

Sun 14<sup>th</sup> Oct 2018 *Twenty-Eighth Sunday* in Ordinary Time

## DERRY DIOCESAN PASTORAL PLAN 2018-2021



The Diocesan Plan sets out the path we hope to take in every parish throughout the diocese over the course of the next three years, focusing on three pastoral themes: **1.Building Welcoming and Inclusive Communities.** 2.Be Disciples of Jesus Christ, Growing in Faith Together. 3. Work to make Jesus Known and Loved

As we in Cappagh continue to build a parish that is welcoming and inclusive of all, we will conduct a survey to ensure that everybody's opinion is taken into account as we create a vision for the future of our parish. *Everybody's view is* 

important - people of all age groups and those practicing or non-practicing. If you are interested in being part of a small working group who will co-ordinate this survey, please contact the parish office or speak with Fr Kevin.

This week we reflect on the second theme of the Diocesan Pastoral Plan: Be Disciples of Jesus Christ, Growing in Faith Together

This theme invites us to seek ways in our parish communities to mature in the knowledge of our Catholic faith. As adults we tend to think "our learning days are over". However, if we take time out to read the scriptures; in our homes, by attending group Bible studies or by volunteering at/or attending the parish Sacramental programmes; we can refresh our knowledge, so that we might live and pass on our Catholic faith in a mature way and be true disciples of Christ.

## "Passing on the Faith" and "Spreading the Good News" is not just the task of the religious in our Church. Every baptised person, every member of Gods family, is called to be a witness to God's love in the world and to live it!

This weekend's Gospel translates easily to the current day. Of course it is human nature, and is acceptable to get satisfaction from things that we own - clothes, cars, gadgets, etc; but what happens to us when our possessions begin to "own" us? Jesus seeks followers who have the freedom and faith to let go of possessions in order to be a servant to others. Discipleship cannot be bought, it can only be lived.

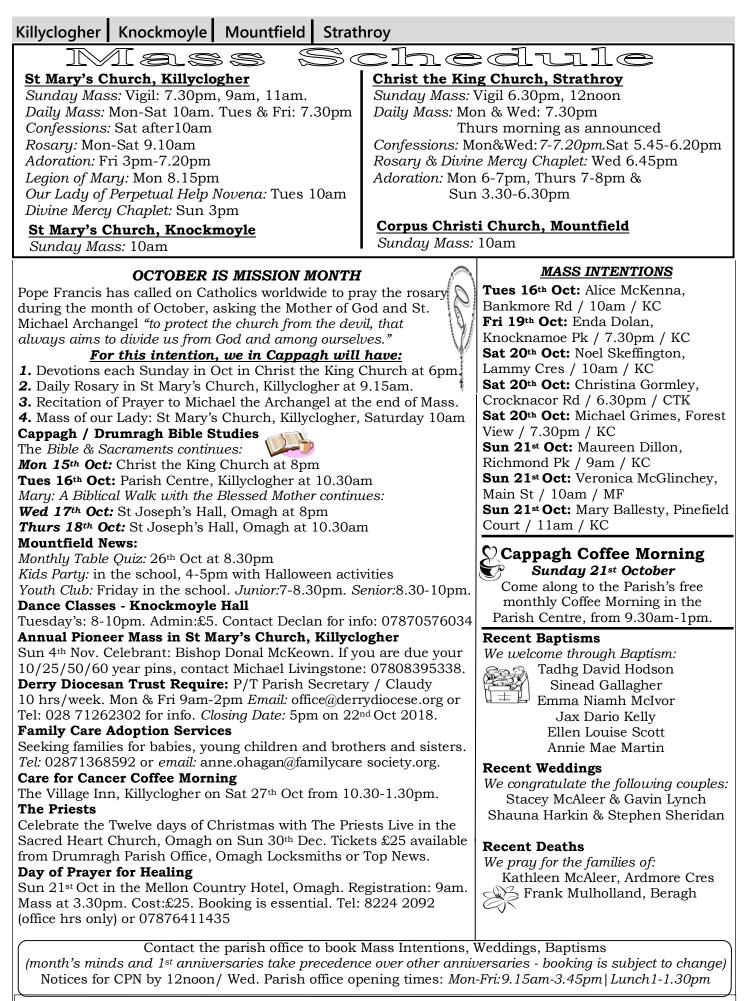
Pope Francis, during his address at The Festival of Families at Croke Park on 25<sup>th</sup> Aug 2018 challenged every family "to be a beacon of the joy of God's love" so that "we, who have encountered God's saving love, try, with or without words, to express it in little acts of kindness in our daily routine and in the most hidden moments of our day."

Expressing the love of God is not about grand gestures, and doesn't require us to leave everything behind, like the first disciples who followed Jesus. Rather, it is in the midst of our daily routine, in those ordinary moments, that we can show and share Gods love.

So today, let each of us think seriously on ways in which we, as a parish community, can grow in our faith together. How can we promote the development of a faith that touches

Our Head - Understanding our faith **Our Heart** - Knowing and sharing God's love Our Hands - God's love in action! Reaching out to others.

Safeguarding Children Contact Details for Relevant Agencies and Services	Pope Francis Tweets
PSNI 0845 600 8000   Gateway Services 028 8283 5043 Alternatively, if you or anyone you know has a child safeguarding concern in relation to any member of church personnel and wishes to report it to church authorities please contact one of the diocesan designated persons, who will, in turn, report this concern to the relevant statutory authorities. Noel O'Donnell 075 9650 0793   Celine McKenna 075 9666 7773	Spend time before the Lord in contemplation, and do everything possible for the Lord at the service of others.



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 8225 1055

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