

# GLAD TIDINGS



**News from the Kilmore Diocesan Pastoral Centre**

**Summer 2014**



**Editorial: Seán Coll**  
**Director of the Kilmore**  
**Diocesan Pastoral Centre**

Welcome to the second edition of *Glad Tidings*.

First of all, a word of thanks to those who took the time to contact us here in the Centre with their comments and observations on the first edition which was published in the Spring. We appreciated getting the feedback and we have factored some of your recommendations into this edition.

The principal purpose of *Glad Tidings* is to bring people closer to the heart of pastoral developments in the diocese and to what this Pastoral Centre is about. A secondary purpose is to provide people with food for thought in their ongoing experience of diocese, parish, and daily life. We also want to share information on pastoral developments nationally as well because they impact on what we do locally.

There has been a lot of activity in the Diocesan Pastoral Centre over recent months which we have captured in this issue. While the Summer months tend to be quiet, we have been planning a number of events for Autumn and Winter which, we hope, will be of interest and benefit. These are featured throughout this edition. Probably the most significant event over the coming months will be our Diocesan Assembly which takes place on Saturday 25 and Sunday 26 October, the outcomes of which will shape pastoral strategy in Kilmore in the challenging years that lie ahead. Another significant event will be the ordination of Andy Brady and Damian Kivlihan to the Permanent Diaconate on Sunday 5 October next.

If your parish or church organisation has had a special event, we would be happy to feature it in a future

edition. Just send us in an article and some photos and we'll take it from there.

As Bishop O'Reilly indicated in his foreword to the first edition, the maintenance and upkeep of The Hague Building, which is home to most of the activities of the Diocesan Pastoral Centre, are significant costs. We hope to embark on a series of fund-raising initiatives over the coming months and we would appreciate your support of these. However, I would reiterate Bishop Leo's appeal for donations towards the upkeep of the building and the continued provision of services.

Please do not hesitate to contact Fr. Enda or myself if you would like to suggest activities or programmes which the Centre could organise in the future or, indeed, if you have any suggestions regarding the format and content of the newsletter. We will most certainly welcome hearing your views and considering them.

The next edition of *Glad Tidings* will be published and circulated to parishes in mid-November, D.V.

In the meantime, all of us here in the Centre wish you a safe, restful, enjoyable, and prayerful summer.

## **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.



## Reflection by Fr. Enda Murphy *Diocesan Director of Pastoral Services and Youth Ministry*

The good weather of mid June brought a smile to most faces while it lasted and gave farmers a great chance to gather in their hay and silage. A burst of sunshine can change our attitude and lift our spirits, moving us from darkness of mood to lightness of heart. There is no doubt that Pope Francis continues to be a great burst of sunshine in our church, with his winning smile and easy to relate to words, but most of all he bears the light to people by his concrete actions.

Sometimes we might get the idea that the church in Ireland is in a perpetual state of winter, with dark clouds never far from the horizon. But each of us is called to let our light shine. A Christian with a smile on her face is a thousand times more effective at bringing the joy of the Gospel to the neighbourhood than a lot of sermons could ever be. Such brightness and joy doesn't seek to deny the difficulties or to ignore the shadows but it does see the context against which all these shadows are placed and that context is the risen Christ. If we lose sight of him, forget about him or just don't talk about him then in short order the darkness engulfs us and we lose our way.

The Diocesan Assembly which takes place in October is a chance for the whole diocese to let that light of Christ shine out brightly for all our people. It will do this by acknowledging the difficulties that exist but will respond by seeking to chart a positive way forward which puts the joyful Gospel of the risen Lord at the centre of all our activity.

In the meantime perhaps we can each bring that sunburst of joy into our own lives and the lives of those around us and in this way we will be starting to fulfil the vision Pope Francis has given to us all in *Evangelii gaudium*:

*The Gospel offers us the chance to live life on a higher plane, but with no less intensity: "Life grows by being given away, and it weakens in isolation and comfort. Indeed, those who enjoy life most are those who leave security on the shore and become excited by the mission of communicating life to others". When the Church summons Christians to take up the task of evangelization, she is simply pointing to the source of authentic personal fulfilment. For "here we discover a profound law of reality: that life is attained and matures in the measure that it is offered up in order to give life to others. This is certainly what mission means". Consequently, an evangelizer must never look like someone who has just come back from a funeral! Let us recover and deepen our enthusiasm, that "delightful and comforting joy of evangelizing, even when it is in tears that we must sow... And may the world of our time, which is searching, sometimes with anguish, sometimes with hope, be enabled to receive the good news not from evangelizers who are dejected, discouraged, impatient or anxious, but from ministers of the Gospel whose lives glow with fervour, who have first received the joy of Christ". (EG n. 10)*

So evangelizing is something delightful and comforting! It's not a chore or an annoying work that we have to do. No, the adjectives to describe it are positive and enlivening. Let's hope we can catch some of that sunburst and brighten up not only our Church but our country too.

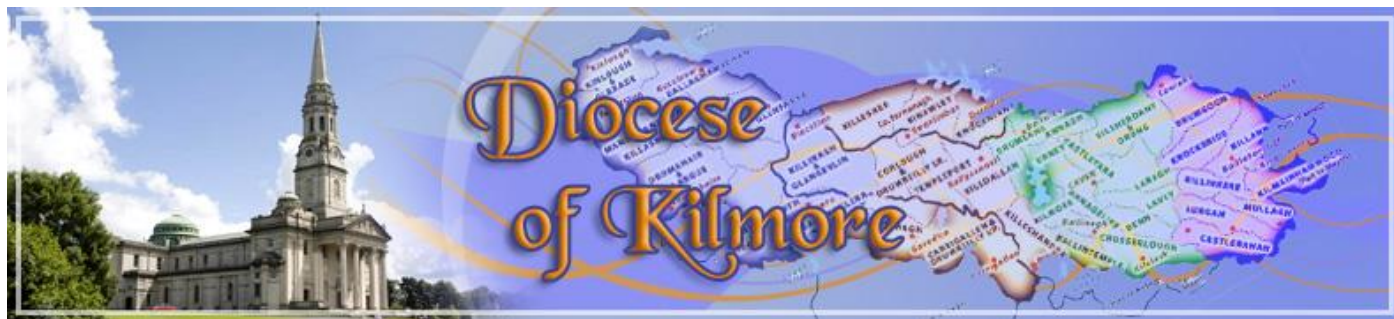
## American Choir to sing in the Cathedral



The choir of the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Atlanta, Georgia, will perform at the 7:30p.m. Mass in the Cathedral of SS. Patrick and Felim in Cavan on Saturday 4 October next as part of its 10 day "Celebration of Celtic Spirituality" pilgrimage. Donal P. Noonan is the Shrine Director of Music and the pilgrimage also takes in the Boyne Valley, Tara and Slane, Armagh, Downpatrick, Belfast, Knock, Galway, Kylemore Abbey, Connemara, Clonmacnois, Dublin, Glendalough and Kilcock.

Cavan is the home of Fr. Thomas O'Reilly, a former Pastor of the Shrine from 1861 until his untimely death at the age of 41 in 1872. He is regarded as an Irish-American hero, and is famous for his heroic action in saving the city of Atlanta from destruction by Union General William T. Sherman during the American Civil War. His parents are buried in the cemetery behind the former church dedicated to Mary Immaculate in Virginia – now the Ramor Theatre.

For more information on the Shrine and the life of Fr. O'Reilly, log onto [www.catholicshrineatlanta.org](http://www.catholicshrineatlanta.org)



## KILMORE DIOCESAN ASSEMBLY 2014 - UPDATE

Plans are well advanced for the forthcoming Kilmore Diocesan Assembly which will take place in St. Patrick's College, Cavan on Saturday 25 and Sunday 26 October 2014. The theme of this year's Assembly is taken from three key words used by Pope Francis in his first homily after his election which he has repeated many times since: **'Walking Together ... Building the Kingdom ... Professing our Faith'**.

The purpose of the 2014 Assembly is to gather the *sensus fidelium* or the views of the people in the diocese on how to address three key pastoral challenges – youth, celebration of sacraments and people on the margins of the church. The Assembly will seek to offer broad directions for the diocese which the Diocesan Pastoral Council will then develop into a more detailed pastoral strategy.

The programme for the Assembly has now been agreed by the Assembly Steering Committee as follows:

### Saturday 25 October 2014

- 9:15a.m. Registration
- 10:30a.m. Welcome – Prayer – Setting the Scene
- 11:00a.m. Summary of Listening Survey Outcomes
- 11:15a.m. Small Circle Discussion on the Listening Survey Outcomes
- 11:45a.m. Sacramental Practice & Modern Culture – *Dr. Michael Drumm (Diocese of Elphin and Executive Chairperson of the Irish Catholic Schools Partnership Trust)*
- 12:15p.m. Small Circle Discussion on Sacramental Practice & Modern Culture
- 1:00p.m. Open Forum
- 1:30p.m. Lunch
- 3:00p.m. Reaching Out to Youth – *Clogher Don Oige Youth Ministry Team*
- 3:30p.m. Small Circle Discussion on Reaching Out to Youth
- 4:00p.m. Open Forum
- 4:45p.m. Closing Comments and Preview of Tomorrow
- 5:15p.m. First day concludes

### Sunday 26 October 2014

- 11:30a.m. Assembly Mass in the Cathedral
- 1:00p.m. Lunch
- 2:30p.m. Future Direction for Our Diocese
- 3:00p.m. Small Circle Discussion on the Future Direction for Our Diocese
- 3:45p.m. Open Forum
- 4:15p.m. Break
- 4:45p.m. Witness – *Breda O'Brien, Mother of Four, Second-Level Teacher and Columnist with The Irish Catholic and the Irish Times*
- 5:15p.m. Small Circle Discussion
- 5:30p.m. Closing Address
- 6:00p.m. Assembly concludes

The parish representatives attending the Assembly will be briefed before the event on the results of the Listening Survey undertaken throughout the diocese over recent months. Parish Pastoral Councils will be supplied with discussion papers on the outcome of the Listening Survey during the period leading up to the two days which should be discussed at local level so that the parish representatives come prepared to the Assembly.



There will be ample time for small group work and discussions in Open Fora during the course of the two days between the formal presentations.

Six delegates per parish are being invited to attend both days of the Assembly along with the parish clergy. The names of the six parish delegates should be forwarded to the Kilmore Diocesan Pastoral Centre as soon as possible, please. Parishes are asked to nominate at least one of the six delegates to act as a facilitator during the Assembly. Two training sessions for facilitators have been organised:

|                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| 6 October 2014 at 7:30p.m. | <i>Drumlane Room in the Kilmore Diocesan Pastoral Centre</i>        |
| 7 October 2014 at 7:30p.m. | <i>The Library, St. Clare's Comprehensive School, Manorhamilton</i> |

**Please note that parishes are requested not to have any Mass celebrated after 10:30a.m. on the Sunday morning of the Assembly to allow as many priests as possible to concelebrate the 11:30a.m. Assembly Mass in the Cathedral. The deliberations of the first day of the Assembly will conclude by 5:15p.m. to allow priests return to their parishes to celebrate the Saturday evening Vigil Mass.**

In the meantime, the priests and people of the diocese are asked for their prayers for the success of the Assembly, that it will be an opportunity for true discernment as we face into the future – priest and laity alike - walking together, building the Kingdom and professing our Faith. Prayer cards were distributed to parishes in May.

For more information, please contact either Fr Enda Murphy (Diocesan Director of Pastoral Services and Youth Ministry) or Seán Coll (Director of the Diocesan Pastoral Centre) on 049 4375004.

### Prayer for the Success of the Assembly



The Hospitality of Abraham by Andrej Rublev, 15th Century

kilmore diocesan  
assembly  
2014

Most Holy Trinity,  
we long to share  
your life of communion and grace.

Father, you so loved the world  
that you gave us your Son.

Christ Jesus,  
you emptied yourself for us on the cross and  
restored us to new life.

Holy Spirit, you have been poured out on us to  
enliven our hearts and minds.

As our diocese prepares to meet in Assembly,  
open the hearts of all people of good will  
to receive the joy of the Gospel,  
so that we may all walk together,  
build the kingdom  
and profess our faith in the one God  
who is Father, Son and Spirit now and forever.  
Amen.

st. patrick, pray for us.  
st. felim, pray for us.

The front cover of the prayer card is a reproduction of a famous icon painted by the Russian monk, Andrej Rublev, in the 15<sup>th</sup> century. It is based on the story of the three heavenly visitors whom Abraham and Sarah welcomed to their tent by the Oak of Mamre, as reported in the Book of Genesis. The Church has traditionally interpreted that scene as a foreshadowing of the mystery of the Trinity.

The three faces resemble each other very closely. The iconographer emphasises their unity as well as their distinctiveness. Even specialists disagree about the identification of each. There are good reasons for identifying the figure on the left as God the Father, the central figure as God the Son, and the third figure as God the Holy Spirit. The hand of the left-hand figure is open, in a gesture of beginning, of originating, of sending. He is God the Father and Creator. The central figure has a reddened cloak, stained with the blood of redemption. The figure on the right-hand side has garments whose colours and folds recall a cascade of water pouring down from an overflowing well. It symbolises the torrent of living water flowing from the Father through the open heart of Christ on the Cross. Above the figure of the father is a house recalling the tent of Abraham and symbolising the Church.

At the centre of the icon is a table which clearly is also an altar. On it stands a cup with food inside. This obviously is the Eucharistic Cup and Bread. The hand of the Son is stretched out towards the cup, as though about to raise it and offer it to the Father. The gaze of the Spirit shows that he joins in the offering. This is a perfect pictorial representation of the words which end each of our Eucharistic Prayers at Mass: *“Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, Almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour is yours, for ever and ever.”* At the front of the altar is a vacant place, waiting for a guest still to come. The hand of the Spirit points downward towards the opening at the centre of the altar. He is inviting us to enter into the heart of the combined mystery of the Eucharist and the Trinity. This is ‘the still-point of the turning world’. We can enter it as we gaze in silent, loving and prayer-filled wonder, seeking the hidden face of the thrice-holy God – Father, Son and Spirit.

May this time of preparation for our Diocesan Assembly be for all of us – bishop, priests, religious and lay faithful - a time of prayer and joyful hope.



## **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](http://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 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.**

There are a limited number of places available for the final course in 2014 which takes place on **10 and 11 October 2014.**

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](mailto:cavanaccord@eircom.net). Cavan ACCORD is based in the Diocesan Pastoral Centre which was the old St. Patrick's College building in Cavan.



### **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.



## ORDINATION ANNIVERSARIES IN THE DIOCESE

We, in the Diocesan Pastoral Centre, wish to offer our sincere congratulations, best wishes, and prayerful support to those priests of the diocese who celebrate significant milestone anniversaries around this time

### **Diamond Jubilarian**

Fr. Felim McGovern – ordained 20 June 1954

### **Golden Jubilarians**

Cardinal Seán Brady – ordained 22 February 1964

Fr. John O'Donnell – ordained 21 June 1964

Fr. John Quinn – ordained 21 June 1964

Fr. Thomas Woods – ordained 21 June 1964

### **30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

Fr. John Gilhooly – 17 June 1984

Fr. Seán McDermott – 24 June 1984

### **Silver Jubilarians**

Fr Kevin Donohoe – ordained 18 June 1989

Fr Martin Gilcreest – ordained 4 June 1989

Fr Michael Router – ordained 25 June 1989

### **10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:**

Fr Ultan McGoochan – ordained 11 July 2004

### **We remember those jubilarians who have passed to their eternal reward:**

Fr. Augustine Leaden R.I.P. – ordained 20 June 1954

Fr. Cyril Mulligan R.I.P. – ordained 21 June 1964

Fr Conor Maguire R.I.P. – ordained 10 September 1989

Let your light so shine before men that, seeing your good works, they may glorify your Father in Heaven.

**Matthew 5:16**

*They came from among us to be, for us, ones who serve. We thank them for ministering Christ to us and helping us minister Christ to each other. We are grateful for the many gifts they have brought to the communities and places in which they have served and continue to serve: for bringing the Food of Salvation and the Good News to us; for helping us to grow in our faith; for drawing us together in the celebration of the sacraments, especially the Eucharist; for visiting us in our homes; for comforting us in sickness; for showing us compassion in the sacrament of reconciliation; for blessing our marriages; for baptising our children; for confirming us in our calling; for supporting us in bereavement and times of sorrow and despair, for encouraging us to take the initiative, for helping us to realise God's presence among us.*

*For our part, we pray that we may always be attentive to their needs and never take them for granted. They, like us, need friendship and love, welcome and a sense of belonging, kind words and acts of thoughtfulness. Let us support one another during times of crisis.*

*God our Father, we ask you to bless our priests and confirm them in their calling. Give them the gifts they need to respond with generosity and a joyful heart.*

*And may Fr. Gus, Fr. Cyril and Fr. Conor, who have completed their pilgrim journey in this life, now enjoy the happiness of eternal life in the presence of the Risen Lord.*

*We offer this prayer for our priests, who are our brothers and friends, through Christ, the Good Shepherd and our Lord. Amen.*



# Year of the Holy Name of Jesus 2014



## **DIOCESAN TRIDUUM OF PRAYER TO MARK THE YEAR OF THE HOLY NAME OF JESUS – 11/13 JULY 2014**

As featured in the last edition of *Glad Tidings*, 2014 is the Year of the Holy Name of Jesus in Ireland for the Franciscans and the Poor Clare Federation and the wider Franciscan family. 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.

The Year commemorates the centenary of the renewal in Ireland of devotion to the Holy Name initiated by Fr Francis Donnelly, OFM, of the Galway Abbey community, the Galway Poor Clares and by the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary, Loughglynn, Co. Roscommon.

Devotion to the name of Jesus has been a strong element in Franciscan prayer and ministry stretching back to the time of St Francis, but was particularly fostered by St Bernardine of Siena in 15th century.

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.

**A special Diocesan Triduum of Prayer has been organised by the Kilmore Diocesan Pastoral Centre to mark the Year. It will take place on Friday 11, Saturday 12, and Sunday 13 July 2014 in St. Mary's Church, Staghall, Belturbet.**

**Fr. Liam McCarthy OFM from the Franciscan Community in Galway will be the preacher for the three days. Mass will be on Friday and Saturday evenings at 8:00p.m. and on the Sunday morning at 11:30a.m. Bishop Leo O'Reilly will be the principal celebrant of the Sunday morning Mass. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available on Saturday – 11:00a.m. to 12 noon and 7:00p.m. to 7:45p.m.**

**Fr. McCarthy 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 his current ministry in the St. Francis Street Franciscan Friary in Galway City.**

The team in the Diocesan Pastoral Centre greatly appreciates the assistance it has received from Fr. Gerry Comiskey, PP Drumlane, and the Drumlane Parish Pastoral Council in relation to the Triduum.

For more information, please contact the Centre on 049 4375004.

### **Prayer for the Year of the Holy Name of Jesus**

JESUS, yours is the name above all names.

We offer you our heartfelt praise and gratitude.

Deepen in us an abiding reverence for your Holy Name.

Jesus, Saviour, heal the wounds within that our sin and fear have inflicted.

Set us free from all that hinders us from rejoicing in your boundless love and sharing your goodness with others.

Jesus, Friend, draw us ever closer to you.

We entrust all we carry in our hearts to your abundant mercy.

Jesus, Lord, pour out the Holy Spirit upon your people  
that our lives may overflow with your grace, our days be filled with your love,  
and all our actions shine with your light. AMEN



## Kilmore Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2014

The 2014 Diocesan Pilgrimage to Our Lady's Shrine at Lourdes took place from Tuesday 27 May to Sunday 1 June last. Pilgrims left for the French shrine from Knock and Dublin airports. The pilgrimage was led by Bishop Leo O'Reilly. As in previous years the pilgrims from Kilmore joined with those from the diocese of Ardagh and Clonmacnois for some of the ceremonies. They were led this year by their new bishop and Kilmore-native, Bishop Francis Duffy. The Pilgrimage Director was Fr. Kevin Fay, Priest-in-Residence, Lavey, and Chaplain to Loreto and St. Patrick's Colleges in Cavan.

Students from St. Clare's College in Ballyjamesduff travelled on this year's pilgrimage. Neasa Byrd and Kelly Cooke, who were part of the 2014 Youth Group, gave this account of their experience of the pilgrimage:

*"From the minute we hopped off the bus in Knock the unforgettable journey started. Although we were nervous of what was ahead, everyone knew it would be a worthwhile experience. The most important part of our pilgrimage was to offer all the help we could, to the assisted pilgrims. We were to offer every bit of energy we had within us into making the pilgrimage as memorable and enjoyable for the assisted pilgrims. This was no burden by any means, because all 15 of us were aware of the difference we were making. Often it was the small things that counted such as a chat, a smile or even a simple "Good Morning", and we could always get a sense of how much this meant to each person. The fun and craic we had each night in the hospital, singing and dancing, made everyone forget their worries and made the pilgrimage that bit more meaningful.*

*Witnessing the amount of faith, hope and strength each assisted pilgrim has, gave us, the youth group a whole new outlook on life.*

*It was a privilege to work as part of the Kilmore Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes. The pilgrimage staff are an outstanding group of people who give of their time each year. They never failed to make us feel welcome or part of the team. The atmosphere was always lively with Fr. Kevin and Barney Cully always at hand to throw in the odd joke and brighten everyone's mood. This is something that we, as the Youth Group, and our teachers are very grateful for and hope to return to Lourdes some day to help with the Pilgrimage*

*Words cannot describe the overall experience we had in Lourdes. The overwhelming sense of peace we gained at the Grotto, the Baths, and during the Torchlight Procession, the Holy Hour and the Stations of the Cross is something we will always cherish.*

*By the end of the week we had grown in confidence and we made bonds and memories that will last forever. Being part of the Youth Group will remain one of the most memorable and heartfelt experiences of our lives".*





## Nursing Students take part in Lourdes Pilgrimage

Four nursing students from St. Angela's College, Sligo took part in the recent Kilmore Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes. The education of nurses is a four year honours degree programme (BNSc) which gives the student an academic award but also registration as a nurse with the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland. Students undertake placements in various settings learning how to relate their theory to the nursing of people.

The placement on the pilgrimage was part of the community nursing experience where students gain experience outside of the acute hospital setting. This is valuable as it helps students see at first-hand how people and families live and cope with challenges to health. The placement lends the opportunity for the student to explore spirituality and its meaning for pilgrims.

The four students, who begin their final year in September, were Roisin Toolan (Dromahair), Lucy Anne McDermott (Carrigallen), Aisling Mulligan (Ballybay) and Margaret Carney (Culleens). The students thoroughly enjoyed their experience. This is the first time that a pilgrimage was incorporated as part of the programme. Evelyn McManus (Lecturer) and Siobhan Healy McGowan (Allocations Officer) would like to take this opportunity to thank the Director of the pilgrimage Fr. Kevin Fay, Breege Graham and the entire pilgrimage team for the part they undertook to ensure that the placement was a meaningful learning and enjoyable experience for the students.

St. Angela's College, Sligo, founded in 1952 by the Ursuline Order and is a College of the National University of Ireland, Galway. It is situated in a unique geographical position on the shores of Lough Gill and offers undergraduate and post-graduate programmes in Nursing, Health and Disability Studies, Education, Special Needs Education, Theology, Food and Consumer Studies, Science, Irish, Economics and Social Studies. Students at St. Angela's College, Sligo are afforded a high quality of University education with small classes, state of the art resources within a strong community environment while been given the wider opportunities of being registered students at NUI Galway.



### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY ...

#### National Heritage Week 2014

**Tuesday 26 August 2014**

Ecclesiastical History Display in the Kilmore Diocesan Pastoral Centre from 11:00a.m. to 6:00p.m.

Guest Lecture at 8:00p.m. by Fr. Liam Kelly  
*William Hague (circa 1836-1899), Architect of St. Patrick's College and many of Cavan's Finest Buildings.*

ALL WELCOME

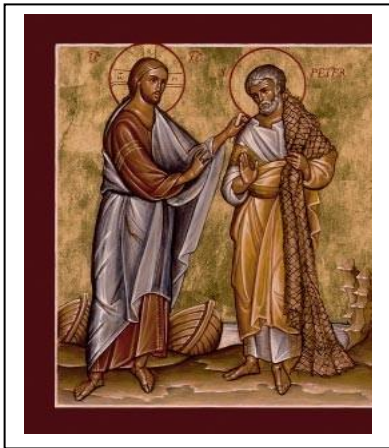


#### Fund-Raising Vintage & Classic Car, Motor Cycle, Tractor and Machinery Display - Sunday 31 August 2014

The Diocesan Pastoral Centre will host a fund-raising vintage and classic car, motorcycle, tractor and machinery display in the grounds of the Centre in partnership with Breffni Vintage Club on Sunday 31 August 2014. Gates open at 10:00a.m.

A great day out for all the family.

Further information will be advertised in the local media over the coming weeks. In the interim, if you have any queries, please contact either Eugene Markey on 042 9660131, Patrick McGovern on 087 1238404, Peter Reilly on 087 1238404 or the Centre on 049 4375004.



## 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*

## Kilmore Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock 2014

The 2014 Diocesan Pilgrimage to Our Lady's Shrine at Knock in Co. Mayo took place on Sunday 15 June last and was led by Bishop Leo O'Reilly. As in previous years the pilgrims from Kilmore joined with those, among others, from the diocese of Dromore led by Bishop John McAreavey who preached the homily at the main Mass. The Kilmore Pilgrimage Director was Fr. Anthony Fagan, PP Killinkere.



*Bishop Leo imparts the final blessing at the end of the ceremonies (Picture by Brian Connolly)*



*Bishop Leo with Bishop McAreavey*



*Procession in the Shrine Grounds (Pictures by Brian Connolly)*



## Bishops designate 5 October as Rosary Sunday

Irish born Father Patrick Peyton led the first 'Rosary Crusade' in Canada in 1948 and he brought the crusade to Ireland during the Marian Year of 1954 (see below). To mark the sixtieth anniversary of this prayerful initiative, and to encourage the practice of this special and much loved family prayer, bishops have designated 5 October next as Rosary Sunday.

In this context, as 5 October is also the Church's annual Day for Life, bishops asked that the intentions of the Rosary be offered for the theme of Day for Life, which this year focuses on the theme of protecting and cherishing life. Bishops also asked for prayers to guide October's Extraordinary Synod of Bishops on the Family.

## Launch of the Irish Catholic Catechism for Adults



The Irish Bishops have commended the new Irish Catholic Catechism for Adults to members of the faithful for study and reflection. Published by Veritas the Catechism was inspired by a recommendation in the Catechism of the Catholic Church suggesting that local bishops' conferences should consider the "writing of new local catechisms, which takes into account various situations and cultures, while carefully preserving the unity of faith and fidelity to Catholic doctrine." This is the first time a catechism has been tailored and produced specifically for an Irish adult audience.

The Irish Catholic Catechism for Adults offers an accessible narrative and it explains the doctrine of the Church in a structured and user-friendly style. It links itself to the reader by revealing the life and ministries of well-known Irish figures of faith from Saint Augustine, Nano Nagle, Edmund Rice and Saint John XXIII, amongst others. Their stories in the Catechism show how the teachings of the Church were put into action in their respective lives. Each chapter also provides material for reflection on Church teaching in the context of today as well as offering pointers for action. The Catechism is a very useful resource for individuals, parishes or other faith groups. A study guide is also available. The Catechism will also assist those working to implement the recommendations in Share the Good News, the Church's national directory for catechetics.

Bishop Brendan Leahy of Limerick, Chair of the Bishops' Council for Catechetics, said, "The Irish Catholic Catechism for Adults is a 'go-to' resource for adults looking for explanations and apt examples of what Catholics believe. Many people today who were brought up as Catholics have a lot of questions about faith. This Irish Catholic Catechism tries to meet people where they are using an adult methodology for personal learning that reaches our spirit, our individuality and our personal existence. It contextualises for Ireland the presentation of faith by providing positive experiences of people of faith as well as reflecting on the challenges today facing people of faith. A new phenomenon in Ireland in recent years has been the emergence of study groups of the Catechism of the Catholic Church with many claiming it has been a life-changing experience for them. Exploration of the Catechism is aimed at helping us link faith and worship, life and prayer, social commitment and intellectual insight. The text of the Irish Catholic Catechism will be promoted in a range of ways, including with the publication of the study-guide and helpful and brief video-clips."

Copies can be obtained from Veritas. Please see advertisement in this edition of *Glad Tidings*.

## St. Brigid's Pastoral Area New Website



The St. Brigid's Pastoral Area has launched its new website. It has newsletters from the parishes of Ballinamore, Corlough, Carrigallen and Killeshandra which comprise the cluster. It has interesting and informative links which will be invaluable to those preparing for reception of Sacraments, seeking information and contact details for schools and parish groups. It is hoped that the new website will be an interesting and worthwhile location for both parishioners and visitors to keep up to date with what's happening in their parishes. Parish and community groups will see it as a useful resource for getting information out to people.

The website can be accessed by logging onto [www.stbrigidspastoralarea.ie](http://www.stbrigidspastoralarea.ie)





## Lough Derg

God's healing grace is experienced on Lough Derg in an intensity seldom encountered elsewhere - through spiritual exercise, companionship of fellow pilgrims and the sheer holiness of the place. Daily boats to the Island for the three-day pilgrimage from 10:30am until 3:00pm, 7 days a week, until 13<sup>th</sup> August. No booking necessary. Cavan / Lough Derg return bus service available weekly. For further information contact Maureen or Sharon Tel: 071 9861518 email: [info@loughderg.org](mailto:info@loughderg.org)

## Safeguarding Children Conference 2014



*Pictured above from right to left: Bishop Leo O'Reilly, Sr Suzie Duffy – Director of the Diocesan Safeguarding Children Committee, Ann Marie McSorley from iResource Training & Education, and Christopher Dooley – Chairperson of the Diocesan Safeguarding Children Committee.*

Bishop Leo O'Reilly and the Safeguarding Children personnel throughout the Diocese of Kilmore gathered at the Diocesan Pastoral Centre, Cullies, Cavan for their Annual Safeguarding Children Conference which took place on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2014.

Personnel include clergy, parish safeguarding children representatives, parish recruitment committees, diocesan safeguarding children committees, advisory panel, pastoral assistants, parish youth officers, the soon-to-be-ordained permanent deacons, diocesan advisors, care persons, trainers, Lourdes pilgrimage leaders, coordinator of safeguarding and designated liaison persons.

The purpose of the conference was threefold –

- 1 – To communicate the church's safeguarding message.
- 2 – To introduce our updated policy and procedures manual and safeguarding children newsletter 2014.
- 3 – To thank parish and diocesan personnel, over who give of their time, energy and talent in Safeguarding Children and young people while they participate in church activities.

Guest speaker Ann Marie McSorley from *iResource Training & Education* spoke about internet safety and how to keep our children and young people safe while online.

Bishop Leo thanked everyone, most sincerely, for their continued commitment to best practice in Safeguarding Children. In commending all concerned for their hard work in developing and implementing policies and procedures, that assured a safe environment for children and vulnerable adults, he added that just because we are in a better position than heretofore this does not give room for complacency. The bishop emphasised that *'documents alone cannot protect children, that will only be done by people on the ground'*.

Bishop O'Reilly urged everyone to continue to be vigilant in maintaining their high standards in this very important ministry to children and young people.

## Launch of Towards Peace Spiritual Support Service

Towards Peace is a new pastoral initiative of the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference, the Conference of Religious of Ireland and the Irish Missionary Union. This service offers spiritual support to those whose faith has been damaged by abuse and who wish to continue their search for meaning and for God. Those who seek this support are invited to contact the Towards Peace coordinator Sister Mary Whyte on 00 353 (0) 1 5053028. An opportunity to talk to a trained spiritual companion will be offered to help the person in her/his search. Towards Peace is one of three key Catholic Church agencies in Ireland dedicated to assisting survivors of abuse. The other two are the National Board for Safeguarding Children in the Catholic Church, and Towards Healing, the telephone counselling referral service.



**How do I contact Towards Peace?**

Enquiries should be made to  
**Sister Mary Whyte**  
Co-ordinator of Towards Peace

**Phone:** 00353 (0)1 505 3028  
**Mobile:** 00353 (0)86 770 1533  
**Mon-Thurs** 10.00 a.m.–1.00 p.m.  
and 2.00 p.m.– 4.00 p.m.

**An answerphone service is available outside these hours.**

**Email:** [towardspeace@iecon.ie](mailto:towardspeace@iecon.ie)  
**Website:** [www.towardspeace.ie](http://www.towardspeace.ie)

**Postal Address:**  
Columba Centre,  
St. Patrick's College,  
Maynooth,  
Co. Kildare,  
Ireland

**Other useful contact numbers**

**Towards Healing**, the free and confidential counselling referral service

**Phone:** 1800 303 416 (Rol) and 0800 096 3315 (NI and UK)  
**Email:** [coordinator@towardshealing.ie](mailto:coordinator@towardshealing.ie)  
**Website:** [www.towardshealing.ie](http://www.towardshealing.ie)

**The National Board for Safeguarding Children in the Catholic Church in Ireland**

**Phone:** 00 353 (0) 1 505 3026  
**Email:** [ann.doyle@safeguarding.ie](mailto:ann.doyle@safeguarding.ie)  
**Website:** [www.safeguarding.ie](http://www.safeguarding.ie)

**Towards Peace**  
SPIRITUAL SUPPORT SERVICE

**Phone:** 00353 (0)1 505 3028  
**Mobile:** 00353 (0)86 770 1533  
**Email:** [towardspeace@iecon.ie](mailto:towardspeace@iecon.ie)

### What is the aim of Towards Peace?

Towards Peace offers spiritual support to survivors of abuse by Church personnel. The service is for those whose faith has been damaged by abuse and who wish to continue their search for meaning and for God. There is no pre-determined road map. Each person travels her/his own spiritual journey at a different pace.

### What is the origin of Towards Peace?

Feedback from survivors has highlighted the profoundly negative impact that abuse has had on their faith and on their relationship with God. Towards Peace is a whole Church response to this concern. It is one of three services that form the pastoral response to abuse by the Church in Ireland. The other two services are:

- Towards Healing, the free and confidential counselling referral service
- and
- The National Board for Safeguarding Children in the Catholic Church in Ireland.

### Who can avail of Towards Peace?

Those who have experienced abuse by Church personnel, including former residents of Church run institutions and their families are welcome to avail of this service.

### If I want to avail of Towards Peace, what do I do?

By contacting Towards Peace (see contact details overleaf) the co-ordinator will help you to talk through your hopes and desire for inner peace. Once the service has been explained to you, you will be in a better position to decide if it suits your needs.

### What might a person be offered by Towards Peace, and is there a cost involved?

Following initial telephone contact, Towards Peace offers an opportunity to talk to a trained spiritual companion. This will involve a series of conversations in which you can explore your relationship with God, and get in touch with God's presence in your life.

Up to nine sessions can be made available and there is no cost. Other spiritual supports, for example retreats or group events provided by other organisations, may be suggested.

### Who are the spiritual companions provided by Towards Peace?

They are women and men, lay, religious and priests, who live in various parts of the country and who are trained to offer spiritual support and guidance to people using the Towards Peace service.

### How is Towards Peace funded?

Towards Peace is funded by the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference, the Conference of Religious of Ireland, and by the Irish Missionary Union.



## Templeport launches its new Parish Website



St. Patrick's, Kilnavart

St. Mogue's, Bawnboy

The new parish website [www.templeportparish.ie](http://www.templeportparish.ie) is now up and running. The development of the website was a joint initiative of both the Parish Pastoral Council and Finance Committee who hope that the website will be an interesting and worthwhile reference point for parishioners, natives living away from home and visitors to keep up to date with events in the parish. It was designed by local man, Cathal Martin, from Bawnboy.

## Roman Pilgrims



*A group of pilgrims from the parish of Kinawley-Killesher attended the recent canonisation ceremony of Pope St. John XXIII and Pope St. John Paul II in Rome on Divine Mercy Sunday. The pilgrims were accompanied by their parish priest, Fr. Gabriel Kelly.*

## Young Organists contribute to Liturgy in Killinagh Parish



This photo shows the five organists who have trained to play at Masses in Glangevlin, Gowlan and Blacklion churches in the parish of Killinagh where Fr. Charles O'Gorman is the parish priest.

Back row (left to right) : Roisin Flanagan, aged 14 years; Niall McManus, aged 17years; Amy Doherty, aged 13years; Aoife Maguire, aged 12years; and, in front, Orla Flanagan, aged 12years.

*"The music, the prayers, the bowing and rising, the incense - all of it breaks down defences. That's what good liturgy does. It breaks your heart open and turns you toward God."* Unknown Source





## **HOLY ORDERS – BUT WHO REALLY CARES?**

**Fr. Johnnie Cusack, CC Ballinamore and Diocesan Vocations Director**

All my life I have been in touch with priests. Fr Harry Galligan was the priest who baptised me and was the one to guide my parents to understand the Catholic Faith back in Lavey. My dad also talked a lot about his friendship with Fr Walter McGrath, Curate in residence in Upper Lavey. I actually came to serve Mass for Fr Walter 1950 and 1951 following the move of the Cusack family from Lower to Upper Lavey in 1948. Sunday Mass was the 'special' experience of all belonging to me and all the Community of my childhood. My first Confession was also a must at the age called 'use-of-reason'... as I came to admit things 'through-my-own-fault', and was duly 'prepared' to seek and receive 'Absolution'. Mass 'Attendance' on Sundays and Holydays, and my First Holy Communion followed first Confession, 'naturally'. I now realise, that if there were nobody available then with the gift of "Holy Orders" none of this would have happened! I certainly care, especially as I see the shortage of people preparing for Priestly Ministry at present and I see this as a crisis right now.

Meanwhile, as I reminisce, Bishop Austin Quinn, with his "higher level of 'Holy Orders'", came before I left primary school, to endow me with Confirmation. Finally, after 5 years in St Patrick's College Cavan and a further 7 years in St Patrick's College Maynooth, I myself was elevated to the sacramental way-of-life called HOLY ORDERS. This sacrament I had depended on from infancy. Now as Priest, I would 'make-it-happen' for all I'd be appointed to serve, 1963 until this present day! It was indeed mighty to reach Golden Jubilee time June 2013! Thank God indeed!

I really do care that this gift of Holy Orders is available to this and subsequent generations. I am in the business of drawing attention to the need for this 'service'. I aim to alert today's generation of the possible calling to say YES! I feel this call has been unheard for so long, and continues to be unheeded, if not to be rejected, as 'of-no-value' anyhow. The impression of "Who really cares" pops up indeed. I surely was shocked, in a check-out queue about 6 or 7 years back... I spoke to a nine-year-old boy with his mother there. "Wouldn't this young man make a lovely priest?"... and the mother spun round and declared "God forbid"! Any hope of a Vocation having any acceptance there was well and truly terminated!

Since appointment as Vocations Director, I have worked with the committee of my predecessor, Fr Noel Boylan. We have had a reprint of a prayer card to facilitate all who will take on to pray for "*many to offer themselves in priesthood, religious life, or other forms of 'service'*". The card goes on to pray for "parents and parishes" to become "supportive" too. On the reverse side of this card, contact details are published as to how to 'learn more' and also make contact with me directly.



*St. Patrick's College, Maynooth*

Recently we had an Open Day in St. Patrick's College, Maynooth on Saturday 3 May 2014. On that occasion, two young men came with me to see for themselves what this Seminary/College was like. We were delighted to see and be guided by our two men there already – Thomas and David – having started their studies on route to being

ordained priests in 6 or 7 years' time, please God. These two, brought us along to their Mass at 12.15pm, where we saw over 70 men in ages between early 20s to early 40's... all willing to start on the journey towards Priesthood. After a happy Liturgy of Mass, we were delighted to have dinner provided for all, in the Dining Room nearby. Our walk-about then took us to the magnificent "College Chapel" with its memories for me, and its impact on the two I took along. Other Chapels had their impact too. We moved on then to the College Library and Recreational Rooms with Pool, Table Tennis, and other indoor sports... and more rooms still for music and other media facilities. The Swimming Pool, which I had loved in my day, is still a big attraction, but happened to be locked on the day of our visit. It was good too to have an opportunity to see how simple but adequate were the bed-sit rooms allocated to each student. After all that and much convivial chat, Thomas and David headed back to their studies for the evening, ahead of forthcoming exams! The two young men and I headed back for Cavan and took time to enjoy a good meal on our homeward journey.

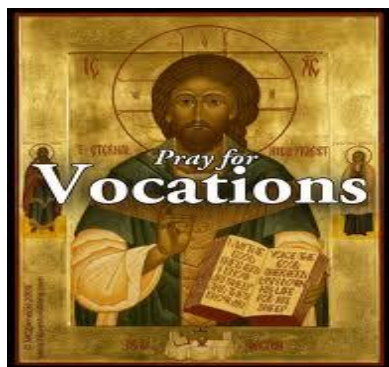
As planned at our last Committee Meeting, there was a display of informative material regarding Vocations on display in the entrance porch of St Clare's Chapel, Cavan on Sunday 4 May last. The regular Adoration Group was augmented at 3pm, 7pm, and 9pm, by additional people coming for the Directed Holy Hours. Every priest in Kilmore Diocese had been invited to be aware of the shortage of priests as being of crisis proportion and to be promoters of this Day of Prayer in Cavan on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> as well as the Universal Mandate for prayer on Vocations Sunday, 11<sup>th</sup> May. On Sunday 4<sup>th</sup>, around 30 relished the 3pm hour in prayer with hymns as led by the enlightened guidance of Fr Ultan McGoohan, CC Cavan. Maybe twice that appreciated the prayers and hymns of Fr Sean Maguire, Bunnoe from 7pm to 8pm. A very settled 10 or so shared the valuable time of 9 to 10 pm with me and my contribution by way of guidance. Meanwhile, the display was left in St Clare's Chapel Porch from the 4<sup>th</sup> to Vocations Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2014.

Our Golden Jubilee now passed. Fr Donald Hannon in Arva and me in Ballinamore are happy to serve as 'recycled' curates. We would urge a new generation to answer God's Vocation to Holy Orders so as to proclaim the Gospel and administer the Sacraments as we have happily done. We who care are praying for this to be a reality into the future!



***Sometimes Jesus calls us, invites us to follow him, but maybe we don't realise that it is Him, just like young Samuel. Have you sometimes heard the voice of the Lord which through a desire, a certain restlessness, invites you to follow Him more closely? Have you heard it? Ask Jesus what he wants from you and be brave! Be brave, ask Him!!! Behind and before every vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life, is always the strong and intense prayer of someone: a grandmother, a grandfather, a mother, a father, a community ... That's why Jesus said, "Pray the Lord of the harvest - that is, God the Father - to send out labourers into his harvest" (Mt 9:38). The vocations are born in prayer and from prayer, and only in prayer can they persevere and bear fruit.***

*(Pope Francis, Angelus Address, Vocations Sunday 2013)*



#### ***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](mailto:frjcusack32@gmail.com)**



## THE PERMANENT DIACONATE IN THE DIOCESE OF KILMORE

**Fr. Gabriel Kelly, PP Kinawley-Killesher  
& Diocesan Director for the Permanent Diaconate**



*Damian Kivlihan, Bishop Leo O'Reilly, Fr. Gabriel Kelly and Andy Brady  
pictured in the Cathedral of SS. Patrick and Felim, Cavan*

Bishop Leo O'Reilly inaugurated the Permanent Diaconate in the Diocese of Kilmore at a special gathering in the Diocesan Pastoral Centre on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2009. The launch was attended by representatives from every Parish Pastoral Council in the diocese as well as the priests and representatives of the religious orders. Bishop Leo O'Reilly issued a pastoral letter to mark the occasion in which he outlined the history of the permanent diaconate, the nature of the deacon's role, how their ministry would complement the many other forms of ministry already in operation in the church and what would be required of applicants in this diocese. The pastoral letter is available on the diocesan website, [www.kilmorediocese.ie](http://www.kilmorediocese.ie)

The preparatory year began in 2010 in the Emmaus Retreat Centre in Swords in Dublin in 2010. Six candidates were accepted by the Diocese. After this year, the diocese of Kilmore teamed up with the Archdiocese of Armagh and initiated together a formation programme. This was based for the most part in Carrickmacross and also Dromantine in Newry. With ongoing discernment of their vocations, the number of candidates reduced from six to three and then to two, with one candidate entering Saint Patrick's College Maynooth to study for the priesthood in 2013, having completed three years in the Permanent Diaconate programme.

It is with great joy that we look forward please God to the ordination of Damien Kivlihan, from the parish of Drumgoon and Andy Brady from the parish of Crosserlough later this year. As diocesan director for the Permanent Diaconate, I salute their courage, their commitment and their generosity in answering God's call. I also salute the generosity of their families. I'm keenly aware of the sacrifices their families have made. This journey towards the ordination of Kilmore's first permanent deacons has taken many twists and turns. What has made this journey incredibly difficult is the fact that our neighbouring dioceses were not ready to introduce the Permanent Diaconate. Things are beginning to change now.

A vocation story is indeed a reason to celebrate. When we witness another person's willingness to generously say 'yes' to God's call, this should always be seen as a case of 'glad tidings.' I would encourage anyone who has a generous heart and who feels a call to serve God as a deacon to at least embark on a discernment process that may or may not lead to ordination. Sometimes a person might feel unworthy – but the reality is there is no such thing as the perfect priest. Likewise there is no such thing as the perfect deacon. We are all sinners in need of God's mercy. It's important of course to talk to someone who is a joyful 'icon of Christ the servant' – otherwise the spark of a vocation could be easily extinguished by a negative, cynical, discouraging comment or by someone with a particular agenda. We need to close our ears to such crippling comments as the reality is that nobody would put themselves forward for any service in the church or even in society in general if they fed themselves on a diet of negativity. Sometimes we might complain about politicians, but we have to admire the person that puts their name on the ballot paper. Similarly in the church. We have to admire those willing to step up to the plate as deacons and sacrifice their time and energy so as to serve God's people, free of charge. We need to create a positive culture of vocation



where those who are contemplating a particular call are given every help and encouragement. Surely the Lord would expect nothing less than that.

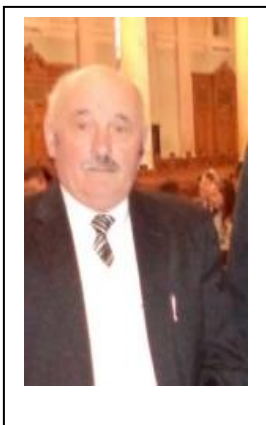
The call to the Permanent Diaconate is a very specific call. It is a call in its own right. The Permanent Diaconate casts a bright light on serving the Lord with gladness. With the scarcity of priests, the reality is that priests in the future, who are already being spoken of recently in the Irish Catholic newspaper as 'jaded', will be even more jaded unless those whom the Lord is calling generously respond and are assisted and empowered in every possible way to respond. Certainly as priests, we need to help ourselves by being vocation directors to our people. This is an urgent task. This applies to the various forms of lay ministry, the priesthood, the permanent diaconate. One isn't a threat to the other. It's not about power, but about service. It is always easy to curse the darkness, but why not light a candle? Why not say 'yes' to the Lord's call to the permanent diaconate – to be His icon of service in the church today?

I have been fortunate to get to know candidates for the Permanent Diaconate from our own diocese, the diocese of Elphin and the Archdioceses of Armagh and Dublin. They come from all walks of life. Seeing their commitment and generosity despite the many difficulties and obstacles they have experienced in pursuing the permanent diaconate has been for me personally a cause of great joy and hope and a help to me in rediscovering 'diakonia' at the heart of priestly ministry. In her moment of need, Holy Mother Church needs all hands on deck, joyfully and humbly serving together in peace and harmony. We are not in competition nor are we judges of another's suitability for service or lack of it. Let us work together and encourage each other and help those who feel jaded to recover their energy and strength. Let us be renewed in hope and in joy from seeing others respond to God's call. Damian and Andy will now share part of their story with us.

*Fr. Gabriel Kelly*



*Fionnuala and Andy Brady, Bishop Leo, Margaret and Damian Kivlihan*



#### **Damien's Story:**

*I am married to Margaret. We have eight children and sixteen grandchildren. From the outset, I want to thank Margaret for her support – also my mother Norrie who lives in Strandhill in Sligo. I suppose I could honestly say that my vocation to the diaconate or to a life of service for the Lord goes back to my childhood and the time spent with my grandfather who was a man of great faith. We spent many evenings together during the late fifties. He often spoke about how his life changed after his father died when he was twenty six. At that time his companions were Jesus and Mary. He would talk about his late wife (my grandmother) as if she were still alive and present with us. He would then take out his rosary beads and pray quietly for all the deceased members of his family, his friends and neighbours. He would tell me about his twelve siblings, all of whom had emigrated to America, never to return, some of them as young as twelve and thirteen years of age. He often told me of the little ways he had seen God working in his life and the many little miracles he had experienced.*

*At the young age of four, this stirred something within me. After secondary school, I was employed in a glass company, where I saw life from a different dimension. I then joined the naval services. There I experienced how one can be alone while there are many others around. On guard duty at night, when you are completely alone, you realise that your only companions are Jesus and Mary. I then served with the Armed Forces for a period of twenty seven years. During this time, I served in many different installations around the country. I remembered my grandfather's words to me: 'you are never alone, do not be afraid to open that door, the door of your heart and converse regularly with your Maker.' These words of wisdom remained with me throughout my naval, army and political years.*

*I served with the local town council for a period of five years. Here I saw the different needs that exist among the population, mostly among the unemployed. I was Lord Mayor of Cootehill from 2012-2013. Even through my married years, I felt that God was calling me in a different way. This call was to help the needy and less well off, the aged and the infirm.*

*Through this work, I came to realise the presence of God in others and my wish to serve God as a permanent deacon by responding to His call, saying: 'Here I am Lord, do with me what you will, I am your humble servant.'*



**Andy's story:**

*I am married to Fionnuala and have three of a family in their twenties. I am a carpenter by trade and have worked in construction all my life. Growing up in rural Ireland during the sixties and seventies was a most enjoyable and blessed experience. Going to Mass every Sunday and saying the rosary on bended knee was the foundation stone which prepared us to meet the challenges of life.*

*Having to emigrate in the mid-eighties to New York during the last recession turned out to be a very enriching experience. Life was good, but it also had its challenges and it was by the grace of God and prayer that got us through those difficult times. Returning home to Ireland in 1998 with a young family also had its challenges but thank God everything has worked out fine.*

*My call to the diaconate was not a sudden or illuminating experience like that of Saint Paul on the road to Damascus. It was something that developed gradually over the years. At the time of my return to Ireland, the church was going through a very difficult period with all the abuse scandals. I always had a great love for the church and thought our priests were being treated very unfairly because of the sins of a few. I realized I did not know enough about my own faith and was not in a position to defend it or the church.*

*At that time there was a Theology course being advertised in the Irish Catholic newspaper at the Priory Institute in Tallaght, so I signed up for a year, hoping that I would get a basic understanding of my faith and that would be enough. But that is not the way things worked out. I finished the degree course in five years, doing two modules at a time. About four years ago, the idea of the permanent diaconate was being proposed in the diocese of Kilmore and a friend of mine suggested that I should think about it. I went to a meeting in the Pastoral Centre and was encouraged to give it a try and see how things would work out. After a preparatory year of discernment and a further three years of theology, I am ready to serve God, family, church and the community.*

*It has not always been easy to balance work, family and study over the last eight years and I would like to thank my wife Fionnuala and the family for their support in putting up with me over the last number of years. At the end of Mass every Sunday, we are all commissioned to 'go out and serve the Lord', and the permanent diaconate is my response to that call. I thank all of you who have helped and prayed for me on this journey and I assure you that all of you are in my prayers.*

***The team here in the Diocesan Pastoral Centre wish Andy and Damian every blessing as they prepare for their ordination to the Permanent Diaconate by Bishop Leo O'Reilly in the Cathedral of SS. Patrick and Felim, Cavan, on Sunday 5 October and also on their ministry in the diocese.***



## GUEST LECTURE SERIES CONCLUDES AND PLANNING FOR 2014/2015 SERIES UNDERWAY

Over recent months, there have been good attendances at the final three guest lectures in the Diocesan Pastoral Centre. On Tuesday 4 March, Martin O'Brien, Northern Correspondent with The Irish Catholic was the guest speaker. On Tuesday 1 April, Fran McNulty from RTE gave an informative talk on "Keeping the Faith". Aogán O'Fearghail, President-Elect of the Gaelic Athletic Association concluded the current series on Tuesday 29 May with an enlightening talk entitled "The GAA bears the Fruits of the Spirit – St. Paul would love it".



**Martin O'Brien**



**Fran McNulty**



**Aogán O'Fearghail**

Planning for 2014/2015 has already begun and among the speakers already lined up for the restyled 'Pause for Thought' Guest Lecture Series are:

|  |   |
|--|---|
| 16 September 2014<br>7:45p.m.                              | <b>Fr. Gerry O'Hanlon SJ, Centre for Faith &amp; Justice, Dublin</b><br>"Pope Francis and the Church"   |
| 29 September 2014<br><b>8:00p.m.</b><br>(Please note time) | <b>Most Reverend Brendan Leahy, Bishop of Limerick</b><br>"The Influence of Pope St. John Paul II"  |
| 14 October 2014<br>7:45p.m.                                | <b>John Mark McCaffrey, Head of Social Justice &amp; Policy, St. Vincent de Paul</b><br>"You Might Not Like What Pope Francis is Saying –<br>A Reflection on the Pope's Recent Statements on Social Justice Issues" |
| 27 January 2015<br>7:45p.m.                                | <b>Jarlath Burns, Principal of St. Paul's High School, Bessbrook, GAA and TV Commentator</b><br>on 'Catholic Education: A Reflection to mark Catholic Schools Week 2015'  |

*The lectures will take place in the Drumlane Room of the Diocesan Pastoral Centre – Suggested Donation: €5  
Tea/Coffee and Biscuits served afterwards*



**Fr. Gerry O'Hanlon SJ**



**Bishop Brendan Leahy**



**John Mark McCaffrey**



**Jarlath Burns**



### **Gam Anon - for Family and Friends**

Gam Anon is a fellowship of men and women who are husbands, wives, relatives or close friends who have been affected by the gambling problem. If you are seeking a solution for living with this problem, we would like you to feel that we understand as perhaps few can. We too, are familiar with worry and sleepless nights and promises made only to be broken. Our thinking had become confused and many of us had become nervous, irritable, bitter and unreasonable. Gam-Anon can offer you a new way of life. *Gam-Anon Meetings are held in Cuain Mhuire, Ballybay, Co. Monaghan, on Sunday evenings at 8:00p.m.*





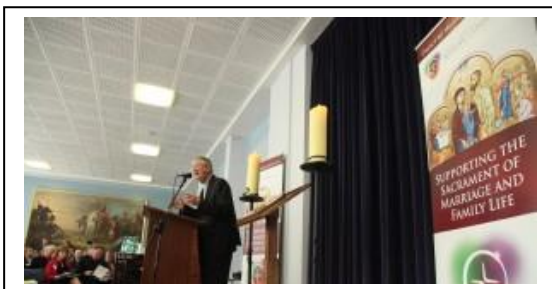
## **Ten Commandments for the Internet Age**

### ***Archbishop Eamon Martin***

In a recent address delivered by Archbishop Eamon Martin, Coadjutor Archbishop of Armagh, at the Soul Waves Radio conference in Dublin, he suggested a number of principles to guide our presence in the digital highways:

1. Be positive and joyful. Offer 'digital smiles' and have a sense of humour. Remember that it is the 'joy of the Gospel' that we are communicating, so, as Pope Francis says: no 'funeral faces' or 'sourpusses'!
2. Strictly avoid aggression and 'preachiness' online; try not to be judgemental or polemical – goodness knows, there is enough of this online already! Instead, try Pope Francis' approach of 'tenderness and balm'.
3. Never bear false witness on the internet.
4. Remember 'Ubi caritas et amor'. Fill the internet with charity and love, always giving rather than taking. Continually seek to broaden and reframe discussions and seek to include a sense of charity and solidarity with the suffering in the world.
5. Have a broad back when criticisms and insults are made – when possible, gently correct.
6. Pray in the digital world! Establish sacred spaces, opportunities for stillness, reflection and meditation online.
7. Establish connections, relationships and build communion. Church has always been about 'gathering'. In this, it is worth considering an ecumenical presence for the Christian churches online. The internet tends to be a place of ethical and intellectual relativism, and often of aggressive secularism. The scandal of disunity among Christians can be easily exploited and exaggerated. Therefore we must seek to share resources so that we can have a powerful Gospel witness. Wouldn't it be wonderful if people started noticing online: 'See how these Christians love one another'.
8. Educate our young to keep themselves safe and to use the internet responsibly.
9. Witness to human dignity at all times online. Seek, as Pope Benedict once said, to 'give a soul to the internet'. We are well aware of the pervasive prevalence of pornography on the internet which can 'pollute the spirit', destroy and degrade human sexuality and relationships, reduce persons to objects for gratification, draw millions into the commodification and commercialisation of sex, feed the monster that is human trafficking.
10. Be missionary, be aware that with the help of the internet, a message has the potential to reach the ends of the earth in seconds. In this regard, let us foster and call forth charisms in younger committed people who understand the power and potential of the net to bear witness.

## **Diocese represented at recent 'Marriage and Family at the Heart of the Parish' Conference**



The Council for Marriage and the Family of the Irish Bishops' Conference hosted a one-day conference on Saturday 14 June last on the theme 'Marriage and Family at the Heart of the Parish'. The conference, held in Holy Cross College, Clonliffe, Dublin, was offered to leaders in parishes and dioceses, and others exercising faith and pastoral leadership, including parents, grandparents, teachers, members of parish pastoral councils as well as other groups and organisations serving the Church's mission.

The conference sought to explore the pastoral challenges to the family in the context of evangelisation, explore how the parish community supports families in their Christian calling to share their faith and inform the work of the Council for Marriage and the Family.

The keynote speaker was Archbishop Diarmuid Martin of Dublin. Other speakers included Bishop Liam MacDaid of Clogher who is Chair of the Council for Marriage and the Family; Dr Tony Fahey, Professor of Social Policy at the School of Applied Social Science in UCD; and Colette Furlong, a catechist from Sligo Parishes.



## Pontificio Collegio Irlandese Pontifical Irish College, Rome



### **The Joy of the Gospel: Family, Church and Pope Francis** **A course for Parishioners** **8th – 12th September 2014**

During these days in the city of the apostles Peter and Paul, participants will be afforded an opportunity to reflect on Pope Francis' call to live the Joy of the Gospel.

The week includes a series of talks, liturgies and guided visits to significant Churches and Basilicas in Rome, a day of spiritual recollection and reflection as well as a pilgrimage to the shrine of St. Francis at Assisi and an opportunity to attend a General Audience with Pope Francis.

Presentations will be given by the following:

- Msgr. Ciarán O'Carroll (Pontifical Irish College, Rome) will visit St. Peter's Basilica, the Basilica of St. John Lateran and the Church of St. Peter in Chains, drawing together the theme of family in the early centuries of Christian life in Rome.
- Dr Patricia Kieran (Mary Immaculate College, Limerick) will examine the Pope's Apostolic Exhortation and its implications for faith formation and the family.
- Fr. Tom Norris (Pontifical Irish College, Rome) will lead a reflection on 'The Art of Loving - the Secret for Church and Family'.
- Fr. George Hayes (Pontifical Irish College, Rome) will look at the use of art and the aesthetic in nurturing one's relationship with God.
- Fr. Hugh Clifford (Pontifical Irish College, Rome) will offer insights into the area of family, vocation and formation.

The cost of the course is €750. Places are limited. A deposit of €300 is required to secure a place. Travel arrangements to Rome are the responsibility of participants but airport transfers to the College are included in the price. Rooms are en-suite with meals half board. Those who wish to arrive early or remain following the conclusion of the course are welcome to do so subject to the availability of rooms.



### **A Time for Priests** ***Priests as Shepherds in the Family of the Church*** **15th – 19th September 2014**

The Pontifical Irish College Rome will host a time of reflection, renewal and relaxation, from 15th to 19th September 2014, for priests who wish to avail of an opportunity to spend some days in Rome, close to the ministry of Pope Francis and in anticipation of the Synod on the family in 2015.

The course provides participants with an opportunity to visit Rome while deepening their theological awareness through lectures and lived experience of the Church and City.

*Those leading this year's course will include:*

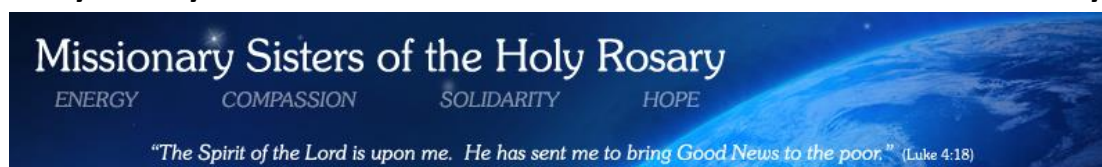
- Fr. Brendan Purcell, Emeritus Lecturer, Department of Philosophy, UCD.
- Archbishop Vincenzo Paglia, President of the Pontifical Council for the Family.
  - Fr. Michael Paul Gallagher SJ, Pontifical Gregorian University.
  - Fr. Tom Norris, Spiritual Director, Pontifical Irish College, Rome.

Liturgies will be celebrated each day in the College Chapel with its beautiful Marko Rupnik mosaics and in other Churches and Basilicas in Rome and beyond. A general audience with the Holy Father, a trip to Montecassino, a day of reflection and recollection as well as an opportunity to enjoy many of the artistic and cultural delights of Rome form part of this year's programme.

The cost of the course is €800. A deposit of €300 is required to secure a place. Travel arrangements to Rome are the responsibility of participants but airport transfers to the College are included in the price. Rooms are en-suite with meals half board. Those who wish to arrive early or remain following the conclusion of the course are welcome to do so subject to the availability of rooms.

If you wish to reserve a place on either of these courses, please telephone the Irish College on the main office number at 00 39 06 772 631 or email [ufficio@irishcollege.org](mailto:ufficio@irishcollege.org). The postal address is Pontifical Irish College, Via Dei S.S. Quattro, 1, 00184 Rome and the website is [www.irishcollege.org](http://www.irishcollege.org)

## Holy Rosary Sisters return to Cavan to celebrate their 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



The Missionary Sisters of the Holy Rosary celebrated the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of their foundation with a special event in the Kilmore Diocesan Pastoral Centre which was held on 7 March last. After Morning Coffee and an opportunity to meet up, Mass was celebrated by Bishop Leo O'Reilly in the Centre Chapel. In his homily, Bishop Leo thanked the order for their valued and valuable contribution to the Church at home and especially on the Missions. After Mass the sisters present – which numbered well in excess of 100 - enjoyed a very pleasant meal served in the Drumlane Room before returning to their respective convents and houses. They were led by their Regional Superior for Ireland and England, Sr. Maura Garry MSHR.

The Congregation of the Missionary Sisters of the Holy Rosary, a vowed, apostolic religious community, was founded in 1924 in Ireland by Bishop Joseph Shanahan, CSSp. As a missionary community, the sisters express their readiness to go beyond the borders of their own countries and cultures *"sharing the Good News with those in any kind of need especially with the poor, oppressed and exploited through the ministries of healing, education, pastoral work, community development, ... always searching for new ways in which to nurture the seed that is Christ in every culture ... the living hope of liberation."*

Today, the Missionary Sisters of the Holy Rosary continue to empower women and bring the Good News to the poor in Cameroon, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, South Africa, and Zambia as well as Brazil, Mexico, the United States, England, and also here in Ireland.



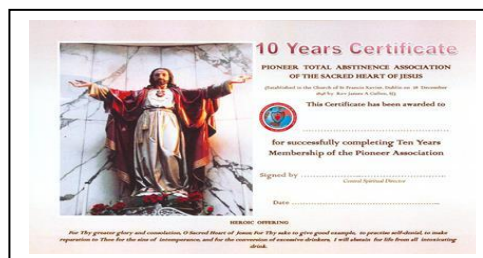
## Launch of the Pioneer Ten Year Emblem and Certificate



The Pioneer Association has launched a new Ten Year Emblem and Certificate for Pioneers who have completed ten years unbroken membership from the time of enrolment in the Full/Life Pioneer Membership category. Pioneers eligible to wear this emblem should be at least twenty-six years of age.

The emblem was struck to mark the 'Year of Faith' that coincided with the Association's 115th anniversary and the International Gathering Conference hosted by the Pioneer Association as part of the government's Gathering 2013 initiative.

The emblem and certificate are now available to order online from <http://pioneertotal.ie/pioneer/fc?action=shop> - or directly from The Pioneer Association Central Office, 27 Upper Sherrard Street, Dublin 1. The emblem is €15.00 and the certificate is €1.50





## Nuncio presents Bene Merenti Awards to Ballaghameehan Parishioners

The Apostolic Nuncio, Archbishop Charles Brown, presented three Bene Merenti medals in the Parish of Ballaghameehan in County Leitrim. He also took the opportunity to meet some of his cousins, as his great, great grandfather was a Murphy from nearby Rossinver. The Nuncio was welcomed by Bishop Leo O'Reilly to the diocese of Kilmore and presented Bene Merenti medals to the three parishioners, Lizzie Ann Murphy, Edmund Connolly and Ena Domoney.

In his homily, the Nuncio encouraged the congregation to, "hold the faith." He said that in the forthcoming Year of Faith parishioners can deepen faith and, "pass the faith onto the next generation." He lauded the three Bene Merenti medal recipients as great examples of faith. He also spoke of the many people who had emigrated from Ireland, and who had kept their faith. His own family in New York can claim a faith that was no doubt passed down from his great, great grandfather from the locality.

Ena Domoney, Lizzie Ann Murphy and Edmund Connolly were awarded the medals for their longstanding service to the church and parish, which is situated near Rossinver Co Letrim. Lizzie Ann Murphy has been a sacristan for 40 years at St. Mary's Church, Rossinver. Edmund Connolly has been at the heart of the parish life for many years. He has looked after the graveyard administration and has been a key figure in the finances of the parish. Ena Domoney has always taken an active part in the parish and since her retirement from teaching has been more active. She has contributed to parish life in many ways some examples are Parish Pastoral Council, Committees, Board of Managements, liturgy group, and is a Eucharistic Minister.

Bene Merenti medals are given at the discretion of the Holy Father to Catholics who have given service to the Church and the local community.



***The Nuncio and Bishop Leo O'Reilly with Lizzie Ann Murphy, Edmund Connolly and Ena Domoney following the presentation of their awards in St. Aidan's Church, Ballaghameehan***

## Year of Consecrated Life to begin in November



The Year of Consecrated Life – recently announced by Pope Francis - starts on 21 November next and will be a special day of prayer dedicated for those living the religious life. The Year itself will give the universal Church a “platform to preach and celebrate” consecrated life, according to Vocations Ireland. Currently vocations to religious life are running at around twenty each year, the Director of Vocations Ireland, Anne Marie Gallagher told Catholicireland.net lately.

Vocations to religious life peaked in the early 1960s. At that time, around 30,000 men and women religious lived in 2,000 communities on the island of Ireland. By 2013 the figure was 8,500 men and women religious living in 800 communities.

At its summer general meeting, the Irish bishops welcomed the Year of Consecrated Life and discussed the value of vocations to the life of the Church today and for her future.

The Year coincides with the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the promulgation of *Lumen Gentium*, the Dogmatic Constitution on the Church, which is one of the principal documents of the Second Vatican Council and which contains a specific chapter dealing with consecrated life. The anniversary of the Second Vatican Council's decree, *Perfectae Caritatis*, the decree on the Adaptation and Renewal of Religious Life, will be the occasion of the close of the Year, in November 2015.

It is hoped to have an event in the diocese to mark the Year in due course.

## Cavan Positive Age celebrates Bealtaine



On 13 May last, Cavan Positive Age hosted an event in the Drumlane Room of the Diocesan Pastoral Centre to mark the annual Bealtaine Festival which is Ireland's nationwide celebration of creativity as we age and which has grown to be one of the country's biggest arts festivals. An estimated 120,000 people now take part in this unique event throughout the country which is an initiative of *Age & Opportunity*.

There was a display of visual arts by Positive Age members from Castlemanor Nursing Home, Cavan Social Services, Drumcor Active Retirement, the Irish Wheelchair Association, Kilnaleck Social Services, Laragh and Lavey Senior Social Clubs, Lis darn Unit for the Elderly, and Virginia Health Care Unit in addition to a display of paintings by the Cavan Positive Age Art Class and Knitting Group.

Those present were welcomed by Maisie Smith from Cavan Positive Age and by Seán Coll, Director of the Diocesan Pastoral Centre, before the event was officially opened by Leila Beattie, County Cavan ICA Federation President. The Hacklers performed a rehearsed reading of an excerpt from Samuel Beckett's play, *Happy Days*, which was followed by a demonstration of crochet with a difference by Marie Lynch. A most enjoyable and entertaining day was had by all. *Photos by Cathal Flood*



## Lourdes Miracle Story Re-told

On Wednesday 21 May last, Vittorio Micheli – the 63<sup>rd</sup> officially recognised miracle of Lourdes – visited the Diocesan Pastoral Centre to give a talk on his experience of being miraculously cured of a sarcoma of the pelvis in 1963.

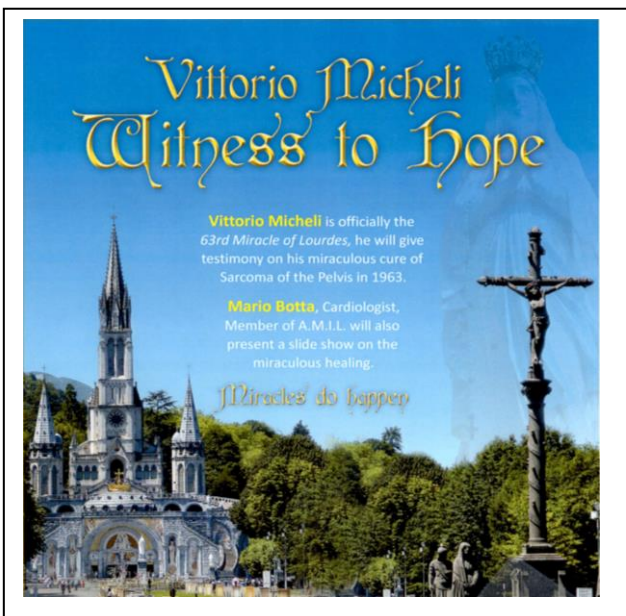
Vittorio was accompanied by Dr. Emilia Padoin (who was deputising for Dr. Mario Botta), by his nephew, Alessandro and by his good friend, Morgan Sharpe, from Dublin. Morgan tells us how he got to know Vittorio in a separate article in this edition of *Glad Tidings*.

The evening began with Mass in the Centre Chapel celebrated by Fr. Enda Murphy, Diocesan Director for Pastoral Services and Youth Ministry. The congregation had the opportunity of being blessed with a first class relic of St. Bernadette Soubirous. The choir was under the direction of Paul Flynn. The organist was Carmel Fay and Derek Mehady was the cantor.

After Mass, Vittorio told his story in the Drumlane Room and Dr Padoin explained the medical aspect of the miracle after which there was a question and answer session.

The Diocesan Pastoral Centre wishes to acknowledge the assistance it received from Aid to the Church in Need in relation to this event.

A dvd with edited highlights of the evening's proceedings is available from the Centre priced €15, including postage and packing.





***Pictured (left to right): Seán Coll, Pastoral Centre Director; J.F. Declan Quinn, Aid to the Church in Need; Dr. Emilia Padoin; Morgan Sharpe; Vittorio Micheli; and Fr. Enda Murphy***

## **MORGAN SHARPE TELLS HOW HE GOT TO KNOW VITTORIO MICHELI, THE MIRACLE MAN**

It is said that the Lord works in mysterious ways; but how mysterious in my case, I'll leave to the reader to judge.

My first contact with Lourdes was a rather strange one. My wife (of many years' standing) booked a flight for both of us with the Dublin Diocesan Pilgrimage there in 1979. Religion in general and pilgrimages/processions in particular were not top priority in my life at that time. I was the father of three young boys in 1979 and caring for their material needs took up most of my time. So, as expected, my first experience of Lourdes was not a very satisfying one. The very things that I didn't care too much about were now "in my face", so to speak. With Masses celebrated in foreign languages, endless processions and bus tours to cater for the curious, it all left a very bad taste in my mouth.

Now, whether it was by accident or divine providence (I prefer the latter), I met a gentleman from Dublin who helped in the hospital in Lourdes with the Dublin pilgrimage. He inveigled me into helping in the hospital but I was certainly not expecting the 'baptism of fire' that was to change my life forever. Taking care of a Catholic priest who was sitting on a toilet with a cassock over his head, with one leg amputated, having suffered a stroke and needing my help was not what I was expecting.

Job done, I was hooked and volunteered to work with the Dublin Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes for the next four years and got enormous satisfaction from doing so. Not happy with working for just five days each year in Lourdes, I joined the Hospitalité Notre Dame de Lourdes which meant that I could stay in Lourdes for ten days every year.

Fast tracking to the mid-1990's finds me working at the railway station in Lourdes transporting sick pilgrims to their respective hospitals. This particular duty required two helpers and a driver. For the next six years, I worked with an Italian gentleman who couldn't speak a word of English and I couldn't utter a word of Italian. Hand signals and facial expressions were our own means of communication during that period but, as we were both aware of our duties, this impediment did not affect our work.

One fateful day, an American gentleman asked how Miracle 63 was getting on. How does one respond to a question like that? He must have noticed the 'vague' look on my face because he informed me that I was working with a miracle man. Once I had recovered from the initial shock, I checked with the Medical Bureau and found a case history and photograph of a very youthful Vittorio Micheli. Since that time, my friendship with Vittorio, the 63rd miracle of Lourdes has blossomed.

He is a most humble, unassuming person and an absolute pleasure to know. Born and reared in the foothills of the Italian Alps, he found himself catapulted into the modern world; but he has not lost sight of that fact that he was miraculously cured in Lourdes in 1963. He embraces his Catholic faith with great enthusiasm and this, in turn, is infectious. His devotion to Our Blessed Lady is, without doubt, real.

Per capita, more people from Ireland go to Lourdes on pilgrimage each year than any other country. It was only natural then that I should invite Vittorio to Ireland to give his testimony. I must admit that I was a bit apprehensive initially as I wondered if he would get a warm welcome; but I need not have worried as he was afforded a tremendous welcome at the various venues throughout the country, as was the case in Cavan.

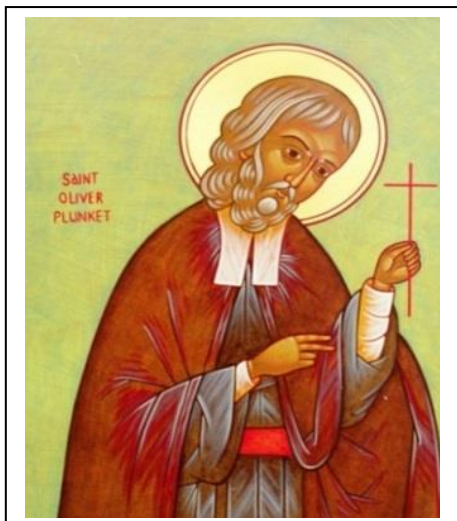


There is no doubt that many unreported miracles – both mental and physical – have occurred in Lourdes and Our Blessed Lady has touched the hearts of many pilgrims who go there. It is my privilege, therefore, to know somebody whose cure confounded medical science for over eleven years after which the medics concluded that the cure was unexplainable. It was with this in mind that the local Bishop of Tarbes and Lourdes proclaimed the cure “supernatural” and pronounced Vittorio Micheli the 63<sup>rd</sup> official miracle of Lourdes.



***Vittorio tells his story to the group ..... The group listens attentively with the help of an interpreter***

### **Relic of St. Oliver Plunkett visits the Pastoral Centre**



Well in excess of a thousand people of all age groups visited the Diocesan Pastoral Centre on Tuesday 10 June last when a relic of St. Oliver Plunkett was displayed in the Centre Chapel. The visit was coordinated by the Pastoral Centre team in close collaboration with the local Knights of Columbanus as well as their colleagues in the Drogheda branch. It was the first such visit of a relic outside either the Archdiocese of Armagh or the Diocese of Meath.

At 10:00a.m., the relic – which was St. Oliver’s hip bone - was carried up the main avenue of the Centre by local Knights and was met at the front door by Fr. Enda Murphy, Diocesan Director of Pastoral Services and Youth Ministry, and by Seán Coll, Pastoral Centre Director. After a liturgical welcome, the Litany of the Saints was chanted as the relic was carried in procession down the main corridor to the Centre Chapel where it remained until 9:30p.m. that evening for pilgrims to visit.

An honour guard of members of the Cavan and Monaghan branches of the Knights of Columbanus maintained a presence beside the relic for the duration of its stay and they led the Rosary which was recited every hour on the hour.

Fr. Murphy was the principal celebrant of the Mass at 1:00p.m. for those doing examinations and for the intentions of those who were leaving in petitions for the intercession of St. Oliver Plunkett. The other concelebrants were Canon P.J. Corrigan, PE Annagh, and Fr. Rafal Siwel, CC Cavan and Chaplain to the Polish Community.

Fr. Murphy was also the principal celebrant of the main Mass at 7:00p.m. which had to be live-streamed into the adjacent Creevalea Room due to the large congregation. He was assisted by Fr. Anthony Fagan, PP Killinkere; Fr. Gerry Comiskey, PP Drumlane and Mgr. John Hanly, PP Carnaross, Co. Meath who preached the homily on the life, work and times of Ireland’s most recent saint.

Servers from the Cathedral assisted with the main ceremonies during the day and their presence was appreciated. The Choir was under the direction of Paul Flynn and Carmel Fay was the organist with Lisa Geoghegan as instrumentalist.

At the end of the evening, a farewell liturgy was celebrated in the Chapel before the relic was carried in procession by Knights of Columbanus to the front door to be brought to the next location.

A Novena of Masses was offered in advance of the visit.

The feedback we have received has been mainly positive and indicates that people appreciated the presence of the relic in the Centre and being afforded such close, unhurried and cherished contact with it. There was a great outpouring of faith and devotion throughout the day which was humbling and moving. It is hoped that the visit of the relic will become an annual event and that there may be an opportunity to bring it down to a location in the Manorhamilton Deanery as well.

The team at the Diocesan Pastoral Centre wish to acknowledge the support it received from the following: the Cavan, Monaghan and Drogheda Knights of Columbanus; Jenny and Gerry in the Cathedral, An Garda Siochana in Cavan; Cavan Civil Defence; Cavan County Council. the Board of Management and Principal of St. Patrick's College; those who volunteered to assist with car-parking, stewarding or hospitality; and those who provided sponsorship in kind. Seán would also like to acknowledge the assistance received from the Centre's administrative and support staff in the planning and running of the event.

A dvd with edited highlights of the day's events is available from the Centre priced €15, including postage and packing.



*The relic of St. Oliver Plunkett rests on the altar .....*



*A pilgrim prays*



### Formation Evenings for Ministers of Holy Communion

250 Ministers of Holy Communion throughout the diocese gathered for two special formation evenings which were held in the Diocesan Pastoral Centre and St. Aidan's Church, Ballaghameehan, recently. Both were conducted by Fr. Enda Murphy, Diocesan Director for Pastoral Services and Youth Ministry. On the basis of feedback received, it is now planned to hold annual formation evenings for Ministers of Holy Communion in two locations in the diocese in late-Spring/early Summer.



### Formation Evenings for new and existing Ministers of the Word

There will be formation evenings for new and existing Ministers of the Word as follows:

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| 7 October 2014 at 7:30p.m.  | <i>Drumlane Room - Diocesan Pastoral Centre</i> |
| 14 October 2014 at 7:30p.m. | <i>Manorhamilton Deanery Venue t.b.c.</i>       |

Information will be forwarded to parishes in due course. As with the Ministers of Holy Communion, it is now planned to hold annual formation evenings for Ministers of the Word in two locations in the diocese in late-Autumn.



**Logo of the 2014 Visit**

## Some Modern Day Beatitudes

Pope Francis visited the Holy Land in May 2014, fifty years after Pope Paul VI made a historic visit there. The Holy Father explicitly said that his purpose in coming to the Holy Land was “to commemorate the historic meeting between Pope Paul VI and Patriarch Athenagoras, the 268th Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople which occurred exactly 50 years ago”.

The Ecumenical Patriarch ranks as first among equals in the Eastern Orthodox communion, being regarded as the spiritual leader of 300 million Orthodox Christians worldwide. Within the five ecumenical sees of the Roman Empire: Rome, Constantinople, Alexandria, Antioch, and Jerusalem, the Ecumenical Patriarch is regarded as the successor of Saint Andrew, the Apostle.

In a tribute to the Mother of God, and Our Mother, the Virgin Mary in Nazareth’s Basilica of the Annunciation entitled ‘Nazareth, School of the Gospel’ given by Pope Paul VI on 5 January 1964, he offered the following as a form of modern day Beatitudes which are as relevant today as they were fifty years ago:

- Blessed are we, if in poverty of spirit we learn to free ourselves from false confidence in material things and to place our chief desires in spiritual and religious goods, treating the poor with respect and love as brothers and living images of Christ.
- Blessed are we, if, having acquired the meekness of the strong, we learn to renounce the deadly power of hate and vengeance, and have the wisdom to exalt above the fear of armed force the generosity of forgiveness, alliance in freedom and work, and conquest through goodness and peace.
- Blessed are we, if we do not make egoism the guiding criterion of our life, nor pleasure its purpose, but learn rather to discover in sobriety our strength, in pain a source of redemption, in sacrifice the very summit of greatness.
- Blessed are we, if we prefer to be the oppressed rather than the oppressors, and constantly hunger for the progress of justice.
- Blessed are we, if for the Kingdom of God in time and beyond time we learn to pardon and to persevere, to work and to serve, to suffer and to love.



**Pope Francis and  
Patriarch  
Bartholomew I**

## November Series of Talk on Bereavement and Loss



During the month of November, there will be a number of talks on the theme of bereavement and loss which will take place in the Drumlane Room of the Diocesan Pastoral Centre. Everybody is welcome and a donation of €5 is suggested per night. The talks will begin at 7:30p.m. each evening.

Elma Walsh will also give a talk in the Manorhamilton Deanery on Wednesday 12 November at 7:30p.m. and it is planned that she will also give a talk to students on the morning of Friday 14 November in Cavan

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| 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.)<br><i>Manorhamilton Deanery</i>  |
| 13 November 2014 | Mrs. Elma Walsh, Tralee (Mother of the late Donal Walsh R.I.P.)  |
| 14 November 2014 | Mrs. Elma Walsh, Tralee (Mother of the late Donal Walsh R.I.P.)<br>Talk to Second and Third Level Students<br><i>Cavan Venue t.b.c.</i>  |
| 18 November 2014 | Dr Susan Delaney, Bereavement Services Manager with the Irish Hospice Foundation<br>on “Complicated Grief”   |
| 25 November 2014 | Speaker t.b.c. followed by a Short Liturgy of Remembrance to conclude the series led<br>by<br>Fr. Martin Gilcreest, Chaplain, Cavan General Hospital and<br>Fr Enda Murphy , Diocesan Director of Pastoral Services & Youth Ministry |



## FORTHCOMING EVENTS BEING ORGANISED BY THE DIOCESAN PASTORAL CENTRE:

| Date & Time  | Activity   |
|--|--|
| Friday 11 July 2014<br>Saturday 12 July 2014<br>8:00p.m.<br><br>Sunday 13 July 2014<br>11:30a.m. | <b>Diocesan Triduum of Prayer to mark the Year of the Holy Name of Jesus</b><br><i>St. Mary's Church, Staghall, Belturbet</i><br><br><i>Preacher: Fr. Liam McCarthy, OFM – Franciscan Community, Galway</i><br><br><i>Principal Celebrant of the Sunday morning Mass: Bishop Leo O'Reilly</i>  |
| 11 July 2014<br>9:30p.m. to 3:00a.m.   | <b>Night Vigil for the Syro-Malabar Community</b><br><i>Diocesan Pastoral Centre Chapel</i>  |
| 8 August 2014<br>9:30p.m. to 3:00a.m.  | <b>Night Vigil for the Syro-Malabar Community</b><br><i>Diocesan Pastoral Centre Chapel</i>  |
| Thursday 21 August 2014<br>Times t.b.c.  | <b>Diocesan Youth Pilgrimage to Lough Derg</b>   |
| 26 August 2014<br><br>11:00a.m. to 6:00p.m.<br><br>8:00p.m.                                      | <b>National Heritage Week</b><br><br>Ecclesiastical History Display in the Kilmore Diocesan Pastoral Centre<br><br>Guest Lecture by Fr. Liam Kelly<br><i>William Hague (circa 1836-1899), Architect of St. Patrick's College and many of Cavan's Finest Buildings.</i>   |
| 31 August 2014<br>Gates open at 10:00a.m.  | <b>Fund-Raising Vintage &amp; Classic Car, Motor Cycle, Tractor and Machinery Display</b><br><i>Grounds of the Kilmore Diocesan Pastoral Centre in association with Breffni Vintage Club</i>   |
| 12 September 2014<br>9:30p.m. to 3:00a.m.  | <b>Night Vigil for the Syro-Malabar Community</b><br><i>Diocesan Pastoral Centre Chapel</i>  |
| 16 September 2014<br>7:45p.m.  | <b>The Pause for Thought Guest Lecture Series</b><br>Fr. Gerry O'Hanlon SJ, Centre for Faith & Justice, Dublin<br>"Pope Francis and the Church"<br><i>Drumlane Room in the Diocesan Pastoral Centre – Suggested Donation: €5</i>   |
| 20 – 28 September 2014<br>7:00p.m. each evening  | <b>Novena to Mary, Untier of Knots</b><br><i>Diocesan Pastoral Centre Chapel</i>   |
| 29 September 2014<br><b>8:00p.m.</b><br><br>(Please note time)<br><br>t.b.c.                     | <b>The Pause for Thought Guest Lecture Series</b><br>Most Reverend Brendan Leahy, Bishop of Limerick<br>"The Influence of Pope St. John Paul II"<br><i>Drumlane Room in the Diocesan Pastoral Centre – Suggested Donation: €5</i>  |
|  | <b>Devotions for the Month of October</b><br><i>Diocesan Pastoral Centre Chapel</i>  |
| 6 October 2014<br>7:30p.m.   | <b>Diocesan Assembly Facilitators' Training</b><br><i>Drumlane Room in the Diocesan Pastoral Centre</i>  |
| 7 October 2014<br>7:30p.m.   | <b>Formation Evening for New &amp; Existing Ministers of the Word</b><br><i>Drumlane Room in the Diocesan Pastoral Centre</i>  |
| 7 October 2014<br>7:30p.m.   | <b>Diocesan Assembly Facilitators' Training</b><br><i>The Library, St. Clare's Comprehensive School, Manorhamilton</i>   |
| 10 October 2014<br>9:30p.m. to 3:00a.m.  | <b>Night Vigil for the Syro-Malabar Community</b><br><i>Diocesan Pastoral Centre Chapel</i>  |
| 10 - 11 October 2014<br>Friday: 7:30p.m - 10:00p.m.<br>Saturday: 10:00a.m. - 5:00p.m.            | <b>Accord Pre Marriage Course</b>  |
| 14 October 2014<br>7:30p.m.  | <b>Formation Evening for New &amp; Existing Ministers of the Word</b><br><i>Manorhamilton Deanery Venue t.b.c.</i>   |
| 14 October 2014<br>7:45p.m.  | <b>The Pause for Thought Guest Lecture Series</b><br>John Mark McCaffrey, Head of Social Justice & Policy, St. Vincent de Paul<br>"You Might Not Like What Pope Francis is Saying<br>– A Reflection on the Pope's Recent Statements on Social Justice Issues"<br><i>Drumlane Room in the Diocesan Pastoral Centre – Suggested Donation: €5</i> |
| 18 October 2014<br>11:00a.m. to 3:00p.m.   | <b>Diocesan Apostolic Work Society Annual Display</b><br><i>Drumlane Room in the Diocesan Pastoral Centre</i>  |

|  |  |
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| 19 October 2014<br>2:00p.m. to 6:00p.m.  | <b>Diocesan Apostolic Work Society Annual Display</b><br><i>Drumlane Room in the Diocesan Pastoral Centre</i>  |
| 25 October 2014<br>9:15a.m. to 5:15p.m.  | <b>Kilmore Diocesan Assembly</b><br><i>St. Patrick's College, Cavan</i>  |
| 26 October 2014<br>11:30a.m. to 6:00p.m. | <b>Kilmore Diocesan Assembly</b><br><i>St. Patrick's College, Cavan</i>  |
| t.b.c.                                   | <b>Annual Diocesan John Paul II Awards Ceremony</b>  |
| t.b.c.                                   | <b>Preparing for Advent and Christmas – A Seminar for Choirs &amp; Liturgy Committees</b><br>led by Fr Enda Murphy , Diocesan Director of Pastoral Services & Youth Ministry and Paul Flynn<br><i>Drumlane Room in the Diocesan Pastoral Centre</i><br><i>Manorhamilton Deanery Venue t.b.c.</i>   |
| 12 November 2014                         | <b>November Series of Talks on Bereavement and Loss</b><br>Mrs. Elma Walsh, Tralee (Mother of the late Donal Walsh R.I.P.)<br><i>Manorhamilton Deanery Venue t.b.c. – Suggested Donation: €5</i>   |
| 13 November 2014<br>7:30p.m.             | <b>November Series of Talks on Bereavement and Loss</b><br>Mrs. Elma Walsh, Tralee (Mother of the late Donal Walsh R.I.P.)<br><i>Drumlane Room in the Diocesan Pastoral Centre – Suggested Donation: €5</i>  |
| 14 November 2014<br>Time t.b.c.          | <b>Engagement with Second and Third Level Students</b><br>Mrs. Elma Walsh, Tralee (Mother of the late Donal Walsh R.I.P.)<br><i>Cavan venue t.b.c.</i>   |
| 14 November 2014<br>9:30p.m. to 3:00a.m. | <b>Night Vigil for the Syro-Malabar Community</b><br><i>Diocesan Pastoral Centre Chapel</i>  |
| 18 November 2014<br>7:30p.m.             | <b>November Series of Talks on Bereavement and Loss</b><br>Dr Susan Delaney<br>Bereavement Services Manager with the Irish Hospice Foundation<br>on “Complicated Grief”<br><i>Drumlane Room in the Diocesan Pastoral Centre – Suggested Donation: €5</i>   |
| 19 November 2014<br>5:00p.m.             | <b>Mass for Deceased Bishops and Priests of the Diocese</b><br><i>Diocesan Pastoral Centre Chapel</i>  |
| 25 November 2014<br>7:30p.m.             | <b>November Series of Talks on Bereavement and Loss</b><br>Topic and Speaker t.b.c.<br><br>Short Liturgy of Remembrance to conclude the series led by<br>Fr. Martin Gilcreest, Chaplain, Cavan General Hospital and<br>Fr Enda Murphy , Diocesan Director of Pastoral Services & Youth Ministry<br><i>Drumlane Room in the Diocesan Pastoral Centre – Suggested Donation: €5</i> |

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

- **August Bank Holiday –** Monday 4 August 2014
- **Feast of the Assumption -** Friday 15 August 2014
- **October Bank Holiday –** Monday 27 October 2014

**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](mailto:gso@alcoholicsanonymous.ie) for further information

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

## **Preparing for Advent and Christmas – A Seminar for Choirs & Liturgy Committees**

Yes, it is only the middle of Summer but we want to let you know that we are planning two evening seminars – one in Cavan and the other in the Manorhamilton Deanery - for choirs, organists, liturgy committees and anyone who is interested in relation to preparing for Advent and Christmas. These will be a follow-up to those organised earlier in the year for Lent and Easter. We will be taking into account the feedback from those sessions when we are planning the next short series which will take place in November. If you have any suggestions, please let us know in good time. The facilitators will be Fr. Enda Murphy and Paul Flynn.

### **“The Rite Life” by Fr. Martin Gilcreest, Chaplain to Cavan General Hospital**

On June 4 1989, I was ordained in my native parish church in Belturbet, Co. Cavan. In all of these years, I have spent the last fourteen as a full time healthcare chaplain in Cavan General Hospital - a ministry I believe I was destined to do from way before I even started school. They say you are influenced by a person you admire when you are young that sets your career path in motion. This is true for me. When I was 4, I visited the hospice based in Harold's Cross in Dublin run by the Daughters of Charity. It was not to see a patient, but to see my grand aunt who was a retired nun living on the convent ground beside the hospice.

She brought me around to see the patients. For a four year old, all that I could see was sick people in beds and nuns taking care of them. I could not comprehend how sick they were. On the way home, my father asked me what did my grand aunt Kathleen do. I said she smiles at people and they feel happy. I could not have envisaged what I did then was planting a seed in my vocation 30 years later. She made a difference by just simply being present to the sick.

As a chaplain that is the most important thing that we can do. Patients come to a healthcare facility vulnerable, anxious and afraid at times. They meet people that ask them many questions about how are they and sometimes many times over, even in the first few hours of admission. When a chaplain comes to meet them, we ask them how they feel, which can be an invitation to a deeper interaction. It is amazing when you sit beside a person in a bed on a ward and let them know you can trust that I will listen to your story.

This is what makes a chaplain important to the holistic care of the individual in the multidisciplinary healthcare setting. The art of listening is a lost skill in society. We do listen to people, but at times as a society we do not hear them. The chaplains, by the skill set they have, are able to hear the needs of the individual. What make this service unique it that the spiritual dimension is the key. We are treated in mind, body and spirit. The medics are in partnership with the chaplain to make this possible. Faith to a patient is vital especially in a life changing illness. When you rest in a bed for long periods of time, you have plenty of time to think about your life. The chaplain is the person who is there to reflect in those life changing moments. I feel we are making a difference in the places where we work. And I know that in the feedback we get from families and staff this opinion is true.

I have to say that the time I spend in this ministry is the best time for me. The reason why this ministry is vital is as Pope Francis has encouraged us - we are side by side with people in their most difficult of times. We are dealing with the raw reality of life and the people respond to what we have to offer.

I find it peculiar that in the BBC TV programmes “Casualty” or “Holby City” we very rarely see the chaplain in any scenes. While in the real world the chaplain is in the background of all of the healthcare facilities in the British Isles and around the world.

Christ calls us to a healing ministry every day we go to work. I hope that in the future the role of the chaplain will be more prominent as we develop the ministry and that as we walk the journey with the people we meet; we will never underestimate the difference we make. The reality for the future development of the service is that we must believe the role of the lay chaplain is part of the future. Accredited chaplains have a lot to contribute and in time will be part of the reality of the service that we provide.

I conclude with a prayer I give patients when I conclude my visits with them. I hope it keeps the visit alive long after I have left the bedside:

*“May the Lord walk with you in this time of illness,  
and strengthen you for what may meet you on the road”*



*Fr. Martin Gilcreest was ordained in Belturbet on 4 June 1989 by the late Bishop Francis J. MacKiernan for service in the Diocese of Kilmore. He served for a year in the Galway diocese until returning as curate in Ballinaglera from 1990 to 1995. He then served as curate in Lavey 1995-1998, Butlersbridge 1998, Glencar/Manorhamilton 1999 before being appointed in 2000 to his current position as Chaplain to Cavan General Hospital.*





Year of the Holy Name  
of **Jesus** 2014



**DIOCESAN TRIDUUM OF PRAYER  
TO MARK THE YEAR OF THE HOLY NAME OF JESUS  
Friday 11, Saturday 12, and Sunday 13 July 2014**

**St. Mary's Church, Staghall, Belturbet**

**Fr. Liam McCarthy OFM from the Franciscan Community in Galway  
will be the preacher for the three days.**

**Mass will be on Friday and Saturday evenings at 8:00p.m.**

**Bishop Leo O'Reilly will be the principal celebrant  
of the Sunday morning Mass at 11:30a.m.**

**Sacrament of Reconciliation on Saturday – 11:00a.m. to 12 noon and 7:00p.m. to 7:45p.m.**

**For more information, please contact the Kilmore Diocesan Pastoral Centre on 049 4375004**

**Novena to Mary, Untier of Knots**



**Saturday 20 to Sunday 28 September 2014**

***Kilmore Diocesan Pastoral Centre Chapel, Cullies, Cavan***

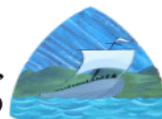
***Ceremonies at 7:00p.m. each evening with a reflection given by a guest speaker***

**Full Programme of Speakers will be published nearer the time**

**For more information, please contact the Kilmore Diocesan Pastoral Centre on 049 4375004**

## 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](mailto:endaemurphy@gmail.com)
- **Director of Diocesan Pastoral Centre:**  
Seán Coll  
Direct Email: [seancoll001@gmail.com](mailto:seancoll001@gmail.com)
- **Administration Staff:**  
Anne Clarke and Gráinne O'Reilly
- **Caretaker:**  
Pat Smith

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

- **Safeguarding Children:**  
Sr. Suzie Duffy  
*Monday - Fridays*  
- 9:00a.m. to 5:30p.m.  
Email: [safeguardingchildren@kilmorediocese.ie](mailto:safeguardingchildren@kilmorediocese.ie)
- **Education Office:**  
Nancy Sheils  
*Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays*  
- 10:30a.m. to 1:30p.m.  
Email: [nsheils@eircom.net](mailto: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](mailto:tribunal@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](mailto:pastoralcentre@kilmorediocese.ie) Website: [www.kilmoredpc.ie](http://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 – by arrangement

Sunday – by arrangement



## A Unique Place of Pilgrimage

*Come as you are...  
to a quiet place and rest a while.*

*Lough Derg, the sanctuary of St. Patrick, is a place apart, a sacred place where you can come as you are  
and return to daily life with fresh hope and new awareness for the journey ahead.*

### Three Day Pilgrimage

From Friday 30th May  
until Wednesday 13th August 2014

The Three Day Pilgrimage offers peace & personal challenge. Barefooted everyone is equal. Over the three days pilgrims journey together as a Christian community in prayer.

**Admission:** Pilgrims should be a least 15 years old, able to walk & kneel unaided, undertake the pilgrimage in bare feet and fast.

**Times:** Boats are available 11am – 3pm daily. It is not necessary to book in advance.

### One Day Retreats

**May:** 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 13, 17, 18, 20, 24, 25 & 26  
**August:** 17, 18, 19, 20, 23, 24, 25, 26, 30 & 31  
**September:** 2, 6, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16, 20 & 21

These guided days of prayer and reflection include Prayers of Intercession and Healing of Memories as well as the Sacrament of Reconciliation and celebration of Eucharist. During the afternoon there is time for quiet reflection.

**Admission:** Open to all adults, not suited to children. Fasting or walking barefooted is not required. Refreshments & light lunch provided.

**Times:** Boats are available from 9.15am. Opening Prayers begin 10.15am. Boats depart approx. 4.30pm. Places limited. Booking required.

### Admission Details

Three Day Pilgrimage: €70, student discount 15%  
Concessions for seniors & groups

One Day Retreat: €40, concessions for groups

### Enquiries & Bookings

To make a booking or for more details;  
Tel 071 9861518 (from NI 028 686 32391)  
Email: [info@loughderg.org](mailto:info@loughderg.org)  
[www.loughderg.org](http://www.loughderg.org)

**Lough Derg, Pettigo, Co Donegal - A Unique Place of Pilgrimage**



## Main Pilgrimage Season: April 27th - October 12th

**MASSSES:**  
**SUNDAYS & HOLY DAYS**  
**MASSSES:** 8.00, 9.00, 10.30 am, 12 noon, 3.00 pm and 7.30 pm

**PUBLIC CEREMONIES:**  
2.30 pm: Anointing of the Sick, Concelebrated Mass followed by the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, Rosary Procession to the Shrine and Blessing of Pious Objects.

**CONFESSIONS:**  
Continuously from 11.00 am to 6.30 pm in the Chapel of Reconciliation.

**MASSSES: ALL WEEKDAYS**  
**MASSSES:** 9.00 am, 11.00 am (Jan-Nov), 12 noon, 3.00 pm and 7.30 pm  
Anointing of the Sick at 12 noon and 3.00 pm Masses.

**CONFESSIONS:** Monday to Saturday continuously from 11.00 am to 6.00 pm in the Chapel of Reconciliation.

**PUBLIC CEREMONIES:**  
2.00 pm: Stations of the Cross and Rosary Procession.  
3.00 pm: Concelebrated Mass with Anointing of the Sick.  
**LAST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH**  
2.00 pm: Stations of the Cross and Rosary Procession.  
3.00 pm: Concelebrated Mass with Anointing of the Sick, Eucharistic Blessing of the Sick and Benediction.

**The National Public Novena in Honour of Our Lady of Knock**  
14th to 22nd AUGUST (inclusive)  
**TWICE DAILY:** Afternoons: 3.00 pm  
Sundays and Holy days: 2.30 pm  
Evening: 8.30 pm

**MINI VIGILS**  
MAY: Friday 2nd  
JUNE: Friday 6th  
JULY: Friday 4th  
AUG: Friday 1st  
SEPT: Friday 5th  
OCT: Friday 3rd

**Candlelight Rosary Procession**  
Each Thursday night at 9.00 pm  
(June - August)

### EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:

In the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, daily after 11am Mass until 6.30pm and in Apparition Chapel from 7pm - 9pm (Mon - Fri)

All enquiries to Knock Shrine Office, Knock, Claremorris, County Mayo.

Telephone: (094) 9388100 Fax: (094) 9388295 Email: [info@knock-shrine.ie](mailto:info@knock-shrine.ie) Website: [www.knock-shrine.ie](http://www.knock-shrine.ie)

Secretary, Knock Shrine Office,  
Widdow 2-4, Widdow St, Dublin 1.  
Telephone: (01) 8733558 Fax: (01) 8733559  
Email: [dublinoffice@knock-shrine.ie](mailto:dublinoffice@knock-shrine.ie)

Secretary, Knock Religious Bookshop & Office,  
70-72, Curlew St, Limerick.  
Telephone: (081) 419455. Fax: (081) 409176  
Email: [limerickoffice@knock-shrine.ie](mailto:limerickoffice@knock-shrine.ie)

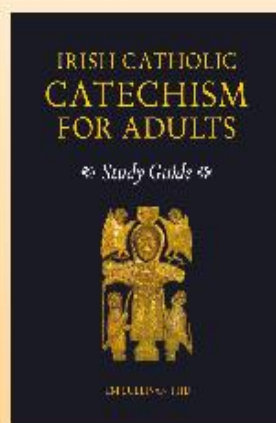
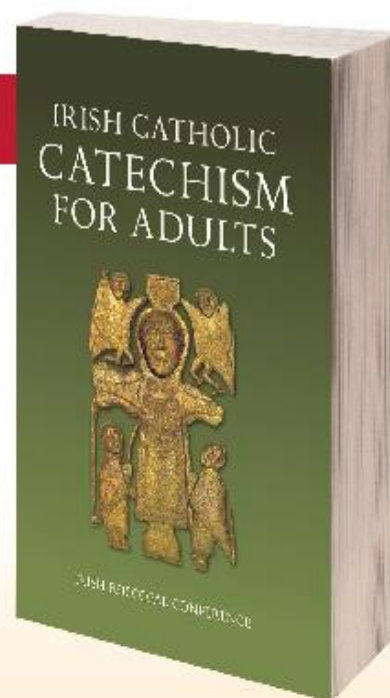
Secretary, Knock Shrine Belfast Office,  
14 Clontarf, Belfast, BT1 1HL.  
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