

# Ardmore Parish Newsletter

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday, 12th September 2021

## **'By my words, I will show you my faith'**

In the second reading today from St. James we read, *'What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works?'* And in our Gospel reading we hear: *'The way you think is not God's way but man's....'* These are challenging texts which remind us to reflect on what path we are walking as followers of Jesus. Jesus' path was radically different to what people of his time expected of a Messiah. It was a path that would lead to much sacrifice. Being a Christian today means following Jesus' example, being counter-cultural and making sacrifices for a greater good.

Today is also the second Sunday in the Season of Creation, a time we are called to explore our relationship with nature, God's creation. Pope Francis reminds us in *Laudato Sí - On Care for Our Common Home that 'We are not God'* (LS, 67). He challenges us to re-examine our vocation to care for creation. In the past we misinterpreted God's words in Genesis to mean that we could have dominion over all of creation, own it and plunder it for our own use. Pope Francis invites us instead to explore our role as carers of creation and reminds us that the very first commandment we were ever given was to be protectors of this beautiful world. Yet, we know the earth cries out to us and that we are living through the sixth mass extinction of life on this earth due to human activity. Ecosystems are collapsing; biodiversity is in crisis. *Laudato Sí'* is a hope-filled document, reminding us that we can set out on a new path, that we are capable of turning things around. One key action each of us can take this Season of Creation is to plant a native Irish tree. Each parish, diocese, family, school, university can engage in this symbolic action to help Restore Our Common Home. This week, gather two or three people and explore what can be done, mindful that our Gospel today urges us to walk God's ways not man's.

*Jane Mellett*

**A Triduum in Preparation for the Feast of St. Padre Pio** will take place at the Franciscan Friary, Rosnowlough from Monday 20 September to Thursday 23 September. There will be Mass, Homily and Blessing of Relic at 7.30pm each evening. The preacher will be Fr. Pius McLaughlin, OFM who met Padre Pio.

**Holy Hour for Vocations to Priesthood** and Religious Life in the Diocese of Derry - Bishop Donal McKeown will lead an evening of prayer and intercession for an increase in vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life in the Diocese of Derry at St Eugene's Cathedral on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2021 beginning with Mass at 7:30pm followed by a Holy Hour. All welcome.

## **The Simon Community**

The individuals, young people and families we support at Simon Community are all homeless. The demand for our services continues to grow as the financial impact of covid begins to be felt. Yet, many of our residents are capable and ready to live independently again.

Simon Community's HOME Team help find our residents homes and help them maintain their tenancies by making sure they have the support they need. Sadly, many of our clients arrive at our hostels with little or nothing, which means when they are ready to move on, they still have very little. At Simon Community we provide 'Move On' packs of essential items to help get that family or individual the best start in their new home. The packs contain new bedding, towels, household essentials like chopping boards, tin openers, toilet roll, toilet brush holder and cleaning products and, where not already supplied, we can also help with larger items needed for the home such as white goods or a microwave. If you can, please consider supporting our work by making a donation or holding a collection. A donation of any size will help us continue to provide these vital services. Contact [amandascott@simoncommunity.org](mailto:amandascott@simoncommunity.org) by phone (028) 9023 2882 or mobile 07935 850116.

### **GUIDED PILGRIMAGES ON THE LOUGH DERG PILGRIM PATH :**

Pilgrimages will be offered on *Sunday 12<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup>, Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> September and Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> October*, with Mass outdoors, weather permitting. The full route is a 12km loop, with a shorter 8km option. **Advance booking is essential.** For further information email [info@loughderg.org](mailto:info@loughderg.org) or telephone (00353) 71 9861518. [www.loughderg.org](http://www.loughderg.org) *Lough Derg Pilgrim Path, Pettigo, Co Donegal. F94 N289*

### **BEREAVEMENT INFORMATION AND SUPPORT EVENING :**

Anam Cara would like to invite you to join us for an **online** Bereavement Information and Support Evening taking place 16th September at 7pm. This event will give you an opportunity to hear a bereavement professional talk about the difficult challenges and many milestones grieving a child of any age has on you and your family. If you would like to join us please register here <https://bit.ly/3Dzyphc> or contact us on [info@anamcara.ie](mailto:info@anamcara.ie) or 085 288 8888

### **DROMANTINE RETREAT CENTRE:**

The following Retreat and Workshops will be offered by **Fr Hugh Lagan SMA:**

**'Called by a New Name'** : Retreat – refocus, recharge and reconnect in a post-pandemic world. Sunday 3rd, 5pm – Friday 8th October, 9.30am. Cost £420/€490. **'Broken Open'** Workshop – How difficult times can help us grow. Friday 19th 5pm – Sunday 21st November, 2pm. Cost £200 / €230. Enquiries and reservations: Tel 028 (048 from ROI) 30821964. Email: [admin@dromantineconference.com](mailto:admin@dromantineconference.com)

**MASTERS IN CATHOLIC SCHOOL LEADERSHIP :**

The Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre, working in Partnership with Saint Mary's University, Twickenham, offers the Masters in Catholic School Leadership. This is a post-graduate degree dedicated to the professional development and spiritual formation of Catholic school leaders. Applications for the Autumn intake close 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021. Please contact the Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre on 004428 71264087 or email [tferry@derrydiocese.org](mailto:tferry@derrydiocese.org).