The 2017 message for the World Day of Prayer for Vocations entitled, "Led by the Spirit for Mission".



Pope Francis reflects on the missionary dimension of our Christian calling in his message on Vocations Sunday. The Holy Father says that "commitment to mission is not something added on to the Christian life as a kind of decoration, but is instead an essential element of faith itself. A relationship with the Lord," he adds, "entails being sent out into the world as prophets of his word and witnesses of his love."

Even if at times when "we are conscious of our weaknesses and tempted to discouragement", Pope Francis underlines, "we need to turn to God with confidence", and he reiterates that by "virtue of baptism, every Christian is a "Christopher", a bearer of Christ, to his brothers and sisters."

In the message divided into three subtitles, the first being "Jesus is anointed by the Spirit and sent", the Holy Father explains that, "to be a missionary disciple means to share actively in the mission of Christ."

In the second heading, "Jesus is at our side every step of the way", Pope Francis describes how "the questions lurking in human hearts and the real challenges of life can make us feel bewildered, inadequate and hopeless." But he goes on to say, "if we contemplate the risen Jesus walking alongside the disciples of Emmaus we can be filled with new confidence."

In the third subtitle, "Jesus makes the seed grow", the Pope says that, "it is important to let the Gospel teach us the way of proclamation." "The seed of the Kingdom", he adds, "however tiny, unseen and at times insignificant, silently continues to grow, thanks to God's tireless activity."

Concluding his message the Holy Father underlines that, "there can be no promotion of vocations or Christian mission apart from constant contemplative prayer and he encourages this kind of profound friendship with the Lord, "above all for the sake of imploring from on high new vocations to the priesthood and the consecrated life."

Contacts

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Fr. Richard Davern, Ballyduane, Clarina • 087-2977500 • 061 353529
Fr. Robin Thomas, "St. Joseph's", Lifford Avenue. 089-4333124
Mary Egan, Parish Secretary • 061 210869 • 10am - 4pm



The Parish of Mungret + Crecora + Raheen

MASS TIMES IN THE PARISH:

Raheen: Vigil 6pm Sun 11am & 12.30 pm. Mon to Fri 10am Eucharistic Adoration 10.30am - 10 pm

Crecora: .Sunday 10 a.m. Tue.Wed.Thurs 9.15am. Eucharistic Adoration: Thurs to 12noon & 6p.m. - 10 pm

Mungret: Sunday 11.30 a.m. Wed. & Fri 9.30 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration: Wed 10am-12 noon.

Mass Times 6th/7th May, Raheen:

Raheen:

Majella Strinati (1st A) 6 p.m Lil Greensmith (A)
Robert Dinneen (2nd A) 11. a.m 12.30 pm Frank & Margaret Dillon (A) Crecora:

Week ahead: 8th – 12th May.

Raheen

Pro Pop Mon

Fri Thomas Ryan (A)

Crecora: 11th. Bernard Keyes (A)
Weekend 13th/14th May

Raheen:

6 p.m. Vigil for Vocations 11 a.m. Ann Quin (A)

Denise Ward Molloy (A) 12.30 p.m.

& Raymond Hogan (A)

John O'Dea & Tom McNamara (A) Crecora:

Mungret:

Denis Collins (Months Mind) Sat

Vocations Sunday: Second Collection will be taken up at all Masses this weekend.

Today, the Fourth Sunday of Easter or Good Shepherd Sunday is a special day of prayer for Vocations in our Parish and our Diocese. We pray for an increase in vocations in the Church. May our vouth listen to God's call and be encouraged to respond generously.

Limerick Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes $21^{st} - 26^{th}$., 2017. Places are still available. Sr. Patricia Lee will talk on Lourdes this Sunday in Raheen and Crecora on this year's Pilgrimage.

St. Joseph's Young Priests Society: The monthly meeting of St. Joseph's Young Priests Society will take place in the Millennium Centre on Wednesday the 10th May at 8pm. New members are always welcome. The Society will host a 3 Hour Vigil of Prayer for Vocations for the Limerick Diocese in St. Nessan's Church Raheen on Saturday 13th May commencing with the Vigil Mass at 6pm. This will be followed by Eucharistic Adoration, the Rosary and the Divine Mercy Chaplet. A reflection will be given by Bishop Brendan Leahy. The Vigil will conclude with Benediction.

Parish Pastoral Council: Next meeting 9th May, 2017 at 8 p.m. in Millennium Centre



Ice-Cream Sunday: Please come and join us this Sunday after the 11a.m. Children's Mass, in the Millennium Centre for HB Ice-Cream as we support our friends with Down Syndrome. This is a very worthy cause and is deserving of your support on this once a year occasion.

The Annual Queen of the May Concert will take place in St Joseph's Church, O'Connell Avenue, on Thursday, May 18^{th.} starting at 8.00pm sharp. The event, which will raise funds for St Joseph's Church Restoration Fund and for the Limerick Branch of the Alzheimer Society of Ireland. Tickets are €10 each and can be purchased from St Joseph's church (061)313401, from the Limerick Alzheimer Society(061)313456/312605 or call 087-2318631/086-2398935. Tickets also available at the door on the night. See Notice Board

Milford Care invite you to attend a Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving for the lives of those people who have died during 2016 under the care of Milford Care Centre. The Remembrance takes place at Our Lady Help of Christians Church, Castletroy, on Sunday 14th May at 3 p.m. Please feel free to invite family and friends to join you in solidarity and support.

Youth Ministry Training Programme: Following up on the Core Strategic Actions named at the Diocesan Synod last year and outlined in our Diocesan Pastoral Plan the Youth Ministry Team in the Diocese will be delivering a Youth Ministry Training Programme beginning in September 2017. The ultimate aim of the programme will be to train people from Parishes/Pastoral Areas to deliver youth ministry in their own localities. Our goal is to empower and encourage people at local level to take on leadership roles in the area of youth ministry and so the training will be very much focused on the practical elements and will offer resources and tips as well as the looking at the theory and theology. Having spent over 10 years in youth ministry we know the importance of team work and support and so we are insisting that parishes would gather teams of 4 people to participate. we are looking at a 12 week course running one night a week from September to December and including one or two Saturdays. We are currently liaising with the Institute for Pastoral Studies, Mary Immaculate College and the Redemptorists who have run youth ministry training for the last 20 years. If you would are interested in attending or in finding out more please contact your Parish Priest or phone Aoife Walsh, Limerick Diocesan Pastoral Centre 061-400133

First Holy Communion: We would like to congratulate the children from Crecora National School and the Gael Scoil Raithín, who received their First Holy Communion in St. Nessan's Church, Raheen, on Saturday 6th May. We welcome the children from St. Nessan's National School who will receive Holy Communion for the First Time on Saturday 13th May, 2017.

Bus to Knock: Will leave Mungret Clubhouse at 9.30 a.m. and a pick up at Raheen Church at 9.35 a.m. sharp on Tuesday 30th May 2017. If interested contact Theresa at 061 353898, Nora at 061 301184 or Marian on 086-3929367.