have an interest in organic growing and have a few hours to spare, why not spend them with us? Contact us using the details below.

**Address:** IOSAS Centre and Celtic Prayer Garden, Lenamore Road, Derryvane, Muff, Co. Donegal  
**Tel:** (00353) (0) 74 9384866 • **Website:** [celticprayergarden.com](http://celticprayergarden.com) • **Facebook:** IOSASCentre • **Twitter:** IOSASCentre

**Sacrament of Reconciliation / Confession:** The Sacrament of Reconciliation better known as Confession is very important and vital part of our lives as Catholics. The times for Confession will be as follows.

**St. Patrick's:** Eve of First Friday from after 10.00am Mass until 11.00am when mass is celebrated with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament during that time except when there is a funeral or no mass  
First Saturday of each month from after mass until 11.30am with Adoration unless there is a 12noon wedding  
Each Saturday Evening 5.30pm-5.45pm and after Vigil Mass

**Our Lady of the Wayside:** Each Sunday 10.30am to 10.45am and after 11.00am Mass

2015 Parish Statistics			
<b>Baptisms</b> 6 Boys 8 Girls	<b>Confirmations</b> 8 Boys 8 Girls	<b>First Holy Communion / Reconciliation</b> 10 Boys 9 Girls	<b>Marriages</b> 10 within parish 5 outside parish
<b>Station Masses in October</b> 7	<b>Induction of Fr. Edward Gallagher as 13<sup>th</sup> Parish Priest of GREENCASTLE</b> Celebrated by Bishop Donal McKeown, Bishop of Derry on Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> September in St. Patrick's Church, Greencastle		
<b>Funerals</b> 13	<b>Farewell Concert and Presentation Night for Fr. Eugene Hasson</b> Former Parish Priest of GREENCASTLE and now Parish Priest of the Parishes of Lavey and Greenlough took place on Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> November in GREENCASTLE Community Centre		

**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@jecon.ie

**Craft Training Ltd:** A leading training organisation that provides 16-18 year olds with the opportunity to fulfil their potential in a vocational area, through the Training for Success programme. Gain the skills you need to kick start your career free of charge and earn £40 per week, range of qualifications include ICT, Hairdressing, Joinery, Painting and Decorating, Hospitality and Catering, Retail and much more.

**Tel:** (028) 8225 9377 • **Office:** Kelvin Avenue, Omagh • **Email:** joincraft@hotmail.co.uk

**St. Michael's Apostolate of Prayer for Priests:** The Apostolate offers us a special opportunity to pray for a priest each day. The co-ordinators in the Derry Diocese wish to raise awareness of the St. Michael's Apostolate of Prayer for Priests and to invite people from across the diocese to join in this prayer initiative. The co-ordinators for the diocese and their contact details are as follows.

Rosemary Johnson • (028) 8225 9541 / 07810 387 825 • otmail\_rosemary@yahoo.co.uk

Siobhan Sweeney • (028) 8224 8479 / 07880 588 041 • siobhanswen1@yahoo.co.uk

Ethna Hill • (028) 8226 9245 / 07528 249 838 • ethna776@yahoo.com

Eamon Cassidy • 07743 502 165 • e\_cassidy@hotmail.com *prayerforpriests.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

### Musings – Never Too Small:

*Fr. Tom Clancy (Church of the Holy Spirit, Dennehy's Cross, Cork)*

In times of crisis, a common reaction is to blame our leaders. Church leaders know this only too well. Of course, like the rest of us, they too make mistakes and need to acknowledge this fact. But to lay the blame for all our ills on them is destructive and dishonest. Each of us has the opportunity to create cells of goodness and service wherever we are. Among believers, buck passing is often due to a crippling sense that we cannot see a way to make a worthwhile input into the life of God's Church. Too many believe that we are too small to count. We are not.

In Christ's time, Zacchaeus was too small to see Jesus passing by. Aware that life's chances do not repeat themselves, Zacchaeus moved quickly to offset this limitation. He climbed a tree. Looking Jesus in the eye changed his life.

We meet Jesus in and through one another. Responsibility for caring for people in need and for our environment belongs to each of us. Like Zacchaeus, we must find ways of seizing today's opportunities now and not leave it to the preacher. Otherwise we may never encounter Jesus. We are never too small to make a difference.

### The Deep End

*Sally McEllistrim (World Missions Ireland • pr@wmi.ie)*

The beautiful old Irish seanfhócaí, Ar scaith a chéile a mhaireann na daoine, (it is in the shadow of others that we live) is one that I grew up listening to.

It is just one of many that my beloved Aunt Kally was fond of quoting, and it always had, and continues to have, a deep resonance for me. To me, it is one of the most meaningful and beautiful sayings in a language that is not short on either. It illustrates how interconnected we all are, to our own families of origin and, of course, our wider global Christian family.

While those families of origin are moving amongst us in this world, exuberant and full of life, that seanfhócaí can give us a wonderful warm sense of belonging, place, care and support.

When they have moved on to their eternal realm, it takes on even more significance, for me anyway.

In my case, Kally's shadow, and that of my wider family, of passing on the faith, trying to be a good example, instilling good values, being generous and decent and kind, was a bright one, and anytime feelings of missing them all threaten to overwhelm, I breathe and thank God that I had them. I learned from them. I am of them. I am truly blessed. They have not left me, they have just caught the earlier train in the great journey of life and we will all rejoice at our final destination.

Today's readings remind us that November is just around the corner and, just in this life, we are all linked to those who have gone on. The wonderful chain of life continues and it is great to be a link in that chain, just like the familial one. It is so comforting and hopeful, just like our faith itself.

I believe and trust that I will see my family again, God willing, and in the meantime I will try and honour the things they taught me.

### Seeing your life through the lens of the gospel – Luke 19: 1-10:

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

1. Zacchaeus showed himself open to the call of Jesus, to the surprise of his contemporaries who thought there was no good in tax collectors. Sometimes the people who give us lessons in goodness may be people we previously disregarded. Recall when this happened for you.
2. It was the eagerness of Zacchaeus to see what kind of a man Jesus was that opened him up to conversion. When you consider moments of change in your life what were the interests or desires that prepared you for change?
3. The decision of Jesus to eat in the house of Zacchaeus broke the social norms of his day and scandalised those who saw him. When have you found table fellowship a useful way of breaking down artificial boundaries between people? When has a kind word had this effect?
4. Zacchaeus had become rich off the backs of the people and they thoroughly disliked him. Yet, he was the one singled out by Jesus, and he responded to Jesus' call. Perhaps you have also seen people who hurt you and caused you pain change their ways. How have you reacted to such a change? What has helped you to see the grace of God at work, and give thanks?

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

**Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October – Blessed Dominic Collins (martyr)** He was born around 1566 in the city of Youghal, Co. Cork. In 1598, after a military career, he entered the Society of Jesus as a Brother. He returned to Ireland in 1601, but on 17<sup>th</sup> June, 1602 he was captured by the English who tried in vain to make him abjure his faith. Condemned to death, he was hanged in his native city on 31<sup>st</sup> October, 1602.

**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November – All Saints' Day** Arose out of the Christian tradition of celebrating the martyrdom of saints on the anniversary of their martyrdom. When martyrdoms increased during the persecutions of the late Roman Empire, local dioceses instituted a common feast day in order to ensure that all martyrs, known and unknown, were properly honoured.

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November – All Souls' Day** A commemoration of the faithfully departed. To remember the departed, many cultures prepare meals for the souls of the dead, light candles or leave flowers on relatives' graves and some anoint tombstones with holy water or pour milk over them.