

# Parish of Dunboe, Macosquin, Aghadowey Newsletter

Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday, 10th October 2021

## **Giving it all up**

If your house was on fire and you could save one thing, what would it be? We often hear this question posed, and our response is supposed to tell us something about ourselves and our priorities. Many say they would choose to save treasured family photos, letters, gifts or heirlooms. Others might rescue a laptop or their music or book collection. The question makes us think about what is really important to us. Often people conclude that once their loved ones were safe, they would be happy. Everything else is stuff. And yet we accumulate so much of it! Of course, we need to feed and clothe ourselves and our families, and to keep a roof over our heads, and we all have our little luxuries and indulgences. But where do we draw the line? How important are possessions to us? What would we give up easily - and what would be more difficult?

For the man who approaches Jesus in today's Gospel, the stakes are too high. He is living a good life and keeping God's commandments, but he is unable, or unwilling, to make the final push and give up his attachment to wealth and possessions. There is no doubt that it is a radical demand that Jesus makes of him. It might seem impractical to us who hear this message today. How do we give everything away to follow Jesus?

Start today: think about your contributions to charity or to your parish - do you really give as much as you can afford? Is there some luxury - a daily take-away coffee, for example - that you could forego and give the money to charity? Could you spare some time for a good cause? Start heading down this path and who knows where it will lead!

*Triona Doherty*

## **October: Mission Month**

A series of presentations on Mission Today - what mission means in today's society - will be available online, by Zoom, on the Tuesday and Thursday evenings of the month of October. Each presentation is free and will consist of a short talk, discussion on the topic and a chance to ask questions. For

more information on the individual presentations, the speakers and to receive the Zoom links, visit [derrydiocese.org/mission-month](http://derrydiocese.org/mission-month)

### **Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2022**

The Parish of Leckpatrick and Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Derry City pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place from 9 - 13 May 2022. Direct flights from Dublin to Tarbes (Lourdes). Cost £575.00 pps. Single room supplement £140 (limited availability). Staying at 4\* Hotel Astrid. Accompanied by Fr. Gerard Sweeney and Fr. John McDevitt. As this is a joint pilgrimage, places are limited to 25 from the area. For booking form and more information please contact Leckpatrick Parish Office on 028 71882274.

### **DERRY DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2022:**

Although mindful of all the uncertainties we face at this time, the Pilgrimage Director and staff have begun planning for a return to Lourdes in early summer 2022. It is intended that the date and duration will be as in recent years and hopefully these will be confirmed and announced by the end of 2021. We ask for the prayers of the people of the diocese so that, by the grace of God and intercession of Our Lady of Lourdes, we may return to Lourdes once more.

### **DROMANTINE RETREAT CENTRE:**

The following Workshop will be offered by **Fr Hugh Lagan SMA:**

**'Broken Open'** Workshop – How difficult times can help us grow. Friday 19th 5pm – Sunday 21st November, 2pm. Cost £200 / €230. Enquiries and reservations: Tel 028 (048 from ROI) 30821964. Email: [admin@dromantineconference.com](mailto:admin@dromantineconference.com)

### **MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT WEEKEND :**

5th – 7th November, starting on Friday evening at 8pm and ending on Sunday afternoon at 2:30pm. Hosted by Catholic Marriage Encounter this

is an online experience (using Zoom). Full details on:  
<https://www.marriageencounter.ie>

## **PRAYER FOR OUR PROTECTION**

We ask for prayers for those affected by the Coronavirus. Placing all our trust in the Lord, and asking Our Lady to intercede for us, we invite everyone to pray these prayers:

### *Extract from Saint Patrick's Breastplate*

Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ in me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ on my right, Christ on my left, Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit down, Christ when I arise, Christ in the heart of everyone who thinks of me, Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me, Christ in every eye that sees me, Christ in every ear that hears me.

### *Memorare*

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to your protection, implored your help, or sought your intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly to you, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother. To you I come, before you I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in your mercy, hear and answer me. Amen.