

Culmore Parish Newsletter

Sunday, 25th April 2021 – Fourth Sunday of Easter

MINISTERING TO OTHERS :

A Reflection for Good Shepherd Sunday

We must continually remind ourselves that every Christian who is baptised into the church is admitted to the royal priesthood of all believers in Christ, and that each of us has a ministry, whether we are young or old, male or female, lay member or clergy. To be a Christian is to follow Jesus Christ's example of ministry, to be God's representative on earth. Each of us has been called by God to love and serve him and our fellow human beings. However sinful rebellious, or inadequate we may feel, we cannot escape God's claim on us... We minister when we pray for others, when we stand before God, holding them in our thoughts. We minister by our presence with another in time of trouble, giving reassurance that the other is not alone in adversity. We minister when we simply listen with a sympathetic ear to one who is full of sorrow and grief; or when we telephone a shut-in just to let someone know that he or she is not forgotten; or when we offer a welcoming smile or a welcoming handclasp to a stranger in our midst... We encounter God in our ministry to others, for only as we love and serve others do we love and serve God... God is to us as our neighbour's hand.

Pauli Murray, Ministering to Others, Selected Sermons and Writings,

Mary's Meals – Pray in May: This May, the month traditionally dedicated to Our Lady, we invite you to join us in our *prayer campaign for the work of Mary's Meals, which is reaching more than 1.8 million children with a nutritious meal in 19 countries every school day. We pray in thanksgiving for each little act of love that makes this work possible and we also pray for God's continued blessing on our beautiful mission, that through His providence it will always flourish enabling us to reach more hungry children. Prayer resources and further information can be found at www.marysmeals.org.uk/prayinmay*

Northern Ireland Blood Transfusion Service. Give Blood Save Lives: at Michael Davitt GAC, Swatragh on Wednesday 28th April from 1.00pm-4.00pm and from 5.00pm -7.30pm. Now by appointment only. Please call 08085 534 653 to book.

Accord Derry – Virtual Interactive Marriage Preparation Programme:
Course dates: 6/7 July, 10/11 August, 14/15 September, 12/13 October, 9/10 November, 7/8 December.

THE NET : DERRY DIOCESAN NEWSPAPER :

The April edition of *The Net*, the monthly publication sharing the fruits of faith in the Derry Diocese, is now available on the Diocesan website and Facebook Page - <https://www.derrydiocese.org/news/the-net-april-2021.pdf>

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT :

A Seminar in Omagh will take place over a period of seven weeks in conjunction with 7.30pm Holy Mass in the Sacred Heart Church, Omagh, starting on Thursday 22 April. "Let him who is thirsty come; Let him who desires, Take the water of life without price" Rev. 22:17.

Please join at 7.30pm each Thursday via the parish webcam:
<http://www.drumraghparish.com/webcam.html>.

29th April: Salvation - Fr Joe Gormley;

6th May: The New Life - Bishop Donal McKeown;

13th May: Receiving God's Gift - Fr Christopher McDermott;

20th May: Baptism in the Spirit - Fr Eddie Magee;

27th May: Growth - Fr Colum Curry; Thursday

3rd June: Transformation - Fr Kevin Mc Elhennon.

Please pray for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit on all people.

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

On this World Day of Prayer for Vocations we pray for all those called to lay down their lives as priests, deacons, and in the consecrated life, that they will be faithful witnesses to the Good Shepherd in our midst.

We pray for vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life, especially for our diocese. If you are considering such a vocation, speak to your local priest or email Fr Christopher Ferguson, Diocesan Director of Vocations;
chris_j_ferguson@hotmail.com

Derry Diocesan Vocation Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, gentle shepherd, You know your sheep,

And you know how to reach their hearts.
Give to the people of the diocese of Derry
Hearts that are open to the call of the Holy Spirit.
Speak to the hearts of the (young) men of our diocese
That they may hear your call
To follow you and serve your people as priests.
Awaken in them the courage to answer: 'Here I am, Lord, Send me.'
St Eugene, pray for us.
St Columba, pray for us.
St John Vianney, pray for us.

Centenary Celebrations for The Legion Of Mary

As part of the centenary celebration for the Legion of Mary, there will be a special Mass for the Legionaries of the Diocese live-streamed from St. Theresa's Church, Sion Mills, on Wednesday 28 April at 7pm. You are invited to participate in this Mass via the webcam: <http://melmountparish.com/sionwebcam.html>

Keeping Up The Conversations With The Youth Of Derry Diocese

The Derry Diocesan Youth Ministry Team are hosting a series of webinars covering some of the themes that young people are struggling with today. Each webinar will broadcast live on Derry Diocesan Youth Facebook page at 7pm. *Wednesday 28 April*: The final webinar will be on the theme "You are the now of God". Guest speaker will be Elam Walsh, Donal Walsh #LiveLife Foundation and Bishop Donal McKeown.

The Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre working in partnership with St. Mary's University, Twickenham, offers the Master in Catholic School Leadership

This post graduate degree is dedicated to the professional development and spiritual formation of Catholic school leaders. It is an opportunity for those already in leadership roles or for those who aspire to be. The next intake will be Autumn 2021. An information session via Zoom will be held on Monday 7 June at 3.30pm. For information contact 028 7126 4087 or email tferry@derrydiocese.org

Accord ni: Marriage Preparation

All Accord Marriage Preparation Programmes will be virtual interactive programmes until further notice and can be booked with any centre as they take place via Zoom. To book visit: www.accordni.com