

<p>Pope Benedict XVI's Intentions for February (please remember these in your personal prayer)</p> <p>General – Migrant Families: That migrant families, in particular mothers, may be sustained and accompanied in their difficulties.</p> <p>Missionary – Peace: That people experiencing war and conflicts may lead the way in building a future of peace.</p> <p>Divine Mercy Conference: For the first time in Ireland, this year's Divine Mercy Conference will be streamed live from the RDS to the Plaza, Buncrana on Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th February. Doors open 9.00am each day. Mass will be celebrated in the Plaza on Saturday 16th at 5.00pm (Fr. Roland Calhoun), and on Sunday 17th at 3.15pm (Fr. Rafal Januszewski).</p> <p>Website: divinemercyconference.com Email: btflan14@gmail.com Tel: Marie at 074 936 2617 / Brian at 087 4196 045 / Parish Office at 074 9361 253</p>
<p>Certificate in Lectio Divina Facilitation at Drumalis: Drumalis, in association with St. Mary's University College are delighted to announce the launch of a new certificate course in Lectio Divina Facilitation, beginning in January 2013. For further details or to book a place, please contact Drumalis on (028) 2827 2196 / (028) 2827 6455 (Mon- Fri, 9.00am-5.00pm), maura@drumalis.co.uk.</p>
<p>Medjugorje Pilgrimage 2013: For information contact (028) 8224 1888 or Pilgrimage to Medjugorje with Monsignor Danny Monaghan and Maria Bradley from Sept. 4th - 11th. Price £499 which includes Half Board and insurance. <i>Call Maria at (028) 8164 8357 for further details</i></p> <p>April and May Pilgrimages: £470. Cost includes return flights, one week's accommodation, meals and transfers. <i>Call Group Leader Jim McGread (028) 8234 1888 for further details</i></p>
<p>Pilgrimage to Rome and San Giovanni Rotondo, Italy (Monday 26th August – Monday 2nd September): With Father Francis Bradley. Staying four nights at the Irish College, Rome taking in the sights of the Eternal City and an Audience with the Holy Father, and three nights at the Shrine of Padre Pio, taking in the shrine of Manoppello and the Abbey of Montecassino. Price £850, including all coach transfers to/from Dublin and whilst in Italy, flights with Aer Lingus, accommodation on a half board basis in Rome and full board in San Giovanni, and the assistance of a Travel Representative throughout (single supplement at £20 per night). A £200 deposit before Thursday 31st January will secure you a seat. <i>For more info call Fr. Bradley on (028) 7136 2475 [W] / (028) 7135 1718 [H] or email fbradley@derrydiocese.org</i></p>
<p>Institute of Irish Leadership, Pomeroy – Upcoming Events:</p>
<p>A Talk on the Men who Built Britain 6 Week Funded Community Pharmacy Project (enrol now) History of Irish Labour in the British Construction by Ultan Cowley</p> <p><i>Full / half day conference facilities available</i> T: 028 87 757800 E: kathleenburnsill@gmail.com 20 The Diamond, Pomeroy, Co Tyrone http://instituteofirishleadership.org/</p>
<p>St. Joseph's Church, Galliagh, Derry – Annual Diocesan Mass for those with Special Needs and their Families and Friends: Saturday 9th March at 3.00pm. Bishop Lagan will celebrate. If you have a child who wishes to receive the Sacraments of Confirmation or First Holy Communion at this Mass please contact the Catechetical Centre on (028) 7126 4087 or email ddcc@derrydiocese.org.</p>
<p>Our Parish cemeteries are special places providing a focus for our prayerful remembrance of the dead. Please cooperate 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. Ask Monumental Sculptors who have completed their work to take rubble away and not dispose of it at the side of the cemetery.</p>
<p>Prayer for the Diocese of Derry at this time</p> <p>God our Father, we your people of the diocese of Derry, turn to you in prayer, as our ancestors have done, In good times and bad, since the days of Saint Columba and Saint Eugene, Saint Lurach and Saint Mura. Although aware that we are unworthy of your grace, with confidence in your love we ask your help. Support and care for our bishops in their retirement, give courage and vision to those who are called on to administer the diocese at this time. Grant your wisdom and discernment to those charged with the task of choosing your next bishop. We ask you this in the name of Jesus, your Son, our Lord. Mary Mother of the Church, pray for us, Saint Columba, pray for us, Saint Eugene, pray for us, Saint Lurach pray for us, Saint Mura pray for us, all you saints of the diocese pray for us. <i>Fr. Kieran Devlin P. Em (Badoney Lower, 2012)</i></p>

Parish Liturgy for February, 2013	St. Patrick's (6.00pm Vigil Mass)	St. Patrick's (9.00am Mass)	Our Lady of the Wayside (11.00am Mass)
Readers	Aisling Donaghy	Monica Coyle	Martina McBride
Eucharistic Ministry	Kathleen Bradley	Louise Coyle	Peter Noel McAleer
Prayers of Intercession	Eimear Bradley	Aidan Clarke	Enda Bradley
Collectors	Gerry McDermott Noel McElhatton	Patrick Tuohey Michael Bradley	Sean Clarke Brian Gillen
Altar Society	Rosemary, Shauna and Ciara McNally		Anne McDermott Martina McBride

New choir members will always be welcome, contact Sinead

Altar Servers Needed: Please notice the important role of altar servers in the prayer life of our faithful community, we currently need new volunteers to strengthen the teams already serving so if you will commit, please do so as soon as possible.

A Stitch in Time – Responding to Racism at a Local Level: Rural Community Network in partnership with EMBRACE NI invites all church and faith based organisations to an interactive workshop which will look at Racism and how we can respond to it locally. The workshop will be held on Thursday 21st February from 10.45am to 1.30pm in the Board Room of the Rural Community Network, 38a Oldtown Street, Cookstown BT80 8EF.
To register please contact teresa@ruralcommunitynetwork.org or for further details contact charmain@ruralcommunitynetwork.org. This workshop is free of charge to all participants

Charity Stock Judging Competition: On the premises of Harkin Bros. Loughash, Donemana on Saturday 16th February from 8.00pm, music by the Buckaroos.
All proceeds will be divided between NI Alzheimer's Society and Friends of Altnagelvin Dementia Care
Any enquiries call 07802 596 817

Barnardo's Main Office Line for the Child Bereavement Service in Belfast Number Change:
Please note that this number is no longer (028) 9069 4000 anymore and is now (028) 9066 8333.

ACCORD Marriage Preparation Courses 2012-2013 (028)8224 2439 accordomagh@btopenworld.com
8th and 9th March 12th and 13th April 10th and 11th May 7th and 8th June
Applications to Secretary, ACCORD, Mount St., Columba Pastoral Centre, 48, Brook Street, Omagh BT78 5HD
Courses are limited to 15 couples and must be completed at least 6 months before your wedding

God speaks in the silence of the heart, and we listen. And then we speak to God from the fullness of our heart, and God listens. And this listening and this speaking is what prayer is meant to be...
Mother Teresa

Dun Uladh – Upcoming Classes: Refreshments served. For More info Contact (028) 8224 2777

Traditional Music Classes for banjo, flute, fiddle, concertina, singing, accordion, adult tin whistle and uilleann pipes	Tuesdays from 7.00pm to 9.00pm
Irish Language	Tuesdays from 7.00pm to 9.00pm Fridays from 10.00am to 11.30am
Ciorcal Comhrá	Fridays from 11.30am to 1.00pm

London Marathon (Sunday 21st April): Why not join team Foyle Hospice for a thrill of a lifetime running/walking one of the world's most exciting marathons, the Virgin London Marathon which takes place Sunday 21st April? This run takes in all the major sites and attractions in London with thousands of spectators all along the course. Places in this event will be difficult to get, but Foyle Hospice has some guaranteed entries for the marathon.
For further information contact Noel McMonagle, Community Fundraising Manager
noel@foylehospice.com, (028) 7135 9888

Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann: Guitar lessons will be commencing in St. Peter's Primary School on Monday 28th January at 6.30pm. Anyone interested should call (028) 8164 8719 or 07842 903 949.

Monsignor Eamon Martin has confirmed that he will come to our parish for the Confirmation of our young people on Wednesday 10th April at 6.00pm.

Blessed Teresa of Calcutta frequently said that the worst poverty is not knowing Christ, and that if we would just open our eyes and look around, we'd see that people all over the world are hungry for God.

Do everything calmly and peacefully. Do as much as you can as well as you can. Strive to see God in all things without exception, and consent to His will joyously. Do everything for God, uniting yourself to him in word and deed. Walk very simply with the Cross of the Lord and be at peace with yourself. *St. Francis de Sales*

Looking for a book for your parish study group? Consider *The Mystery of Work*: This is a book that teaches how to turn ordinary acts into acts of prayer, a collection of insights by saints, popes and mystics about how work itself can be prayer. Recommended for spiritual development by Fr. Raphael Simon, OCSO, Trappist monk and Retreat Master. Excerpt: "I believe quite simply that it is Jesus Himself, hidden deep in my poor little heart, who works within me in a mysterious manner and inspires all my daily actions." (St. Therese of Lisieux) Free Study Guide downloadable from our website. Purchase indiv. copies at Amazon.

In the world in which we live, it is almost a necessity to be able to regain one's strength of body and spirit, especially for those who live in the city, where the conditions of life, often feverish, leave little room for silence, reflection and relaxed contact with nature. *Pope Benedict XVI*

Rouskey Community Centre – Upcoming Classes:

Pilates with Breda	Monday 14 th January at 7.00pm for 5 weeks at £25 (money must be paid in full). I will be in Centre Thursday 10 th January from 7.00pm to 8.00pm
Zumba	Begins Monday 14 th January at 8.15pm. £4 per night for all age groups. Classes for over 50s and people with physical conditions will start Friday 18 th January at 10.00am
Crocheting and Knitting with Mary	Begins Friday 18 th January at 2.00pm for £5. For beginners and amateurs. Open to all and a great opportunity to learn new stitches and patterns.
Drama / Dance with Clíodhna	Academy classes will return Wednesday 16 th January, £2.50. P1, P2 and P3 (6.00pm to 7.00pm) // P4 upwards (7.00pm to 8.00pm).
Contact Bridie on (028) 8164 8706 or 07847459428 / 07591047556 or leave and message on phone. For the hire of the centre or equipment contact Sheena on (028) 8164 8186.	

IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE DIARY IN 2013 Sacramental Celebrations

Friday 1st March	St. Patrick's	6.30pm First Confession
Sunday 21st April Fourth Sunday of Easter	Our Lady of the Wayside	2.00pm Sacrament of Confirmation (Monsignor Eamon Martin)
Sunday 12th May Feast of the Ascension	St. Patrick's	11.00am First Holy Communion

Solemn Annual Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Sunday 5th May	St. Patrick's
Sunday 25th August	Our Lady of the Wayside

Derry Diocesan Society Masses in our Parish

Wednesday 22nd May Thursday 11th July Friday 30th August Saturday 19th October	St. Patrick's
Sunday 7th April	Our Lady of the Wayside

Public Prayers for our Deceased (Cemetery Sunday) (6th and 7th July)

Saturday 6th July	St. Patrick's	Directly after 6.00pm Vigil Mass
Sunday 7th July	Our Lady of the Wayside	Directly after 11.00am Mass
Saturday 2nd November	St. Patrick's	6.00pm Commemoration of All Souls (remembering all who died during the year)

'Do This In Memory' liturgies for candidates preparing for the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion

Saturday 23rd March	Sixth Palm Sunday	6.00pm Vigil Mass
Thursday 28th March	Holy Thursday	7.30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper
Saturday 13th April	Third Sunday of Easter	6.00pm Vigil Mass
Saturday 1st June	Feast of Corpus Christi	6.00pm Vigil Mass

Ards Friary Retreat and Conference Centre, Creeslough. Co. Donegal:

Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th February	Lenten Retreat directed by Fr. Eddie Butler (Birmingham Diocese) // €85 (residential) The theme is <i>By His Wounds we are Healed: A Journey with Christ to Easter</i>
Website: ardsfriary.ie	Email: info@ardsfriary.ie
Tel: 00353 7491 38909	

Papal Message for Lent 2013 – *Believing in Charity Calls Forth Charity:*

Vatican City (Friday 1st February, 2013) [VIS]

"Believing in Charity Calls Forth Charity: 'We have come to know and to believe in the love God has for us' (1 Jn 4:16)" is the title of the Holy Father's Lenten Message this year. The document, published in eight languages (German, Arabic, Spanish, French, English, Italian, Polish, and Portuguese) is dated, from the Vatican, 15 October 2012. Following is the complete text of the document.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The celebration of Lent, in the context of the Year of Faith, offers us a valuable opportunity to meditate on the relationship between faith and charity: between believing in God (the God of Jesus Christ) and love, which is the fruit of the Holy Spirit and which guides us on the path of devotion to God and others.

1. Faith as a response to the love of God

In my first Encyclical, I offered some thoughts on the close relationship between the theological virtues of faith and charity. Setting out from Saint John's fundamental assertion: "We have come to know and to believe in the love God has for us", I observed that "being Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction ... Since God has first loved us, love is now no longer a mere 'command'; it is the response to the gift of love with which God draws near to us". Faith is this personal adherence (which involves all our faculties) to the revelation of God's gratuitous and "passionate" love for us, fully revealed in Jesus Christ.

The encounter with God who is Love engages not only the heart but also the intellect: "Acknowledgement of the living God is one path towards love, and the 'yes' of our will to his will unites our intellect, will and sentiments in the all-embracing act of love. But this process is always open-ended; love is never 'finished' and complete". Hence, for all Christians, and especially for "charity workers", there is a need for faith, for "that encounter with God in Christ which awakens their love and opens their spirits to others. As a result, love of neighbour will no longer be for them a commandment imposed, so to speak, from without, but a consequence deriving from their faith, a faith which becomes active through love". Christians are people who have been conquered by Christ's love and accordingly, under the influence of that love "Caritas Christi urget nos" they are profoundly open to loving their neighbour in concrete ways. This attitude arises primarily from the consciousness of being loved, forgiven, and even served by the Lord, who bends down to wash the feet of the Apostles and offers himself on the Cross to draw humanity into God's love.

"Faith tells us that God has given his Son for our sakes and gives us the victorious certainty that it is really true: God is love! ... Faith, which sees the love of God revealed in the pierced heart of Jesus on the Cross, gives rise to love. Love is the light and in the end, the only light that can always illuminate a world grown dim and give us the courage needed to keep living and working". All this helps us to understand that the principal distinguishing mark of Christians is precisely "love grounded in and shaped by faith".

2. Charity as life in faith

The entire Christian life is a response to God's love. The first response is precisely faith as the acceptance, filled with wonder and gratitude, of the unprecedented divine initiative that precedes us and summons us. And the "yes" of faith marks the beginning of a radiant story of friendship with the Lord, which fills and gives full meaning to our whole life. But it is not enough for God that we simply accept his gratuitous love. Not only does he love us, but he wants to draw us to himself, to transform us in such a profound way as to bring us to say with Saint Paul: "it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me".

When we make room for the love of God, then we become like him, sharing in his own charity. If we open ourselves to his love, we allow him to live in us and to bring us to love with him, in him and like him; only then does our faith become truly "active through love"; only then does he abide in us.

Faith is knowing the truth and adhering to it; charity is "walking" in the truth. Through faith we enter into friendship with the Lord, through charity this friendship is lived and cultivated. Faith causes us to embrace the commandment of our Lord and Master; charity gives us the happiness of putting it into practice. In faith we are begotten as children of God; charity causes us to persevere concretely in our divine sonship, bearing the fruit of the Holy Spirit. →

← Faith enables us to recognize the gifts that the good and generous God has entrusted to us; charity makes them fruitful.

3. The indissoluble interrelation of faith and charity

In light of the above, it is clear that we can never separate, let alone oppose, faith and charity. These two theological virtues are intimately linked, and it is misleading to posit a contrast or “dialectic” between them. On the one hand, it would be too one-sided to place a strong emphasis on the priority and decisiveness of faith and to undervalue and almost despise concrete works of charity, reducing them to a vague humanitarianism. On the other hand, though, it is equally unhelpful to overstate the primacy of charity and the activity it generates, as if works could take the place of faith. For a healthy spiritual life, it is necessary to avoid both fideism and moral activism.

The Christian life consists in continuously scaling the mountain to meet God and then coming back down, bearing the love and strength drawn from him, so as to serve our brothers and sisters with God’s own love. In sacred Scripture, we see how the zeal of the Apostles to proclaim the Gospel and awaken people’s faith is closely related to their charitable concern to be of service to the poor. In the Church, contemplation and action, symbolized in some way by the Gospel figures of Mary and Martha, have to coexist and complement each other. The relationship with God must always be the priority, and any true sharing of goods, in the spirit of the Gospel, must be rooted in faith. Sometimes we tend, in fact, to reduce the term “charity” to solidarity or simply humanitarian aid. It is important, however, to remember that the greatest work of charity is evangelisation, which is the “ministry of the word”. There is no action more beneficial – and therefore more charitable – towards one’s neighbour than to break the bread of the word of God, to share with him the Good News of the Gospel, to introduce him to a relationship with God: evangelisation is the highest and the most integral promotion of the human person. As the Servant of God Pope Paul VI wrote in the Encyclical “Populorum Progressio”, the proclamation of Christ is the first and principal contributor to development. It is the primordial truth of the love of God for us, lived and proclaimed, that opens our lives to receive this love and makes possible the integral development of humanity and of every man.

Essentially, everything proceeds from Love and tends towards Love. God’s gratuitous love is made known to us through the proclamation of the Gospel. If we welcome it with faith, we receive the first and indispensable contact with the Divine, capable of making us “fall in love with Love”, and then we dwell within this Love, we grow in it and we joyfully communicate it to others.

Concerning the relationship between faith and works of charity, there is a passage in the Letter to the Ephesians which provides perhaps the best account of the link between the two: “For by grace you have been saved through faith; and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God; not because of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them”. It can be seen here that the entire redemptive initiative comes from God, from his grace, from his forgiveness received in faith; but this initiative, far from limiting our freedom and our responsibility, is actually what makes them authentic and directs them towards works of charity. These are not primarily the result of human effort, in which to take pride, but they are born of faith and they flow from the grace that God gives in abundance. Faith without works is like a tree without fruit: the two virtues imply one another. Lent invites us, through the traditional practices of the Christian life, to nourish our faith by careful and extended listening to the word of God and by receiving the sacraments, and at the same time to grow in charity and in love for God and neighbour, not least through the specific practices of fasting, penance and almsgiving.

4. Priority of faith, primacy of charity

Like any gift of God, faith and charity have their origin in the action of one and the same Holy Spirit, the Spirit within us that cries out “Abba, Father”, and makes us say: “Jesus is Lord!” and “Maranatha!”.

Faith, as gift and response, causes us to know the truth of Christ as Love incarnate and crucified, as full and perfect obedience to the Father’s will and infinite divine mercy towards neighbour; faith implants in hearts and minds the firm conviction that only this Love is able to conquer evil and death. Faith invites us to look towards the future with the virtue of hope, in the confident expectation that the victory of Christ’s love will come to its fullness. For its part, charity ushers us into the love of God manifested in Christ and joins us in a personal and existential way to the total and unconditional self-giving of Jesus to the Father and to his brothers and sisters. By filling our hearts with his love, the Holy Spirit makes us sharers in Jesus’ filial devotion to God and fraternal devotion to every man.

The relationship between these two virtues resembles that between the two fundamental sacraments of the →

← Church: Baptism and Eucharist. Baptism (“sacramentum fidei”) precedes the Eucharist (“sacramentum caritatis”), but is ordered to it, the Eucharist being the fullness of the Christian journey. In a similar way, faith precedes charity, but faith is genuine only if crowned by charity. Everything begins from the humble acceptance of faith (“knowing that one is loved by God”), but has to arrive at the truth of charity (“knowing how to love God and neighbour”), which remains for ever, as the fulfilment of all the virtues.

MARA (Maximising Access to Services, Grants and Benefits in Rural Areas)

The MARA Project is an inter-departmental regional project funded by the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD) and delivered by the Public Health Agency (PHA). The MARA project was officially launched on Thursday 15th March 2012 by both the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development, Michelle O’Neill and the Minister for Health, Edwin Poots.

What is the aim of the MARA Project?

The aim of the project is to improve the health and wellbeing of people living in rural deprived areas in Northern Ireland, by making them aware of, or helping them access local services, grants or benefits thus supporting those rural dwellers living in or at risk of poverty and social exclusion.

Who will deliver the MARA project?

PHA will commission 13 community lead organisations in rural areas, who will recruit and train enablers to undertake approximately 12,000 household visits. These visits will take place over the period April 2012 to November 2014 from which identified households will be signposted to various services, grants and benefits. The households identified for visits incorporate older people, carers, disabled people, lone parents, ethnic minorities, lone adults, farming families and/or low income families.

Why the MARA approach works?

The MARA project builds upon the success of Phase 1 which targeted the top 88 rurally deprived super output areas. The evidence and experience from Phase I indicates that access to the most difficult to reach and those suffering greatest inequalities and disadvantage requires a more innovative, extensive and personal approach to that traditionally used. The home visit which is carried out by trained enablers requires a supportive and sympathetic approach that will build trust and commitment and encourages people to avail of services, benefits and grants which they may not otherwise have known about or felt that they were not entitled to.

MARA Household Visit

During the household visit, identified households will complete an assessment form which will help assess eligibility for various grants or benefits they may be entitled to. The home visit will also identify local and regional services the rural dwellers may be interested in attending or availing of. Households will be asked to sign a consent form that details the referrals identified and these will then be either automated or manually made by the community lead organisation to various referral partners. The referral partners will then, as necessary, contact the householder directly to process the referral. The services, grants and benefits that householders may be referred to include rural community transport, smart pass (for free or reduced travel), energy savings schemes (warm homes), assessments from occupational therapists (OTs) for disabled facilities grants, home safety checks, benefit entitlement checks and any other local or regional services available in their area. Households who have been referred for services will receive a second visit to establish if the various referral partners have been in contact and to understand how referrals are progressing with a view to ensuring all referrals are processed in a timely manner. The second visit will also further address the social exclusion element of the MARA project i.e. referring householders to local services. It should be noted that the MARA Project cannot guarantee households will receive any or all of the services, grants or benefits they are referred to. The referrals associated with the MARA Project may, in some instances, take some time to be processed.

Questions people ask:

Fr. Silvester O’Flynn OFM Cap (silvesteroflynn@gmail.com)

- Q. How are we to understand the temptations of Jesus? Surely the devil could never lead the Son of God into sin.
- A. The word ‘devil’ comes from the Greek word ‘diabolos’ which means dividing one’s attention so as to lead one astray. We can understand the temptations of Jesus as attempts to lead him astray from his real mission. Giving out free bread sounds very attractive; political power might offer a place of influence; floating on angels’ wings would be a sensation to draw thousands. Jesus rejected these subtle attractions as they would lead him away from being the humble servant laying down his life in love for us.

Seeing your life through the lens of the gospels – Luke 4:1-13: John Byrne OSA (john@orlagh.ie)	
1.	Jesus was led by the Spirit into what proved to be a wilderness experience. When you look back on times when you hit a low point, can you see the presence of the Spirit of God in some of them?
2.	Jesus is on the verge of starting his public ministry. In the temptations we can see his struggle to say 'yes' to the mission given him by God. Perhaps some of your important decisions have been preceded by a time of anxiety and worry. What helped you to say 'yes' to risky but hope-filled invitations in your life?
3.	Behind each of the devil's invitations was a basic temptation to lose trust in God. How have you been tempted in this way? What helped you to hold on to trust in God?
4.	One can enter into the temptations singly and ask: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How have I been tempted to give priority to bodily needs and satisfactions? - How have I been tempted to a selfish use of power? - How have I been tempted to seek to be the centre of attention?

I always see advertisements for Bullying Prevention and We Teach Bully Prevention. Bullying, or the perception of bullying cannot be prevented as long as people interact with each other; the only possible way would be to stay isolated, forever. However, you can teach kids how to handle and deal with people who they feel are bullying.

Guidelines on Use of Modern Technology when Working with Children: - Use of photography and video 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:	
•	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.
•	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 everyone to make the choice whether or not to be photographed.
<i>The notice comes from the Safeguarding Policy and Procedures and is published on behalf of the Diocesan Safeguarding Committee</i>	

This Week's Calendar of Feasts and Saints:	
Sunday 17th February	St. Fintan (Abbot) Born in Leinster, he received his religious formation in Terryglass, Co. Tipperary under the abbot Colum and was deeply influenced by his penitential practices and the severity of the Rule. Fintan made his own foundation in Clonenagh, Co. Laois. He died in 603 [not celebrated this year]. Seven Founders of the Order of Servites (Religious) In the early 13 th century seven young merchants of Florence decided to help one another live more perfect Christian lives. As the result of a vision they became known as the 'Servants of Mary' and followed the Rule of St. Augustine [not celebrated this year].
Thursday 21st February	St. Peter Damian (Bishop and Doctor of the Church) A reforming monk in the circle of Pope Leo IX and a cardinal. In 1823, he was declared a Doctor of the Church [not celebrated this year].
Friday 22nd February	Feast of the Chair of St. Peter the Apostle This ancient feast relates to early Roman custom at this time of year of remembering the ancestors of the family, those who presided the Chair of St. Peter over the family fortunes. The texts today celebrate Peter as Bishop of Rome. We recall Christ's choice of Peter for service to the whole Church.
Saturday 22nd February	St. Polycarp (Bishop and Martyr) bishop of Smyrna or Izmir in modern Turkey. Born around the year 69 and was a disciple of Saint John the Apostle. He was martyred in 155.

Ards Friary Retreat & Conference Centre, Creeslough. Co. Donegal – Retreats in 2013: Tel: 00353 7491 38909 Email: info@ardsfriary.ie Website: ardsfriary.ie Ards Friary is open throughout the year for individuals and groups whether lay, religious, clerical, ecumenical or anyone who wishes to have some quiet time, rest and prayer in beautiful relaxed surroundings. The following retreats are available for 2013:	
Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th February €85 (residential)	Lenten Retreat (directed by Fr. Eddie Butler, Birmingham Diocese) <i>By His wounds we are healed: A Journey with Christ to Easter</i>
Friday 8th – Sunday 10th March	Stepping into the Promise of a New Spring (directed by Margaret Gallagher)
Friday 15th – Monday 18th March	Healing Retreat for singles, single parents, pregnant with alone / separated / marital difficulties. <i>Walking in the Mercy of God.</i>
Saturday 23rd March <i>Open for everyone to attend</i>	Catholic Nurses Guild (directed by Fr. Eddie Butler, Birmingham Diocese) This one day retreat is dedicated to all the caring professions.
Sunday 24th March	Knights of Columbanus Retreat (directed by Fr. Eddie Butler, Birmingham Diocese)
Thursday 28th – Sunday 31st March	Easter Triduum Retreat
Friday 19th – Sunday 21st April	Directed by Bishop Brendan Comiskey <i>Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ (St. Jerome)</i>
Friday 26th – Sunday 28th April	Legion of Mary Retreat
Friday 3rd – Thursday 9th May	Open Retreat (directed by Fr. Dermot Lynch, OFM Capuchin)
Friday 17th – Sunday 19th May	Joe Dalton Healing and Renewal Weekend. Joe suffered depression for 31 years and tried everything medically to be cured. He was though, miraculously healed by God, Joe will share his gift of healing with others, on their journey to knowing God better
Sunday 2nd – Thursday 6th June	Inter-Diocesan Priests' Retreat (directed by Monsignor John Armitage, Brentwood Diocese). <i>To love you is to serve you</i>
Saturday 8th and Sunday 9th June	Cursillo Renewal Weekend (directed by Fr. Silvester O'Flynn, OFM Capuchin) <i>Christ is counting on You</i>
Monday 10th – Friday 14th June	Transformation Retreat (directed by Fr. Donal Dorr and Dr. Noel Bradley D.Theol)
Friday 21st – Thursday 27th June	Open Retreat (directed by Fr. Francis Maple, OFM Capuchin) <i>Living with Christ through the main events of his life</i>
Monday 1st – Saturday 6th July	Friends of Francis Hogan Reunion
Friday 12th – Saturday 13th July	One Day Silent and Guided Retreat for Women guided by Benedictine Monks of the Abbey of Saint Joseph, France. This retreat reflects Ignatian Spirituality by centering on Jesus with conferences, spiritual guidance and confessions.
Saturday 14th – Friday 19th July	Five Day Silent and Guided Retreat for Men guided by the Benedictine Monks of the Abbey of Saint Joseph. These five-day retreats are a shortened form of the full Spiritual Exercises of Saint Ignatius of Loyola. The Exercises are a synthetic and practical presentation of the central truths of the Catholic faith.
Saturday 20th – Wednesday 7th August	Christendom College, USA
Friday 9th – Sunday 11th August	John Pridmore <i>Healing the Wounds of your past</i>
Sunday 11th – Sunday 18th August	Association of Iconographers – Learning to Write an Icon
Monday 19th – Thursday 22nd August	Course for priests in the Latin Mass
Monday 26th August – Thursday 1st September	The Foyer of Charity – Five Day Silent Retreat (directed by Fr. Kilian Byrne) <i>If you but knew the gift of God</i>
Thursday 3rd – Sunday 8th October	CURSILLO (men)
Thursday 10th – Sunday 13th October	CURSILLO (women)
Saturday 30th November – Sunday 1st December	Advent Retreat (directed by Fr. Kieran Shorten, OFM Capuchin)

Support Care for Cancer for just £3 a week: Care for Cancer facilities are available to all cancer patients and their carers within a 20mile radius of Omagh. Services currently offered by the charity include:

- Transport to hospital appointments
- Free provision of recliner chairs
- Professional counselling for patients, family and friends
- Massage and reflexology therapy / Bra fitting service
- Listening ear/ Public Information evenings/talks to heighten awareness and offer better understanding of cancer
- Courses / coffee mornings / fund raising events
- Care for Cancer Drop-in -Centre is located at 1 Campsie Place, Omagh (near Bank of Ireland) where you can call in for a cuppa and a supportive listening ear. Opening hours are 10.00-15.00hrs Mon-Friday.

In order to continue our vital work, Care for Cancer will recommence the lottery syndicate on Sat 2nd Feb 2013. If you think you could support the Charity by giving £3 per week for 12 months call Jean on 07711885239 or 028 82250696 in order to set up payment by 23rd January 2013 you will then be issued with a copy of the 50 lines of numbers entered each week.

The £3 is used as follows:
£1 is used to purchase a lottery line each Saturday of this year commencing on Saturday 2nd February 2013. Care for Cancer receives the other £2, the winnings will be divided at the end of the year among the syndicate members, for every 10 members the Charity receives £1000.
Your support is very much appreciated so that the Charity can continue the valuable work it undertakes locally.

Thank you

Celebrations to mark the Tercentenary of the death of Dean Bryan Maguirc

To mark the occasion a number of events are being organised which hopefully will bring home to all of us the immense contribution Dean Maguirc made to the life of the Catholic Church in Ireland during the worst ravages of the Penal Times in the 17th and 18th centuries. He was born in the parish of Termonmagurk, probably in 1635. According to a local tradition Aughnacreggan was the townland of his birthplace. He received a thorough education in Ireland where many of the old Gaelic families cultivated a high standard of learning and in 1660 he was ordained priest. In the early years of his priesthood he ministered as parish priest of Termonmagurk, Errigal Ciaran and Aghaloo. Ten years after Dean Maguirc's ordination, St Oliver Plunkett arrived in Armagh as Archbishop in 1670 and within two years he appointed Bryan Maguirc Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Armagh. Two years later St Oliver Plunkett appointed Dean Maguirc, whom he described as a 'learned and exemplary man', Vicar General of the Diocese of Raphoe and within a few years in 1679 he was appointed Vicar General of Derry. On the 13 February 1713, Dean Bryan Maguirc died in Armagh Gaol.

<i>There's a story of a martyr</i>	<i>At the church they built a monument</i>
<i>Back in the Penal times</i>	<i>To that great man and his work</i>
<i>Who gave his life for his belief</i>	<i>And every Christian passing by</i>
<i>Like many of his kind</i>	<i>Remembers Dean Maguirc</i>

Wednesday 6th March	Talk on Dean Maguirc in Patrician Hall
April	Pageant performed by pupils of Dean Maguirc College
July	Tour of local sights associated with Dean Bryan Maguirc
August	Festival of celebration involving clubs and societies

Saying 'I Believe in God the Father Almighty' is saying 'I Believe in the Power of God's Love'
Vatican City (Wednesday 30th January) [VIS]

The first and most fundamental definition that the Creed teaches us about God is that He is the Almighty Father. This was the theme of Benedict XVI's Wednesday catechesis during today's general audience that was held in the Paul VI Audience Hall.

"It isn't always easy today to speak about fatherhood," the Pope began, "...and, not having adequate role models, it even becomes problematic to imagine God as a father. For those who have had the experience of an overly authoritarian and inflexible father, or an indifferent, uncaring, or even absent one, it is not easy to calmly think of God as Father or to confidently surrender themselves to Him. But Biblical revelation helps us to overcome these difficulties by telling us about a God who shows us what it truly means to be a 'father'."

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← Above all it is the Gospel that reveals to us this face of God as Father, who loves us even to the point of giving us the gift of His Son for the salvation of humanity."

In the light of the Scriptures and the writings of the evangelists, the Holy Father explained that God is our Father because "He has blessed us and chosen us before the foundation of the world. He has truly made us His children in Jesus. And, as Father, God accompanies our existence with love, giving us His Word, His teaching, His grace, His Spirit. ...If He is so good as to 'make His sun rise on the bad and the good and ... rain to fall on the just and the unjust', then we can always, without fear and in complete faith, entrust ourselves to His forgiveness as Father when we choose the wrong path."

Tracing the history of salvation, Psalm 136 repeats "for his mercy endures forever", and the pontiff emphasized, "The love of God the Father never fails, never tires of us. ... Faith gives us this certainty that becomes the sure rock upon which to build our lives. We can face every difficulty and every danger, the experience of the darkness of times of crisis and pain, sustained by the confidence that God does not abandon us and is always near to save us and bring us to everlasting life."

The kind face of the Father who is in heaven is fully shown in the Lord Jesus. "Knowing Him we know the Father and seeing Him we can see the Father. ... Faith in God the Father requires that we believe in the Son, through the action of the Spirit, recognizing the Cross that saves as the definitive revelation of divine love. God is our Father, forgiving our sins and bringing us to the joy of the risen life."

"We can ask ourselves, how is it possible to imagine an all-powerful God by looking at the Cross of Christ? ... We would certainly like a divine omnipotence that corresponded to our thoughts and our desires; an 'almighty' God ... who vanquishes our adversaries, who changes the course of events, and who takes away our pain. ... Faced with evil and suffering, ... it is difficult for many of us to believe in God the Father and to believe that He is all-powerful."

"Faith in God the Almighty, however, leads us to follow very different paths: learning to understand that God's thoughts and God's paths are different from ours and that even His omnipotence is different it isn't expressed with mechanical or arbitrary force... Actually, God, in creating free creatures, in giving us freedom, gave up a part of His power, allowing us the power of our freedom. Thus He loves and respects love's free response to His call. His omnipotence isn't expressed in violence or destruction but rather through love, mercy, and forgiveness; through His tireless call to a change of heart, through an attitude that is only weak in appearance, and which is made of patience, clemency, and love."

"Only the truly powerful can endure evil and show compassion. Only the truly powerful can fully exercise the power of love. And God, to whom all things belong because He made them all, reveals His strength by loving everything and everyone, patiently awaiting our conversion because He wants us as His children. ...The omnipotence of love isn't a worldly power, but is that of total gift and Jesus, the Son of God, reveals to the world the Father's true omnipotence by giving His life for us sinners. This is the true ... divine power: responding to evil not with evil but with good, responding to murderous hatred with a love that gives life. Evil is thus truly vanquished, because it is washed by God's love. Death is thus definitively defeated, because it is transformed into the gift of life. God the Father resurrects His Son. Death, the great enemy, is swallowed up and deprived of its sting and we are freed from sin; we can grasp our reality as children of God."

"So, when we say 'I believe in God, the Father Almighty', we express our faith in the power of God's love who in His Son who died and rose again conquers hate, evil, and sin and gives us eternal life, a life as children who desire to remain forever in the 'Father's House'."

The Deep End – Lead Us Not... *Triona Doherty, Athlone, Co. Roscommon (trionad@gmail.com)*

To cease smoking is the easiest thing I ever did. I ought to know because I've done it a thousand times. *Mark Twain*

Temptation – songs are written about it, novels and film plots are centred around it, 'tell all' tabloid stories delight in it, advertising depends on it and the gambling industry thrives on it. Temptation is everywhere; while we might be able to stay away from certain triggers, we can't avoid it altogether. It's how we respond to temptation that matters. Before any of us were tempted, Jesus went through it first. While we may never have had the privilege of being offered all the kingdoms of the world, the thrust of the temptations undergone by Jesus is familiar. Give up your convictions for a quick fix or easy pleasure. Cast aside your deeply held beliefs in return for wealth, power and prestige. Be reckless in order to prove your worth. Take the easy way out. But the devil is no match for Jesus, who is armed with steely resolve and a sense of greater purpose. Every time we pray the Our Father, we say the words 'Lead us not into temptation'. Lent is the perfect time to reflect on the temptations that plague us most. Perhaps we can also pray the Our Father with renewed meaning this Lent.