# Ministry Update

A Newsletter for Clergy, Parish Sisters and Staff, and all those involved in ministry in the parish, from Kildare and Leighlin Faith Development Services.

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November 2018

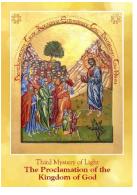


Bishop Denis to Launch Reach Out 2018 CATHEDRAL ADVENT EVENING PRAYER 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent, December 2, 2018 ALL WELCOME

## An Invitation WALKING INTO ADVENT TOGETHER

Bishop Denis warmly invites people and clergy from across the diocese to join him, as we begin our Advent journey, for a celebration of Evening Prayer for the First Sunday of Advent in the Cathedral of the Assumption at 5 pm, December 2<sup>nd</sup>.

The music for this diocesan celebration will once more be led by the KandLe Diocesan Choir.



At this Advent Evening Prayer Bishop Denis will anoint an Icon written to depict the Third Mystery of Light: The Proclamation of the Kingdom of God. An image of this icon with helpful information to assist people pray the Mysteries of Light during Advent, alone or as a family, will be this year's parish Reach Out Gift.



Parishes are invited to once more Reach Out during this Advent season with the Reach Out card and gift, due to arrive in readiness for the Third Sunday of Advent. The card will again list the local parish Christmas arrangements.

# A Template for Local Celebrations of Evening Prayer

The texts and details of the Evening Prayer will be made available for parishes and can be used as a model for those parishes who would like to host their own local celebration of Evening Prayer in Advent.

# A call out to KandLe Diocesan Choir!

Music for this Evening Prayer will be sent to members by email in the coming days. Much of it will be familiar, including music that was used for the beautiful WMOF Evening Prayer of August 21.

Spread the word – Let your fellow choir members know that they can be part of this choir. Also, if they would like to be added to our email list all they need do is email Christine at fds@kandle.ie

PLEASE BE SEATED IN YOUR PLACES IN THE CATHEDRAL BY 4:30 PM FOR REHEARSAL

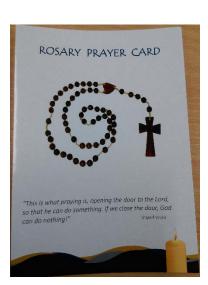
# NOVEMBER: A MONTH OF REMEMBRANCE

"Remember, also our brothers and sisters who have fallen asleep in the hope of the resurrection, and all who have died in your mercy: welcome them into the light of your face."

(Eucharistic Prayer II)

#### Parish Resources Provided by the Diocese

As we make our annual journey through this month of taking time to remember those who have gone before us, it is good to remember also the resources we have as a diocese to help parishes, funeral ministry teams and families at the time of the death of a loved one.





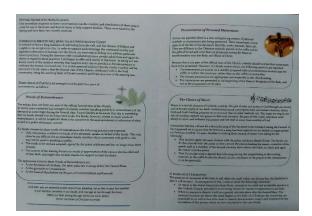


#### PARISHES CAN ORDER THESE RESOURCES BY RINGING OR EMAILING FAITH DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

## FROM BISHOP DENIS' PASTORAL: WHEN A LOVED ONE DIES...



'My aim is that this pastoral will become a resource reference for that most tender moment, when we are planning the funeral of someone we love.'





# Spring Training for Funeral Ministry Teams

**Expressions of Interest** 

If your parish would like to undertake training for this ministry, please let Julie (<u>Julie.kavanagh@kandle.ie</u>) know in the coming weeks so that diocesan training can be located close to where the interest lies.

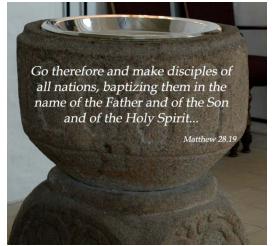
The Programme involves an information session followed by four training sessions. (Most likely an evening followed by four Saturday afternoons).

Best practice recommends that the funeral ministry team attending should include a priest from the parish so that local practices are clear, appropriate and agreed.

## Baptism Questionnaire: THANK YOU!

The Diocesan Commission for Liturgical Formation would like to thank all the parishes who returned the recent survey on the Celebration of Baptism and Adult Initiation in the parishes of Kildare and Leighlin. It will greatly assist them as they look into this area.





#### BIBLICAL RESOURCES

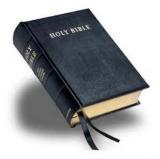
For freedom Christ has set us free

Welcome! Sunday Readings -From Dan to Beersheba Current Resources Advent 2018 School of the Word -John in Jerusalem -Bible+Spirituality -Links Fun Calendar Email Sitemap

# Digging deeper into the Word of God

A fantastic website for priests, parish readers and anyone wishing to discover more about the Scriptures we hear in our Church www.Tarsus.ie

This website is the work of **Kieran O'Mahony OSA**, an Augustinian friar and biblical scholar and coordinator of biblical studies for Dublin Diocese.



#### **A Prayer for Readers**

Almighty God, cleanse my heart and my lips that I may worthily proclaim your Word; bless my efforts to prepare, that I may meditate on your Word, understand it better, and proclaim it faithfully to your people; surround my ministry with your presence, that I may carefully perform the task entrusted to me and give glory to you, Father, through your Son and in the Holy Spirit. Amen. Thus, faith comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes through the word of Christ. Romans 10:17 Two Suggestions for the Sunday Masses of Advent The Advent season has wonderful ways of communicating its prayerful spirit and message to us – through the Scriptures, the music, the colours, the symbol of the Advent wreath and so much more.

This season is one of preparation and prayer. In stark contrast to the frenetic pace in the world, the Church celebrates this rich season in a spirit of prayerful and joyful expectation. How will this spirit be expressed in the liturgy? Clearly by paying careful attention to all the communicators of the message above and allowing them to have full expression at our Masses.

Two further elements can help nurture the spirit of Advent in our liturgy: the use of **SILENCE** and the use of **INCENSE**. Why not reflect on how and when we might allow for more silence in our Advent liturgies and how and when we might use incense – honouring God and ourselves and raising our unspoken prayers to the God who loves us and who comes to save us.

# A Family Advent Night Prayer



A member of the family might light a candle (or Advent Wreath) As we get closer to Christmas, this prayer could begin with a decade of the Rosary, The Third Mystery of Light: The Proclamation of the Kingdom of God (see Reach Out Gift)

Loving God, as your light grows in the dark of winter, bring its strength and its hope to all people. **All: Come, Lord Jesus.** 

Just as you sent the star of Bethlehem to lead the way to your Son, guide us as a family to follow your ways of kindness, peace and justice. **All: Come, Lord Jesus.** 

As we remember the journey of Mary and Joseph, may the Holy Family be a source of courage for our family, helping us to reach out in friendship and love to those in need. **All: Come, Lord Jesus.** 

Help us to see in the Jesus we welcome this Christmas, the one who came to bring an end to all divisions. **All: Come, Lord Jesus.** 

And may the Lord bring us peace and ease any worry; bless us and keep us safe this night and always. **All: Amen.** 

# Advent Scripture Books

The popular Sunday Scripture Sharing Booklets are once more available through Faith Development services. This year, the reflections have been prepared by Bryan O'Reilly, Patron's Secretary for Education in the diocese. Cost  $\epsilon_{2.50} + p \& p$ 

#### **DATA PROTECTION**

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter or similar correspondence from Faith Development Services, please contact Christine at <u>fds@kandle.ie</u>