

Culmore Parish Newsletter

The Most Holy Trinity - 30 May 2021

I am with you

Today's Gospel is often referred to as the 'Great Commission'. It contains the instructions of the Risen Jesus to the disciples to spread the Good News to the ends of the earth, to teach and to baptise 'in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit'. As we celebrate Trinity Sunday today, we pay attention in particular to the very last words of Matthew's Gospel: 'And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.' Jesus will be with his followers through the gift of the Holy Spirit, God's presence with us.

We read that some of the disciples were hesitant when they encountered Jesus on the mountain. They had lost him to death, and now he was risen and with them again in the flesh. They may have felt they weren't ready or able for the task he was handing over to them. These first disciples were an imperfect group of people, yet Jesus chose them to spread God's vision of love, compassion and justice throughout the world. Perhaps, like some of the disciples, we are fearful or doubtful. At a time when everything is changing so rapidly, it can be difficult to navigate our own faith journey, never mind communicate it to others. Yet we have Jesus' assurance that he is with us, with the love and strength we need. The Holy Spirit is at work, inspiring and guiding us, shaping our lives, helping us to make the love of God present to all we meet.

'Love is the greatest force in the universe. It is the heartbeat of the moral cosmos. He who loves is a participant in the being of God.' (Martin Luther King Jr)

Triona Doherty

Pray For Vocations:

"That the mystery of the love of the Blessed Trinity, manifest in the gift of Jesus Christ, will strengthen many men and women to respond to that love as priests, deacons and in the consecrated life." How are you being called to glorify the Lord in response to His love? Could God be inviting you to answer the call to consecrated life? Speak to your local priest or email Fr Christopher

Ferguson, Diocesan Director of Vocations at chris_j_ferguson@hotmail.com.

The Year of St. Joseph

Pope Francis declared the Year of St. Joseph, beginning 8 December 2020.

He tells us that for 40 years he has said a prayer every day to St. Joseph, after Morning Prayer, which he ends with: *Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. To you God entrusted his only Son; in you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ became man. Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life. Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage, and defend us from every evil. Amen.*

Blood Donations

By appointment at the Guildhall Building, Derry on 1 & 2 June (Tuesday and Wednesday); from 1pm-4pm and from 5pm-7.30pm. To book an appointment please call 08085 534 653 between 10am and 4.30pm.

Derry Youth Community

Are you aged between 18-25 years old? Deciding what to do in the future (September 2021)? Thinking about a Gap Year? Want to do something faith based? Why not contact the Derry Youth Community for more information: email: dyc@derrydiocese.org

Master of Arts in Religious Education & Social Injustice

St. Angela's College, Sligo, is offering this online part-time MA, starting in September 2021. Closing date for applications: 16 June 2021. Please visit www.stangelas.nuigalway.ie or contact Mary Kearns on 0035371 9195550.

Catholic Engaged Encounter

A Zoom online Marriage Preparation course is planned for 11-12 September 2021. This 2-day course is a positive way of preparing for Marriage where you discover how

you can enrich your future relationship. For information and to book: marriageencounter.ie or 028 276 38512.

Prior Institute Online Open Day

Online Theology Open Day, is this for you? The Priory Institute provides online Theology courses to degree level. Attend Saturday lecture in Tallaght or from the comfort of your own home. Email enquiries@prioryinstitute.com to find out more information about the Online Open Day on 19 June.

Celebrating Mary in the Month of May

In our parish this weekend we are inviting you to collect a gift to place on your May Altar. As a family we invite you to pray the Rosary together, or even a decade of the Rosary. Mary, Queen of the Family, pray for us.

On 31 May we celebrate the Feast of The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary:

On this day, we recall the "Blessed Virgin Mary carrying her Son within her" and visiting Elizabeth to offer charitable assistance and to proclaim the mercy of God the Saviour.

Let us take some time today on reflect on Mary's goodness and humility in serving her cousin.

Magnificat

My soul does magnify the Lord and my spirit has rejoiced in God my Saviour.

Because He has regarded the lowliness of His Servant.

For, behold from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.

For He that is mighty has done great things to me, and holy is His Name.

And His mercy is from generation unto generation, to them that fear Him.

He has shown might with His arm.

He has scattered the proud in the conceit of their heart.

He has put down the mighty from their seat, and has exalted the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things;

and the rich He has sent away empty.

He has received Israel His servant,
being mindful of His mercy.

As He spoke to our fathers,
to Abraham and to his seed forever.

Amen

Marian Pilgrimages have released their pilgrimage schedule for 2021 & 2022 to Lourdes, Medjugorje, Fatima, Italy & Holy Land. For more information or to register your interest please visit www.marian.ie or telephone Marian Pilgrimages on 00353 1 8788159.

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The Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre, working in Partnership with St. 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. It is a great opportunity for those currently in leadership roles and those who aspire to, or have an interest in, leadership roles within the Catholic School system. The next intake will be Autumn 2021. An information session via ZOOM will be held on Monday 7 June at 3.30pm. If

you are interested in attending this session or require any further information, please contact the Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre on 71264087 or email: tferry@derrydiocese.org