



Parish of Greencastle, Co. Tyrone (Diocese of Derry)

St. Patrick's, Greencastle **Our Lady of the Wayside, Broughderg**
Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time [Year B] (9th August, 2015)
The Parochial House, 164, Greencastle Road, Sheskinshule, Omagh, BT79 7RU
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Best wishes to everyone travelling for their summer holidays, may your journeys be safe and your time away renewing and refreshing. For everyone staying at home may the weather be kind and may we all make the most out of it.

Liturgy Schedule for the Nineteenth Week in Ordinary Time [Year B] (10th August, 2015 – 16th August, 2015)

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| Saturday Evening (8th August) | St. Patrick's | 5.30pm Confessions 6.00pm Vigil Mass |
| Sunday 9th August Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time [Year B] | St. Patrick's Our Lady of the Wayside | 9.00am Mass (Missa Pro Populo) 10.30am Confessions 11.00am Mass |
| Monday 10th August Nineteenth Week in Ordinary Time | St. Patrick's | 10.00am Mass |
| Tuesday 11th August St. Clare (virgin) | St. Patrick's | 10.00am Mass |
| Wednesday 12th August St. Jane Frances de Chantal (religious) | St. Patrick's | 10.00am Mass |
| Thursday 13th August St. Pontian (pope and martyr) and St. Hippolytus (priest and martyr) | St. Patrick's | 10.00am Mass |
| Friday 14th August St. Maximilian Kolbe (priest and martyr) | Our Lady of the Wayside | 7.30pm Confessions 8.00pm Vigil Mass |
| Saturday Morning (15th August) Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary | St. Patrick's | 11.00am Mass |
| Saturday Evening (15th August) | St. Patrick's | 5.30pm Confessions 6.00pm Vigil Mass: Kathleen Gillen (1 st Anniversary) |
| Sunday 16th August Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time [Year B] | St. Patrick's Our Lady of the Wayside | 9.00am Mass (Missa Pro Populo) 10.30am Confessions 11.00am Mass |

Weekly Offerings: Thank you for your kindness in last week's collection of **£925** and **£11** in loose change.

St. Patrick's Cemetery: Donations of **£40** were received this week for the support of the on-going work.

Remembering Our Dead: We pray for all whose anniversaries occur at this time and for the most recently enrolled members of the Derry Diocesan Society **Gerald McGurk, Patrick Glass, Francis O'Hagan and Barney McGuigan.**

Blessing of the Stations of the Cross: Wednesday 19th August in St. Patrick's Cemetery at 7.00pm. The Blessing will be led by the Sisters of Loreto who gifted our parish faith-community and will be followed by Mass. *Please come along and participate*

Youth 2000 Summer Festival: Thursday 13th to Sunday 16th August in the Cistercian College, Roscrea, Co. Tipperary. For young people aged 16 to 35, this is a great opportunity to find out what your Catholic faith is all about in a friendly, chilled out atmosphere. Donation only. Free buses available from all around Ireland. *To book online, visit youth2000.ie or call 01 6753 690*

World Youth Day: This will be held in Kraków, Poland from Sunday 24th to Sunday 31st July, 2016. If you are aged between 18 and 35 and would like to be part of this Derry Diocesan pilgrimage, then please register your interest at wyd@derrydiocese.org or alternatively, call The Derry Diocesan Catechetical Centre on (028) 7126 4087 before Sunday 1st November.

Lough Derg – Bringing You the Gift of Hope: Whether you are seeking healing, reconciliation or simply a few days peace and quiet from the stresses of modern life Lough Derg is a calm place, a safe place and a unique place. The traditional Lough Derg 3-day pilgrimage season continues until Saturday 15th August. Pilgrims can arrive at Lough Derg on any given day until Thursday 13th August between 10.15am and 3.00pm. If you can't make it for the traditional three day pilgrimage, then why not come for a day. Day Retreats and a special programme of workshops and guided prayer retreats will resume on Friday 17th August. *More info available by calling (+353) 71 98 61518 or downloading a copy of the detailed Season Guide at loughderg.org*

Children in Crossfire – Zipline Across the River Foyle: Saturday 29th august. 170ft high, 1,300ft across. A £20 deposit confirms your place. **Tel:** (028) 7126 9898 • **Email:** events@childrenincrossfire.org • **Online:** tinyurl.com/og5dd7j

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| An Bruach Dearg Community Centre – Upcoming Events: | Sunday 9 th August (10.00pm to 12.00pm) with music by Cascades. £5 per person | Sunday 23 rd August (10.00pm to 12.00pm) with music by Larry and Co. £5 per person |
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Annual Steak BBQ: Saturday 15th August in McCreas Bar, Glenhull. Tickets are £15 and food will be served from 8.00pm. *All proceeds to support the Alzheimer's Society*

Next Sunday's Readings: Proverbs 9:1-6 • Psalm 33:2-3, 10-15, r/v 9 • Ephesians 5:15-20

John 6:51-58 • Lectionary I, page 788

Sunday [Year B] • Weekday [Year 1]

Offertory Gifts: During the summer months no particular family will be scheduled for the task of bringing the gifts to the altar so anyone can volunteer to participate and we say thanks to you for taking on this responsibility.

What can you volunteer to do in your parish? Thank you to everyone who participates in the life and work of our parish faith community, we need new volunteers in every aspect of life. Anyone wishing to participate in any aspect of our parish mission should make themselves known.

MARA (Maximising Access in Rural Areas): Find out if you're missing out on benefits, services or grants by booking your FREE home visit. Referrals can be made for benefits checks, home safety visits and occupational therapy assessments as well as others. You'll also receive a FREE bag containing £25 worth of items to help keep you warm this winter.

Call Carol Conway on (028) 8225 1559 to book your appointment or for more information

Pope Francis' Address to Altar Servers: Dear Altar Servers, Good evening.

I thank you all for coming in such great numbers; you have withstood the heat of the sun in Rome in August. I thank Bishop Nemet, your President, for his words of introduction and greeting. You have come from a variety of countries on pilgrimage to Rome, the city where the Apostles Peter and Paul were martyred.

It is important to realise that being close to Jesus and knowing him in the Eucharist through your service at the altar, enables you to open yourselves to others, to journey together, to set demanding goals and to find the strength to achieve them. It is a source of real joy to recognise that we are small and weak, all the while knowing that, with Jesus' help, we can be strengthened and take up the challenge of life's great journey in his company.

The prophet Isaiah also discovered this truth, which is to say that God purified his intentions, forgave his sins, healed his heart and made him ready to take up the important task of bringing God's word to his people. In so doing, he became an instrument of the presence of divine mercy. Isaiah realised that, by entrusting himself into the hands of the Lord, his whole existence would be transformed.

The biblical verse that we have just heard speaks to us precisely of this. Isaiah had a vision of the glory of the Lord. At the same time, the vision showed to him that, although the Lord revealed himself, he still remained far off.

Isaiah was astonished to discover that it was God who made the first move. God is the one drawing close. He noticed that God's actions were not impeded by his imperfections; it was God's goodness alone that enabled him to take up the mission, transforming him into a totally new person and therefore one able to respond to the call of the Lord, saying, "Here I am! Send me" (Is 6:8).

You are more fortunate today than the prophet Isaiah. In the Eucharist and in the other sacraments, you experience the intimate closeness of Jesus, the sweetness and power of his presence. You do not encounter Jesus placed on an inaccessible high throne, but in the bread and wine of the Eucharist. His word does not shake the doorposts, but rather caresses the strings of the heart. Like Isaiah, each of you sees that God, although making himself close to us in Jesus and bending down towards you with love, remains always immeasurably greater, beyond our ability to understand him in his deepest being. Like Isaiah, you too have experienced that it is always God who takes the lead, because it is he who created you and willed you into being. It is he who, in your baptism, has made you into a new creation; he is always patiently waiting for your response to his initiative, offering forgiveness to whoever asks him in humility.

If we do not resist him, Jesus will touch our lips with the flame of his merciful love, as he did to the prophet Isaiah. This will make us worthy to receive him and to bring him to our brothers and sisters. Like Isaiah, we too are invited to not remain closed in on ourselves, protecting our faith in an underground bunker to which we flee in difficult moments. Rather, we are called to share the joy of knowing we are chosen and saved by God's mercy, the joy of being witnesses to the fact that faith gives new direction to our steps, that it makes us free and strong so as to be ready and able for mission.

How beautiful it is to realise that faith brings us out of ourselves, out of our isolation. Precisely because we are filled with the joy of being friends with Jesus Christ, faith draws us towards others, making us natural missionaries!

Dear altar boys and altar girls, the closer you are to the altar, the more you will remember to speak with Jesus in daily prayer; the more you will be nourished by the Word and the Body of the Lord, the better able you will be to go out to others, bringing them the gift that you have received, giving in turn with enthusiasm the joy you have received.

Thank you for serving at the Lord's altar and for making of this service a real school of learning the faith, and charity toward your neighbour. Thank you also for having begun to respond to the Lord, like the prophet Isaiah, "Here I am. Send me" (Is 6:8).

Don't be afraid, ashamed to go to confession, pope says: Trusting in God's infinite mercy, people should not be afraid or embarrassed to go to confession, Pope Francis said.

"There are people who are afraid to go to confession, forgetting that they will not encounter a severe judge there, but the immensely merciful Father," Pope Francis told thousands of people gathered in St. Peter's Square Aug. 2 for the midday recitation of the Angelus prayer.

The pope also told the people gathered under a scalding sun that "when we go to confession, we feel a bit ashamed. That happens to all of us, but we must remember that this shame is a grace that prepares us for the embrace of the Father, who always forgives and always forgives everything."

In his main address the pope commented on the day's Gospel reading from the Gospel of St. John, which recounts how the crowds followed Jesus after the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes.

"Those people followed him for the material bread that had placated their hunger the day before," Francis said. "They didn't understand that that bread, broken for many, was the expression of the love of Jesus."

"They gave more value to the bread than to the giver," the pope said.

CONTINUED IN THE ONLINE NEWS SHEET →

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| <p>Pope Francis' Intentions for August (please remember these in your personal prayer)</p> <p>Universal – <i>Volunteers:</i> That volunteers may give themselves generously to the service of the needy.</p> <p>Evangelisation – <i>Outreach to the Marginalised:</i> That setting aside our very selves, we may learn to be neighbours to those who find themselves on the margins of human life and society.</p> |
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| <p>← CONTINUED FROM ABOVE [Don't be afraid, ashamed to go to confession, pope says]</p> <p>Feeding the crowd, he said, Jesus wanted to lead people to the Father and to a life that was about more than just "the daily worries of eating, dressing, success or a career."</p> <p>Every person has within him or her a hunger for life, for meaning and for eternity, Francis said. Jesus satisfies that hunger with the gift of himself on the cross and in the Eucharist.</p> <p>"Jesus does not eliminate preoccupations and the search for daily bread," the pope said. However, "Jesus reminds us that the real meaning of our earthly existence is the end -- eternity -- the encounter with him, who is gift and giver."</p> <p>In giving himself, Pope Francis said, Jesus also gives people a task: "that we, in turn, satisfy the spiritual and material hunger of our brothers and sisters by proclaiming the Gospel everywhere."</p> |
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| <p>Looking After Our Parish Cemeteries: These are special places providing a focus for our prayerful remembrance of the dead. Please co-operate in their maintenance and care with respect, dignity and honour. Remove flowers and wreaths that have withered. Please do not dump them anywhere in the graveyard or into our neighbour's property. Ask Monumental Sculptors who have completed their work to take rubble away.</p> |
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| <p>Registration of the Religious of the Diocese: Is there a religious sister, brother or priest in your family? If so, in this Year of Consecrated Life, the Diocese needs your help to create a register of those men and women who joined religious communities and were either native of the Diocese of Derry or have worked in the Diocese. Registration cards are available. Since these cards will be on display in St. Eugene's Cathedral after Easter, details of submission date etc. are on the back of the card.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Thank you!</i></p> |
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| <p>Guidelines on Use of Modern Technology when Working with Children – <i>Use of Photography and Video:</i></p> <p>The use of photography and video is an issue of great concern among those working with children. The Diocese recognises that every parish has their own arrangements in relation to its use in schools, youth groups and for the sacraments however the guidelines have been devised below to aid parishes and diocesan groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is always good practice to seek <i>written</i> permission from a parent or guardian before taking any photographs or video footage of children. This written permission must be sought from the parent/guardian or the person who owns the photograph before it can be displayed on promotional materials or websites. This can be incorporated in the registration form when a child joins a group (template permission Resource 10); • Neither names nor any personal information should be displayed alongside any photographs; • Special consideration should be given where taking photographs or video footage might be misinterpreted, or the images could be seen as provocative (e.g. beach trip or gymnastics display etc.). It is not to say, however, that with the right planning, these events cannot be recorded and enjoyed. <p>Photography and video recording are important methods of recording social activity and providing an historic record – illustrating and validating important moments in people's lives. This process is a powerful and personal one, and therefore we must respect the rights of all to make the choice whether or not to be photographed.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>From Safeguarding Policy and Procedures, published on behalf of the Diocesan Safeguarding Committee</i></p> |
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| IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE DIARY IN 2015 | | | |
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| Solemn Annual Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament | | Sunday 30th August | Our Lady of the Wayside |
| Derry Diocesan Society Masses in our Parish | Tuesday 8th September • Thursday 29th October St. Patrick's | | |
| | <i>Morning Masses will be celebrated as above unless a Requiem is needed</i> | | |
| Monday 2nd November | St. Patrick's | 6.00pm | Commemoration of All Souls (remembering all who died in 2015) |

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| Parish Liturgy for August, 2015 | St. Patrick's (6.00pm Vigil Mass) | St. Patrick's (9.00am Mass) | Our Lady of the Wayside (11.00am Mass) |
| Readers | Francis McDermott | Monica Coyle | Anne McDermott |

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| Eucharistic Ministry | Frankie Bradley | Maria Bradley | Josephine Clarke |
| Prayers of the Faithful | Aidan / Ryan Clarke | Rosemary McCullagh | Conan Maguire |
| Collectors | Gerry McDermott Michael McElhatton | Peter Tracey Eoghan Clarke | Perry McCrory Pat McGuigan |
| Altar Society | Siobhan McKenna, Caitriona McCullagh and Ciara McKenna | | Anne McDermott Carmel McCrory |

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| <i>New choir members will always be welcome – contact Sinead Donnelly</i> | | | |
| Ordination to Priesthood: Rev. Sean O'Donnell will be ordained a priest of our diocese at 3.00pm on Sunday 14 th June in St. Eugene's Cathedral, Derry. Please keep him and all considering responding to God's call to priesthood in your personal and family prayers this week. The following priests in our diocese have / will be celebrating special jubilees this year. Pray for them: | | | |
| 60 years (1955) | Dr. Brendan Devlin [5 th March, retired] Fr. Bernard Bryson [19 th June, retired] Msgr. Ignatius McQuillan [19 th June, retired] | Fr. Michael Mullan [19 th June, retired] Fr. Art O'Reilly [5 th March, CC Banagher] | |
| 55 years (1960) | Fr. Michael Collins [12 th March, retired] Fr. John Doherty [19 th June, CC Melmount] | Bishop Francis Lagan [19 th June, retired] Fr. Seamus O'Connell [19 th June, retired] | |
| 50 years (1965) | Fr. Oliver Crilly [20 th June, PP Greenlough] | Bishop Kieran O'Doherty [20 th June, PP Granaghan] | |
| 45 years (1970) | Fr. Eugene Boland [11 th April, Bishop's Office Derry] | | |
| 40 years (1975) | Fr. Charles Keane [1 st June, PP Coleraine] Fr. Michael Doherty [15 th June, PP Melmount] | Fr. Patrick Doherty [15 th June, PP Glendermott & Strathfoyle] | |
| 35 years (1980) | Fr. Edward McGuinness [8 th June, Bishop's Office, Derry] Fr. Eugene Hasson [14 th June, PP Greencastle] | Fr. Fintan Diggin [22 nd June, PP Clomany] | |
| 30 years (1985) | Fr. David O'Kane [15 th June, PP Claudy] | | |
| 25 years (1990) | Fr. Paul McClafferty [24 th June, Bishop's Office, Derry] | | |
| 10 years (2005) | Fr. Peter O'Kane [24 th June, Post-grad studies, Rome] | | |

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| <p>Alcohol: The Challenge of Moderation</p> <p><i>A pastoral letter from the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference</i></p> <p>We commend the many adults and young people who have chosen to remain abstinent from alcohol until 18 years old or for life.</p> <p>We encourage people who feel that for them alcohol has become a problem and decide to seek professional help from treatment centres, local health services or support groups in their community.</p> <p>We commend all the good work which is done by support groups around the country and the many parishes and communities that provide meeting rooms and services for such groups.</p> <p>What a great legacy and gift it would be for our children if we would be the generation brave enough to promote and work for an attitude and culture of moderation rather than excess in our use of alcohol. If we could promote abstinence or moderation and create attitudes towards alcohol use that are conducive to a better and healthier way of life, then indeed we would be leaving a wonderful inheritance to future generations.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Full text can be read at catholiccommunications.ie</i></p> |
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| <p>Musings</p> <p><i>Salvador Ryan (St. Patrick's College, Maynooth)</i></p> <p>A terminally ill patient once wrote:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">If I had my life to live over ... I would have talked less and listened more. I would have invited friends over for dinner even if the carpet was stained and the sofa faded. I would have sat on the lawn with my children and not worried about grass stains. I would have cried and laughed less while watching television and more while watching life.</p> <p>There would have been more 'I love yous', more 'I am sorrys', but mostly, given another shot at life, I would seize every moment ... look at it and really see it; live it and never give it back.'</p> |
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| <p>Child Safeguarding: If you or anyone you know has a concern or wishes to report an allegation directly to the statutory authorities, please contact the PSNI/or local Health and Social Care Trust. If you are contacting the latter, ask to speak to the Duty Social Worker. Alternatively if you have a child safeguarding concern in relation to</p> |
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any member of Church personnel and wish to report it to Church authorities, please contact one of the diocesan designated persons, who will in turn report your concern to the relevant statutory authorities. *See poster at entrances*

This Week's Calendar of Feasts and Saints:

Tuesday 11th August – St. Clare (virgin) [1193-1253] Followed St. Francis in his life of poverty and was founder of the Poor Claires. Patron saint of television.

Wednesday 12th August – St. Jane Frances de Chantal (religious) [1572-1641] At the age of twenty she married Baron de Chantal but after nine years she was left a widow with four children. Her friendship with St Francis de Sales led to the foundation of the Congregation of the Visitation.

Thursday 13th August – St. Pontian (pope and martyr) and St. Hippolytus (priest and martyr) Pontius became bishop of Rome in 230 but was exiled in Sardinia where he abdicated during persecution in 235. Hippolytus was a Roman priest. Both died of ill treatment and are honoured as martyrs.

Friday 14th August – St. Maximilian Kolbe (priest and martyr) [1894-1941] a Conventional Franciscan who worked in the apostolate of the press in Poland and Japan, and died in Auschwitz.

Saturday 15th August – The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary This feast honours the fullness of blessedness that was Mary's destiny, the glorification of her immaculate soul and virginal body that completely conformed her to the risen Christ. Today is the patronal day of France, India, Malta and Paraguay.

Sunday 16th August – St. Stephen of Hungary [975-1038] The last Grand Prince of the Hungarians between 997 and 1000 or 1001, and the first King of Hungary from 1000 or 1001 until his death. A popular saint in Hungary and the neighbouring territories. In Hungary, his feast day is also a public holiday commemorating the foundation of the state.
[NOT CELEBRATED THIS YEAR]

The Deep End – Murmurings.

Paul Clogher (Waterford Institute of Technology)

Both Elijah and the crowd at Capernaum murmur in their respective wildernesses. The prophet even craves death. His journey has made him disillusioned and he begs for release. The stories of Elijah's journey to Horeb and Jesus' extended discourse allude to the older tale of the Israelites in the desert complaining about God – or more accurately God's perceived absence. At the same time, they need to get over their own notions, or misplaced desires, and stop making God in their own image.

An angel arrives to save Elijah and help him on his journey. Jesus, contrastingly, offers himself as the journey's end. But his audience react with incredulity. They know his family. He is a local. How could this rural 'wannabe' tell them something they do not already know?

The Christian community is the body of Christ. Perhaps it is for this reason that Paul asks his readers to stop moaning and 'be friends.' In the body of Christ gathered around his table we become friends with God as well as one another. Atonement becomes 'at-one-ment' and murmuring gives way to friendship. Leaving behind the wilderness, we might find our way back to the garden, where in that most ancient of stories God walks and talks with us, as friends.

2. One thing which closes our minds to what another is saying is when we label them disparagingly, as the Jews did to Jesus. Have you ever had the experience of being surprised by the wisdom of another when you laid aside your prejudices about her/him to listen to what s/he was saying?
3. 'No one has ever seen the Father except the one who is from God'. As Jesus put a human face on God and God's love, so God's love today is mediated to us through one another. How have other people been sacraments of God's love for you? For whom have you been that kind of a sacrament?
4. The way in which Jesus became a source of life for us was by giving himself. It is when we truly give ourselves that we can be life-giving to one another. If we do not give of ourselves, what do we have to offer? How have you discovered the importance of self-giving, in yourself or in others?

Sit Down and Talk, Pope Urges Married Couples

Brasilia, Brazil (Monday 23rd July, 2012) [zenit.org]

Sends Message to Teams of Our Lady *By Junno Arocho*

Benedict XVI sent greetings to participants of the 11th International Gathering of the Teams of Our Lady, which is currently being held in Brazil. The message was sent through the Pope's secretary of state, Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone.

Founded in 1939 in Paris by Father Henri Caffarel, the Teams of Our Lady is a movement of married spirituality in the Catholic Church and aims to help couples discover the riches of the sacrament of marriage and to live out a married spirituality.

In his statement, Cardinal Bertone conveyed the Holy Father's well wishes to the participants and lauded the "far-sighted pastoral intuition of the Servant of God Henri Caffarel..." The cardinal also expressed the urgency of the problems faced by married couples in an increasingly secularized society.

"In this context, the couples of the Teams of Our Lady proclaim, not so much with words but above all with their life, the fundamental truths about human love and its most profound meaning: 'A man and a woman who love one another, the smile of a child, the peace of a home: here is an exhortation without words, but extraordinarily persuasive, in which every man can already anticipate, as by transparency, the reflection of another love and its infinite appeal,'" the statement read.

The papal message lauded the movement's commitment to encouraging its members to be strengthened by the sacrament of marriage and of the Eucharist. He urged them to "cultivate this valuable habit of sitting together to talk and to listen to each other, to understand one another again and again in face of the surprises and difficulties of the long journey."

Cardinal Bertone also conveyed the Holy Father's wish that members of the movement continue to be witnesses of the Catholic faith in the world. "His Holiness Benedict XVI invites Christian couples to be 'the smiling and sweet face of the Church,' the best and most convincing messengers of the beauty of love sustained and nourished by faith, gift of God offered with abundance and generosity to all, so that every day they can discover the meaning of their life," the statement read.

The cardinal concluded the message by imparting the Holy Father's Apostolic Blessing to participants at the gathering in Brazil.

Seeing your life through the lens of the gospel – John 6:41-51:

John Byrne OSA (john@orlagh.ie)

1. Faith is reasonable but we cannot reason our way into faith. We have to be 'drawn by the Father'. We have to be 'taught by God'. What opens your mind and heart to God's message?