

Parish of Greencastle, Co. Tyrone (Diocese of Derry) St. Patrick's, Greencastle Our Lady of the Wayside, Broughderg

Holy Family of Jesus Mary and Joseph [Year C] (30th December, 2018)

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



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

Pope Francis Speaks to Ireland

Croke Park [Saturday 25th August]

"In every society, families generate peace, because they teach the virtues of love, acceptance and forgiveness that are the best antidote to the hatred, prejudice and vengeance that can poison the life of individuals and communities. As a good Irish priest taught us, "the family that prays together, stays together" and radiates peace. In a special way, such a family can be a support for other families that do not live in peace"

Liturgy Schedule for First Week in Ordinary Time [Year C] (30th December, 2018 – 6th January, 2019)

Saturday 29th December			
St. Thomas Becket (pope)	St. Patrick's	6.00pm Vigil Mass: Harry Donaghy (2 nd Anniversary)	
Sunday 30th December		9.00am Mass (Missa Pro Populo)	
Holy Family [Year C]	Our Lady of Wayside	11.00am Mass	
Monday 31st December	St. Patrick's	4.00pm End of Year Mass	
Tuesday 1st January	St. Patrick's	12 noon Mass:	
Solemnity of Mary Mother of Goo		Mickey Neily McCullagh (4th Anniversary)	
Wednesday 2 nd January	St. Patrick's	12 noon – 7.00pm Adoration • NO MASS	
Thursday 3 rd January	St. Patrick's	10.00am Mass followed by Confessions	
Friday 4th January	St. Patrick's	10.00am Mass followed by Confessions	
Saturday 5th January			
1	St. Patrick's	6.00pm Vigil Mass: Nellie Tracey (6th Anniversary)	
Sunday 6th January		9.00am Mass (Missa Pro Populo)	
Solemnity of the Epiphany	Our Lady of Wayside	11.00am Mass	

Prayer for the New Year 2019

Another year has turned its page, O Lord. We feel promises about to be fulfilled, hopes that may be realised and sorrows unknown—that may become ours to bear. All of this, we carry into a New Year. We do not expect, in this New Year, for our every prayer to be answered in a way we would like. You are in control, and we release our lives to you. We put our trust in this: that You who have been with us through this past year, Emmanuel will be with us in this New Year. This is our prayer: in all things that happen this year we ask that we would be aware of Your presence, O Lord. We will stumble and fall, and we will also succeed and triumph. We will laugh, and we will also weep. With You we walk, with confidence and trust, into this New Year. Amen

May I wish each of you and your families every grace and blessing for the New Year ahead. May our parish and its people continue to flourish as we face the future together. Happy New Year to you all.

An t-Athair Eamon O'Gallchoir SP / Fr. Edward Gallagher PP

Weekly Collection: £1,180

Many thanks for your generosity to the Christmas Day Collection and to the parish throughout the year

Remembering Our Dead: We remember all our parishioners, relatives, neighbours and friends who died during 2018 and we pray especially for the repose of the souls of *Harry Donaghy (2nd)* and *Mickey Neily McCullagh (4th)* whose anniversaries occur at this time.

The Priests - Twelve Days of Christmas Concert

Thursday 3rd January in the Guildhall, Derry • Tickets available at the Millennium Forum, (028) 7126 4455

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

Pope Francis' Intention for January (please remember this in your personal prayers)
Young People and the Example of Mary: That young people, especially in Latin America, follow the example of Mary and respond to the call of the Lord to communicate the joy of the Gospel to the world.

 Next Week's Readings:
 Isaiah 60:1-6
 • Psalm 71:1-2, 7-8, 10-13, R/ cf. v 11
 • Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6

 Matthew 2: 1-12
 • Lectionary 1:161
 Sunday [Year C]
 • Weekday [Year 1]

Parish Liturgy for January, 2019	St. Patrick's (6.00pm Vigil Mass)	St. Patrick's (9.00am Mass)	Our Lady of the Wayside (11.00am Mass)
Readers	Martin McCullagh	Monica Coyle	Martina McNamee
Eucharistic Ministry	Brigid Keenan	Eugene McCullagh	Patricia Donnelly
Prayers of Intercession	Lauren O'Neill	Erin Hood	Grace Conneely
Collectors	Mary Bradley	Colm Keenan	Pat McGuigan
Collectors	Francis McLaughlin Michael	Michael Clarke	Sean McKenna
Altar Society	Maria Morris, Kathleen Tracey,		Ann McDermott, Mary Bradley,
	Louise O'Brien, Alannah Coyle,		Lucy-Marie McCrory
	Clodagh McKenna and Nora McCullagh		and Leanne Morris

6.00pm Saturday Vigil	Offertory Gift Rota	9.00am Sunday Morning			
Saturday 29th December	Feast of	Sunday 30 th December			
The family of Hollie McAleer	the Holy Family	The family of Matthew McCullagh			
Saturday 5 th January	Solemnity of	Sunday 6 th January			
The family of Mia Coyle	the Epiphany	The family of Michael Meenan			
If you cannot attend please ensure that you have arranged with another family for the gifts to be presented					

Pilgrimage to Rome and Tuscany: Tuesday 18th June for nights, ex Dublin (includes Assisi, Florence and Pisa). Spiritual Director: Fr. Brian Donnelly. Guide: Kieran Troy £1,090 per person sharing (single room supplement £280). Includes guided tours and most meals. Call Paul or Marie at Downe Travel on (028) 4461 3288 or email marie@downetravel.co.uk

First Aid Awareness Training: For parents, grandparents and carers in Omagh. Covering CPR, recovery position, choking, febrile seizures and much more. 2 hours training at £20 per person, includes refreshments and paediatric first aid book. Group bookings available for 4 up. Call Ann on 07866 410 105 or email ann@acresconsultancy.com

Medjugorje Irish Centre Pilgrimages (April to October): 7 nights B&B and Airport Shuttle service from Dubrovnik or Split for €279 per person sharing. Book any flight, any time and we provide guaranteed airport shuttle service.

Call us on 01 4434510 or email reservations@med-irishcentre.com for further info and book dates that suit

Annual Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes: Thursday 4th to Tuesday 9th July. The Pilgrimage Office, 164 Bishop Street, Derry is now taking enquiries and initial expressions of interest from anyone who might intend to participate in it. Christmas vouchers that you can give as a gift to someone wishing to participate in the pilgrimage can now be ordered. The opening hours of the Pilgrimage Office are Thursdays and Saturdays, 11.00am to 1.00pm.

The Priests – *Christmas Concert*: Sunday 30th December at 7.30 pm in the Sacred Heart Church, Omagh. Tickets: £25, available from Drumragh Parish Office, 48 Brook St., Omagh, (028) 8224 2092 (office hours), or Top News, George St, Omagh, (028) 8224 0084. Purchase early to avoid disappointment. *Perfect as a Christmas gift*

Pope Francis' Message for World Day of Peace 2019

Charity and human virtues: the basis of politics at the service of human rights and peace 'Pope Benedict XVI noted that "every Christian is called to practise charity in a manner corresponding to his vocation and according to the degree of influence he wields in the pólis... When animated by charity, commitment to the common good has greater worth than a merely secular and political stand would have." This is a programme on which all politicians, whatever their culture or religion, can agree, if they wish to work together for the good of the human family and to practise those human virtues that sustain all sound political activity; justice, equality, mutual respect, sincerity, honesty, fidelity. In this regard, it may be helpful to recall the "Beatitudes of the Politician", proposed by Vietnamese Cardinal Francois-Xavier Nguyễn Văn Thuân, a faithful witness to the Gospel who died in 2002: "Blessed be the politician with a lofty sense and deep understanding of his role. Blessed be the politician who personally exemplifies credibility. Blessed be the politician who works for the common good and not his or her own interest. Blessed be the politician who remains consistent. Blessed be the politician who works for unity. Blessed be the politician who works to accomplish radical change. Blessed be the politician who is capable of listening. Blessed be the politician who is without fear." Every election and re-election, and every stage of public life, is an opportunity to return to the original points of reference that inspire justice and law. One thing is certain: good politics is at the service of peace. It respects and promotes fundamental human rights, which are at the same time mutual obligations, enabling a bond of trust and gratitude to be forged between present and future generations.

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

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 11.00am with Adoration unless there is a 12noon wedding Each Saturday Evening 5.30pm-5.45pm and after Vigil Mass on request after Mass

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

Medjugorje Irish Centre Pilgrimages: 7 nights B&B and Airport Shuttle Service from €279 per person Book any flight, any time and we provide guaranteed airport shuttle service

To book dates call 00353 1443 4510 or (020) 3239 8662 or email reservations@med-irishcentre.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):

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) • Join our faith family!

Accord Counselling Services: Available to couples regardless of their faith or denomination.

If you would like to avail call (028) 8224 2439 or email omagh@accordni.com

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 derryvouthcommunity.com or emailing dvc@derrydiocese.org

The Big Knit for Age NI Calling all knitters! For every hat knitted Age NI receives 25p.

To register or find out more call Dorothy on (028) 9024 5729, email bigknit@ageni.org or visit ageni.org/thebigknit

Support Foyle Hospice by hosting a Coffee / Tea Morning with friends, family, groups or work colleagues:

All funds you raise will play a vital role in funding the essential care and support Foyle Hospice
provide to people in our communities affected and living with terminal illness

For a free pack and more info call Michelle McGinn on (028) 7135 9888 or email michellemcginn@foylehospice.com

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

String Instrument Music Lessons: Every Thursday evening in Greencastle Hall
For kids to learn banjo, guitar and violin with qualified tutor Frank Nugent
Beginners: 6.00pm to 6.45pm • Advanced: 6.45pm to 7.30pm • Call Sinead on 07788 266 387 to book a place

Catholic Engaged Encounter Course: For details / booking: marriageencounter.ie • (028 2763 8512 Saturday 23rd and Sunday 24th March in Our Lady and St. Patrick's Parish Centre, Ballymoney, Co. Antrim.

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

Foyle Hospice – **Become a Compassionate Neighbour**: Do you have 1-2 hours free once a week to support Foyle Hospice's Compassionate Communities 'Reach Out' voluntary befriending service. It might be as simple as calling in for a cup of tea and a chat, or taking someone out to do a bit of shopping. A volunteer's visit is invaluable to someone who is feeling lonely and isolated due to an illness. Full training and ongoing support with additional training opportunities are offered to all volunteers.

Call Tracy Gray, Volunteer Coordinator on 07841 101 932 or email tracy@compassionatecommunitiesnw.com

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

Family Care Adoption Services
For a free information contact
us using any of these details

Presently seeking to recruit adoptive families for babies and young children

Tel: (028) 7136 8592 / (028) 9069 1133 (Monday to Friday, 9.00am to 5.00pm)

Email: anne.ohagan@familycaresociety.org • Website: 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

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

ASPIRE Employability Programme – Free CSR Card and Forklift Licence Training
To be eliqible you must be unemployed or working less than 16 hours a week.

Omagh Office: (028) 8224 6535 • Enniskillen Office: (028) 6632 6478 • Facebook: Aspire Employability Programme

The Aspire Employability Programme is part funded by the European Social Fund and Department for the Economy

Foster Carers Needed: The Western Trust urgently needs people to come forward who can offer a loving home to foster children. At present there is a greater number of children in need of homes than there are foster carers available. If you have room in your home and in your heart to care for a child, please contact:

Vanessa Nelis – WHSCT Recruitment Officer for Fostering

Tel: (028) 8283 5264 Mob: 07554 552 989 Email: vanessa.nelis@westerntrust.hscni.net

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 • Facebook: IOSASCentre • Twitter: IOSASCentre

Strule Arts Centre – Irish Cultural Activities Every Wednesday

Sean-Nós and Set Dancing 6.00pm to 7.00pm

Singing in Irish 7.00pm to 8.00pm

Irish Language Classes for Beginner, Improver and Advanced Levels 8.00pm to 9.30pm

Email: kevin.goodwin@fermanaqhomagh.com

Tel: 07747 899 249

Trócaire – Recruiting Volunteers: To support their fundraising, campaigning and education work in Ireland.

If you are interested in volunteering visit trocaire.org/getinvolved/volunteer or call (028) 9080 8030 for more info

Seeing your life through lens of Gospel – *Luke 2:41-52*:

John Byrne OSA (jpbyrneosa@gmail.com)

- 1. Luke's skill as a storyteller comes through in the details of the story in a way that many people can identify with: the loss of a child, the frantic search, the seemingly offhand speech of the teenager. Let the drama of the story speak to you. Where do you find good news in it?
- 2. In Luke's Gospel this story serves to give a glimpse of the future greatness of Jesus, the teacher of his people. Sometimes we can look back over our own life, or the lives of others, and with hindsight can see in childhood or teenage years a glimpse of gifts and talents that were later to blossom. Where have you seen this?
- 'Did you not know that I must be about my Father's business?' This seemingly insensitive reply by Jesus to Mary serves to highlight that in his life the mission given him by God would take precedence over family ties, painful though this would be. Perhaps you have known situations in your own life where there was pain for family members as you followed your own destiny? Where in the midst of the pain was the good news?

The Deep End – When Jesus Was Small:

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

In primary school we used to sing a song about Jesus' childhood. I don't recall the exact words, but the chorus went something like this:

> Jesus was a happy child When he was small like me He used to laugh and run around And sometimes climb a tree Running here, running there Having fun like you and me.

There was a verse about his mother bringing him to school on his first day. The aim was clearly to remind us that Jesus was a real child who did all the things that other children do. In theological terms, it impressed on our young minds the humanity of Jesus, even as we heard the stories of the healings and miracles that expressed his divinity.

This hymn came to mind as I reflected on today's Gospel. The story of the finding in the Temple is the only one we have from Jesus' childhood, so it takes on greater significance. It is both an ordinary and extraordinary family story, highlighting a typical family incident while also setting the scene for Jesus' future mission. What parent hasn't felt the panic of discovering their child is missing, and then been overcome with relief when they were found? But the story ends with the realisation that Jesus is far from ordinary. His parents don't understand his cryptic reference to 'my Father's affairs', but Mary stores up 'all these things' in her heart, accepting the mysterious workings of God.

We are left, with Mary and Joseph, to ponder who this child really is.

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

IMPORTANT DATES Service of Light (P7) Thursday 31st January, 7.30pm • First Confession Thursday 28th March, 7.30pm Confirmation Saturday 6th April, 12 noon • First Holy Communion Saturday 11th May, 12 noon

This Week's Calendar of Feasts and Saints:

Tuesday 1st January -

Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God At the message of the angel, the Virgin Mary received the Word of God in her heart and in her body, and gave life to the world. Hence she is acknowledged and honoured as being truly the Mother of God and Mother of the Redeemer. Lumen Gentium (52)

- Wednesday 2nd January St. Basil the Great (bishop and Doctor of the Church) [330-379] Bishop of Caesarea, a brilliant preacher who lived an ascetic life, establishing norms for Monastic life. Implemented the decrees of the Council of Nicaea. Patron Saint of Russia.
 - St. Gregory Nazianzen (bishop and Doctor of the Church) [330-379] Bishop of Constantinople. He was known as the 'Theologian' because of his wisdom and skill in defending orthodox doctrine.
- Saturday 5th January St. Charles of Mount Argus, Dublin (priest) [1821-1893] Born in Holland. Took vows as a Passionist in 1846 and came to Mount Argus in 1857, it was there he spent most of his priestly life. His ministry in the confessional was renowned and the poor of Dublin found in him a strong support. Died on 5th January, 1893. St. Charles was canonised on Sunday 3rd June, 2007.
- Sunday 6th January Epiphany of the Lord Celebrates the revelation of God the Son as a human being In Jesus Christ. Western Christians commemorate principally (but not solely) the visit of the Magi to the Baby Jesus, and thus Jesus' physical manifestation to the Gentiles. Eastern Christians commemorate the baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River, seen as his manifestation to the world as the Son of God.

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/quardian 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

2017 PARISH STATISTICS

Baptisms (26)	First Holy Communions / Reconciliations (14)		Confirmations (15)		
10 Boys • 16 Girls	8 Boys • 6 Girls		7 Boys • 8 Girls		
Marriages (5) 2 within pa	rriages (5) 2 within parish • 3 outside parish Funerals (12) 11 within parish • 1 outside parish				
April: Parishioners and pupils of Dean Maguirc College took part in					
Holy Thursday mass in RTÉ Studio in Dublin on Thursday 13th April					
December: Weekly Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament began 13th December in St Patrick's Church					