



# Ministry Update

A newsletter for clergy, parish sisters and staff,  
and all involved in ministry in the parish,  
from Kildare and Leighlin Faith Development Services.

Lent 2022

**“Let us not grow tired of doing good, for in due time we shall reap our harvest, if we do not give up. So then, while we have the opportunity, let us do good to all” (Galatians 6:9-10).**

In his **Message for Lent 2022**, Pope Francis reminds us of these words in St Paul’s letter to the Galatians and writes: *Let us not grow tired of praying; let us not grow tired of uprooting evil from our lives; Let us not grow tired of doing good in active charity towards our neighbours.*

This year, as we seek to embrace the Lenten disciplines of prayer, fasting and almsgiving we do so in the midst of our slow emergence from a global pandemic and the terrible events in the Ukraine . Let us remember these words of scripture and persevere. We know that God is with us and listens to us. This Lent may we have ears and hearts to listen to God through one another, through our prayers and actions of love, and through God’s word to us in the scriptures.



## A DAILY PRAYER FOR PEACE

WWW.KANDLE.IE



Loving God,  
We pray for the people of Ukraine,  
for all those suffering or afraid,  
that you will be close to them and protect them.

We pray for world leaders,  
for compassion, strength and wisdom  
to guide their choices.

We pray for the world  
that in this moment of crisis,  
we may reach out in solidarity  
to our brothers and sisters in need.

May we walk in your ways  
so that peace and justice  
become a reality for the people of Ukraine  
and for all the world.

Amen.

This Lent we invite you  
to join with Bishop  
Denis and parishes  
across the diocese each  
day by lighting a candle  
and praying the prayer  
for peace in Ukraine and  
in our world.



@KANDLEi  
Diocese of Kildare and Leighlin



This Lent the Diocese is very much focusing on listening to what God has to say to us – through one another, through the scriptures and through prayer.

The first phase of listening for the synod path we are undertaking in the Church in Ireland, as well in the Universal Church, will see many listening sessions taking place in parishes across the diocese, as well as with particular focus groups. Please look out for details locally.

For those who cannot make local gatherings you are invited to go to our online survey to make your contribution. See links to the survey on the following page.

You can find more information on the dedicated page on [www.kandle.ie/synod/](http://www.kandle.ie/synod/)





## SOME RESOURCES FOR A LISTENING LENT 2022 – LISTENING TO GOD IN THE SCRIPTURES AND IN PRAYER

The following resources are offered for those who really want to take this Lenten time to become even more attentive to the word of God in their lives. They include phone app links to the daily readings of Lent as well as sites that offer supports to pray with the readings but they begin with our popular annual offering of reflections on the Sunday Readings.

**Sunday Scripture Sharing** – We wish to acknowledge some of our retired & semi-retired priests, Mgrs. Brendan Byrne & Caoimhín Ó Neill, Frs. Tom Lalor, Francis McNamara, Noel Dunphy & Denis Harrington for generously giving their time to contribute to our Lenten Scripture Sharing with such wonderful reflections and prayers. May these reflections and prayers inspire us all. Designed for use in groups (in person or virtual), these reflections can also be used individually. You can access them here: [www.kandle.ie/resources/liturgy-pastoral/](http://www.kandle.ie/resources/liturgy-pastoral/)

[www.PrayasyouGo.org](http://www.PrayasyouGo.org) is a great free resource (donations welcome) that can be accessed on your laptop or downloaded onto your phone as an app. Among its many offers is an audio guided reflection on the daily readings (typically about 10-12 mins) as well as a weekly Lenten retreat audio (typically about 20 mins). Why not find a quiet spot or put on your headphones and head out to nature with God's word to accompany you!

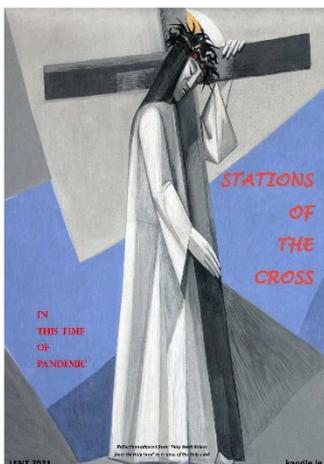


[www.universalis.com](http://www.universalis.com) gives you access on your laptop or through a phone app to the texts of the daily readings and prayers of the Mass as well as to all the texts for the Liturgy of the Hours for a once off payment.

You can download the **iBreviary app** for your phone for free (again, donations welcome) and have access to the texts of the daily readings as well as a whole feast of other prayers and rites of the Church.



You can access daily reflections on the gospel with Bishop Robert Barron at [www.dailycatholicgospel.com/sign-up-daily-gospel](http://www.dailycatholicgospel.com/sign-up-daily-gospel) as part of the **Word on Fire** ministry.



Last year the **DIOCESAN COMMISSION FOR LITURGICAL FORMATION** produced a set of **Stations of the Cross** in word and video format. They were very warmly received and so we are offering them once again. You are invited to use them alone or with others during this Lent. They are provided in sets

of three so that they can be progressively prayed over the course of the season, if desired.

You can find the stations on our Lenten page: [www.kandle.ie/resources/liturgy-pastoral/](http://www.kandle.ie/resources/liturgy-pastoral/)

### Listening to one another...

As well as by attending the local listening sessions, you can share your experiences and insights on being a part of the Church through our online survey using the QR code below or by going to the link on

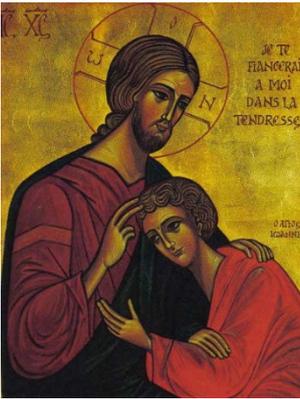
[www.kandle.ie/synod](http://www.kandle.ie/synod)



Kildare and Leighlin Synod Listening Survey

## DIOCESAN PASTORAL COUNCIL NEWS

### Bishop Denis announces first lay chair of the DPC and new secretary



At the January meeting of the DPC, Bishop Denis announced Gerry Martin (a parishioner from Naas) as the new chair of the DPC and Jean Roche (Kill Parish) as its secretary.

The DPC has a dedicated page on the diocesan website where you can go to find out more about its work. PPC's might like to take a look at its identified themes as they look to their own areas of work in the coming year. [www.kandle.ie/pastoral/diocesan-pastoral-council/](http://www.kandle.ie/pastoral/diocesan-pastoral-council/)

The DPC and the Council of Priests recently held a meeting to get to know one another, to learn about the areas of priority for each group and to build on existing work between the two bodies.

## TRÓCAIRE

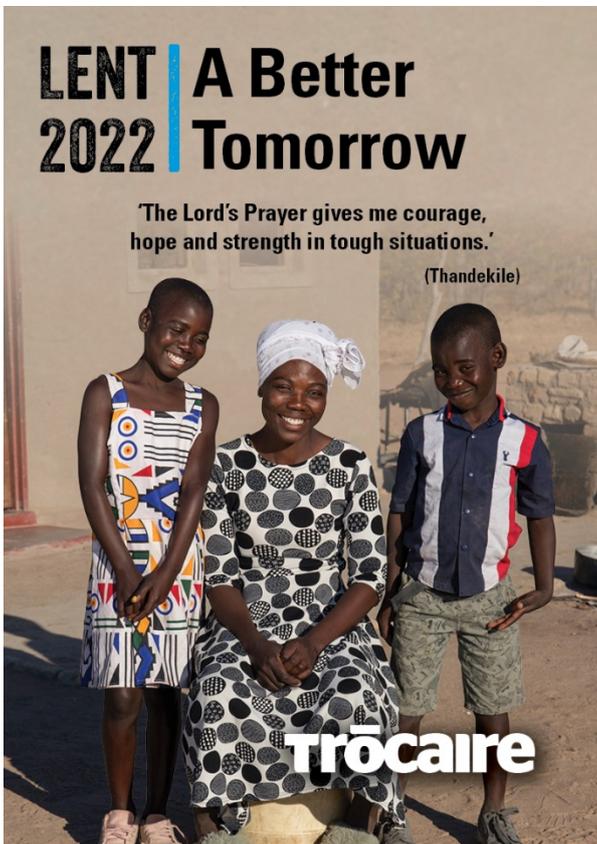
Working for a Just World

### LENT 2022- FOOD SHORTAGE AND SCARCITY – COURAGE, HOPE AND STRENGTH NEEDED

Discover more about Trócaire's Lenten campaign at [www.trocaire.org/our-work/working-in-ireland/parishes/lent-2022/](http://www.trocaire.org/our-work/working-in-ireland/parishes/lent-2022/)

This Lent, we hear about how communities who were already facing huge challenges due to drought and food shortages, caused by climate change, were further impacted by Covid-19.

This is seen in how Covid-19 impacted people's livelihoods and access to education and food security. We here in Ireland are also very familiar with the impact of Covid-19. This Lent we will learn more about the impact of the pandemic through the story of Thandekile and her two children, Nomatter and Forward, who live in Zimbabwe.



## Celebrating Liturgy in Holy Week

### A Zoom Session

March 23, 2:00-3:30pm

Presenter: Rev Dr Liam Tracey

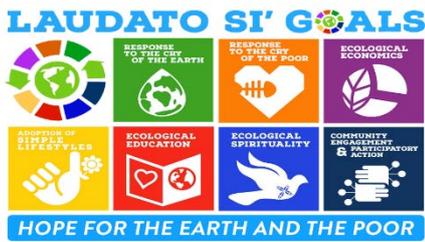


Fr Liam was appointed director of postgraduate studies in Maynooth in 2009 and 2012 and was appointed PP of the Divine Word Parish, Marley Grange, Dublin.

For a ZOOM link please contact: [sioncentrefordialogue@gmail.com](mailto:sioncentrefordialogue@gmail.com)

## From this year's Trócaire Parish Resource:

*We are encouraged to take on the first two of the Laudato Si goals.*



**Goal 1: Adoption of Simple Sustainable Lifestyles** The adoption of sustainable lifestyles is grounded in the idea of sufficiency and promoting sobriety in the use of resources and energy. Actions could include reducing waste and recycling, adopting sustainable dietary habits (opting for a more plant-based diet and reducing meat consumption), greater use of public transport, active mobility (walking, cycling), and avoiding single-use items (plastic).

**Goal 2: Response to the Cry of the Poor** The response to the cry of the poor is a call to promote eco-justice, aware that we are called to defend human life from conception to death and all forms of life on earth. Actions could include projects to promote solidarity, with special attention given to vulnerable groups such as indigenous communities, refugees, migrants and children at risk, analysis and improvement of social systems and social service programmes.

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

**Sunset on**

**Holy Saturday, April 16 8:29 p.m.**

***We are called to begin the Easter Vigil in darkness around the Easter fire.***

**Sunrise on**

**Easter Sunday, April 17 6:25 a.m.**



### Resources for Baptism Teams

As baptism teams return or continue in their local parish ministry don't forget the resources available for your use at

<https://www.kandle.ie/resources/liturgypastoral/#collapse-44349>

For further information on any of the content of this newsletter please contact:

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### Three Suggestions from Bishop Denis

(taken from his homily for Temperance Sunday)

**In times of trouble we call on the tender mercy of God "to guide our feet into the way of peace" Lk.1:79)**



**Firstly**, I suggest we light a candle in our churches for every day during the season of Lent. A candle that reminds us light always overcomes darkness, and especially the darkness of war. War is the path of no return. A candle that reminds the people of Ukraine they are not forgotten, they are in our thoughts.

**Secondly**, we pause at the Sign of Peace, a sign we understandably suspended during the pandemic. While not yet restoring the sign, let's take a moment of pause and reflection for the cause of peace and how we can all contribute to being peacemakers in today's world.

**Thirdly**, I invite the prayer for peace in Ukraine to be prayed at every Mass during Lent.

(See front page of this **MINISTRY UPDATE** for the text of this **Daily Prayer for Peace**)