



February 2018

Ministry Update

A newsletter from Kildare and Leighlin Faith Development Services for parish team members and all parish ministers

Looking ahead to Lent's destination and our celebration of Easter

Sunset on Holy
Saturday, March 31
8:00 p.m.



We are called to begin the Easter Vigil in darkness around the Easter fire. Many parishes, then, will be looking at a post 8:30 p.m. Vigil

Sunrise on Easter
Sunday, April 1
7:00 a.m.

Our KandLe Family Lenten Promises



A NEW RESOURCE is now available on www.kandle.ie for families and individuals to use as they begin their Lenten journey.

The two-page resource is laid out as follows:

Page one: Explores the Lenten actions of fasting, almsgiving and praying, and offers examples of possible actions family members can promise to undertake for Lent. Families and individuals are also invited to name their own.

Page Two: A sheet for the family to complete by listing their chosen individual/ family Lenten promises, and signing. This page also has a Family Prayer for Lent.

24 HOURS FOR THE LORD 2018

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Confessions, quiet prayer and other local prayer opportunities.

St Patrick's Church, Rathvilly
St Andrew's Church, Bagenalstown
St Conleth's Church, Newbridge
Church of the Immaculate Conception, Allenwood
S.S. Peter and Paul Church, Portlaoise
St Peter's Church, Rhode



AN INVITATION TO YOU FROM BISHOP DENIS

Bishop Denis invites families & individuals across the Diocese of Kildare and Leighlin to join with Pope Francis once again this Lent in pledging some time together for the Lord

See local venues and kandle.ie for particular details

MARCH 9-10

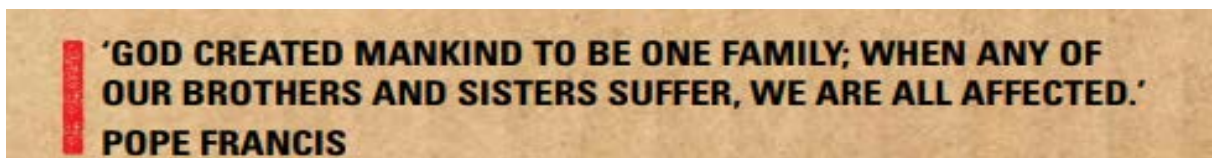
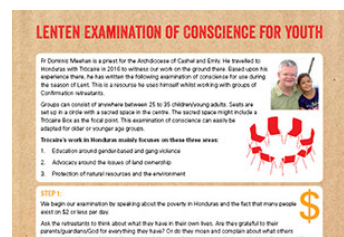
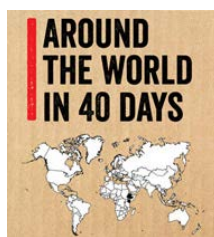


The 2018 Lenten Resources are now available

for download from www.trocaire.org/resources/parishes/lent. Resources are available in both English and Irish and they include a classroom /family Mass resource 'Around the World in 40 Days'. Watch out for videos on kandle.ie and iCatholic.ie in coming weeks featuring this year's campaign.

This year's Trócaire Lenten campaign focuses upon the KOROMA FAMILY in Freetown, Sierra Leone who were affected by recent landslides in their area.

This tragic event affected the Koroma family in various ways and cost them their home, possessions, work tools and changed the course of this family's future forever.



A Family Prayer for Lent



Creator God, be with us as we make our Lenten journey together as a family. Give us the strength to do what we have promised and the love to help one another along the way. When Easter comes, may our Lenten promises have brought us closer to You and to Your Son, Jesus. AMEN.

Cantor Workshop Series



A two morning training series will take place in **St Clare's Church, Graiguecullen** on March 3 & **Cathedral of the Assumption, Carlow**, March 10 from 11 am -1:30 pm
Led by Marian Gaynor, Music Director, Carlow Cathedral.
Booking essential. Please leave name of parish, numbers attending and contact name and phone number at fds@kandle.ie / 059 9164084

Website Resources for Lent and Easter Triduum

kandle.ie has several Lent /Easter resources for parishes, including Resources for Ash Wednesday (A Service of Ashes, Suggestions for Reaching Out from the Mass, A Rite of Sending Forth Ministers with Ashes), Lent Morning Prayer, Lenten Celebration of Evening Prayer, Preparing a Parish Celebration of Reconciliation, Sample Examinations of Conscience, Taizé Prayer Around the Cross, as well as ample notes and work sheets on the Liturgies of Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil. Check out iCatholic.ie for video inputs on these liturgies.



GETTING READY TO CELEBRATE THE PASCHAL TRIDUUM IN THE PARISH
EXPLORING THE LITURGIES OF
MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER; THE CELEBRATION OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD;
THE EASTER VIGIL

Parish teams, liturgy groups and any group in the parish preparing the liturgies of Holy Week are invited to come to a one-night practical workshop.

CATHEDRAL PARISH CENTRE,
FEBRUARY 27,
7:30-10:00 P.M.

Hear an overview of these days, explore each of the liturgies in detail and take home a practical worksheet that you have already begun to engage with as a local preparation group.

To ensure enough resources for participants, **booking is essential**. Please leave name of parish, number attending and contact name and phone number at fds@kandle.ie / 059 9164084.

From Pope Francis' Lenten Message, 2018

'Above all, I urge the members of the Church to take up the Lenten journey with enthusiasm, sustained by almsgiving, fasting and prayer. If, at times, the flame of charity seems to die in our own hearts, know that this is never the case in the heart of God! He constantly gives us a chance to begin loving anew.



One such moment of grace will be, again this year, the "24 Hours for the Lord" initiative, which invites the entire Church community to celebrate the sacrament of Reconciliation in the context of Eucharistic adoration. In 2018, inspired by the words of Psalm 130:4, "With you is forgiveness", this will take place from Friday, 9 March to Saturday, 10 March.'



Almost exactly five years after announcing his intention to resign, **Pope Benedict** wrote on February 4th the following in a letter to a journalist from an Italian newspaper.

"I am touched to know how many of the readers of your newspaper want to know how I am experiencing this last period of my life. In that regard, I can only say that, with the slow diminishing of my physical strength, inwardly I am on a pilgrimage toward Home...It is a great grace in this last, sometimes tiring stage of my journey, to be surrounded by a love and kindness that I never could have imagined."

Let us remember in our prayers Pope Benedict and all who are, at this time, making their final pilgrimage toward Home. May they also be surrounded by love and kindness.