


 Parish of Greencastle, Co. Tyrone (Diocese of Derry)  
**St. Patrick's, Greencastle**      **Our Lady of the Wayside, Broughderg**  
**Fourth Sunday of Lent [Year C] (31<sup>st</sup> March, 2019)**  
 Parochial House, 164, Greencastle Road, Sheskinshule, Omagh, BT79 7RU  
 Website: greencastleparish.com • Email: greencastlepp@yahoo.com • Tel: (028) 816 48474

**Lenten Pastoral Letter 2019 – People Fit for Mission**

“What can we honestly say about the Church in our own diocese? In the Derry Diocese we face the reality that a quarter of our priests will reach 75 over the next eight years. Eighteen priests are approaching retirement age and we can expect to have only a small number of ordinations. If we have 51 parishes and less than 50 priests, then clearly not every one of the current parishes can have a resident priest. When we see the reality of a changing society and dropping clergy numbers, we have to restructure our ministries. Into the future, we have to be fit for purpose, if we are to bring the healing love of Jesus into so many dark corners. We have to see and acknowledge that reality. Wishing that things were different is not an option.” *Bishop Donal McKeown*

**Liturgy Schedule for Fourth Week of Lent [Year C] (31<sup>st</sup> March, 2019 – 7<sup>th</sup> April, 2019)**

<b>Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March</b>	St. Patrick's	<b>6.00pm</b>	Vigil Mass
<b>Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March</b>	St. Patrick's	<b>9.00am</b>	Mass (Missa Pro Populo)
Fourth Sunday of Lent [Year C]	Our Lady of the Wayside	<b>11.00am</b>	Mass
<b>Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April</b>	St. Patrick's	<b>6.30am</b>	Mass <b>10.00am</b> Mass
<b>Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April</b>	St. Patrick's	<b>9.00am</b>	Mass:
St. Francis of Paolo (hermit)			Deceased members of the Derry Diocesan Society
<b>Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April</b>	St. Patrick's	<b>12 noon to 7.15pm</b>	Adoration <b>7.30pm</b> Mass
<b>Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April</b>	St. Patrick's	<b>10.00am</b>	Mass: Joe McGarvey (11 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary) followed by Confessions
<b>Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April</b>	St. Patrick's	<b>6.30am</b>	Mass <b>10.00am</b> Mass and Stations of the Cross
	Our Lady of the Wayside	<b>8.00pm</b>	Mass: Jim McCrory (1 <sup>st</sup> Anniversary)
<b>Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April</b>	St. Patrick's	<b>12 noon</b>	Mass of Confirmation
		<b>6.00pm</b>	Vigil Mass: Noelle Conway (2 <sup>nd</sup> Anniversary)
<b>Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April</b>	St. Patrick's	<b>9.00am</b>	Mass (Missa Pro Populo)
Fifth Sunday of Lent [Year C]	Our Lady of the Wayside	<b>11.00am</b>	Mass

**Weekly Collection:** £1,210      **Clerical Education:** £735      *Thank you for your generosity*

**Baptism:** We congratulate the parents and family of **Méabh Josie Devlin** who was received into the family of God through the Sacrament of Baptism on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March in St. Patrick's Church.

**Remembering Our Dead:** We pray for the happy repose of the soul of **Jim McCrory** whose 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Mass will be at 8.00pm in Our Lady of the Wayside on Friday and the soul of **Joe McGarvey (11<sup>th</sup>)** whose anniversary occurs at this time.

**Confirmation:** We ask you to keep in your prayers the 16 children of Primary 7 of Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School who will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation from Fr. Gallagher in St Patrick's Church at 12 noon Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April. *Come Holy Spirit*

**First Confession:** We congratulate the 25 children of Primary 4 in Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School who celebrated their First Confession on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March in St. Patrick's Church. A sincere thanks to the principal, teacher and classroom assistants for their hard work in preparation and to Fr. Forbes for his assistance.  
 Conor Molloy • Shea McAleer • Sean McGlinchey • Grace Teague • Kayleigh Brogan • Patrick Mullan  
 Pheilm Tracey • Aimee Fox • Chloe Conway • Annie McGlinchey • Aoife Slane • Aine McGlinchey  
 Hollie McAleer • Mia Coyle • Aine Morris • Anthony Morris • Ava Morris • Fianna Clarke • Sean Og O'Neill  
 Tiernan McKenna • John James McElduff • Daithi Hughes • Shay Donnelly • Caoimhe Coney • Jamie McGuigan

**Sick and Housebound:** Fr. Gallagher will visit those in his care on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April at the usual times.

**Pope Francis' Intention for April (please remember this in your personal prayers)**

**Doctors and their Collaborators in War Torn Areas:** For doctors and their humanitarian collaborators in war torn areas, who risk their lives to save the lives of others.

**Next Week's Readings:** Isaiah 43:16-21 • Psalm 125, R/ v 3 • Philippians 3:8-14  
 John 8:1-11 • Lectionary 1:313      **Sunday [Year C] • Weekday [Year 1]**

**6.00pm Saturday Vigil**

30<sup>th</sup> March • **Conor Molloy**

6<sup>th</sup> April • **Shea McAleer**

**Offertory Gift Rota**

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Fifth Sunday of Lent

**9.00am Sunday Morning**

31<sup>st</sup> March • **Tiernan Coyle**

7<sup>th</sup> April • **Ella Kane**

**If you cannot attend please ensure that you have arranged with another family for the gifts to be presented**

Parish Liturgy for April, 2019	St. Patrick's (6.00pm Vigil Mass)	St. Patrick's (9.00am Mass)	Our Lady of the Wayside (11.00am Mass)
<b>Readers</b>	Joann McCullagh	Patricia Reusch	Sean Teague
<b>Eucharistic Ministry</b>	Frankie Bradley	Maria Bradley	Josephine Clarke
<b>Prayers of Intercession</b>	Nora McCullagh	Eimear Bradley	Cara-Rose Brogan
<b>Collectors</b>	Margaret Morris Michael McNamee	Brendan Conway Peter Tracey	Tony Donnelly Pat McGuigan
<b>Altar Society</b>	Eileen McKenna and Anne McAleer		Anne McDermott and Carmel McCrory

**Pope John Paul Award:** We congratulate our parishioners **Clodagh McKenna, Catherine McKenna, Kira Donnelly, Louise O' Brien, Leanne Morris** and **Megan Coyle** who received their Pope John Paul Awards from Archbishop Eamon Martin in St. Patrick's Cathedral, Armagh on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March.  
*We look forward to their continued involvement in parish life and events*

**Trócaire Lenten Appeal:** 2.5 million people may have been affected by the devastating cyclone and floods that have hit southern Africa. Trócaire is responding on the ground with life-saving support and the Lenten campaign will help not only the people in Mozambique, Malawi and Zimbabwe but thousands of others facing hardship across the developing world. *'Love no flood can quench, no torrents drown...'* Song of Songs 8:7    [trocaire.org](http://trocaire.org)

**Dún Uladh Cultural Heritage Centre:** Niall Hanna and Martin Meehan make their debut Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April. The duo are supported by talented folk musician Jack Warnock. Tickets are on sale now at a special early-bird rate for £8 (£10 standard), £5 for U16s and £22 for family (2 adults, 2 children).  
*For more info call (028) 8224 2777 or email music@dunuladh.ie*

**Dromore Trad Fest:** Friday 5<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April. A celebration of trad Irish music and culture including one-day Irish language course for 3 levels from 10.00am to 4.00pm Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April in St. John's College, Dromore.  
*For more info and bookings call 07704 777 043*

**Life in the Spirit Seminars:** Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> February to Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April in conjunction with 7.30pm Mass in the Sacred Heart Church, Omagh.

**Speakers:** 4<sup>th</sup> April: Fr. Colum Curry • 11<sup>th</sup> April: Archbishop Eamon Martin

**Cappagh / Badoney CCE – Upcoming Events:** *To enquire call Tom on (028) 816 48719*

**Music Classes:** Continues each week in St. Peter's PS, Plumbridge. 6.30pm to 8.30pm.

**Annual Class Feis:** Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April at 2.00pm in the Mellon Country Hotel.

**Lenten Days and Holy Week Retreat at Dromantine:** *A Lenten Experience: Called to Renewal Holy Week Retreat:* Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> at 5.00pm to Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April at 11.00am • The SMA Community invites you to join them in reflectively celebrating the Easter Triduum, beginning with the Seder Meal • £250 full board  
*Dromantine Retreat Centre, Newry BT34 1RH • (028) 30821964 or admin@dromantineconference.com to book*

**Trócaire Lenten Campaign 2019:** *To find out more visit [trocaire.org](http://trocaire.org)*  
 “You will eat and have all you want and you will bless Yahweh your God in the fine country which he has given you.”  
 The campaign highlights different ways land is stolen from vulnerable people in the developing world. It could be by corporate land grabs, by war or simply because they are a woman. *Deuteronomy 8:10*

**Young Person's Prayer:** Here I am Lord, standing at the crossroads of my life, The time has come for me to choose the road which leads to you. I hesitate for fear of what lies ahead of me, for I am much afraid of the unknown. Take my hand in yours and walk with me for the road is long and there are no shortcuts.  
 I place myself into your hands. You know the way. You are the Way. *Amen*

**Parents Prayer:** Loving God, You are the giver of all we possess, the source of all of our blessings. We thank and praise you. Thank you for the gift of our children. Help us to set boundaries for them, and yet encourage them to explore. May our children come to know you, the one true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. May your Holy Spirit help them to grow in faith, hope, and love, so they may know peace, truth, and goodness. May their ears hear your voice. May their eyes see your presence in all things. May their lips proclaim your word. May their hearts be your dwelling place. May their hands do works of charity. May their feet walk in the way of Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord. *Amen*

**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 service call (028) 8224 2439 or email omagh@accordni.com*

**ASPIRE Employability Programme – Free CSR Card and Forklift Licence Training**

To be eligible 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*

**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:** kinderareni.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 derryyouthcommunity.com or emailing dyc@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/bigknit*

**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

**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*

**The Priory Institute – Study Theology Online:**

Come and join our supportive student community and study theology by distance learning this Spring, register now!

**Tel:** 00353 1 404 8124 • **Email:** enquiries@prioryinstitute.com • **Website:** enquiries@prioryinstitute.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@jecon.ie

**Family Care Adoption Services**

*Presently seeking to recruit adoptive families for babies and young children*

For a free information contact

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

us using any of these details

**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*

**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@fermanaghmagh.com • **Tel:** 07747 899 249

**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*

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

**Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre in Partnership with St. Mary's University, Twickenham**

**Masters in Catholic School Leadership:** Post-graduate degree dedicated to the professional development and spiritual formation of Catholic school leaders. 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. Next intake: Autumn, 2019.

*For more info call The Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre on 0044 28 7126 4087 or email tferry@derrydiocese.org*

**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

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

1. Jesus rejects the idea that personal misfortune is God's punishment for sin. Yet a serious illness or accident can serve as a wake-up call for how we live our lives. How have such experiences given you a greater appreciation of the value of your life and relationships, and of the time and opportunities at your disposal?
2. 'I'll wait till tomorrow to do that'. Have you ever said that and then found the chance is gone the next day? In the story we are called to recognise God at work in our lives and respond to Him. Now is the opportune moment. When have you been glad you did not put off action to the following day?
3. Perhaps there have been times when you saw yourself like the tree in the parable – useless, merely a waste of space, unable to achieve what you wanted. Think of friends who came to you at such a time, people who saw your potential and were prepared to give you another chance, people who also dug the soil around you and gave you the help you needed to grow. Perhaps in your turn you have been able to do this for others.

**The Deep End – The Elder Son:** *Jane Mellett (mellettj@gmail.com)*

Sometimes we can be so familiar with a Gospel passage we tend to switch off after the first few sentences. That would be a shame, especially when the Gospel is one of the great blockbuster parables. The real challenge in today's Gospel is what happens after the lost son returns. The elder brother has 'worked like a slave' all those years and is understandably upset. The Father's welcome of the younger son would have been considered extremely foolish by those listening to this story. However, the Father makes it clear that his outreach to the younger brother will not change his love for the older brother. It will cost the elder brother nothing to reach out. We have nothing to lose in welcoming home the lost.

Today, we can try to place ourselves somewhere in this narrative: where do you stand? This Gospel shows us that God returns the lost to the community, regardless of the boundaries that we might put in place. Jesus teaches us a lesson in radical hospitality. No matter how far we wander from home, God is still a loving God. The elder brother has a choice: to come to the party or to sulk in the corner. Luke, excellent story-teller that he is, leaves the reader to decide the outcome.

God of love, show us our place in this world as channels of your love for all the creatures of this earth, for not one of them is forgotten in your sight. Enlighten those who possess power ... that they may love the common good, advance the weak, and care for this world in which we live.  
*Pope Francis (Laudato Si, 246)*

**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

**PARISH EVENTS IN 2018**

<b>Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February</b> Service of Light for P7	<b>Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> March</b> First Confession for P4
<b>Monday 12<sup>th</sup> March</b> 5 Parishioners receive Pope John Paul Awards in Armagh Cathedral	
<b>Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> April</b> Confirmation by Bishop McKeown	<b>Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> May</b> First Holy Communion
<b>Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> June</b> P7 attend Fan the Flame Mass in Celtic Park Derry	
<b>Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> June</b> Presentations to P7 Leavers and Mr. Noel McGinn on retirement as principal	
<b>Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June and Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> July</b> Cemetery Prayers in Parish Cemeteries	
<b>Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> August</b> Parishioners, along with Fr Gallagher attend Festival of Families in Croke Park and Papal Mass in Phoenix Park	
<b>Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> September</b> Mr. Neil McCloy officially takes up role as principal of Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School	
<b>Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> September</b> All-Ireland Final – Tyrone v. Dublin	<b>Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> November</b> Mass for Parish Deceased
<b>10<sup>th</sup> November</b> Sr. Bride Counihan makes Mission Appeal	
<b>Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November</b> Inaugural Meeting of Parish Pastoral Council	
<b>Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> December</b> Advent Penance Service	<b>Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> December</b> 2 New Altar servers welcomed
<b>31 December</b> Large congregation gathers for Mass at final sunset of 2018	

**IMPORTANT DATES IN 2019**

**First Confession** Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March, 7.30pm • **Confirmation** Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April, 12 noon  
**First Holy Communion** Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May, 12 noon

2018	PARISH STATISTICS	2017
(16) 7 Boys • 9 Girls	<b>Baptisms</b>	(26) 10 Boys • 16 Girls
(14) 8 Boys • 6 Girls	<b>First Communion</b>	(14) 8 Boys • 6 Girls
(17) 10 Boys • 7 Girls	<b>Confirmation</b>	(15) 7 Boys • 8 Girls
3 within parish • 3 outside parish	<b>Weddings</b>	2 within parish • 3 outside parish
10	<b>Deaths and Burials</b>	12

**Trocaire – Recruiting Volunteers:** To support their fundraising, campaigning and education work in Ireland. If you are interested in volunteering visit [trocaire.org/getinvolved/volunteer](http://trocaire.org/getinvolved/volunteer) or call (028) 9080 8030 for more info

**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*

**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

**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](mailto:lisah@millenniumforum.co.uk)

**Annual Diocesan Mass for those with Special Needs and their Families and Friends**

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April at 2.00pm in Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Steelstown, Derry. Bishop Mc Keown will celebrate. If you have a child who wishes to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation or First Communion at this Mass please call the Catechetical Centre on 0044 28 7126 4087 or email [ddcc@derrydiocese.org](mailto:ddcc@derrydiocese.org)

**Armchair Exercises:** Continue every Monday night in the Community Centre at 7.30pm. *Suitable for all ages*

**Accord Marriage Preparation Course:** 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> April • 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> April • 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> May  
7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> June • 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> June Visit [accord-ni.co.uk](http://accord-ni.co.uk) to book

### 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 polis... 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 François-Xavier Nguyễn Văn Thuận, 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.'

### 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%

**Monica Retreat Day:** Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April, 10.30am to 3.30pm in St. Mary's Primary School, Killyclogher. A time of prayer and an opportunity to move to a place of peace with feelings of sadness, loss or disappointment when faith practices are not sustained by, nor sustaining, for a new generation. Facilitators are Fr. Paschal O'Donnell OFM and Sr. Perpetua McNulty RSM. £20 (inclusive of light lunch) • (028) 8224 3375 • [info@cappaghparish.com](mailto:info@cappaghparish.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.

any flight, any time and we provide guaranteed airport shuttle service.

Call us on 01 4434510 or email [reservations@med-irishcentre.com](mailto:reservations@med-irishcentre.com) for further info and book dates that suit

**Annual Derry Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes:** Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> to Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> July. £679. We welcome all pilgrims, especially pilgrims in need of care. We welcome doctors, nurses and youth (aged 17years+) to assist with those in need. Application forms now available. Call (028) 7126 0293 (Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, 11.00am to 1.00pm) or email [derrypilgrim@outlook.com](mailto:derrypilgrim@outlook.com) at any time.

**Marian Pilgrimages:** Fully escorted group pilgrimage to San Giovanni Rotondo from Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April, £579 pps. Including visits to the town of Pietrelcina, the house of Mary Pyle and Mass at the Shrine of St. Michael Archangel, accompanied by Spiritual Director.

For more info on joining the group call Marie Martin on 0044 7799 11 2224

**Pilgrimage to Rome and Tuscany:** Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> 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@downtourtravel.co.uk](mailto:marie@downtourtravel.co.uk)

### Owenkillew Credit Union – Death Benefit Insurance (DBI):

DBI is an insurance scheme whereby for a small premium, your nominee will receive an additional £2,000 to help defray funeral expenses. Can all members who have not paid their premium please call to either office and do so.

**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](mailto:marie.devlin@agewellpartnership.org)

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

**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April – St. Francis of Paolo (hermit) [1416-1507]** Was a hermit and attracted others to his way of life, later called the Order of Minims.

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April – St. John the Baptist de la Salle (priest) [1651-1719]** Devoted his life to the care and education of poor children and to the training of teachers. Formed his companions into the Brothers of the Christian Schools. Patron Saint of teachers.