



St. Anne's Parish

Pastoral Community of Derriaghy & Colin

Fr. Peter O'Hare, PP
Rev Pat McNeill, Deacon
Sr. Mary Murray, Parish Sister

Parish Office: 02890610112
www.saintannesparish.net

Parish Centre: 07745169205
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27th Sunday in Ordinary Time Day for Life

This Week in St. Anne's

Sunday Mass: 5pm Vigil & 11am

Weekday Mass: Tue, Wed & Thurs 10am

Confessions: Sat 4.30pm or before any mass.

Remember -

All services are streamed live online



Parish Office: Mon to Fri 9am to 1pm.

Parish WhatsApp Group – Keep up to date with what is happening in our parish communitytext your name and number to 07714691281 to be added to our WhatsApp group.

Recently Deceased: Paul O'Neill

Anniversaries: Thomas Madden, Pól Cormican, Brigid Brannigan

FoodBank: As always, thank you for your continued generous support. The collection boxes are available outside the church every day from 10am to 4pm.

Your Giving This w/end - **Weekly Offering & Monthly Offering for Priests**

We would recommend that you set up a **Standing Order**. You can download the necessary forms from our website...or call the parish office on 028 90610112 and leave your details or email us on stannes@downandconnor.org

OR Donate Online to St. Anne's Parish
A/C No. 07707787
Sort Code 93 83 00

St. Vincent de Paul

Anyone wishing to donate, can do so online:

Account Name: St. Vincent de Paul Conference of St. Anne
Account No. 65576181 Sort Code: 938300.

Day for Life 2021

Sunday 3 October

'The Good Samaritan:
A Model of Compassion'



www.councilforlife.ie

Seeing your Life through the Lens of the Gospel

1. Marriages do break down, but in this story, Jesus appears as the wise person urging people to seek first the original harmony where possible, rather than seek escape routes when difficulties arise. When have you found that, in marriage or in other relationships, the bonds have been strengthened when you have been prepared to work through difficulties?
2. There are other things that we needlessly and wrongly put in opposition: young and old, male and female, people from different cultures, body and soul. Perhaps at times you have discovered the advantages of exploring the richness in combining such apparently exclusive opposites.
3. The children in the second story can be taken as representing any group of 'little ones' whose opinion we may be inclined to dismiss. When have you found that you have been taught an important lesson about life, about love, or about faith by people whose views you had been inclined to dismiss?

Today's Liturgy of the Word

Scriptural theme

*Marriage is not a human option but a divine creation.
Jesus' prohibition of divorce is one of the most widely attested sayings in the tradition.*

FIRST READING

A reading from the Book of Genesis 2:18-24

The Lord God said,

'It is not good that the man should be alone. I will make him a helpmate.'

So from the soil the Lord fashioned all the wild beasts and all the birds of heaven. These he brought to the man to see what he would call them; each one was to bear the name the man would give it. The man gave names to all the cattle, all the birds of heaven and all the wild

beasts. But no helpmate suitable for man was found for him. So the Lord God made the man fall into a deep sleep. And while he slept, he took one of his ribs and enclosed it in flesh. The Lord God built the rib he had taken from the man into a woman and brought her to the man.



The man exclaimed:

*'This at last is bone from my bones
and flesh from my flesh!
This is to be called woman,
for this was taken from man.'*

This is why a man leaves his father and mother and joins himself to his wife, and they become one body.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 127

Response: *May the Lord bless us all the days of our life.*

1. O blessed are those who fear the Lord
and walk in his ways!
by the labour of your hands you shall eat.
You will be happy and prosper.

Response

2. Your wife will be like a fruitful vine
in the heart of your house;
your children like shoots of the olive,
around your table.

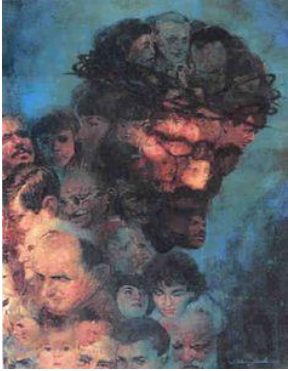
Response

3. Indeed thus shall be blessed
the man who fears the Lord.
May the Lord bless you from Zion
in a happy Jerusalem
all the days of your life!
May you see your children's children.
On Israel, peace!

Response

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews 2:9-11



We see in Jesus one who was for a short while made lower than the angels and is now crowned with glory and splendour because he submitted to death; by God's grace he had to experience death for all mankind.

As it was his purpose to bring a great many of his sons into glory, it was appropriate that God, for whom everything exists and through whom everything exists, should make perfect, through suffering, the leader who would take them to

their salvation. For the one who sanctifies, and the ones who are sanctified, are of the same stock that is why he openly calls them brothers.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 17: 17

Alleluia, alleluia!

Your word is truth, O Lord, consecrate us in the truth.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark 10:2-16

Some Pharisees approached Jesus and asked, 'Is it against the law for a man to divorce his wife?'

They were testing him.

He answered them,

'What did Moses command you?'

'Moses allowed us' they said 'to draw up a writ of dismissal and so to divorce.'

Then Jesus said to them,

'It was because you were so unteachable that



he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation God made them male and female. This is why a man must leave father and mother, and the two become one body. They are no longer two, therefore, but one body. So then, what God has united, man must not divide.' Back in the house the disciples questioned him again about this, and he said to them, *'The man who divorces his wife and marries another is guilty of adultery against her. And if a woman divorces her husband and marries another she is guilty of adultery too.'*

People were bringing little children to him, for him to touch them. The disciples turned them away, but when Jesus saw this he was indignant and said to them,

'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. I tell you solemnly, anyone who does not welcome the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.' Then he put his arms round them, laid his hands on them and gave them his blessings.

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Day for Life 2021 - This year's *Day for Life* is celebrated today on the theme 'The Good Samaritan: A Model of Compassion'. In the context of the recent proposal to introduce assisted suicide, both in Ireland and the UK, this year's *Day for Life* message invites Catholics to consider a more positive and compassionate response to the care of people who are in the final stages of life. You can download this year's message from www.councilforlife.ie .



"Compassion is often presented as a justification for assisted suicide, but having compassion means "suffering with" someone. Assisted suicide reflects a failure of compassion on the part of society. It is a failure to respond to the challenge of caring for people who are terminally ill, or who have disabilities or dementia, as they approach the end of their lives."
- Day for Life Message 2021
Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference



www.councilforlife.ie

Time to heal the world.

In May 2015 Pope Francis published his Encyclical *Laudato Si'* for the 1.2 billion Catholics around the world. Yet six years later only a small percentage of us have read it or indeed know anything at all about it. The first part of the encyclical explains how and why our earth and the majority of its population are suffering. Pope Francis outlines how as a result of the "globalisation of indifference" whole species are disappearing forever, never to be seen by our grandchildren. He states that this is due to our consumerism which has made us a 'throwaway society' where even the "cry of the earth and the cry of the poor" fall on deaf ears. We must ask ourselves what kind of world we want to leave for those who follow us.

The encyclical is not just about climate change, it is much broader. But it explains climate change as a largely human-made symptom of what is wrong in the world today, including economic and social injustice. The key, as stated by Pope Francis, is "integral ecology" i.e that people and the planet are part of one family where the earth is our common home. Pope Francis calls for an "ecological conversion" whereby we connect our relationship with God and the world around us.

It was no accident that Pope Francis chose his papal name in honour of St. Francis of Assisi. The title *Laudato Si'*, or Praised be you, is a reference to St. Francis of Assisi's 13th century *Canticle of the Creatures* poem. St. Francis reminds us that our common home is like a sister with whom we share a common life and a beautiful mother who opens her arms to embrace us. Our earth is "a caress from God" and in the encyclical, we are urged to view the world and its beauty with 'awe and wonder". Who among us at some time or other has not stopped to marvel at the beauty of a rose in full bloom or the majesty of a waterfall cascading down a mountainside. But we have taken our beautiful earth for granted. It is our most precious gift yet in the



"It is important to be clear that healthcare professionals are given privileged access to the human body and to drugs for the express purpose of healing and alleviating pain. Any suggestion that they should be expected to assist and, under certain circumstances, actually perform the act that ends the life of another person, is seriously damaging to the ethos and the credibility of the healthcare professions."
- Day for Life Message 2021
Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference



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words of Pope Francis “it is looking more and more like an immense pile of filth”. (LS, 21)

It follows then that if we value and appreciate something we will care for it and cherish it. To this end, the Season of Creation is an annual celebration of prayer and action for our common home. Together the ecumenical family around the world unites to pray for and protect God’s creation. This celebration takes place from September 1st, the World Day of Prayer for Creation until October 4th, the feast of St. Francis of Assisi. The theme this year is “Restoring our Common Home”. The season of Creation is our chance to make a difference as individuals and communities. We cannot turn our backs on our earth and pretend any longer that the world is facing a monumental crisis. It is a time for prayer and reflection as well as practical action.

The Pope doesn’t mince his words. He states that “rampant individualism” and the “self-centred culture of instant gratification” are destroying our planet. In *Laudato Si’* he asks us what is the purpose of our life in this world? Why are we here? What is the goal of our work and all our efforts? What need does the earth have of us? He states that it isn’t enough to pay lip service to our concern about future generations. “Leaving an inhabitable planet to future generations is, first and foremost, up to us now”. If we do nothing he continues that “we may well be leaving to coming generations debris, desolation and filth. The present pace of consumption, waste and environmental change has so stretched the planet that our present lifestyle will only precipitate catastrophes”.

We see this happening already. In the month of July we have seen globally the effected of climate change. We have witnessed devastating wild fires in the USA, Canada and most recently in Greece and Turkey. Added to that we have seen the truly awful devastation of floods in China and India. Our “not in my back yard” attitude is coming home to bite here locally too. In July 2021 we had the highest temperatures ever recorded followed swiftly by localised flooding. We cannot ignore what is happening all around us.

Our planet is in crisis. The pandemic has highlighted that we are all affected by what happens to our earth and its people. However, for a few brief months the earth was able to breathe again when factories stopped billowing out toxic pollution into the atmosphere. The air became cleaner and clearer. People could breathe and slow down and look around them and see the beauty of creation. We didn’t use our cars. We became resourceful and grew things and cared about the wonders of nature. Sadly it hasn’t lasted long.

In November world leaders come together for the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP 26). It is hoped that Pope Francis himself will attend. He will, no doubt, have hard-hitting words for our world leaders. But it is not just down to them. Each and every one of us has a personal responsibility for our own part of the environment. For many of us, consumerism is “the spice of life”.

Our earth is groaning under the weight of our indifference. Turning off lights, turning off taps and lowering our heating by one degree may seem little but with a global effort it can make a huge difference. In our parishes we can make better use of our green spaces and use them to plant trees or grow wild flowers. We can walk to church instead of driving . We can cut out meat once a week .These are all small, seemingly insignificant, changes. But change begins with small steps and many small steps make a marathon. It is time to change locally and think globally before it is too late. We have over-used and over-developed. It is time to protect and cherish our planet before we leave “a wasteland of desolation, debris and filth’. We need to restore our common home.

Take ACTION NOW!
Restoring Our Common Home



A prayer for our earth

All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe
and in the smallest of your creatures.
You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.
Pour out upon us the power of your love,
that we may protect life and beauty.
Fill us with peace, that we may live
as brothers and sisters, harming no one.
O God of the poor,
help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this
earth,
so precious in your eyes.
Bring healing to our lives,
that we may protect the world and not prey on it,
that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.
Touch the hearts
of those who look only for gain
at the expense of the poor and the earth.
Teach us to discover the worth of each thing,
to be filled with awe and contemplation,
to recognize that we are profoundly united
with every creature
as we journey towards your infinite light.
We thank you for being with us each day.
Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle
for justice, love and peace.