

DIOCESAN NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2021

Diocesan Leadership Team

Diocesan Leadership Team

Over the last number of weeks, a new Leadership Team has been formed in the Diocese. The purpose of the Leadership Team is to spearhead the implementing of the Pastoral Plan *"Go make Disciples"* working with Parish Pastoral Councils

and as many stakeholders as possible throughout the Diocese. The Leadership Teams comprise of members of the Diocesan Pastoral Council plus specific people in various roles around the Diocese.

The Leadership Team is divided into two sections:

Adult Team – that will focus on evangelisation for adults in the Diocese,

Youth Team – that will focus on all aspects of youth affairs in the Diocese.

The group is currently being coached by Divine Renovation who are based in Canada and Ireland. Their coaching has helped the group to see each person's strengths and abilities and to equip them to be leaders. Please keep the team in your prayers as they reflect on their task at hand. May it bear fruit in the coming months and years ahead.

Leadership Team for Apostolate to Adults:

Bishop

Fr. Pat Fitzgerald (VG)

Mary Dee (Liturgy & Pastoral Centre)

Emma Sisk (Faith Development)

Fr. Liam Power (Priests, Alpha)

Lee Walsh (Office)

James Bennett (DPC)

Fr. Martin Keogh (Priests)

Leadership Team for Apostolate to Youth:

Bishop

Maura Murphy (HFM)

Nodlaig Lillis (Youth)

Sr. Antoinette Dilworth, (Education)

Declan Brown (Education)

Fr. Paul Waldron – (Priests)

Emily O Shea (Parent/Families)





Faith @ Home initiative

Faith @ Home is a new resource for parishes which is designed to help parents and families reflect on the upcoming Sunday readings. Every week families will be invited to Hear, Pray and Talk about the Word of God together in their homes with prompts and guidance. You may wish to make it available on your parish website and social media platforms. It is available on our diocesan website for download.

Feast of St. Brigid

On Monday February 1st, we will celebrate St. Brigid's Day. The name Brigid means "the exalted one". She is known as Mary of the Gael. One significant virtue about Brigid which outshone all others was her generosity. When it came to serving the poor, she said "If I had the power to give away the whole of Leinster, I would willingly give it to God's poor". Brigid is the patron saint of Kildare.



Day for Consecrated Life – 2nd February

In 1997, Pope Saint John Paul II instituted a day of prayer for women and men in consecrated life. This celebration is attached to the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord on February 2nd. This Feast is also known as Candlemas Day; the day on which candles are blessed symbolizing Christ who is the light of the world. So too, those in consecrated life are called to reflect the light of Jesus Christ to all peoples. The celebration of World Day for Consecrated Life is transferred to the following Sunday in order to highlight the gift of consecrated persons for the whole Church. Let us keep all those in consecrated life in our prayers and we ask the Lord to continue to bless them and keep them in his loving care, as they continue to give witness to their faith and love of Christ. Bishop Cullinan will celebrate Mass at 12.00noon from the Cathedral and will be livestreamed.

Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes – 11th February

This is also a day named *World Day of the Sick*. Bishop Cullinan will celebrate Mass from the Cathedral of the Most Holy Trinity at 10.30am. Stations of the Cross will be celebrated from St. Mary's Church, Clonmel at 3pm by Fr. Billy Meehan. Mass will be celebrated at 7.30pm from Newtown Parish Church by Fr. Martin Keogh, Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage director.

<https://www.waterfordlismore.ie/cathedral-webcam>

<https://www.churchservices.tv/clonmel>

<https://mcnmedia.tv/camera/all-saints-church>



FOLLOW US ON
facebook

Diocese of Waterford and Lismore



The Diocese of Waterford & Lismore invites **YOU** to experience an online Alpha series beginning February 10th, for 11 weeks. Email events@waterfordlismore.ie to register or call 085 8623705 for more information



Catholic Schools Week

This week, we pray especially for our Catholic School communities, as we celebrate Catholic Schools Week. We ask the Lord that they be places of faith and resilience for everyone. Mass for Post Primary Schools will be celebrated and live streamed in Holy Family Mission, Glencomeragh at 12 noon on Wednesday 27th February. Mass for Primary Schools will be celebrated from the Cathedral of the Most Holy Trinity, Waterford at 10.30am on Thursday 28th January and will also be livestreamed. Bishop Cullinan will celebrate both Masses.

Reaching out in time of Pandemic

There are all sorts of ways of reaching out to our neighbours and friends, especially those who are finding these times very difficult—window visits, a phone call, a note or letter, text or email, a parcel of food, etc.

Information regarding Safeguarding Sunday—7th February

Safeguarding Sunday gives us an opportunity to recognise publicly the years of dedication and work by so many to ensure that our environments are safe places for children and vulnerable adults and for those working with them.

A Safeguarding Newsletter will be sent to the Clergy and Local Safeguarding Representatives by email the week beginning the 1st February. Due to the pandemic this year it is not possible to distribute the newsletter in the usual way, but it is hoped that sharing it digitally will continue to raise awareness of the work that is happening in relation to safeguarding, even if it is in a limited way. With many parishes now live streaming Masses and also through parish radio, the Diocesan Safeguarding Committee would appreciate if the message of Safeguarding Sunday be brought to the attention of parishioners by mentioning it from the altar and through parish newsletters.

Year of St. Joseph

March 19th 2020—March 19th 2021



With the Apostolic Letter, “*Patris Corde*” (“With a Father’s Heart”), Pope Francis recalls the 150th anniversary of the declaration of St Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. To mark the occasion, the Holy Father proclaimed a “Year of St. Joseph”.

Pope Francis describes St. Joseph as a beloved father, a tender and loving father, an obedient father, an accepting father; a father who is creatively courageous, a working father, a father in the shadows.

The Holy Father wrote *Patris Corde* against the backdrop of the Covid-19 pandemic, which, he says, has helped us to see more clearly the importance of ‘ordinary’ people who, though far from the limelight, exercise patience and offer hope every day. In this, they resemble St. Joseph, “the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet and hidden presence”, who nonetheless played “an incomparable role in the history of salvation”.

St. Joseph also teaches us the value, dignity and joy of work. Especially in light of rising unemployment due to Covid-19 pandemic, the pope calls everyone to ‘review our priorities’ and to express our firm conviction that no young person, no person at all, no family should be without work.

At the conclusion of his letter, Pope Francis added a prayer to St. Joseph, which encourages everyone to pray.

*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 on the path of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage, and defend us from evil. Amen.*