

GLAD TIDINGS



News from the Kilmore Diocesan Pastoral Centre

Autumn/Winter 2014



Editorial: Seán Coll
Director of the Kilmore
Diocesan Pastoral Centre

Welcome to the third
edition of *Glad Tidings*.

It has been a tremendously busy and exciting time in the diocese for the past few months with a lot of activity in the Diocesan Pastoral Centre as well including the Diocesan Youth Pilgrimage to Lough Derg and the first-ever Novena to Our Lady, Untier of Knots.

Having celebrated diamond, golden and silver anniversaries for a number of priests in the diocese over the Summer, the first ordinations to the Permanent Diaconate in October followed by the third Diocesan Assembly later that month were historical and significant events in Kilmore. We pray that both these developments will bear much fruit over the coming years.

The season of Advent is upon us and Christmas is not too far away. The old Church Year draws to an end and the new one is about to begin. It is hard to believe that the twelve months have passed since we last celebrated Advent. Where did those months go? We now face into a time of new beginnings in many respects and a time of great expectation and hope, especially for the diocese as we await the publication of our new Pastoral Plan for 2015-2020.

Perhaps these words of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI while he was still a cardinal will give you food for thought as you prepare over these weeks of waiting for the Christ-Child:

"Advent is concerned with that very connection between memory and hope which is so necessary to man. Advent's intention is to awaken the most profound and basic emotional memory within us, namely, the memory of the God who became a child. This is a healing memory; it brings hope. The purpose of the Church's year is continually to rehearse her great history of memories, to awaken the heart's memory so that it can discern the star of hope.... It is the beautiful task of Advent to awaken in all of us memories of goodness and thus to open doors of hope."

Seek That Which Is Above, 1986

Just to say that even though this edition is larger than usual due to coverage of the Diocesan Assembly, some other articles and features have had to be held over until the next edition because of pressure on space. However, if you have a good news story from your parish or diocesan organisation, please contact me and I will endeavour to feature it.

The next edition of *Glad Tidings* will be published and circulated to parishes in March 2015.

In the meantime, may this Advent be a season of light, hope and peace for you and yours. May hope, joy, peace and love fill your home and heart this Christmas time and throughout the year that lies ahead.



Reflection by Fr. Enda Murphy

Diocesan Director of Pastoral Services and Youth Ministry

"We wait in joyful hope"



As Advent begins it may be worth reflecting on what this time of hope filled waiting about. During this season we talk about the two comings of Christ; in the early part Advent we concentrate on the second coming of Christ at the end of time; later on in the season our gaze turns towards Bethlehem and the coming of the Word into the world as a baby boy in a manger. Both of these happenings are marked by a sense of longing, as if God's people are longing to be united with the one who fulfils all their hopes. Our hymns at this time of year reflect this; 'O come O come Emmanuel', 'O come divine Messiah' to name but two.

Many people experience waiting as something tense and full of anxiety. Waiting on the results of a test, waiting to hear that someone has arrived safely, waiting to be called for a job interview. As it so often does the Christian religion takes this anxious tension and turns it into joyful hope. The joyful hope that every new-born child represents, the joyful hope that our Saviour is just and merciful. In this hope filled season we can make good use of our waiting time. For the Christian waiting is never just about hanging around. There is purpose in our waiting.

Advent brings us on a journey akin to the journey of the Magi. Seen like this our waiting can be very fruitful. The Magi knew nothing of a promised Messiah when they set off from the east. Yet they were drawn to Bethlehem. Perhaps during Advent we can journey with them to discover the Messiah. If our hearts have grown lukewarm about Christ this may be the time to kindle them once more with the joyful hope we have been promised.

A carol which we will probably hear as Christmas approaches is 'O Little town of Bethlehem', as we listen or join in think of these words: "The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight". Whatever hopes and fears we carry this Advent let's have the courage to carry them to Christ, the one who came to us as a weak and helpless baby, the one who will come to us in glory and make all things new. That is why our waiting is not full of fear but joyful hope.

Pastoral Centre Fund-raising Christmas Cards



The Pastoral Centre has produced large A5-sized Christmas cards to help raise funds for its activities. The cards feature Nativity scenes from the fine stained glass windows in the Centre Chapel. Packets of 6 cards with three of each design in each packet) are available from the Centre, priced €5 or £4 sterling each (with an additional €1/£1stg per packet for any postage and packaging required).

• *Bigger & Better* •

BREFFNI VINTAGE CLUB LTD.

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KILMORE DIOCESAN PASTORAL CENTRE
(Beside St. Patrick's College, Cavan)

SUNDAY 8TH MARCH 2015 at 11AM

<i>Biggest Auto-Jumble in Ireland</i>	<i>Cars, Tractors & Motorbike Sales Vintage Auction</i>	<i>Indoor & Outdoor Venue</i>
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REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE ALL DAY
Auto-Jumble Stands Welcome

FOR FURTHER DETAILS
Eugene Markey: 042 9660131
Peter Reilly: 087 1238404
Pat McGovern: 087 2631580

STALL HOLDERS €10 ADMISSION €5



Pope sends message as Diocese meets in Assembly

The Diocese of Kilmore held its third Diocesan Assembly on 25-26 October last in St. Patrick's College, Cavan. Over 300 delegates from the 35 parishes, religious communities and apostolic organisations attended and took part in the discussions. The theme of this year's Assembly was taken from three phrases Pope Francis used during his first homily as Pope: ***"Walking Together, Building the Kingdom, Professing our Faith."*** An Assembly is a meeting of clergy, religious and laity from all around the diocese. It is a consultative group, which discusses issues of importance for the diocese and makes recommendations about future directions.

Heeding Pope Francis' call at the recent synod when he told the participants "it is necessary to say all that, in the Lord, one feels the need to say: without polite deference, without hesitation. And, at the same time, one must listen with humility and welcome, with an open heart, what your brothers say" the Assembly was marked by a great openness and respect both in the discussions and in the quality of listening. Indeed Pope Francis sent a message of blessing and closeness to all those gathered at the opening of the Assembly where he prayed that "the participants will encounter the truth and source of hope for their lives, Jesus Christ."



Bishop Leo O'Reilly welcomes delegates

At the opening of the Assembly, Bishop Leo O'Reilly echoed Pope Francis words when he said "An important lesson from the recent Synod is that listening to what the Holy Spirit is saying means being free to express our views, listening to each other respectfully, and at times agreeing to disagree" and he continued, "The goal of our discussions and reflection will be to discern what are the pressing issues for the Church in Kilmore diocese at present and how we will go about engaging with those issues in the years ahead."

The structure of the Assembly greatly aided this respectful exchange of views with a premium been placed on small group discussion between 6-7 people and some time also being given over to "open forum" sessions.



Fr. Michael Router

Fr Michael Router, PP Bailieborough, set the context for the work of the Assembly by presenting the findings of a listening survey which had been conducted over the past 18 months throughout the diocese. Respondents included those who, while considering themselves Catholic, have disconnected from the Church somewhat.

All, who took part in the survey identified the strain in their lives, especially in finding the correct balance in securing material contentment but not at the expense of and emotional and spiritual wellbeing.



Older people have developed resilience over time and therefore have lower expectations. While remaining faithful, they are not uncritical of their Church. They are grateful for what they have but mourn the loss and security of traditional values they can no longer depend upon. They have concerns for their future healthcare, especially how they are to cope in the face of illness and incapacity. They see the stresses and pressure their children are experiencing as parents.

Younger people highlighted a lack of direction in their lives and the difficulties of deciding who they can trust, since the pillars of bygone times have failed them. Social media, while it promises much, cannot provide the real relationships and deeper value system that must underpin an integrated community.

Many considered the Church as being detached from most peoples' lives, identifying the need for a more 'family friendly Church' where priests exercised a ministry of teacher and guide, as opposed to a dictatorial role. The Church was considered to be overly male orientated and devaluing of women. A church which was open to married clergy and women priests might be better able to connect with and communicate with people today, especially in its liturgies, which would be enriched by the greater involvement of trained lay people.



Fr. Michael Drumm

Having discussed the results of the listening survey in small groups the delegates were then addressed by Fr Michael Drumm, Fr. Michael Drumm from the Diocese of Elphin and Executive Chairperson of the Irish Catholic Schools Partnership Trust, who emphasized the need to understand sacraments as means of grace and healing for the wounded and not the perfect. Taking lessons from the history of the Irish and Universal Church Fr Drumm highlighted how at various times in its history the Church has undergone massive change which, while painful, had ultimately led to growth and renewal. He suggested that now was such a time and that the challenge for the Church in Kilmore was to perhaps let go of some structures we have grown accustomed to in order to be free to once more be a missionary community that can speak the gospel message in a language understandable to today's culture.



Matthew McFadden
Clogher don Oige

The third input of the day was provided by Matthew McFadden of the Clogher don Oige youth ministry team. Matthew outlined how over a ten year period the youth ministry program in the diocese of Clogher had been transformed and is now very successful terms of its outreach and the numbers of young people it engages with. One of the secrets to its success, he argued, was the involvement of a sizeable number of people under 22 years of age on the administrative committee who always carry through on proposals and ideas. The contribution on youth ministry found a very strong resonance on the floor of the Assembly hall in both the small group discussions and the open forum.

After the delegates returned to their parishes on Saturday evening the 50 facilitators of the small group discussions were brought together by Martin Kennedy, the overall facilitator, in order to draw the day's work together. The main thrusts emerging from the 50 groups were noted and 150 feedback sheets were perused in order to formulate a document for approval by the delegates the next day.



Bishop Leo delivers homily at
Assembly Mass

On Sunday the Assembly Mass was held in the Cathedral of St Patrick & Felim in Cavan at 11:30a.m. The principal celebrant and homilist was Bishop Leo O'Reilly who was joined by the priests of the diocese, the Assembly delegates, as well as the parishioners from the local parish of Urney & Annagelliff. At the beginning of Mass 35 delegates representing all the parishes of the diocese processed into the cathedral carrying candles which they placed around the cathedral sanctuary. Later 9 people, representing the 9 Pastoral Areas in the diocese carried up items representing the various pastoral and apostolic ministries which are carried out in the diocese.

After lunch the Assembly delegates returned to hear a presentation on priest numbers in the diocese today by Fr. Enda Murphy, Diocesan Director of Pastoral Services and Youth Ministry. Fr. Murphy emphasized the continued need for priests and the importance of continued prayer for vocations. However he pointed out that just a cursory look at the statistics revealed a cause of grave concern and a need for action to address the dwindling and aging number of priests. In 1950 the Kilmore had 140 diocesan priests and for much of the first half of the 20th century was ordaining 4 men a year for the ministry. However priest numbers in the diocese had now fallen to 76 with only 5 ordinations in the first decade of the 21st century compared with 35 ordinations in the first decade of the 20th. The average age of priests in the diocese is 64 with 41 priests under 70 and 35 over that age. Projecting forward to 2020 he drew attention to the fact if things remain the same the average age of priests will have risen to 70 with 32 priests under 70 and 44 over that age.

Year	Catholics	Total Priests	Average Age	Under 70	Over 70
1950	87,947	102,380	65.9%	130	596
1970	87,100	63,500	69.8%	121	477
1980	87,800	64,100	68.2%	117	480
1990	86,231	60,331	68.2%	97	584
2000	84,251	58,787	61.6%	51	531
2010	84,639	59,893			
2011	84,370	58,927			
2012	83,995	58,574	62.2%		
2013	83,819	58,374	62.2%		
2014	84,000				
2015	86,810				
2016	87,100				

Fr. Enda Murphy

This contribution formed the backdrop for the distribution and discussion of the summary document from the previous day. Delegates were asked to affirm if they agreed that it was a fair and true summary of all that had been said on Saturday and would there be anything they would like to add in the light of the presentation on clergy numbers. After the group discussions and a lively open forum the facilitators were

once again drawn together to gauge the other items which needed to be included in the final recommendations.



Breda O'Brien

The final speaker of the day was Ms. Breda O'Brien, Mother of Four, Second-Level Teacher and Columnist with The Irish Catholic and the Irish Times, who shared her own story of faith but also where she that sees the Church in Ireland today. While acknowledging the challenges facing the Church today and the heavy legacy of the past she had a hope filled message for the delegates. In giving talks to groups around the country she was privileged to witness green shoots returning in many places in a tentative but very real way. She acknowledged in particular the findings of the listening survey which spoke of the struggle many people face in the modern Ireland and suggested that meetings those struggles is where the Church could be at its best.

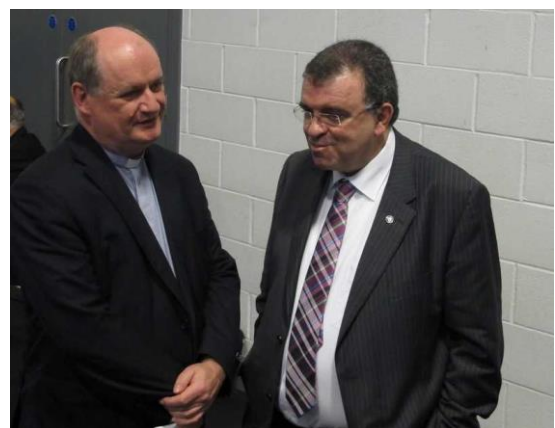
In his concluding remarks Bishop O'Reilly spoke of his great sense of hope from the two days. He assured the delegates that their concerns had been heard and action would follow. That action would surround the sense of welcome to those on the margins of Church life; a renewed emphasis sacramental catechesis for parents and children; a clear policy and vision for engagement and work with young people and a look at how we use our material resources throughout the diocese given the shortage of priests and lack of vocations.

The recommendations of the Diocesan Assembly will now be taken forward by the Diocesan Pastoral Council which will formulate a pastoral plan for the diocese. During the interim period a summary of the proceeding will be forwarded to the parishes to be presented at all Masses on the feast of Christ the King in order that the people of Kilmore know what has been discussed and the broad thrust of what the priorities will be for the future.

This was the third such Assembly in the Diocese of Kilmore with previous ones held in 2000 and 2007 – each of which produced a pastoral plan for the diocese. Some of the outcomes from previous Diocesan Assemblies include the establishment of a Diocesan Pastoral Centre; the development of a pastoral plan following each Assembly; the establishment of pastoral councils in each parish; the initial formation of parish clusters which led to the eventual formation of nine pastoral areas in the diocese; and the employment of pastoral assistants in some of the pastoral areas.



Martin Kennedy, Assembly Facilitator



***Fr. Michael Drumm in conversation with
Seán Coll, Director KDPC***



Clare Carolan & Grainne O'Reilly, ACCORD Cavan



Corina Brown, Diocesan Eucharistic Adoration Group



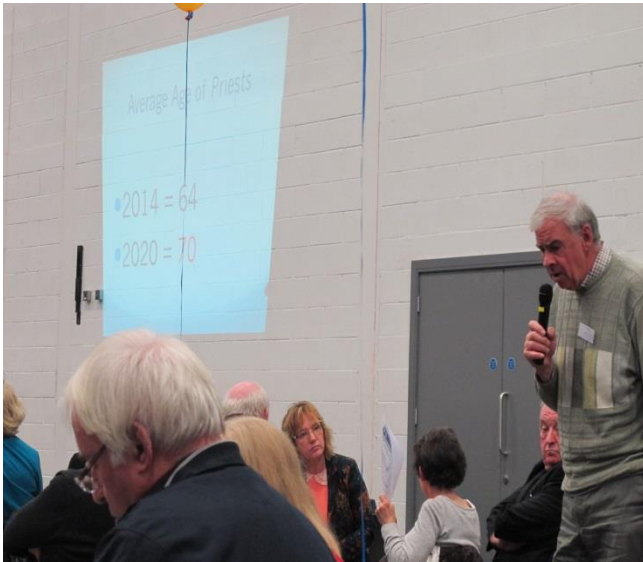
Delegates on the Sunday Afternoon



Aislinn Tighe, Castlerahan



Jim Hannon, Cornafean with Bishop Leo



The Open Forum Discussions



Justin Sofio
Direction for Our Times



Maria Hunt
Witness for Hope, Knock



Mary Flynn
Veritas

Video-recordings of all the talks given at the Assembly are on the diocesan website, www.kilmorediocese.ie. Each parish will also receive a copy of a dvd with the talks over the coming weeks and a limited number will be available for sale from the Diocesan Pastoral Centre, priced €10.

FULL TEXT OF LISTENING SURVEY REPORT

What would you say are some of the issues affecting your everyday lives that you and your peers feel very strongly about at this time?

What comes across most strongly from all age groups is the strain on their lives in this time of economic difficulty. Firstly there is a strong cry about the ordinary, day to day struggles of so many people to simply make ends meet. And secondly there is a recognition of the impoverishment of community life that comes from an over emphasis on material things and values. The sense that comes across is of ordinary people struggling to find a balance between two values. On the one hand the need for material prosperity as a basis for happy living. On the other the recognition that materialism on its own is not enough for a good life.

Older people emerge in some ways as the most resilient group, perhaps because they have lower expectations. They express a sense of gratitude for what they have in terms of social services, pensions and community facilities. But they speak about the loss of some traditional community values, leaving them more isolated and lonely, and sometimes living with fear and a sense of insecurity about their safety. The cutbacks have left them with fewer supports, and the strongest concern that they name for themselves is about their future healthcare. What will happen to them when they become unable to care for themselves? They see the pressures their own children are experiencing today as parents, and they see the impact of unemployment and emigration on the young adults.



The young adults themselves speak strongly about these issues. They speak about the financial pressures of trying to get a start in life when work is hard to come by. They speak about the numbers of their peers who have emigrated and are better off now than they. They speak about the lack of direction in their lives and name the damage that drink and drugs are doing to so many of their age group. They name bullying and suicide among the young as cause for concern. While they welcome the growth of social media they also recognise that it cannot replace real relationships.

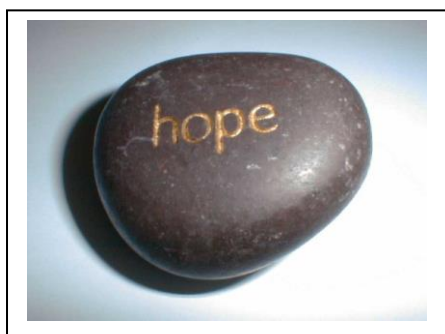
The central theme from parents is the struggle with family finances, and the pressures of rearing children in more difficult times. The lack of work or the insecurity of work, the lower income levels and the resultant and constant pressure with bills and mortgages all feature here. Children who were reared in the boom times still have high expectations. They are exposed to so much in today's media. The culture of drinking and drug taking among the young, the pressure on mental health arising from the stresses of life, the danger of bullying, the fear of suicide – all these are issues named by the parents as being of strong concern to them and their peers.

Among the other groups of adults, including teachers and business people, the main theme is family stress arising from the economic depression. Where there are concentrations of unemployment and poverty there is often also a culture of dependency. Here there is a sense, particularly among teachers, of the need for greater parenting skills for dealing with the current situation. Also named is the need for a deeper system of values to inform our vision about life.

What strong feelings and what hopes /expectations do you and your peers have for the church?

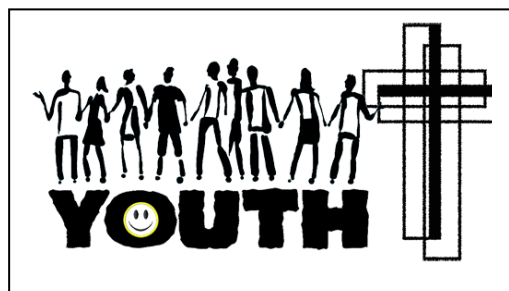
Coming through strongly is a sense of appreciation for what the church can be at its best, a recognition of the positive role it can play in the lives of people. There is also a strong regard for the present Pope, an appreciation of the work on the ground by many clergy, and a concern for the increasing workload that priests are carrying as they get older and fewer. There is also a positive sense of faith and spirituality in the lives of people, even though this is often disconnected from Church. But at the same time there is a central and widespread criticism of the Church as being disconnected from people, out of touch with their lives, not communicating effectively. There is a strong sense of the Clerical Church being preoccupied with issues not central to the lives of people, and ignoring issues that are central. There is an appreciation of the role that priests play in the life of the Church and community and a desire that this should continue through the opening of the priesthood to married men. There is a desire for closer involvement in the lives of people, and for greater acceptance of the reality and complexity of people's lives. There is also a desire for the greater involvement and training of lay people.

All these points are articulated across the different age groups, but especially by the older people. They express a strong attachment to church and faith, but not an uncritical one. They say that the abuse



scandals have done great damage to people's trust in the Church. They express concern at the ageing profile of mass attenders and question what will happen to the Church when their generation is gone. But there is a strong regard for the priests in the parishes and for Pope Francis. There is concern at the workload that priests are carrying. There is a desire for the priest to be closer to the people, particularly at times of sickness and bereavement. There is a recognition of the difficulties here with the reducing numbers of

priests and there is a strong desire for the opening up of the priesthood to married men. This isn't just because of the declining numbers – there is a belief that married men would have a better understanding of the real life issues of people. There is frustration at the perceived lack of engagement by parents around the faith of the children, and the non-attendance at church except for special occasions. At the same time they say that the Church needs to change – to be closer to people and to be ministering in ways that connect better with them. There needs to be a better understanding of the realities of people's lives and a more compassionate response to issues such as broken marriages and second relationships.



Among the young adults there is a strong sense of an ageing Church, out of touch with the younger generations, out of tune with the realities of modern life, and unwilling to change. There is a welcome for Pope Francis and a desire for a church that is more inclusive of young people. Here the youth ministry programme of Clogher diocese was offered as a good example of such inclusion. There is a positive sense of the role the priest could play as teacher, but not as dictator. There was a call for priests to be able to marry, and a belief that this would make them more sensitive to the realities and pressures of modern life. There is a need to recognise the role of lay people and to provide training for that.



Parents recognise the real detachment from Church that has taken place among their peers, but say that faith and spirituality are still alive in people. They criticise the Church for being distant from the reality of people's lives and believe it needs to meet people half way. They say that it needs to undertake a programme of change. They believe that the Church at its best represents something very positive and that the reducing number of priests and the possibility of church closures is a great loss for communities and the coming generations. They say that the Church is very male orientated and the way it is set up devalues women. Married priests and women priests would be good. There is a need for a more family friendly church, one better in tune with the realities of modern life, one more accepting of the greater variety of family types, one better able to connect with and communicate with people today, especially in its liturgies.

The other adult groups follow the same pattern. For them the way forward for the Church is to stand with people and speak from experience. The Church however is set up to be the opposite and it's often removed from people. They recognise the manpower issue and believe in opening up the role to both married men and to women. They see the need for increased involvement of laity and for the necessary training for this. They see that liturgies need to be developed in ways that connect better with people's lives.



ACCORD Marriage Preparation Courses 2015 in the Diocese of Kilmore

Getting married in 2015? - To book your pre-marriage course, please book online at www.accord.ie or contact the ACCORD office in Cavan for your Pre-Marriage Course application form. Book early for your preferred date to avoid disappointment.

The remaining ACCORD Pre- Marriage Preparation Courses for 2015 in the Diocese of Kilmore will take place on **30 and 31 January 2015, 27 and 28 February 2015; 27 and 28 March 2015; 24 and 25 April 2015; and 9 and 10 October 2015.**

All courses are the same in content and will take place on a Friday evening (starting at 7:30p.m. and finishing by 10:00p.m.) and the following Saturday from 10:00a.m. to 5:00p.m. in the Diocesan Pastoral Centre, Cavan.

ACCORD also offers Marriage and Relationship Counselling to individuals and couples in a strictly confidential setting.

To arrange to meet a counsellor, please contact Anne or Grainne on 049-4375004 (extension 101), or email cavanaccord@eircom.net. Cavan ACCORD is based in the Diocesan Pastoral Centre which was the old St. Patrick's College building in Cavan

Cavan Corpus Christi Procession



The Eucharistic Procession which took place through Cavan Town on Sunday 22 June last, the Feast of Corpus Christi, was a great success. The Organising Committee are very grateful to the many people who contributed to the occasion: Fr Rafel Siwek C.C. for leading the procession, the altar servers, Gerry the Sacristan, Jenny Harte the Parish Pastoral Assistant, the ushers who organised the procession so efficiently and the Gardai who did traffic duty. A special word of thanks to the young people who took part, the members of the Knights of St Columbanus who prepared and carried the canopy, and all other civic/lay apostolate groups and individuals.



Diocesan Changes 2014

During the Summer, Bishop Leo O'Reilly announced the following diocesan changes, which were effective from 1 September 2014:

- Fr. Patrick V. Brady PE CC, Drumkilly, to retire and go as resident priest to Cliffrerna.
- Fr. John Murphy PP VF, Bailieborough, to retire as Parish Priest and take sabbatical leave.
- Fr. Patrick Bannon PP, Kill-Drung, has retired from ministry.
- Fr. Liam Kelly currently on study leave to be Parish Priest, Kill-Drung.
- Fr. Michael Router C.C. Butlersbridge to be Parish Priest and Vicar Forane, Bailieborough.
- Fr Noel Boylan C.C. Kill-Drung to go as resident priest to Bruskey to assist in the parishes of Ballintemple and Kilmore.
- Fr Sean Maguire, assistant priest Kill-Drung; to be C.C., Butlersbridge.
- Fr Stefan Park OSA to be C.C. in Kill-Drung and temporary assistant in Cootehill.

We wish them all well in their new roles and pray that God will continue to bless them and their ministry.

Historic Day as Diocese Celebrates first-ever ordinations to the Permanent Diaconate

On Sunday 5th October last two men walked down the aisle of Cavan Cathedral, hand in hand with their wives, having just made a sacred commitment before God and His Church. They walked where hundreds of married couples had walked before them. And yet history had just been made. Damian Kivlihan and Andy Brady had just been ordained permanent deacons, the first for service in the Diocese of Kilmore. They were embarking on a new life, accompanied by the women with whom they had shared so much and raised their families. Those present, who were privileged to share this momentous occasion, couldn't but realise that these two couples, with their families, embodied the domestic Church, the fundamental element of Christian community, which would be the central topic of the Synod on the Family, which had begun in Rome earlier that day. It was significant too that it should happen a few weeks prior to the beginning of the Kilmore Diocesan Assembly, when priests and parishioners from every parish in the diocese would join with Bishop Leo O'Reilly to consider the pastoral challenges for Church in Kilmore and to make plans for how to address them.



Left to Right: Rev. Damian Kivlehan, Mrs. Margaret Kivlehan, Bishop Leo O'Reilly, Mrs. Fionnuala Brady, and Rev. Andy Brady.

Andy and Damian, along with their families, had begun their preparation three years previously when they chose to answer God's call to leave what was familiar to them and to face new challenges which would make demands of them beyond what they had known before. They trusted and depended on each other and on new friends that God has blessed them with, and together they reached the destination to which they had set out. Let the people of the diocese take guidance and inspiration from these two couples who are evangelists in the spirit of Pope Francis, who commented in May 2014 that 'to evangelise is to give witness with Joy and simplicity to what we are and to what we believe in.'

2000 years ago, Peter, a humble fisherman, left his nets behind and struck out on a new path. Over the following three years he persevered on a journey of faith and discovery. He stumbled and failed at times, but 2,000 years later the Gospel he committed to is alive and thriving far beyond the confines of the ancient Middle East.

In his homily at the ordination Mass, Bishop Leo reminded Andy and Damian that they “are being sent out on mission, as Jesus sent out the seventy two disciples in the Gospel story of the Mass. Their mission and ministry have many aspects to them, but their whole mission can be summed up in the command of Jesus to proclaim that the Kingdom of God is near. Your task is to remind people that God is not far away and to help them to come closer to him.”

We, in the Diocesan Pastoral Centre, join with Bishop Leo, the priests and people of the Diocese in wishing Andy and Damian every blessing and happiness in this ministry and commend them for their generosity in offering themselves for service in Kilmore.



From Left to Right. Rev. Damian Kivlehan, Fr. Gabriel Kelly, (Diocesan Director for The Permanent Diaconate), Bishop Leo O'Reilly, Rev. Andy Brady.

Maryvale Catechism of the Catholic Church Adult Studies



Some participants in the Maryvale Course in the Diocese, along with Fr. Enda Murphy and Fr. Michael Router, travelled to Clongowes Wood College in Co. Kildare in July for an opportunity to hear Bishop Frank J. Caggiano from the Diocese of Bridgeport, Connecticut USA speak. The visit was promoted as a providential opportunity to help the Catholic Church in Ireland realise the urgent task of forming people as credible and authentic witnesses that will inspire younger generations. Currently there are 28 groups studying the Catechism of the Catholic Church in 16 dioceses throughout Ireland, including two groups in the Diocese of Kilmore – one based in the Pastoral Centre and the other in Manorhamilton.

Jubilarian Celebrations



Pictured following a special Mass in the Cathedral of SS. Patrick & Felim, Cavan are Fr. Kevin Donohoe (a native of Ballyconnell and a Silver Jubilarian), Fr. Felim McGovern (a native of Drumreilly Upper and a Diamond Jubilarian), and Fr. Michael Router (a native of Virginia and a Silver Jubilarian)



*Golden Jubilarians with Cardinal Seán Brady, Bishop Leo O'Reilly and priests of the diocese.
Front row: Fr. John Quinn (Golden), Bishop Leo O'Reilly, Cardinal Sean Brady (also Golden), Fr. John O'Donnell (Golden) and Fr. Thomas Woods (Golden)
Photo by Ben McHugh (Courtesy of The Leitrim Observer)*

On 4 June last a large congregation gathered in the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Belturbet to join with Fr. Martin Gilcreest in celebrating 25 years of priesthood. Those who gathered included colleagues, ordained and laity, from the various ministries in which Fr. Martin has served in this quarter century of service. During the Mass Fr. Martin, while thanking all who were in attendance, paid special tribute to his mother, Teresa, for her constant love and support throughout his life. In lieu of gifts, Fr. Martin requested that donations be made to the Irish Cancer Society who received a cheque for €7,100.



Pictured above are Fr. Martin with his mother, Teresa (centre) with Bishop Leo, brother priests, and altar servers



Pictured above are Fr. Martin with members of the Belturbet Pastoral Council presenting a cheque for €7,100 to Ena Barrett, Irish Cancer Society



WHAT MIGHT HELP YOU BECOME AN EVEN BETTER WITNESS TO THE GOSPEL?

Please do let us know if there are particular resources or training days/events that you would like offered to help you and your fellow parishioners to deepen their faith and mission as Disciples of Christ. Feel free to call Fr. Enda or Seán on 049 4375004 to discuss any ideas you may have.

Annual Reception for Overseas Priests

Pictured here are Bishop Leo O'Reilly and priests, native to the Diocese of Kilmore, who are working in ministries throughout the world, who gathered for the annual reception for overseas priests in Cavan during the Summer.

Front row from left to right: Fr. Tom Sheridan (Wyoming); Bishop Leo O'Reilly; Fr. Jim McManus (Washington).

Back row from left to right: Fr. Stephen Cooney (Perth); Fr. Aidan O'Reilly (Sacramento); Fr. Albert Cooney (Venice, Florida); Fr. Eugene Clarke, Cavan; and Fr. Sean McManus, (Boston)



Cavan General Hospital celebrates its Silver Jubilee

To mark the 25th Anniversary of its opening, a programme of events took place at Cavan General Hospital over the weekend of 25-27 June last. Dr Rory O'Hanlon, former Minister for Health and TD, who formally opened the hospital back in 1989, launched the celebratory weekend, which included a family day, and photo display documenting the past 25 years. The anniversary celebrations concluded with a Prayer Service of Thanksgiving by representatives of various religious denominations.

Pictured at the Prayer Service are Fr. Martin Gilcreest and Canon Mark Lidwell (Hospital Chaplains)



Spiritual Accompaniment/Direction

The Centre is exploring the possibility of providing trained spiritual directors to accompany people on their life journeys. This would be a one-to-one confidential service inviting individuals to explore the meaning of their lives within a faith context and seeks to help participants meet God in the ordinary and everyday experiences of life. A voluntary contribution would be envisaged.

If interested, please contact the Centre on 049 4375004



Local Syro-Malabar Community celebrate important feast day

The local Syro-Malabar Community recently joined up with their brothers and sisters from the Dundalk area to celebrate the feast of St. Alphonsa. Mass in the Syro-Malabarese rite was celebrated in the Cathedral of SS. Patrick & Felim in Cavan on Saturday 27 September 2014 by Fr. Anthony from Belfast, Fr. George and Fr. Martin from Dublin. Bishop Leo O'Reilly joined them for a procession around the Cathedral after the Mass. The community members then went to the Diocesan Pastoral Centre for refreshments afterwards.



Saint Alphonsa is the first native saint from India. Saint Alphonsa Muttathupadathu, F.C.C., or Saint Alphonsa of the Immaculate Conception (19 August 1910 to 28 July 1946) was a Syro-Malabar Catholic Franciscan Religious Sister who is now honoured as a saint. She is the first woman of Indian origin to be canonised as a saint by the Catholic Church and the first canonised saint of the Syro-Malabar Catholic Church.



The local Syro-Malabar Community hold their monthly night vigil in the Diocesan Pastoral Centre Chapel on the second Friday of the month from 9:30p.m. to 2:30a.m.

Faith, alive and well in the parish of Kildallan as new Outdoor Way of the Cross is blessed

This year the faithful of Kildallan decided to set themselves a challenge to erect a set of outdoor Stations of the Cross, starting at the left hand side of the church near Canon Tiernan's resting place and continuing around the back of the church and community centre, passing through the beautiful flowerbeds set in Fr. Pat Farrelly's time here. They finish at the grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes, erected in Canon Tiernan's time here with us.



The inspiration to tackle this project came about at the time of a very special person's first anniversary Mass, Grace Sheehan R.I.P.. Her sister was home from New York for the occasion and we met in the church later that day and we got talking about how life can challenge us but how the memory of brave and selfless people carry us through the tough days! I guess talking of somebody as brave as Grace made us think of Jesus and how he suffered and carries us through our darkest of days. That brought us to talk about the old Stations of the Cross that I remembered from my childhood. They had been replaced a few years back by a new set and were now kept in a box in the parochial house, polished up but nowhere to go as they had been donated anonymously.

I think Grace and Jesus had a plan for those Stations as we discovered through her sister, Eilish, that their mother Elizabeth - who died in 2001 - had donated them when the present Kildallan church was built. We felt we had been set a task that day by Grace and Jesus. The Sheehan family were more than happy that we should go ahead and get to work. The idea was brought to a meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council where it got full support. Both Fr. Eamonn Lynch and Fr. Donal Kilduff were also very supportive of the initiative. With the help of lots of volunteers and our FAS and TUS workers the project is now complete and people of the parish are very pleased with the results. On Sunday 2 November last - the Feast of All Souls - the new 'Way of The Cross' was blessed and the Stations prayed after 10.00am Mass.





Fr. Eamonn Lynch and Fr. Donal Kilduff preside at the Blessing of the Outdoor Way of the Cross in Kildallan

Pause for Thought Series of Lectures Commence

The 2014-2015 series of guest lectures in the Diocesan Pastoral Centre began on 16 September last when Fr. Gerry O'Hanlon SJ from the Jesuit Centre for Faith and Justice in Dublin spoke about "Pope Francis and the Church". On 29 September, Bishop Brendan Leahy of Limerick visited the Centre and gave a very enlightening talk on "The Influence of Pope St. John Paul II". On 21 October, Fr. Michael Shields, an American-born priest now ministering in the Diocese of St. Joseph in Far Eastern Siberia led an Afternoon of Prayer for Priests and Religious on the theme of "*From Brokenness to Healing*". That evening, he gave a public talk on "*Light into Darkness – Sharing the Joy of the Gospel in Today's World*". Fr. Shields' visit was organised in co-operation with Aid to the Church in Need (Ireland) whose support is appreciated. (It is hoped that Fr. Shields will visit the diocese again for a number of days in May 2015)

During the month of November, a series of talks and events on the theme of bereavement and loss were organised and well attended.

4 November 2014	Fr. Gerry Kearns, Chaplain to Cavan General Hospital on "Grief and Loss"
12 November 2014	Mrs. Elma Walsh, Tralee (Mother of the late Donal Walsh R.I.P.) <i>St. Clare's Comprehensive School, Manorhamilton</i>
13 November 2014	Mrs. Elma Walsh, Tralee (Mother of the late Donal Walsh R.I.P.) <i>Kilmore Diocesan Pastoral Centre</i>
16 November 2014	Annual Still-Birth, Neo-Natal, Baby & Infant Loss Remembrance Ceremony
18 November 2014	Dr Susan Delaney, Bereavement Services Manager with the Irish Hospice Foundation on "Complicated Grief"
25 November 2014	Liturgy of Remembrance to conclude the series

Forthcoming lectures in the series include

27 January 2015 7:45p.m.	Jarlath Burns, Principal of St. Paul's High School, Bessbrook, GAA and TV Commentator on 'Catholic Education: A Reflection to mark Catholic Schools Week 2015'
14 April 2014 7:45p.m.	John Mark McCaffrey, Head of Social Justice & Policy, St. Vincent de Paul "You Might Not Like What Pope Francis is Saying – A Reflection on the Pope's Recent Statements on Social Justice Issues" (re-scheduled from October 2014)

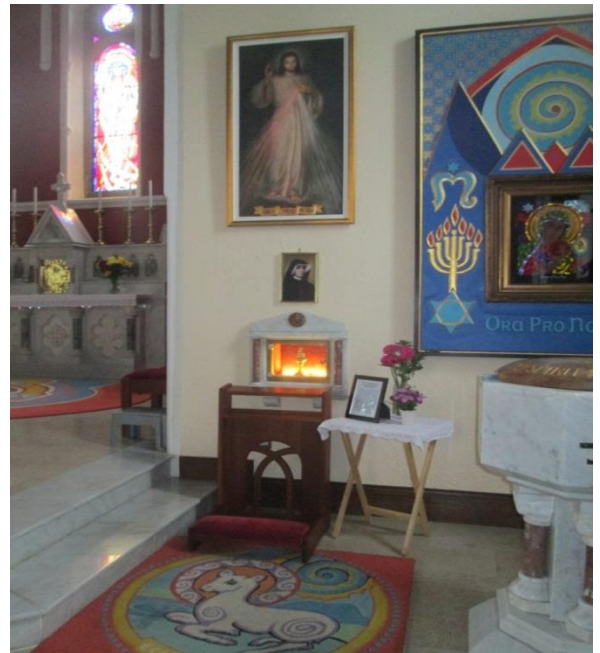
A full report on Mrs. Elma Walsh's visit to some of the post-primary schools in the diocese will be published in the next edition of *Glad Tidings*. Further lectures may be organised over the coming months and these will be advertised in parish newsletters, on the diocesan website and the new Pastoral Centre website after it is launched over the coming weeks.

Divine Mercy Devotions in St. Naile's Church, Kinawley

For the past number of years a group of pilgrims from the parish have been going to Krakow in Poland and to the tomb of Saint Faustina. This then led to the start of Divine Mercy Devotions each Monday night after the 7:00p.m. Mass led by Father Gabriel Kelly. They have proved very popular, with 50-60 people coming out each week to pray. One of our parishioners Mary McElroy a young mother of six young children took on a leadership role from the start, helping to create a beautiful atmosphere in the church with incense and with a myriad of candles and flowers. It all leads to a very conducive atmosphere of prayer. The growing popularity of the devotions led to a desire to have a first class relic of Saint Faustina. This became a reality when the application made by Father Gabriel and endorsed by Bishop Leo O'Reilly proved successful. In September while on pilgrimage to Krakow, Father Pat Mc Hugh (retired priest now resident in Killesher), Mary McElroy and her mother Gretta were presented with a first class relic. They brought the relic back with him and it is now in an illuminated glass cabinet in the church. Each Monday night, the people are blessed with the relic. With a kneeler in front of the relic, many people drop into the church each day to ask Saint Faustina's intercession for all their needs.



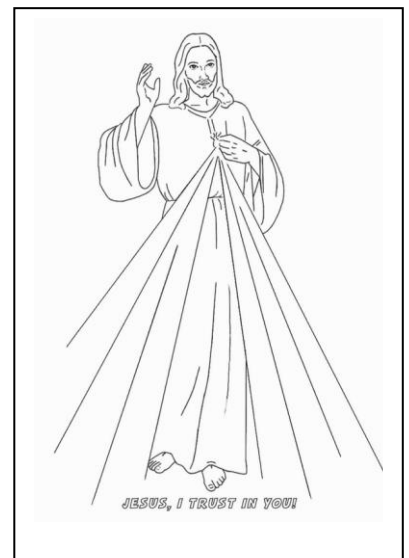
Sanctuary of St. Naile's Church, Kinawley



Shrine of St. Faustina in the Church



Mary McElroy, Fr. Pat Mc Hugh, Fr. Gabriel Kelly, Gretta Goodwin



Diocese celebrates the Year of the Holy Name of Jesus

A special Diocesan Triduum of Prayer, organised by the Kilmore Diocesan Pastoral Centre to mark the Year of the Holy Name of Jesus, took place on 11-13 July last in St. Mary's Church, Staghall, in the Parish of Drumlane.

The aim of the Year is simple – to foster a renewed reverence and devotion to the Holy Name of Jesus, and in so doing to deepen personal love for the Lord Jesus and faithfulness to His Gospel among all people. It is hoped that through personal prayer and reflection, preaching, catechesis, and prayer events during this year there will be a new appreciation of the hope that the Holy Name of Jesus represents for our times.

People from across the four deaneries of the diocese as well as adjoining dioceses came to St. Mary's and listened to Fr. Liam McCarthy OFM from the Franciscan Community in Galway who was the guest preacher for the three days.

Fr. Liam was born in Dublin and studied in Galway, Louvain and Rome. He was ordained in Rome in 1964 and ministered in various parts of Ireland, including nine years in Belfast. He served in Zimbabwe as a missionary for thirteen years before returning home to Ireland and to the St. Francis Street Franciscan Friary in Galway City. Later this month, he will transfer to the Franciscan Community in Multyfarnham, Co. Westmeath as Guardian.



Pictured above from left to right: Seán Coll, Director of the Kilmore Diocesan Pastoral Centre; Fr. Liam McCarthy OFM; Bishop Leo O'Reilly; Fr. Enda Murphy, Diocesan Director of Pastoral Services and Youth Ministry and Fr. Gerry Comiskey, PP Drumlane.

Fr. Liam was the principal celebrant at the Friday evening Mass with Fr. Gerry Comiskey, PP Drumlane, concelebrating and Fr. Enda Murphy, Diocesan Director of Pastoral Services and Youth Ministry as Master of Ceremonies. The Director of the Kilmore Diocesan Pastoral Centre, Seán Coll, welcomed all present and said that he anticipated the Triduum would be a grace-filled opportunity for those attending. On the Saturday evening, Fr. Liam was joined by Fr. Ultan McGoohan, CC Cavan and Chairperson of the Board of Management of the Kilmore Diocesan Pastoral Centre.

Most Reverend Leo O'Reilly, Bishop of Kilmore, was the principal celebrant of the Sunday morning Mass assisted again by Fr. McCarthy and Fr. Comiskey with Fr. Murphy and Seán Coll as Masters of Ceremonies. Bishop O'Reilly said that "the name of Jesus is powerful because by invoking it we invoke the presence and the power of Jesus, the Risen Lord. The apostles invoked his name to heal the sick. St. Paul tells us that, 'at the name of Jesus, every knee should bend and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord'".

"There is an extraordinary paradox in our culture here in Ireland", he said. "On the one hand there is great devotion to the name of Jesus, great faith in the power of his name and great reverence for it in our

prayers and liturgies. But side by side with that, there is an extraordinary level of misuse and abuse of the name of Jesus. His name is often used thoughtlessly and carelessly to express frustration, anger or impatience, but more often nowadays, I think, deliberately and blasphemously”.

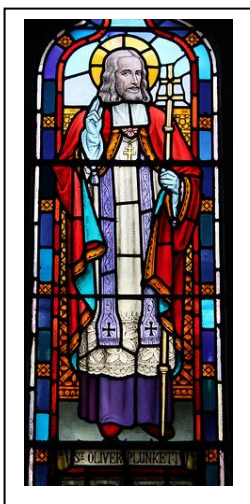
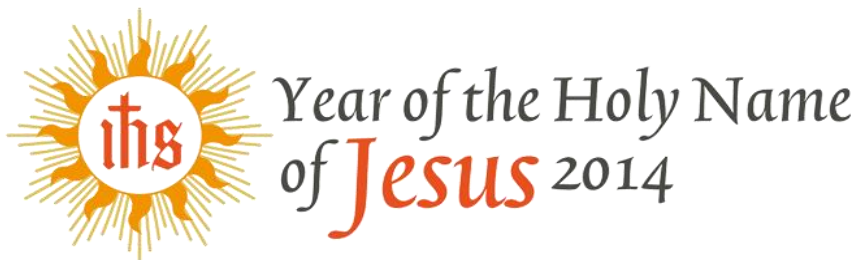
He concluded by saying that part of the prayer over the three days was “atonement for the abuse of the name of Jesus and repentance for our own misuse of it”.

At the end of Mass, Bishop O’Reilly blessed a commemorative Holy Name Tile which will be erected in St. Mary’s Church as a permanent reminder of the Diocesan Triduum and the special Year of the Holy Name of Jesus. He also blessed tiles which people had obtained for their own personal use during the Triduum.

The Director of the Kilmore Diocesan Pastoral Centre, Seán Coll, paid tribute to all those who made the Triduum such a special event – to those who participated in the liturgies; the choirs, organists and instrumentalists; and those who prepared the churches both inside and outside. He also thanked the members of the Drumlane Parish Pastoral Council and Fr. Comiskey for the huge amount of effort they put into the organisation of the event.



[Photographs – Lorraine Teevan]



Relic of St. Oliver Plunkett to visit Pastoral Centre again in 2015

Fr Enda and Seán are delighted to announce that the relic of St. Oliver Plunkett will visit the Kilmore Diocesan Pastoral Centre again on Tuesday 9 June 2015 from 10:00a.m. to 9:00p.m. with the kind co-operation of the Knights of Columbanus. The full programme for the day will be published in the next edition of *Glad Tidings*

Unique Opportunity for Composers & Musicians offered in the Pastoral Centre

The Kilmore Diocesan Pastoral Centre in Cavan, with the support of the Cavan Arts Office, hosted a workshop on Saturday 16 August 2014 from 10:00a.m. to 2:00p.m. with the American, Tom Kendzia.

The workshop was open to anybody interested in contemporary church music and featured musical composition culminating in an open score session which offered an insight into the whole composition process. There was an opportunity during this session for composers to have their music discussed, if they so wished.



Tom Kendzia is well known as a composer, arranger, producer, teacher, clinician, author and performer. He has been a professional liturgical musician for more than 30 years. The workshop presents a unique and wonderful opportunity to meet an established and experienced composer like Tom Kendzia whose music is used in liturgies and concerts across the world.

Since 1980, Tom has appeared throughout the U.S., Canada and Europe at national and diocesan gatherings. He has been the music and worship director of the East Coast Conference for Religious Education since 2002. He has had 15 collections of liturgical and instrumental music published by the Oregon Catholic Press alone. Tom graduated from Manhattanville College in 1976 with a degree in piano and music education.

Currently he is a music and liturgy consultant for Harcourt Religion Publishers and music director at Christ the King Catholic Church in Kingston, Rhode Island, where he lives with his wife, Mary Carol, and two children.

Tom was also a guest speaker at the 2014 Annual Novena in Knock where he spoke on the theme of "Eucharist: A Source of Joy". He also gave a workshop/seminar on "Liturgy & Music" during the Novena.



Pictured from left to right: Seán Coll, Director of the Kilmore Diocesan Pastoral Centre, Tom Kendzia, Niamh McCormack, Fr. Enda Murphy, Diocesan Director of Pastoral Services and Youth Ministry, and Paul Flynn.

Some of Tom Kendzia's music featured during a Mass for the Feast of the Assumption which was celebrated in the Pastoral Centre Chapel on Friday evening, 15 August 2014, at 7:30p.m. The celebrant was Fr. Enda Murphy, Diocesan Director of Pastoral Services and Youth Ministry. The musical director was Paul Flynn with Niamh McCormack as soloist.

DIOCESAN PASTORAL CENTRE HOSTS FUND-RAISING VINTAGE DAY

The Kilmore Diocesan Pastoral Centre in Cavan Town hosted a fund-raising Vintage & Classic Car, Motor Cycle, Tractor and Machinery Display in the grounds of the Centre on Sunday 31 August last from 11:00a.m. to 6:00p.m. The display was organised in partnership with the local Breffni Vintage Club Ltd as part of the programme of events to mark National Heritage Week.



Representatives from the Breffni Vintage Club with Seán Coll, Director of the Kilmore Diocesan Pastoral Centre (left) and Fr Enda Murphy, Diocesan Director of Pastoral Services (right)
[Photograph – Lorraine Teevan]

This was the first of a series of events planned over the coming eighteen months to raise funds for the ongoing maintenance and development of the Centre.



Musicians from the local NYAH group in Cavan perform at the front entrance to the Centre



Display of deLorean Models

During the course of the day, a range of vintage and classic cars, motor cycles, tractors and machinery were displayed in the grounds of the Centre. One of the features of the day was the presence of a number of deLorean cars which attracted a lot of attention. Musicians from the local NYAH group in Cavan also hosted an hour-long seisiun cheoil at the front entrance of the building and the All-Ireland Senior Football Semi-final between Donegal and Dublin was broadcast on a big screen. Refreshments were also available throughout the day.

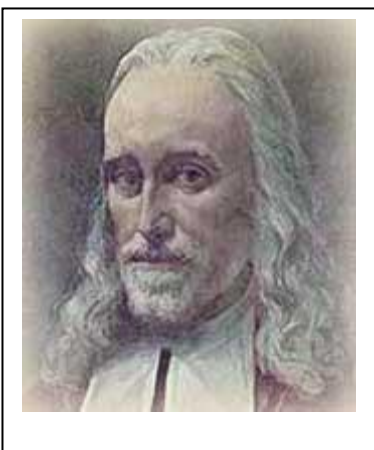


A word of thanks to those who helped out on the day – the officers and members of the Breffni Vintage Club, the staff of the Pastoral Centre, members of the Civil Defence, those who brought their vintage vehicles for display, those who provided refreshments and entertainment (expecially the Nyah musicians), and those who set up stalls.

It is hoped that the Vintage Day will become an annual event in the local calendar and Sunday 31 August 2015 has been tentatively agreed for next year.

Camino comes to Drogheda - St Oliver's Pilgrims' Walk of Drogheda

On Friday and Saturday 29 and 30 May 2015, a Camino route will be established in Drogheda. It will start at Our Lady of Lourdes Church from 10:00a.m. to 4:00p.m. each day and progress via St Peter's Church of Ireland, St Augustine's in Shop Street, St Mary's and Holy Family Churches, St Mary Magdalen of the Dominican's and conclude at St Peter's in West Street - the primary repository of the relics of St Oliver Plunkett - concluding at 5:30p.m. each day. The walk is 3.2 km (2 miles) and can be done within any time limit, or indeed over the two days.

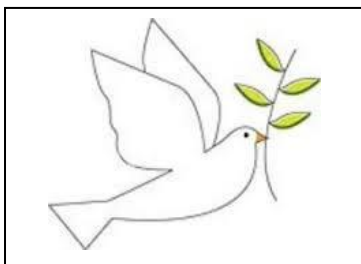


Confessions will be available at various times in the churches on the route (see web site for details). There will be a nominal fee charged for participation which will cover the cost of the passport, (max charge €3). Passports will be given at the start and will contain details of the walk, a general history of each of the building visited, and a map of the route. This passport will be stamped with the official stamp for each church. A certificate of accomplishment will be given to each pilgrim on completing the Way.

For further information: www.stoliverswalk.com, on Facebook at stoliverswalk, or contact us on stoliverswalk@gmail.com

Pope announces theme of 48th World Day of Peace – 1 January 2015

"*Slaves no more, but brothers and sisters*" will be the title of the Message for the 48th World Day of Peace, the second of the papacy of Pope Francis.



Many people think that slavery is a thing of the past. In fact, this social plague remains all too real in today's world.

Last year's *Message* for 1 January 2014 was dedicated to brotherhood: "Fraternity, the Foundation and Pathway to Peace". Being children of God gives all human beings equal dignity as brothers and sisters.

Slavery deals a murderous blow to this fundamental fraternity, and so to peace as well. Peace can only exist when each human being recognizes every other person as a brother or sister with the same dignity. Too many abominable forms of slavery persist in today's world: human trafficking, trade in migrants and prostitutes, exploitation, slave labour, and the enslavement of women and children.

Shamefully, individuals and groups around the world profit from this slavery. They take advantage of the world's many conflicts, of the economic crisis and of corruption in order to carry out their evil.

Slavery is a terrible open wound on the contemporary social body, a fatal running sore on the flesh of Christ!

To counter slavery effectively, the inviolable dignity of every person must be recognized above all. Moreover, this acceptance of dignity must be anchored solidly in fraternity. Fraternity requires us to reject any inequality which would allow one person to enslave another. It demands instead that we act everywhere with proximity and generosity, thus leading to liberation and inclusion for everyone.

Our purpose is to build a civilization based on the equal dignity of every person without discrimination. To achieve this will also require the commitment of the media, of education and of culture to a renewed society pledged to freedom, justice and therefore peace.

The World Day of Peace, initiated by Pope Paul VI, is celebrated each year on the first day of January. The Holy Father's *Message* is sent to all the world's Foreign Ministers and also indicates the Holy See's diplomatic line during the coming year.

2016 World Youth Day Logo Launched

In a press conference held in the Vatican on 3 July last, the Archbishop of Krakow, Cardinal Stanislaw Dziwisz, presented the logo and official prayer for the 31st World Youth Day.



Three elements are combined in the symbolism of the logo: the place, the main protagonists, and the theme of the celebration. The logo of the 2016 World Youth Day, to be held in Krakow, illustrates the passage from the Gospel according to Matthew, 5:7: "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy", chosen as the theme of the event. The image is composed of a geographical outline of Poland, in which there is a Cross, symbol of Christ who is the soul of World Youth Day. The yellow circle marks the position of Krakow on the map of Poland and is also a symbol of youth. The flame of Divine Mercy emerges from the Cross, and its colours recall the image "Jesus, I trust in you". The colours used in the logo – blue, red and yellow – are the official colours of Krakow and its coat of arms.

The logo was designed by Monika Rybczynska, a young woman aged 28 from Ostrzeszow, a small town in the mid-west of Poland, following the canonisation of St. John Paul II.

The press conference also included the presentation of the official prayer of World Youth Day 2016, which entrusts humanity and the young to divine mercy, asks the Lord for the grace of a merciful heart, and asks the intercession of the Virgin Mary and St. John Paul II, patron of World Youth Day.

***God, merciful Father, in your Son, Jesus Christ, you have revealed your love
and poured it out upon us in the Holy Spirit, the Comforter,
We entrust to you today the destiny of the world and of every man and woman".
We entrust to you in a special way young people of every language, people and nation:
guide and protect them as they walk the complex paths of the world today
and give them the grace to reap abundant fruits from their experience of the Krakow World Youth Day.***

***Heavenly Father, grant that we may bear witness to your mercy.
Teach us how to convey the faith to those in doubt, hope to those who are discouraged,
love to those who feel indifferent, forgiveness to those who have done wrong
and joy to those who are unhappy.***

***Allow the spark of merciful love that you have enkindled within us
become a fire that can transform hearts and renew the face of the earth.***

Mary, Mother of Mercy, pray for us. St. John Paul II, pray for us.



It is hoped that the Diocese will send youth representatives between the ages of 18 and 35 to attend 2016 World Youth Day in Krakow. Already, the Cathedral Parish of Urney and Annageliffe is working in sending a group to the event. Check out their Facebook page – FromKilmore ToKrakow. (Please note spelling)

Would you like to volunteer in the Centre?



Volunteering is a great practical way of helping out. From time to time throughout the year, there may be some events in the Diocesan Pastoral Centre which would require volunteers to help with car-parking, stewarding, and hospitality. If you would like to register your interest in taking on an occasional volunteer role in the Centre, please contact Seán Coll on 049 4375004 extension 102. Your help would be appreciated.

Kilmore Diocesan Youth Retreat to Lough Derg 2014

Around 60 young people from across Kilmore participated in the Diocesan Youth Retreat to Lough Derg which took place in typical autumnal weather on Thursday 21 August last and was led by Fr. Enda Murphy, Diocesan Director of Pastoral Services and Youth Ministry. The retreat itself was conducted by Fr. Robert McCabe, a priest of the Meath diocese, who is one of the chaplains to the Irish Defence Forces and based in Gormanston Camp. Also present were Fr. Oliver Kelly, PP Cloonclare-Killasnett; Fr. Kevin Donohoe, Administrator, Urney and Annagelliff (Cavan Cathedral); and Fr. Rafal Siwek, CC Cavan.



After opening prayers in St. Patrick's Basilica, the young retreatants availed of refreshments during a mid-morning break before praying the Way of the Cross and hearing about the Christian Journey of Discipleship. After lunch, there was an opportunity for people to avail of the Sacrament of Reconciliation while the Blessed Sacrament was exposed for adoration. Fr. Robert, Fr. Enda, Fr. Oliver, Fr. Kevin, and Fr. Rafal concelebrated Mass in the Basilica before everyone made their way home.

A word of thanks to all who contributed to the success of the retreat – especially Fr. Owen McEnaney, Prior of Lough Derg, and his team; Fr. Robert McCabe; those who took part in the retreat itself and those who accompanied them.

National Pastoral Conference 2014



Growing in Faith Together as Local Church Community was the theme for the 2014 National Pastoral Conference which took place from 25 - 27 September in the Sheraton Hotel, Athlone. The event is organised every two years by the Irish Bishops' Council for Pastoral Renewal and Adult Faith Development. It offered people in positions of pastoral leadership, faith development and pastoral care (bishops, priests, deacons, lay people and religious) an opportunity to renew their spirits, be nourished together in faith and share programmes and experiences. Resource-speakers this year included Rev Professor Robert Schreiter, a priest and member of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood based in Chicago and Rev Dr Gareth Byrne, of the Archdiocese of Dublin and head of the Religious Department in Mater Dei. The diocese was represented by Seán Coll, Director of the Diocesan Pastoral Centre, and Fr. Enda Murphy, Diocesan Director of Pastoral Services and Youth Ministry.



Speak, Lord, Your Servant is Listening

Fr Johnnie Cusack, CC Ballinamore & Diocesan Vocations Director

Back in Lavey there was a parish priest who would stay on a half hour or so after Mass and pray the Divine Office from his breviary. As he left for home he noticed an old man sitting quietly in the back seat. After a few weeks, he had a wee chat with this man. "How do you pass the time, without any prayer book?", he asked. The man's answer was lovely. "I look at Him and He looks at me!!!" This surely was an echo of the scene from the Bible where Samuel thought he heard the priest Eli calling out: "Samuel, Samuel", in the Temple. He went to Eli, who told him it was not him that was 'calling'... and then Eli told him that if he heard that call again to say "Speak Lord; your servant is listening". That happened... Samuel became a great and holy prophet back then. Pondering, Prayer, Vocation/God's Call - all go together!

The earth we live in is wrapped up in air overland and water too at lower levels. Radio, TV, and all the other media are there too, waiting to be detected with the appropriate equipment. Prayer is the means of 'tuning in' to God's communications to us. Any attempt to 'ponder' is a step towards picking up what is relevant.

Begin by pondering your own body, head to toe: Bone structure... skin that wraps all contained within... blood in veins and arteries that absorbs all the food, drink, and air we consume and brings that nourishment to every single bit of the body one lives in ... that same Blood absorbs all that is 'worn out'/no longer useful, and disposes of it in due course. The heart and lungs keep all this going night and day for a lifetime! The brain absorbs information and directs operations all this time, and enables us to make choices... wonderful when wise, needing to be amended when not wise. As St Paul so beautifully stated: "We are God's work of art".

Pondering all of this surely leads to questions: How come I am here in this place at this time and what I should be at right now? Do I need to make changes in my lifestyle? Where ought I to be into the future? Is God calling me to somewhere else? Maybe God has a special 'Vocation' for me.

Pondering leads to saying a word of thanks to the unseen God, for existence and sustained support, from conception to this present moment. This thanks is the very first step in prayer. Many people like to formalise that with a phrase like "Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy Name". The desire to make full and proper use of all that we are, can prompt further pondering in such words as: "Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done". This would have extraordinary consequences not just for oneself, but for all of Society ... "on Earth, as it is in Heaven"! God is the "Master" of the Universe; we are just "managers"!

When over 300 people from all over the Kilmore Diocese prayed and pondered at the recent Diocesan Assembly, this transformation can lead to a 'New Way' going forward! Also, small groups who gather to read the Scriptures and reflect together on the meaning, can be enlightened by this too. This, called "Lectio Divina", is something to look at again, please God.

Pondering also reveals personal limitations. Tuned-in to God provides the source of how to make a better life/better world. "Give us this day our daily bread" provides the energy needed for now and ongoing.

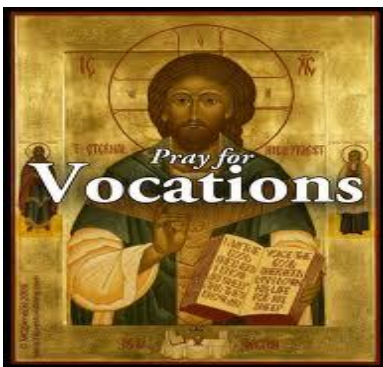
Pondering does not allow past failures to impede progress. The remedy is in the words "Forgive us our trespasses". This is just what we need to enable us to extend mercy to "those who trespass against us".

Pondering does not allow future hazards to impede progress, as we rely on God saying "Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from Evil".

Pondering the Lord's Prayer/the Our Father, alone or with others, allows one to attain spiritual health and to advance anywhere life leads to in the future. A vocation to Priesthood, Religious life, or other form of service, is definitely in there for anyone, who heeds these words today "Speak Lord; your servant is listening". Old men/women/youngsters can 'tune-in' and let God call. To be 'attentive' is the place to start. Furthermore, you or anyone is most welcome to contact me if any further clarification be required.

Meanwhile, such pondering will bring serenity to everyone else, to be the best of whom they could be. This pondering or listening to the inner voice of Jesus Christ and His Holy Spirit, who originally taught this way of thinking, is the best message you've tuned into for a while now! Please don't "Switch Off"!!! In church, or any quiet place, just ponder the words of the "Our Father" again and again, against the background of "Speak Lord; your servant is Listening!"

Let God be Master... attend to His guidance... be a great Manager.



Prayer for Vocations

God our Father, send workers into your harvest.
May the Spirit we received in baptism touch the hearts of many
to offer themselves in priesthood, religious life
and other forms of service.
Give the parents and families of our diocese and parishes the
wisdom and courage to support young people
in searching for and following the call of God in their lives

Kilmore Diocesan Vocations Director:

Rev. John Cusack, Church Street, Ballinamore, Co. Leitrim

Telephone 00 353 (0)71 9644050 ... 00 353 (0)87 240809 ...Email: frjcusack32@gmail.com



The then Archbishop Seán Brady with Bishop Leo O'Reilly at the official opening of the Kilmore Diocesan Pastoral Centre on Sunday 13 February 2005

Bishop O'Reilly pays tribute to Cardinal Seán Brady on his retirement

When news broke that Pope Francis had accepted the resignation of Cardinal Seán Brady as Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland, Bishop Leo O'Reilly issued a statement in which he said that it was a sad day for him personally and for his many friends in his native Diocese of Kilmore.

Bishop Leo said: "I have known and worked closely with Cardinal Seán, firstly as a colleague on the staff of St Patrick's College, Cavan, as a fellow priest of the Diocese of Kilmore and, since my appointment as Bishop of Kilmore in 1998. On this day of mixed emotion I wish to acknowledge Cardinal Seán's innate decency and personal kindness, and I will miss his support, wisdom and outstanding leadership of the Bishops' Conference.

Cardinal Seán is much loved here in the Diocese of Kilmore. He was born in Laragh parish and educated in Caulfield National School and Saint Patrick's College, Cavan. He was ordained priest for the diocese of Kilmore on 22 February 1964. From 1967 to 1980 he taught languages at Saint Patrick's College and he served as diocesan secretary for seven years until 1980. On his return from the Pontifical Irish College in Rome, where he served as Vice Rector and Rector from 1980 to 1993, he was appointed as parish priest of Castletara (Ballyhaise) in Co Cavan. In 1994 Cardinal Seán was appointed Coadjutor Archbishop of Armagh by the then Pope, now Saint, John Paul II, and he has served the Bishops' Conference and his diocese faithfully and patiently since that time."

He went on to say, "Cardinal Seán is a humble pastor of deep faith and is gifted with a strong pastoral instinct. These defining qualities have equipped him well over the last twenty years as he led the Catholic Church through our most turbulent period since the Penal Laws. Cardinal Seán has worked tirelessly to achieve peace in Ireland; he prioritised and oversaw the development of robust child safeguarding guidelines for the Church; in the area of pastoral ministry he led the introduction of the permanent diaconate to Ireland; and at all times he promoted Gospel values and the faith in our contemporary society which is much less receptive to hearing the message of the Good News than in previous times.

Throughout his tenure Cardinal Seán has never forgotten his roots and he has been a great friend to me and to his home parish and diocese. Whilst this is a sad day, I wish Cardinal Seán good health in his retirement which no doubt will be far from inactive and, as he has always encouraged us to pray more, I ask that you join me to remember Cardinal Seán in your prayers now and always."

He concluded by wishing Cardinal Seán's successor, Archbishop Eamonn Martin, every blessing and happiness in new role as Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland.

Cursillo Movement in the Diocese of Kilmore

Cursillo (pronounced Cur see o), a Spanish word meaning "a short course", is the name given to a lay Catholic Movement that originated in Spain in 1944. The first Cursillo officially sanctioned by the ecclesiastical authorities was held in January 1949. The movement quickly spread around the world after the Second Vatican Council in the 1960s. Members try and live their Christianity in the environments in which they find themselves and by their witness influence others and act as Christian leaven in their homes, neighbourhoods and workplaces.



Cursillo offers a method to help Christians respond positively to their Baptismal responsibilities. Cursillo is not an organisation that you join, it is a world-wide movement within the Catholic Church (and some other Christian denominations have adopted and adapted it to meet their needs). To be part of the Cursillo movement a person attends an introductory three day weekend residential course which is structured carefully to refresh the faith. The course, which is given by lay people, religious and priests, starts on a Thursday evening and finishes on a Sunday afternoon. It is intended to start a person on a lifelong journey with Christ as their companion. It is also intended to remind participants of the great challenge and invitation of our Faith to share the good news of Christ's love with others. The aim is to help ordinary people make a real difference in the world in which they live, bringing Christ and the Gospel to every area of society.

The Cursillo method offers a proven formula and a support network of friends who meet regularly, encouraging one another and praying together. This means that, rather than feeling alone and isolated in their efforts, they benefit from a real sense of community and are enabled to persevere as Christians aware of their role in answering Christ's call to "launch out into the deep".

The “After” activity of Cursillo (after short weekend course) is known as the “Fourth Day”. In the Cursillo Movement the community spirit is continued after the three day weekend course through the Group Reunion (usually weekly or fortnightly) and Ultreya (Spanish expression meaning “Keep Going” or “Persevere”) which is a reunion of all Groups and Cursillistas (people who have completed the short weekend course) in the Diocese and which are organized on a regular basis. These activities help those who have completed the Cursillo 3-day course persevere as they return to their own places in the world and continue their lives as Christians, faithful to their Baptismal promises. The Cursillo Community, serving Christ and the Church, under the patronage of St Paul, aims to effect real and meaningful change to society by “making friends, being friends and (because it is God’s will) bringing friends to Christ”.

Cursillo began in the Diocese of Kilmore in 2002 and a Cursillo residential weekend course has been held every year since then and has been well received by all who attended.

A recent participant of a Cursillo weekend in the diocese gives the following testimonial:

I attended a Cursillo weekend this March (2014). I was totally unsure of what it was. I went with a neighbour of mine on the Thursday evening. We were met with a welcoming group and we were introduced to other participants there.

It was a full and rewarding weekend and I thoroughly enjoyed my walk with Christ. There were many discussions and talks and it opened my mind to new ideas. I felt that the people facilitating the weekend really cared for me.

It is a lovely social group and it opens up to people’s ideas and new friendships. We now continue with local meetings once a week and they bring great joy and friendship. We can always find solace with Jesus.

The next weekend for men will take place from 8:00p.m. on Thursday 5 March 2015 until 4:00p.m. (approx.) on Sunday 8 March 2015 and for women from 8:00p.m. on Thursday 12 until 4:00p.m. approx. on Sunday 15 March 2015 – both in the Star of the Sea Retreat & Conference Centre, Mullaghmore, Co. Sligo.

For further information about Cursillo in the Diocese of Kilmore or for application form to attend a Cursillo residential weekend course please contact Jim Carolan, Secretary to Cursillo Diocesan Secretariat on 071 9855204 or Fr. John McMahon PP, Spiritual Director of Kilmore Cursillo, Knockbride, Bailieboro, Co. Cavan on 042 9660112.

Address of Pope Francis for conclusion of Synod of Bishops



Speaking in October at the conclusion of the well publicised Third Extraordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops, Pope Francis said: “With a heart full of appreciation and gratitude I want to thank, along with you, the Lord who has accompanied and guided us in the past days, with the light of the Holy Spirit. I can happily say that – with a spirit of collegiality and of synodality – we have truly lived the experience of ‘Synod’, a path of solidarity, a ‘journey together.’ And it has been ‘a journey’ – and like every journey there were moments of running fast, as if wanting to conquer time and reach the goal as soon as possible; other moments of fatigue, as if wanting to say ‘enough’; other moments of enthusiasm and ardour. There were moments of profound consolation listening to the testimony of true pastors, who wisely carry in their hearts the joys and the tears of their faithful people. Moments of consolation and grace and comfort hearing the testimonies of the families who have participated in the Synod and have shared with us the beauty and the joy of their married life.” Read the full text of the Pope’s concluding address on catholicbishops.ie/synod. For more see the December/January issue

New report published on the future of voluntary secondary schools



The future of Catholic secondary schools has been a matter of concern for all those involved in Catholic education over recent years. *Catholic education at second – level in the Republic of Ireland, Looking to the Future* is a new report on this issue launched by the Catholic Schools Partnership and can be accessed on catholicbishops.ie.

Novena to Our Lady, Untier of Knots held in Cathedral

Pope Francis has a very special devotion to Our Lady, Undoer of Knots. When he was studying in Germany, he was stunned by a Bavarian painting of “Holy Mary, Our Lady Untier of Knots.” He acquired a copy of the painting and brought it to Argentina to promote devotion to Mary under this title.

In an address given last October, Pope Francis said:

“What are the knots in my life? “Father, my knots cannot be undone!” It is a mistake to say anything of the sort! All the knots of our heart, every knot of our conscience, can be undone. Do I ask Mary to help me trust in God's mercy, to undo those knots, to change? She, as a woman of faith, will surely tell you: “Get up, go to the Lord: he understands you”. And she leads us by the hand as a Mother, our Mother, to the embrace of our Father, the Father of mercies.”



The first-ever public Novena to Our Lady, Untier of Knots took place in the Cathedral of SS. Patrick and Felim in September with a good attendance from far and near over the nine nights. The guest speakers for the Novena were:

- Saturday 20th (during the 7:30p.m. Vigil Mass): Fr. Ultan McGoohan, (CC Cavan)
- Sunday 21st: Fr. Alan Burke (Galway Diocese)
- Monday 22nd: Fr. Tom McKiernan, (Retired PP, Templeport)
- Tuesday 23rd: Canon Macartan McQuaid (Clogher Diocese)
- Wednesday 24th: Fr. Peter Burke (Ardagh and Clonmacnois Diocese)
- Thursday 25th: Fr. Michael Duignan (Elphin Diocese)
- Friday 26th: Fr. Kevin Heery (Meath Diocese)
- Saturday 27th (during the 7:30p.m. Vigil Mass): Fr. Enda Murphy (Kilmore Diocesan Director of Pastoral Services & Youth Ministry)
- Sunday 28th: Bishop Leo O'Reilly

With the exception of the two Saturdays, the novena ceremony comprised of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Rosary, Reflection, Novena Prayers and Benediction.

The Pastoral Centre Team would like to thank those who gave the reflections, those who attended, and would also like to record their appreciation to the priests, staff and volunteers of the Cathedral who helped in a variety of different ways.

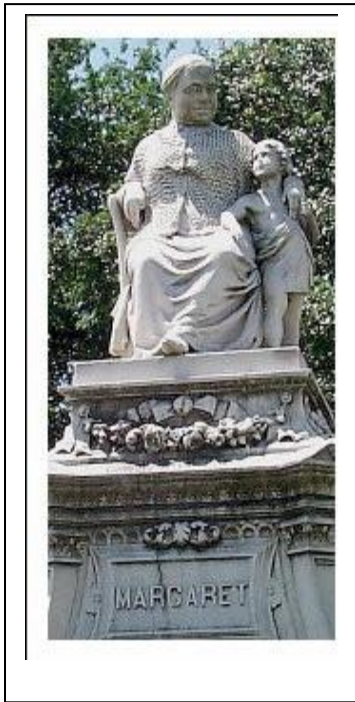
It is planned to have another Novena to Our Lady, Untier of Knots, in September 2015.



“Nearly The Last Word” by Guest Contributor ...

For this edition, Fr. Ultan McGoohan, CC Cavan and Chair of the Board of Management of the Kilmore Diocesan Pastoral Centre, writes about

Margaret of New Orleans



Earlier this year a meeting was held in Carrigallen to organise support for the beatification of Margaret of New Orleans. The story of Margaret who lived from 1813-1882 is an extraordinary one. Space does not permit the telling of her story in detail but I would like to share with you the basic outline of her remarkable life.

Margaret Gaffney was born in the townland of Tully South in the parish of Carrigallen, Co. Leitrim. Five years later Margaret's parents emigrated along with Margaret and her brother and sister. The journey across the Atlantic Ocean was torturous as storms made the journey intensely slow and difficult. Eventually they reached Baltimore where sadly Margaret's baby sister died. Four years later Margaret's parents died from yellow fever and Margaret was left bereft. Then her brother disappeared and was never heard from again.

Though still a child herself Margaret found work as a domestic in Baltimore. In 1835 she married an Irish man Charles Haughery. Charles had poor health and they moved to the city of New Orleans hoping that a different climate would help him. Charles and Margaret had a daughter Frances. The New Orleans climate did not help Charles and he decided to return to Ireland where he died shortly afterwards. Around the same time, their daughter Frances died, and Margaret once again was alone in the world.

In New Orleans Margaret became associated with the work of the Sisters of Charity who cared for orphaned children in the city. Their work would become her own for the rest of her life. Margaret managed to persuade a local landowner to donate a disused house on a plantation outside the city for use as an orphanage. Margaret bought a few cows and started making and selling cream and butter to support the work of the orphanage. She discovered that she had a flair for business. Some years later she became the owner of a bakery and she turned the failing business into a great success and became a wealthy woman. But all the profits from the business were used to support the work of caring for orphans and the poor. Margaret herself was noted for her great kindness and the frugality of her life-style. For instance, she only ever owned two dresses at a time.

Over the years Margaret developed a host of new initiatives and her charity knew no bounds and crossed all races and religions. She became a much loved and a highly respected figure in the city of New Orleans.

Margaret died from a lingering illness in the care of the Sisters of Charity in 1882. Pope Pius IX sent his blessing and a crucifix to her in her final days as a token of his esteem. Her funeral was the largest ever seen in the city as the great and the humble came to pay their respects to the lady who had become known as, 'The Angel of the Delta'.

As a tribute to her the people of the city erected a statue in her honour. In fact she is the first woman in the United States to have a publicly funded statue erected in her memory.

The story of Margaret has been kept alive in her native parish. In recent years a very active committee in her native townland have built an old style cottage on the site of Margaret's family home. It is open for visitors in the summer months. Links have been forged between New Orleans and Carrigallen and for the last number of years each summer a group of visitors have travelled from New Orleans to Carrigallen to trace Margaret's footsteps.

Margaret was regarded as a saint in her lifetime. Now the moment has come to make that official. For her Cause to make progress its needs support on both sides of the Atlantic. Margaret is a native of our Diocese and we all should know her story and feel proud of her achievements. She should inspire our Christian community in a time when ordinary people are suffering great economic hardship. We can also confidently seek her intercession in our prayers.

A special prayer has been composed for her Beatification:

**Dear God of mercy and compassion, your words,
'As long as you did it for one of these, the least of my brethren, you did for me,'
inspired 'Margaret of New Orleans' to devote her life to helping feed and clothe not only the under-privileged children of New Orleans, but also the destitute, the orphans, the poor, the sick and the elderly, of that great city.
We commend to You her charitable work on behalf of the under-privileged Catholic, Protestants, Jews and African-Americans, for whom she worked so tirelessly.
With faith and trust in our hearts, we pray for her beatification so that she may continue to encourage us to lead humble and charitable lives. We pray also that the work of 'Margaret of New Orleans' will help inspire today's rulers of society to develop a more positive attitude towards the less well off. Amen.**

For more information on Margaret please visit www.margaretsbirthplace.com or on Facebook view *Beloved Margaret Haughery of New Orleans*.

Some facts about our diocese ...

The Diocese of Kilmore straddles the border between the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland and includes almost all of County Cavan, and parts of Counties Leitrim, Fermanagh, Meath and Sligo. It comprises of 35 parishes with 95 churches and a Catholic population of approximately 70,000 served by around 60 priests in active ministry. Each parish has a pastoral council, a finance committee, a recruitment committee and a safeguarding children representative.

There are currently nine pastoral areas in the diocese which provide an opportunity for parishes to work together in such a way that individual parishes are supported in their efforts to ensure that they will continue to exist as vibrant communities of faith into the future. Each Pastoral Area is headed by a Pastoral Area Leader.

There are currently four congregations of religious sisters and one congregation of male religious in the diocese.

Pause for Prayer ...

My God, I am yours for time and eternity.
Teach me to cast myself entirely
into the arms of your loving Providence
with a lively, unlimited confidence in your compassionate, tender pity.
Grant, O most merciful Redeemer,
that whatever you ordain or permit may be acceptable to me.
Take from my heart all painful anxiety;
let nothing sadden me but sin,
nothing delight me but the hope
of coming to the possession of You
my God and my all,
in your everlasting kingdom. Amen.



Venerable Catherine McAuley (1777-1841) – Servant of God and founder of the Sisters of Mercy

FORTHCOMING EVENTS BEING ORGANISED BY THE DIOCESAN PASTORAL CENTRE:

Date & Time	Activity	Venue
30 November 2014 7:00p.m.	From Darkness to Light – An Advent Celebration of Readings and Music	Diocesan Pastoral Centre Chapel
3 December 2014 11:00a.m.	Day of Recollection for Clergy conducted by Mgr. Peter O'Reilly, PP VG, Enniskillen	Diocesan Pastoral Centre
12 December 2014 9:30p.m. to 3:00a.m.	Night Vigil for the Syro-Malabar Community	Diocesan Pastoral Centre Chapel
2015		
9 January 2015 9:30p.m. to 3:00a.m.	Night Vigil for the Syro-Malabar Community	Diocesan Pastoral Centre Chapel
18-25 January 2015	Christian Unity Week	
25 January – 1 February 2015	Catholic Schools Week	
27 January 2015 7:45p.m.	Pause for Thought Guest Lecture Series Jarlath Burns, Principal of St. Paul's High School, Bessbrook, GAA and TV Commentator 'Catholic Education: A Reflection to mark Catholic Schools Week 2015'	Diocesan Pastoral Centre
1 February 2015 3:00p.m.	Afternoon of <u>Prayer for the Communities of Religious of the Diocese only</u> to mark World Day for the Consecrated Life	Drumlane Room
10 February 2015 7:30p.m.	Lenten Series of Reflections "Who am I before my Lord?" with Stations of the Cross and Benediction	Diocesan Pastoral Centre Chapel
11 February 2015 7:30p.m.	World Day of Prayer for the Sick Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes	Diocesan Pastoral Centre Chapel
13 February 2015 9:30p.m. to 3:00a.m.	Night Vigil for the Syro-Malabar Community	Diocesan Pastoral Centre Chapel
15 February 2015	Day of Prayer for Temperance	
17 February 2015 7:30p.m.	Lenten Series of Reflections "Who am I before my Lord?" with Stations of the Cross and Benediction	Diocesan Pastoral Centre Chapel
24 February 2015 7:30p.m.	Lenten Series of Reflections "Who am I before my Lord?" with Stations of the Cross and Benediction	Diocesan Pastoral Centre Chapel
3 March 2015 7:30p.m.	Lenten Series of Reflections "Who am I before my Lord?" with Stations of the Cross and Benediction	Diocesan Pastoral Centre Chapel
10 March 2015 7:30p.m.	Lenten Series of Reflections "Who am I before my Lord?" with Stations of the Cross and Benediction	Diocesan Pastoral Centre Chapel
13 March 2015 9:30p.m. to 3:00a.m.	Night Vigil for the Syro-Malabar Community	Diocesan Pastoral Centre Chapel

18 March 2015 11:00a.m.	Day of Recollection for Clergy	Diocesan Pastoral Centre
18 March 2015 7:30p.m.	Lenten Series of Reflections "Who am I before my Lord?" with Stations of the Cross and Benediction	Diocesan Pastoral Centre Chapel
24 March 2015 7:30p.m.	Lenten Series of Reflections "Who am I before my Lord?" with Stations of the Cross and Benediction	Diocesan Pastoral Centre Chapel
10 April 2014 9:30p.m. to 3:00a.m.	Night Vigil for the Syro-Malabar Community	Diocesan Pastoral Centre Chapel
14 April 2015 7:45p.m.	Pause for Thought Guest Lecture Series John Mark McCafferty Head of Social Justice and Policy, SVdP <i>You might not like what Pope Francis is saying – A Reflection on the Pope's Recent Statements on Social Justice Issues</i>	Diocesan Pastoral Centre

Christmas & New Year Holiday Arrangements

The Centre will be closed for the Christmas and New Year Holidays from 1:00p.m. on Friday 19 December 2014 and will re-open at 9:00a.m. on Wednesday 7 January 2015.

Please note that the Diocesan Pastoral Centre will be closed to the public all day on

- Feast of the Immaculate Conception - Monday 8 December 2014
- Feast of the Epiphany – Tuesday 6 January 2015
- St. Patrick's Day - Tuesday 17 March 2015

OTHER ACTIVITIES IN THE DIOCESAN PASTORAL CENTRE in addition to Accord and other core diocesan activities

Alcoholics Anonymous Please ring 01-8420700 or email gso@alcoholicsanonymous.ie for further formation

Every Tuesday WeightWatchers from 11:30a.m. to 1:30p.m.

Every Tuesday: Cavan Bowls Club from 2:30p.m. to 4:30p.m.

Every Wednesday: Yoga from 10:45a.m. to 12:15p.m.

Every Wednesday: Maryvale Course on the Catechism in Manorhamilton (term time)

Every Thursday: Maryvale Course on the Catechism in the Pastoral Centre (Morning session beginning at 11:00a.m. and Evening session beginning at 7:30p.m. – two hour sessions – term time)

Year for Consecrated Life

Pope Francis has asked the Universal Church to celebrate a special Year for Consecrated Life from 29 November 2014 - 2 February 2016. The year will mark the 50th anniversary of the Vatican II decree on the renewal of consecrated life. Bishops ask the faithful to pray to support those who are consecrated to serve in religious life, and to pray for vocations.

Lenten Series of Reflections 2015

"Who am I before my Lord?"

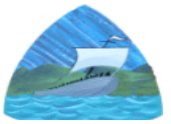
The 2015 series of Lenten Reflections will be themed on the homily which Pope Francis delivered on last Palm Sunday when he called on the faithful, himself included, to look into their own hearts to see how they are living their lives.

After listening to the Gospel account of how Jesus' disciples fell asleep shortly before he was betrayed by Judas in advance of his crucifixion, the Pope said: "Has my life fallen asleep? Am I like Pontius Pilate, who, when he sees the situation is difficult, washes my hands?"

The series will begin on 10 February 2015 and run weekly for seven weeks with a guest speaker on each night. More details in the next edition of *Glad Tidings*.

Current Centre Staff and Contact Details:

"Launch Out into the Deep"
(LK 5:4)



- **Director of Pastoral Services including Youth Ministry:**
Fr. Enda Murphy
Direct Email: endaemurphy@gmail.com
- **Director of Diocesan Pastoral Centre:**
Seán Coll
Direct Email: seancoll001@gmail.com
- **Administration Staff:**
Anne Clarke and Gráinne O'Reilly
- **Caretaker:**
Pat Smith

Contact Details for Other Diocesan Agencies based in the Pastoral Centre:

- **Safeguarding Children:**
Sr. Suzie Duffy
Monday - Friday - 9:00a.m. to 5:30p.m.
Email: safeguardingchildren@kilmorediocese.ie
- **Education Office:**
Nancy Sheils
Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays
- 10:30a.m. to 1:30p.m.
Email: nsheils@eircom.net
- **Marriage Tribunal Office:**
Sr. Elizabeth Fee
Wednesdays - 9:30a.m. to 1:00p.m.
- 1:30p.m. to 4:30p.m.
Email: tribunal@kilmorediocese.ie
- **Diocesan Finance Officer**
Jennifer O'Reilly
Monday - Friday - 9:00a.m. to 5:00p.m.
Email: accounts@kilmorediocese.ie

Kilmore Diocesan Pastoral Centre, Cullies, Cavan

Telephone Numbers

049 4375004 or 00 353 49 4375004 (if dialling from Northern Ireland)

085 8743223 or 00 353 85 8743223 (if dialling from Northern Ireland)

Fax: 049 4327497 or 00 353 49 4327497 (if dialling from Northern Ireland)

Email: pastoralcentre@kilmorediocese.ie Website: www.kilmoredpc.ie

Pastoral Centre Opening Hours ...

Office Hours: Monday to Friday – 9:00a.m. to 4:00p.m.

Centre Hours for Meetings and Events:

Monday to Friday – 8:30a.m. to 10:30p.m.

Saturday & Sunday – by arrangement