

Ministry Update

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

November 2019



Reach Out 2019 Calling us to *'Share with the Hungry'*

Parishioners across the diocese will receive their Reach Out 2019 Christmas Gift from the Parish and Message from Bishop Denis on the weekend of the Third Sunday of Advent, December 15.

Central to Reach Out this year is the call to *'Share with the Hungry'*. As we get ready to welcome Christ once more at Christmas, in the true spirit of Christian outreach, we are being invited to bring the love of Christ to others.



The gift this year is a trolley coin fob that also carries the Reach Out message. As we shop this Christmas and throughout the year, may the fob remind us of those less fortunate than ourselves and our Christian calling to support them in concrete ways. Parish initiatives such as St Clare's Hospitality, Graiguecullen, Share Food Appeal in Newbridge and Portlaoise Action Towards the Homeless (PATH), as well as others, need our support to continue their great work.



In a particular way this Advent, the diocese is highlighting the importance of the work of St Vincent de Paul and asking that people support this year's annual appeal as generously as they can locally.

From Bishop Denis' Message: The call to share with the hungry is a personal call to each of us; a call that seeks us out from the very image of the infant Jesus lying in the manger... We see in this image the truth that, in Jesus, God comes to be with us, to feed us, to reach out in love to the strongest and weakest among us.



Final Orders Being Taken...

Individuals and groups can order copies of the popular Advent Scripture Sharing booklet by contacting Christine in FDS at fds@kandle.ie or 059 9164084 €2.50 + PP

The booklet offers structured content for groups and individuals to reflect on the Sunday Scriptures of Advent, providing prayers and reflections that open up the treasures of these scriptures for us as we ponder them in our hearts.

If you haven't used them before perhaps this is the year to start!



Christians across the island of Ireland are invited to stand in solidarity with, and bear witness to the heroic example of, our persecuted brothers and sisters in faith across the world during the Aid to the Church in Need Week of Witness.

ACN RED WEDNESDAY is a key part of the week when Christians are invited to gather in public prayer in union with those persecuted and to pray for those who persecute the Church and her faithful.

We can mark this time in parishes and personally by:

Illuminating our church / school in red.

Wearing a red tie, scarf or scapular

Praying for the suffering

Attending a Red Wednesday Prayer Vigil

Blessing oneself in public when having a meal, passing a graveyard or church.

Donating to ACN Ireland

Information and resources
@acnirleand.org

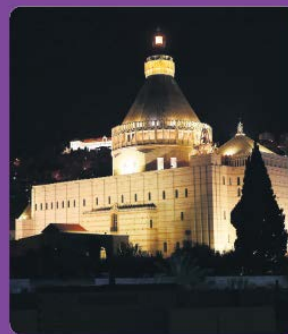
'Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me.'

Matthew 5:11

*Red Wednesday -
St. Patrick's Cathedral, Armagh.*



Scripture Sharing



ADVENT 2019

May the Peace of Christ dwell in our Hearts

Baptism Teams and Clergy



Evening Gathering and Workshop
Exploring Baptism and its celebration

Hosted by the Diocesan Commission for Liturgical Formation

Mount St Anne's,
Killenard Co Laois
Thursday, April 30th, 2020

In November We Remember our Dead

Lord, give us the certainty that beyond death there is a life where broken things are mended and lost things are found; where there is rest for the weary and joy for the sad; where all that we have loved, exists, and where we will meet again our loved ones.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

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Happy New Year!

The new Church begins on the First Sunday of Advent. As we will be in Year A in the three- year cycle of Sunday readings, for the next year we will be hearing mainly from the Gospel of St Matthew. John's gospel will feature very strongly in Lent with the stories of the Woman at the Well, the Curing of the Blind Man and the Raising of Lazarus.

Our weekday readings will follow Year II of the two-year weekday cycle of readings.

Looking for a New Year's Resolution? Why not take 10 minutes each day to privately pray with the readings of the day. Check out www.pray-as-you-go.org and their free phone app to keep you in touch with the daily readings.



THE LITURGICAL YEAR



Remember your ABC

Advent Before Christmas

The season of Advent offers us a wonderful time of prayerful reflection as we prepare once more to welcome Christ into the centre of our lives. In all the hustle and bustle surrounding us we might personally miss out on the gift of the Advent season itself. There are many websites with resources to help us journey through Advent. Here's just a few Irish based sites:

- catholicbishops.ie/advent-calendar
- icatholic.ie
- sacredspace.ie
- and not forgetting our very own, Kandle.ie



POPE JOHN PAUL II AWARD



Congratulations to our many, many young people across the diocese - there were hundreds of you! - who over this week are receiving their John Paul II awards from Bishop Denis: in the Cathedral on Monday, 18th November and in Cill Mhuire, Newbridge on Friday, 22nd November.

We are proud of you and value the huge contribution you are making to your parish and community.

DATA PROTECTION

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

