

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

St. Patrick's, Greencastle Our Lady of the Wayside, Broughderg
Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time [Year A] (6th September, 2020)
 Parochial House, 164, Greencastle Road, Sheskinshule, Omagh, BT79 7RU

Website: greencastleparish.com • **Email:** greencastlepp@yahoo.com • **Tel:** (028) 816 48474

Thought for the Week: "Be more concerned with your character than your reputation, because your character is what you really are, while your reputation is merely what others think you are." *Coach John Wooden*

Saturday 5th September	St. Patrick's	11.00am Rite of Confirmation 6.00pm Vigil Mass: Sheskinshule (not Maryville and Sheskinshule View)
Sunday 6th September Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time [Year A]	Our Lady of Wayside Facebook Live	9.00am Mass: Broughderg and Crock 11.00am Mass
Monday 7th September	St. Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Tuesday 8th September	Facebook Live	9.00am Mass
Wednesday 9th September St. Ciaran (abbot)	St. Patrick's	2.00pm to 4.00pm Adoration 7.30pm Mass: Roseann McGarvey (10 th Anniversary) followed by Padre Pio Devotions
Thursday 10th September	Facebook Live	10.00am Mass
Friday 11th September	St. Patrick's	10.00am Mass
Saturday 12th September	St. Patrick's	6.00pm Vigil Mass: Muninamale, Alworries and Aughascribba Road
Sunday 13th September Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time [Year A]	St. Patrick's Facebook Live	9.00am Mass: Crockanboy, Maryville and Sheskinshule View 11.00am Mass: Kay McCrory (4 th Anniversary)

Weekly Collection: £930 *Thank you for your generosity*

Baptism: We welcome **Eábha Marie Lennon** into the family of God through the Sacrament of Baptism received on Sunday 30th August in St. Patrick's Church.

Remembering Our Dead: We pray for the happy repose of the souls of **Roseann McGarvey (10th)** and **Brian Hollywood** whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Sick and Housebound: Fr Gallagher will continue to make visits to the sick and housebound with Holy Communion this week and into the next. *Each visit will be notified in advance with the time and date*

Confirmation Congratulations: We offer our congratulations, best wishes and prayers to the 14 members of the Confirmation Class of 2020 who received the Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday 5th September in St. Patrick's Church. We also thank their teachers and parents who patiently waited for this day. Please pray for our young people that the strength and grace of the Holy Spirit through this Sacrament will help and guide them as they begin their secondary education and continue to journey and grow in the Faith.

Alice McGlinchey • Caillin-Joe McDonald • Cira McLaughlin • Danielle Gumley • Erin Donnelly
 Francis McNamee • Katelyn Gumley • Lee Coyle • Laurance McCrory • Nicole Horan
 Mary-Jo Morris • Shane Molloy • Shea Tracey • Tadhg Clarke

Padre Pio Devotions – Monthly Devotions Through the Intercession of St. Pio of Pietrelcina:
 Wednesday 9th September after 7.30pm mass St. Patrick's Church. *A relic of the saint will be present*

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*

Next Week's Readings: Sirach 27:30-28:7 • Psalm 102:1-4, 9-12, R/ v 8 • Romans 14:7-9
 Matthew 18:21-35 • Lectionary 1:699 **Sunday [Year A] • Weekday [Year 1]**

Face Coverings in Church: Over the last few weeks there has been widespread discussion regarding face coverings in enclosed or indoor spaces. As of this weekend in all places of worship in England members of the congregation are expected to wear some form of face covering. Therefore I would encourage you to begin the habit of wearing a face covering in the church during mass. This does not apply to those under the age of 13. The priest will only wear his face covering during the distribution of communion as he is many metres away from the congregation in the sanctuary area during the mass. This of course may bring about issues for some who for a medical reason cannot wear a face covering. In the absence of any guidance from the diocese at the moment I would ask anyone in this position to get in touch with me in advance so that I can discuss how we can accommodate you. Once more this is a difficult issue but one better faced now rather than when it becomes obligatory. I look forward to your help in this matter. In the meantime let us continue to pray for all those in authority who continue to have to make very difficult decisions during these turbulent times. *Fr. Eddie Gallagher PP*

Confirmation Preparations: Our Parish celebration of Confirmation is due to take place on Saturday 5th September at 11.00am in St. Patrick's Church. As indicated, our Parish Covid-19 Task Force met to discuss the issue of numbers in the church. After that discussion it was agreed that only the parents, child and brothers and sisters will be present in the church. This means that one of the parents will act as a proxy sponsor. The name of your original sponsor will be recorded in the Confirmation Register. Each household will have a row set aside for them. We also need to be aware of any rules regarding face coverings which may be in place at that time. The sponsor can be involved in any family celebrations later in the day. Once more it needs to be repeated that even this decision may have to be revisited in light of Public Health Guidelines in place at that time. This decision will be disappointing to many but is taken with public health in mind.

Greencastle Parish Public Mass Schedule		
Saturday 12th September	St. Patrick's	6.00pm Muninamale etc.
Sunday 13th September	St. Patrick's	9.00am Crockanboy etc.
Saturday 19th September	St. Patrick's	6.00pm Binnefreaghan
Sunday 20th September	Our Lady of Wayside	9.00am Teebane East, Carnanrancy, Aughminacroy, Coneyglen

Arrangements for other Sacraments and Ceremonies:

Baptism: If you have a child for baptism contact Fr. Gallagher and a date and time for baptism will be organised.

Marriage: Most weddings for 2020 have been rearranged for 2021. Any weddings in church in 2021 will follow government capacity regulations.

Confirmation: It is intended to celebrate this Sacrament on Saturday 5th September at 11.00am.

First Communion: It is intended to celebrate this Sacrament on Saturday 26th September at 11.00am with First Confession shortly beforehand.

Confession: In the short-term during summer months (weather permitting) Fr. Gallagher will be available for Confession in the graveyards on Saturdays from 5.30pm to 5.50pm in St. Patrick's Church and Sundays from 8.30am to 8.50am in Our Lady of the Wayside. Confession with social distancing and privacy in the church building is quite difficult to achieve, hopefully this will resume in near future.

Funerals: According to present regulations only 30 people are permitted in the church or cemetery at any one time. *Please note that as regulations change we will either extend or roll back on these arrangements*

Public First Anniversary / Month's Mind Masses: During the coming weeks there will be several First Anniversaries masses celebrated in St. Patrick's Church. Several rows in the church will be set aside for family members and places will be available then on a first come, first served basis. If there is an overflow you are asked to return to your car and listen to the mass on the outdoor speakers. Please follow the direction of the ushers. *Thank you in advance for your cooperation*

Help is available for the Unemployed: Have you recently been made redundant or are unemployed? If so, SUSE+ can help you, we are currently offering help and support with job searches, CV building, interview preparation. mentors work 1:1 with participants to help secure a job in the local area. An online course provision is also available which includes mindfulness and meditation, money management, holistic therapies, self-care, employability, confidence and motivation, job club and much more. *For more information email Tracy at tracy.sharkey@swc.ac.uk or call (074) 3653 3475*

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

Respect for the Planet's Resources: We pray that the planet's resources will not be plundered, but shared in a just and respectful manner.

Prayer for the End of the Virus: Almighty and merciful Father, who show your love to all your creation. We come before you asking for an end of the Coronavirus currently ravaging our world. Hear graciously the prayers we make for those affected by the virus in various parts of the world. Grant healing to the sick, eternal life to the dead and consolation to the bereaved families. We pray that an effective medicine to combat the sickness be speedily found. We pray for the relevant governments and health authorities, that they take appropriate steps for the good of the people. Look upon us in your mercy and forgive us our failings. *Amen*

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

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

Trocaire – 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

A Prayer for Now: God of the present moment, God who in Jesus stills the storm and soothes the frantic heart; Bring hope and courage to us as we wait in uncertainty. Bring hope that you will make us the equal of whatever lies ahead. Bring us courage to endure what cannot be avoided, for your will is health and wholeness; you are God and we need you. *Amen*

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

Online Youth Programmes: To access a wide variety of initiatives and activities by Derry Diocesan Youth, visit:

Facebook: DerryDiocesanYouth **Instagram:** derryyouth

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

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

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

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

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

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*

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*

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.

Scripture Saturday with Bishop Donal: Created by Derry Diocesan Youth, Bishop McKeown presents a series of short lessons on the Gospel in easy-to-understand, short (3-4 minute) videos, with tips and references of where and how to use these lessons in your daily life. *View the series at derrydiocese.org/scripture-saturday*

Pope Francis' Prayer for Protection: O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick. At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith. You know what we need. We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine. Love to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us: He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen. We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God. Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test – and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

Community Coordination Hub: Fermanagh and Omagh District Council Covid-19 Community Coordination Hub will respond to requests received from the NI Covid-19 Community Helpline to assist residents who may have become isolated and vulnerable due to the impacts of Coronavirus and the associated mitigation measures. The Hub will work with the local community and voluntary sector to ensure those most at risk will have access to support services such as food, medication, practical and emotional support. **Access to Food Parcels** provided by the Department for Communities are available for anyone who can't leave their home to access food due to Covid-19 restrictions, don't have support through family, friends or access to food deliveries from local suppliers, or face food insecurity. Please complete the Food Parcel Request Form and a member of the Council's Community Coordination Hub will contact you. We aim to respond to requests within 24 hours. Referrals to Fermanagh and Omagh District Council's Coordination Hub for other support services are directed through the NI Covid-19 Community Helpline:
Freephone 0808 802 0020 Text ACTION to 81025 Email covid19@adviceni.net
 Support and advice is available from 9.00am to 5.00pm, seven days a week.

Trócaire: Every year Trócaire asks for your help during Lent to fund lifesaving programmes around the world. This year, of course, it was not possible to return Trócaire boxes through schools or parishes in the usual way. This is the worst possible timing coming just as the world's poorest people need us most. Therefore, Trócaire are appealing to you to return your Lenten donation. Simply count or estimate what is in your box and donate in the following ways:

1. Online at trocaire.org
2. By phone: 1850 408 408 (ROI) or 0800 912 1200 (NI)
3. By post to Trócaire, Maynooth, Co. Kildare (ROI) or Trócaire, 10 King Street, Belfast, BT1 6AD (NI)
4. As with your parish envelope please leave at Broughderg Post Office, St. Patrick's Church Sacristy outside door postbox or the Parochial House. No boxes please.

Please also fill in Gift Aid details on envelope. The contents of each and every Trócaire box, no matter how small, come together to make a significant difference. This virus knows no borders, but neither does our compassion.

An Caisleán Glas agus Sperrin Óg GAA / Greencastle Community Association: Like all communities at the minute Greencastle is about to enter into unfamiliar territory as we face the influx of the Covid-19 coronavirus. No one knows what the incoming days and weeks bring, however, what we are sure of, is that we as a community will be supporting each other. We have a number of volunteers within our community who have already put their names forward to help where needed. If you, your family or someone you know is currently in self isolation and require some help please contact any of the individuals below. We would encourage everyone to make a call to your neighbour as they may need help and again please contact any of the individuals below. We have a team of volunteers willing to help where required, it may be something like picking up some shopping, posting some mail, lifting a prescription or just a friendly phone call. *For up to date info and advice visit www.publichealth.hscni.net/news/covid-19-coronavirus*
 Collie Touhey: 07970 379 741 Fiona Teague: 07813 935 996 Briege Beggs: 07799 058 273

Commercial Free Catholic Talk-Radio Station for Ireland – Radio Maria Ireland (RMI):
 Commercial free prayer, catechesis, uplifting music, talks, interviews and testimonies
Listen via the app 'RADIO MARIA IRELAND' on mobile devices, streaming on radiomaria.ie or listened to on the phone via a live radio feed by calling +353 (0) 1 437 3277 (no extra charges apply)

Alcoholics Anonymous: Can't stop? There is a solution.
 Call AA on (028) 9035 1222 or email csoofaa@btinternet.com. alcoholicsanonymous.ie.

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

1. At the time Matthew was writing his gospel local church communities would have numbered no more than fifty people. They would be known to one another. Matthew presents the instructions of Jesus for dealing with people whose behaviour disrupted and harmed the community. Note the steps suggested. Simple directions but many of us do otherwise. We avoid difficult confrontations. We talk about the faults of others to everyone but ourselves. We go over the head of someone who displeases us and make complaints. In your experience, which approach is life-giving for you and for others?
2. While Jesus is referring to a group situation, the advice can be applied also to personal difficulties and problems with others. What lessons has life taught you about constructive ways of dealing with conflict?
3. As individuals and communities we have the power to bind and to loose, to exclude people from relationship, or to open up and include others in relationship. When have you found it important to acknowledge this power in your own life?
4. Jesus also promises to be with his followers when they gather together. What does that mean to you? How have you experienced the presence of Jesus in his followers gathered together? During the recent lockdown due to the coronavirus, how did you experience the presence of Jesus in your faith community?

The Deep End – Our Common Home: *Triona Doherty, Athlone, Co. Roscommon (trionad@gmail.com)*

Today we mark the first Sunday of the Season of Creation 2020, which runs from 1st September to 4th October. This special season in the church calendar celebrates the joy of creation, while encouraging awareness of initiatives to protect the natural environment.

We are reminded during this time of our duty to care for what Pope Francis calls 'our common home'. When we hear the word 'home', we tend to think of the immediate place where we live and the people we share it with – our house or living space and our immediate family, neighbours and community. Each of us lives within a particular web of relationships that we call home. But we must be conscious too that we live in a wider relationship with the earth and with all of creation. We all live in a common home, and we all must care for it, and for each other.

Our gospel today sees Jesus offer some advice about living in community. He first acknowledges that communities are far from perfect. We all struggle with our relationships and duties. But he makes one thing clear: in a community, we all have a responsibility to each other and to work to build harmony.

This responsibility extends beyond our immediate environment to our world. In this Season of Creation, we remember in particular those across the world who are suffering as a result of environmental damage. The way we live on this earth has consequences for the world and its people, and indeed for future generations. Over the next few weeks, let us consider how we might make some changes that reflect our care for others and for our common home.

We need to strengthen the conviction that we are one single human family
(Pope Francis (Laudato Si'))

This Week's Calendar of Feasts and Saints:

Wednesday 9th September – St. Ciaran (abbot) Born in Roscommon around 512. He came to Clonmacnoise in January 545 where he founded a monastery which was to become one of the most renowned in Europe. He died at the age of thirty-three while the monastery was still being built.

Sunday 13th September – St. John Chrysostom (bishop and doctor of the Church) [347-407]
 One of the four great Greek Doctors, and 'Golden-Mouthed preacher'. He was archbishop of Constantinople. He incurred much opposition and died in exile. Patron saint of preachers.

2018	PARISH STATISTICS	2019
(16) 7 Boys • 9 Girls	Baptisms	(19) 8 Boys • 11 Girls
(14) 8 Boys • 6 Girls	First Communion	(25) 12 Boys • 13 Girls
(17) 10 Boys • 7 Girls	Confirmation	(16) 9 Boys • 7 Girls
3 within parish • 3 outside parish	Weddings	1 within parish • 6 outside parish
10	Deaths and Burials	11

Epilepsy Action NI: Are you, or someone you care for, living with epilepsy or brain injury?

Epilepsy Action NI and Headway work in partnership to deliver a community-based counselling service in Omagh. The Counselling service is for people over the age of 18 who are affected by epilepsy and / or brain injury or are caring for someone with epilepsy / brain injury and would like some emotional support.

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%