



OUR LADY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH CASTLEKNOCK, DUBLIN 15

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time 18th July 2021

This Sunday's Gospel is very apt for these summer months when many people and families take a break from the routine of daily life and go off somewhere on holiday.

In the Gospel today the apostles return from their mission of preaching and report in to Jesus about all they had done on their travels. Jesus sees their tiredness and recognises their need for some time away to rest. Jesus heads away with them in a boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves.

One of the blessings for many people of the Covid-19 virus has been the opportunity to work from home. As well as sparing people many hours of commuting to and from a workplace, it has offered flexibility in terms of managing work and home commitments. One of the downsides is that people have to be more careful and disciplined in setting boundaries so as to maintain a proper work/life balance.

We all need a break from time to time. Time out is important. Getting away from the daily grind and having time to relax and appreciate life in new surroundings renews us. It gives us an opportunity to focus on aspects of our lives that may be neglected when we are busy. It affords us time and space to build and strengthen the bonds we have with family members and friends.

If you do manage to get away in these summer months, I hope you have a good time and an enjoyable break.

Fr. Kieran Coghlan

Building Hope Task Force – Invitation to Parishioners

Archbishop Farrell has set up a Task Force under the title of Building Hope. The Task Force aims to stimulate engagement with the whole diocesan family and shape an inclusive approach to a pastoral strategy appropriate to our times. It is intended to support parish communities to undertake a radical renewal, looking to the future with creativity, enabling the Archdiocese of Dublin to act now, so as to give effective witness and service in the years ahead.

You are invited to take part in this consultation. There is a video, a prayer and a form on the www.dublindiocese.ie website. Please watch the video from the Archbishop and join with your family to pray and to discuss the future of the Church together. It is hoped that you might nominate one member of your family to return to the website and make a contribution by filling out the form. ***The consultation form will remain online until the 18th July 2021.***

Pray, have the conversation and fill in the form.

World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly – Sunday 25th July

Earlier this year Pope Francis announced a Church-wide celebration of a World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. Starting this year it will be celebrated on the fourth Sunday of July, close to the feast day of Saints Joachim and Anne, the grandparents of Jesus. Pope Francis reminded us that “old age is a gift and that grandparents are the link between the different generations, to pass on to the young the experience of life”.

Summer Offering

To help replenish the reserves in the fund that provides for the priests of the diocese, parishioners are invited to make a summer offering at some time between now and the end of August. Summer Offering envelopes are available on the table at the back of the Church.

PATHWAYS: Exploring Faith as an Adult

Pathways is a two-year, one evening a week, Adult Faith Development course on Thursday evenings, 7pm to 9.30pm from late September to May. Run by the Archdiocese of Dublin in DCU St. Patrick's Campus (MDCCE), Drumcondra Road. Application now open for September 2021. Early application advised. Contact *Pathways* Director, Eileen Houlahan at 01-8087594 or pathways@dublindiocese.ie Web: www.evangelisation.ie

Theology of the Arts. Does the Church need Art?

The Priory Institute, Tallaght have a week-long online Summer School running from 8th to 13th August and again from 22nd to 27th August. The course includes six recorded presentations and is very flexible as it is delivered entirely online. Cost €50. Find out more and register on www.prioryinstitute.com or phone 01-4048124.