

# Parish of Culmore Newsletter

## The Ascension of the Lord

Sunday, 16 May 2021

### World Communications Day

#### **Go out to the whole world.**

Today marks the 55th World Communications Day, and the theme for this year is 'Come and See: Communicating by encountering people where and as they are'. In his message to mark the occasion, Pope Francis emphasises the importance of meeting people where they are, just as Jesus did with those he encountered: 'We need to go and see them for ourselves, to spend time with people, to listen to their stories and to confront reality, which always in some way surprises us.' All communication, he says, should strive to be clear and honest, whether in the media, on the internet, in the Church's preaching, or in social interaction.

He has a particular message for all who use social media: 'Thanks to the internet we have the opportunity to report what we see, what is taking place before our eyes, and to share it with others. At the same time, the risk of misinformation being spread on social media has become evident to everyone.... All of us are responsible for the communications we make, for the information we share, for the control that we can exert over fake news by exposing it. All of us are to be witnesses of the truth: to go, to see and to share.'

It is fitting that this day coincides with the Feast of the Ascension. Before he is taken into heaven, Jesus issues his final instruction: 'Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News to all creation.' Our challenge is to communicate by encountering people, where they are and as they are.

*'Teach us to go out and see, teach us to listen, not to entertain prejudices or draw hasty conclusions.'* Pope Francis' message for the 55th World Communications Day.

*Triona Doherty*

## **INVITATION TO RESPOND – DIOCESE OF DERRY ENVIRONMENTAL STRATEGY**

The Diocese of Derry has launched a consultative plan about climate change and the environment and is inviting everyone within the Diocese to read, engage and respond to it. The plan identifies actions and behaviours that support rather than destroy the environment. The suggestions cover such areas as land, buildings, energy, food, travel and waste. A Draft of the Environment Strategy has been posted on the Derry Diocesan website, to view and/or download:

[www.derrydiocese.org/diocese/environmental-strategy](http://www.derrydiocese.org/diocese/environmental-strategy).

Every attempt has been made to make the Strategy both comprehensive and practical so as to suit each Parish's particular situation. In order to ensure that it is as helpful as possible to your various parish communities however, we would appreciate any constructive feedback on it that you may have to give. We ask if you could read the draft Strategy document and give feedback on aspects that you feel could be supplemented/improved.

❖ Begin to implement any aspects(s) of it that you feel can be put into practice quickly and easily

❖ Draw the attention of both parish groups and individual parishioners to the strategy and encourage them to give feedback. (This would be especially relevant to school and any groups/individuals with particular interest in environmental issues)

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE:** - Monday 31 May 2021. Submit your comments, questions and suggestions to Patricia McCormack by:

Email: [laudatosiderry@gmail.com](mailto:laudatosiderry@gmail.com)

Telephone/text 077 1190 0420 – Facebook: Laudatosiderry

## **Celebrating the Feast of Pentecost - Receive! Believe! Live!**

As we prepare to celebrate the Feast of Pentecost on 23 May, the Diocesan Catechetical Centre has created a variety of resources, including prayers, reflections and craft activities, suitable for use in parishes, at home and in schools. These resources are available at

<https://catecheticalcentre.org/category/celebrating-the-feast-of-pentecost/>

**St Angela's College, Sligo** is offering this online part-time MA starting in September 2021. Closing date for receipt of applications is 16 June. Please visit [www.stangelas.nuigalway.ie](http://www.stangelas.nuigalway.ie) or contact Mary Kearns on 00353 3719195550 or Email: [mkearns@stangelas.nuigalway.ie](mailto:mkearns@stangelas.nuigalway.ie)

**SPIRITUAL COMMUNION** - My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace you now as if you were already there and I unite myself wholly to you.

Never permit me to be separated from you. **AMEN**

## Celebrating Mary in the Month of May

*May is a very special month for the Church as we remember Mary, the Mother of Jesus and our Mother.*

*During this month we are encouraged to honour Mary in different ways. The Diocesan Catechetical Centre has created resources, available at: [www.catecheticalcentre.org](http://www.catecheticalcentre.org)*

### ***Mother of Compassion***

O Holy Virgin, in the midst of all your glory, we ask you not to forget the sorrows of this world.

Cast a look of pity upon all those who struggle against life's difficulties, and who cease not to feel all its bitterness. Have pity on all who have been separated from those they love. Have pity on the lonely and friendless. Pardon the weakness of our faith, have pity on those whom we love.

O Holy Mother, show a mother's compassion toward the sorrowful and those who tremble under life's afflictions. Give them hope and peace. *Amen.*