

Quarterly Newsletter



Bosco Youth Pilgrimage to Lourdes

“Memorable and inspiring”, is how I describe my pilgrimage to Lourdes with 28 young people from the Bosco Youth Club from 29th April to 2nd May. It was their first visit.

They had many reasons to go but the most common was ‘my granny wants me to go.’ For most it was a leap of faith as few realized how busy a pilgrimage could be. They had time for swimming, card games, shopping, adventure and all

the fun that a group of young people can generate. We were encouraged that they were so open and willing to participate in the prayer experiences offered, including the Grotto, Confessions, Mass in the Basilica and most memorably, the candlelight procession each night.

The pilgrimage finished with lighting candles for family back home.

The Bosco Youth Club leaders are proud of them all. Many say they



will return. What began as a leap of faith has enabled our young people to grow in faith of themselves, each other, and God.

Frances McNally

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- “..my granny wanted me to go”

Pope Francis reforms Committees in Rome

Pope Francis’ Constitution for the Reform of the Roman Curia—“Praedicate Evangelium” (“Preach the Gospel”)—was released by the Vatican on 19th March. Vatican experts recognized something that actually could change things for you and me in a potentially massive way. The Vatican seems to be saying that the “power of governance in the church does not come from the

sacrament of [Holy] Orders” but from one’s mission in the church.



That is, being in positions of leadership in the church should not require a collar,

ordination or being a man. Francis has used his pontificate to call out clericalism, and drawn the eyes of the faithful back to the needs of the poor and marginalized, where he believes our mission belongs. He has laid out in this newest document exactly the kind of non-clerical basis for authority that the church of the future is going to need to survive.

“...drawn the eyes of the faithful back to the needs of the poor and marginalized, where he believes our mission belongs”

Newry parishioner runs Aid to Ukraine

Mykola our driver took us from Rosslare to Cherbouh, to Bremen in Germany where we stayed overnight with his friend. From Bremen onwards we travelled to Poland where we collected even more medical supplies, to the point where I had to carry boxes on my knees. We crossed into Ukraine in trepidation as Mykola still retains Ukrainian citizenship and possibly might not be allowed to

return. In Ukraine we were met by representatives from the nearby Greek Catholic Church who collected our supplies and passed them on to those in need. On the return journey we escorted a family of Ukrainian

refugees from Cherkassy back to Newry where they have since settled. Mykola and I recently travelled out again, we purchased two tonnes of food for Ukraine thanks to fundraising in Belleek. I am uncertain when I will be

travelling out again but I want to thank the people of Newry again for their immense generosity.



“Two tons of food and medical supplies”

Trocaire Report

Trócaire works with a range of organisations to tackle the root causes of poverty. Trócaire supported 78,000 people in respect of their human rights in seven countries last year. Human rights defenders are at risk in Central America. Governments are also clamping down on human rights’ organisations. We were one of 18 international organisations forced to leave Pakistan in 2018.

We assist communities to sustain their livelihoods and adapt to the impacts of climate change and environmental degradation. In 2019/20, we helped 370,000 people across 13 countries in respect of climate change challenges. We work with communities to ensure they have access to land and water. Ethiopia, Malawi and Kenya are a major focus. People are vulnerable to land grabs from the extractive and

agribusiness industries. We work with communities in Central America, to secure legal tenure. In 2019/20, we provided humanitarian help to 1.8 million people in 27 countries. Our largest efforts took place in Ethiopia, Sudan, D.R. Congo and Somalia. Last year we ran relief efforts in Yemen, India and Ecuador providing food and shelter. We also provide healthcare in Somalia and Sudan.



“Newry parish contributed over £40,000 in 2021.”

Parish Scripture Class

Our Scripture class called “Grace and Growth through Scripture” moved to Zoom due to Covid. We take either seasonal themes e.g. Lent and Advent or themes like “Suffering in the World” or stories from the Old and New Testament. Our group meets



monthly, for about an

hour. We agree our themes in advance. to date, we have looked at “Suffering” with respect to Covid, through Job. The exile in Babylon,

favourite parables and St. Paul in Acts. The group welcomes new members. The class email invitation contains a link to the Zoom meeting, click on the link to connect and you are there. Drop an email to fred@newrycathedralparish.org to get started.

“...some great life lessons are captured in the Old Testament.”

Lessons learned from Synod Questionnaires



Walking together

Dromore diocese used a six-part questionnaire, with space for just under 1000 words. Newry PPC adopted several approaches: (1) circulation of hard copy questionnaires via the parish office, having advertised in the bulletin and pulpit, (2) generated a survey web page which could be accessed by codes published in our

weekly bulletin, (3) a public meeting and discussion, (4) target schools and parish organisations. 250 contributions were received.

People were comfortable with their faith background and take great solace in the church's sacramental activity. Provision for children at mass and youth faith development outside school are seen as core problems. The role of women in the church as laity and as clergy, received a lot of

attention. Women priests and married clergy (modern culture) gave significant results. Half of our sample were asking for clergy involvement in community events. People still expect priests to visit homes. There is little recognition that the parish helps those in need, excepting SVP and Trócaire. The future of Dromore aspired to; more women's influence, more provision for children at mass and a focus on youth activities.



"Our parish feedback will be merged with the rest of Dromore and form part of the report from Ireland"

Saint Colman



The 7th June is the feast day of the patron of the diocese of Dromore,

St. Colman. Colman was born in north-east Down, then known as Dal Riada in about 470 AD. Some years earlier a monastery had been founded by St. Mochaoi, who is said to have been

the first bishop ordained by St. Patrick. Colman entered the monastery in his teens. He travelled, visiting the religious houses of England and Ireland. About 510 A.D., after visiting St. MacNissi and getting his advice, Colman founded a monastery with a school at Dromore. The school produced famous saints,

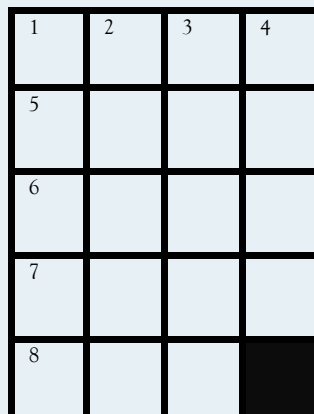
notably St. Finnian of Movilla. Many 'lives' of St. Colman are to be found in Irish manuscripts. They point to a man of great sanctity, who was admired and trusted: a saint a man of great rigour, penance, and severe discipline, who was gentle and compassionate towards others.

"Next year 2023 St. Colman's College will celebrate its bicentenary. "

Crossword

Across

1. Saint of desperate cases
5. From scratch
6. Motion picture
7. Some ESPN highlights
8. Source of honey in the desert



Down

1. Son of Isaac
2. Join
3. Compact
4. Nathan told David that taking Bathsheba was like taking this (2 Sam 12:3)



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*"Nourished by Word and
Sacrament, we seek to become
Christ for one another."*

Find us on



www.newrycathedralparish.org

Newry Parish is currently being served by four priests and one student who is preparing for ordination. Two priests have been in parish since before the onset of Covid.

Fr. Robert Markuszewski is a native of Poland. He was ordained for his native diocese in Poland in May 1998. He was a curate in several parishes in his native diocese, taught in a post primary school and was a Parish Priest before coming to work as a curate in Belfast in the diocese of Down and Connor. In Belfast he ministered to both the local congregation and the Polish emigrants. In Autumn 2018 he came to Newry parish to work as a curate.

Canon Francis Brown is a native of the parish of Clonduff. He was ordained on 9th June 1974 for the diocese of Dromore. He has worked the 48 years since ordination in the diocese. He was appointed to Newry parish as a curate shortly after ordination. Currently, he is Administrator of Newry and Saval parishes.

Carlos Esteban Rojo who was featured last quarter was ordained as a transitional deacon on the 8th May in St. Patrick's Cathedral in Armagh. Congratulation Rev. Carlos.

Bereavement Group Launch

In the last 4 months the group have received training in grief and bereavement, funeral liturgy as well as an understanding of the current bereavement services in the area. On Sunday 3rd April, 16 members of the laity were formally commissioned as Bereavement Ministry Members at 12 noon Mass in the Cathedral.

The group have also been shadowing members of the clergy at this present time and have been encouraged by the warm reception from parishioners. They have found it a privilege to be with families and work alongside the priests of the parish. They would like to express their thanks to the families who have wel-

comed them into their homes in their time of their bereavement. They are deeply indebted to Canon Francis for his encouragement and to Father Alphonsus, Father Callum and Father Robert for their support. At some time in our lives, we all have to face the shock and sadness of the loss of a loved one.

The Newry Parish Ministry to the Bereaved seeks to provide support, prayer and the hand of friendship, helping people compassionately to come to terms with their loss.



Anthony Patterson, Michael Burns, Elizabeth Fitzpatrick, Sheila Chambers, Daniel McNulty, John Cosgrove, Margo Cosgrove, Catherine McGuigan, Pauline McMahon, Canon Francis Brown, Elizabeth McAllister, Deacon Brendan McAllister, Elizabeth Kerrin, Kathleen O'Hare, Eamon O'Hare, Seona Fitzpatrick.
Missing from the photograph are Micheál Murphy and Joan Carlin.

