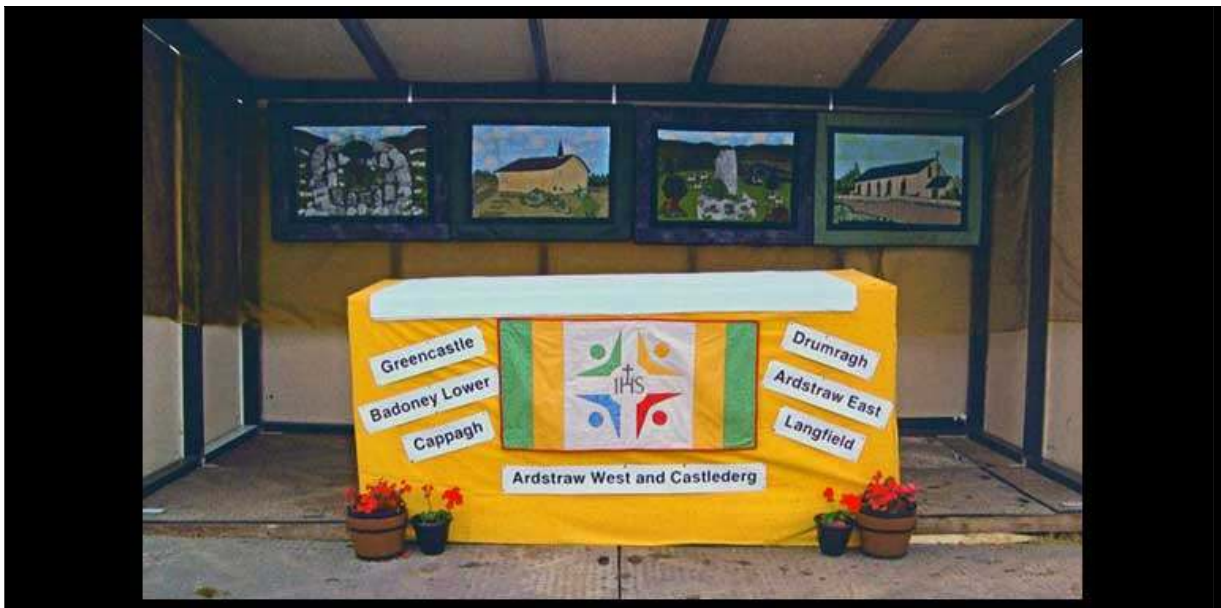


Elaine Coyle began our celebration by reading the following introduction explaining the tapestries used as a backdrop to the altar scene...

Today, we have gathered at Formil Mass Rock where in difficult times our ancestors gathered to pray and where Jesus awaits us today.

We come in the year of the 50th International Eucharistic Congress and before the launch of the Year of Faith on October 11, 2012.

Five quilted tapestries have been prepared for this gathering. They surround our altar today.

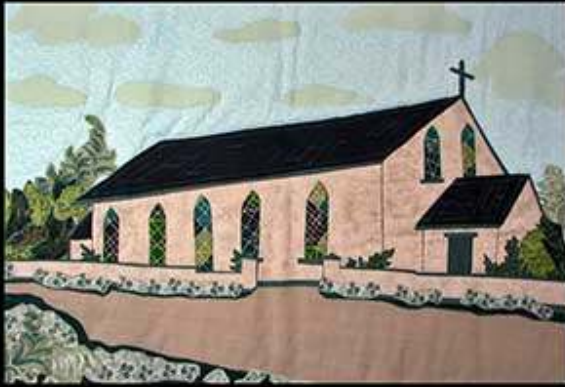


The DunRuadh quilt depicts an ancient archaeological site located in the nearby townland of Crock. Dun Ruadh is characterised by circular mound of stones which enclose a number of upright slab - stones and a single thorn tree. This site dates back at least 5000 years. Historians consider that this settlement was used from the Neolithic age to the early Bronze age. Pottery found during excavations of this site is now housed in the National museum of Ireland.



The Ogham stone quilt is based on another of our archaeological sites. Across the Owenkillew river from Dun Ruadh in the townland of Aughascribba stands the Ogham stone. It takes its name from the very distinctive Ogham script. This script is depicted by a series of horizontal lines etched into one corner of the stone. It is believed that the Ogham script was in use for at around 1000 years up until 500years after the Birth of Christ - just after St Patrick brought Christianity to Ireland.

The churches in our parish are depicted on two of our quilted tapestries.



The Parish Church dedicated to the patronage of St. Patrick and the adjoining graveyard have been on this site since the 1830s. There is an oral tradition that our present building replaced an earlier Church on the opposite side of the road where the car park now exists.



The Church of Our Lady of the Wayside, Broughderg, five miles from Greencastle was dedicated by Bishop Edward Daly in 1975 when Father Seamus Shields was our Parish Priest. The Silver Jubilee of Our Lady of the Wayside was celebrated just 2 years ago. It replaced the nearby St. Mary's Church which dates back to 1885.



Our fifth tapestry is the logo for the 50th International Eucharistic Congress with which we have become familiar over the past three years. The logo reflects the theme of the Congress, *'The Eucharist – Communion with Christ and with one another'*.

The theme is represented in five colours: green, yellow, red, blue and grey, and in this way brings together the peoples from every nation, race, tribe and language into one body.

Please take time to view these tapestries before you leave this site today

Elaine invited the pilgrims to view and reflect on these tapestries while they were at Formil and we now thank you for taking time to view them here on our website.

We hope you find them helpful for your personal prayer and reflection.

They were created for the occasion by Sarah Warnock and Josephine Clarke



The tapestries are presently hanging on the sanctuary wall in St. Patrick's Church, Greencastle.
Please feel welcome to stop in to view, reflect and pray.