

SHRULE & GLENCORRIB PARISH NEWSLETTER - SUNDAY 30th APRIL 2023Parish email: parishofshrule3@gmail.com Parish Web: www.shruleglencorrib.comFr. Vivian Loughrey PP, Parochial House, Ramolin, Shrule, Co. Mayo H91 V2FK (☎ 093 31262)
Newsletter (Vol. 27 – 40) # 1,444 – Newsletter submissions: newsletter@shruleglencorrib.com
Extended Newsletter Available at www.shruleglencorrib.com & www.mayo.ieAll Masses available on: **Radio**:101.4 FM – **Facebook**: Shrule Parish – **Web**: churchtv.ie**PARISH OFFICE****Shrule** - Parochial House, Tuesdays 10.30am to 12-noon**OPENING HOURS****Glencorrib** - Curates House (Sunny Days), Wednesdays 10.30am to 12-noon**4th SUNDAY OF EASTER - (YEAR A) MASS DATES, TIMES & INTENTIONS****Good Shepherd Sunday - World Day of Prayer for Vocations - Vocations Sunday****ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH, SHRULE - Dedicated 1832**

Sat	29th Apr	8.00 pm	Joe Bohan, Kirsty Bohan & DM Bohan Family, Caherlistrane
Sun	30th Apr	11.00 am	Parish Community
Tue	2nd May	9.30 am	Kathleen & Dick Murphy & DM Murphy Family, St. Mary's Road
Wed	3rd May	11:00 am	Celebration of Sacrament of Confirmation No Morning Mass
Thu	4th May	9.30 am	Mass of Thanksgiving
Fri	5th May	7.00 pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament – 7pm to 7.55pm
		8:00 pm	Joe Mulroe
Sat	6th May	8.00 pm	Parish Community
Sun	7th May	11.00 am	Tony Heneghan, Dalgan Sean McGath, parents Richard & Barbara McGath, sister Teresa Gerpasher

CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, GLENCORRIB - Dedicated 1876

Sat	29th Apr	6:30 pm	Frank Kenny
Sun	30th Apr	9.30 am	Johnny Mohan
		3.00 pm	Sunday Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament - 3pm to 4pm
Wed	3rd May		No Morning Mass Celebration of Sacrament of Confirmation - Shrule
Fri	5th May	7:00 pm	Private Intention
Sat	6th May	6:30 pm	Joe & Mary Farrell & DM Farrell
Sun	7th May	9.30 am	Jim & Kathleen & Pat Fitzgerald, Mochara
		3.00 pm	Sunday Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament - 3pm to 4pm

NO MORNING MASS ON WEDNESDAY DUE TO SACREMENT OF CONFIRMATION

CHURCH ROTAS FOR MAY	SHRULE	GLENCORRIB
LAY READERS – Vigil Mass	Sean Frehan	<i>Adrian Nally</i>
LAY READERS – Morning Mass	Breege Walsh	<i>Ronan Petty</i>
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS - Vigil Mass	Rita Davin	Mary Myler
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS - Morning	Mary Bohan Keane	Sharon McGaugh
ALTAR SOCIETY	Shrule/Churchfields	<i>Moyne/Toorard</i>

*The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures.
He leads me beside the still waters. He restores my soul.*

Psalm 23: 1-3

**EASTER DUES – THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUING SUPPORT**

Easter Dues envelopes are now available at the back of the church for those who do not use the envelope system. If you are using the envelopes available at church, and are planning to apply for charity tax rebate, please write your name and envelope number on envelope.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO RETURN YOUR TRÓCAIRE BOXES



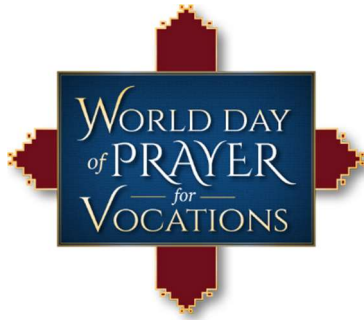
Prayer for Reflection

Lord Jesus, free me from the many things that occupy and preoccupy me. Help me just to be with you. To pray with you, glorify you, thank you, worship you. I want to be attentive, more ready to hear you, more willing to understand the mystery of your birth and life, your dying and your rising. Make me still Lord, make me quiet, and speak to me in that silence. Amen

'Following Jesus' Henri Nouwen

VOCATIONS SUNDAY

This is now the sixtieth year that we are celebrating the World Day of Prayer for Vocations, established by Saint Paul VI in 1964, during the Second Vatican Ecumenical Council. This providential initiative seeks to assist the members of the People of God, as individuals and as communities, to respond to the call and mission that the Lord entrusts to each of us in today's world, amid its afflictions and its hopes, its challenges and its achievements.



This year we are asked in our reflection and prayer, to take as our guide the theme "Vocation: Grace and Mission". This Day is a precious opportunity for recalling with wonder that the Lord's call is grace, complete gift, and at the same time a commitment to bring the Gospel to others.

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS:

Lord Jesus Christ, gentle shepherd, you know each of us by name. Through Baptism you reach into our hearts and call us to do something special for you with our lives.

We pray for vocations. Give people the courage to answer your call to follow you and serve the people of God. A vocation is a service to bring God's joy and love into a world that longs for it.

We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Galway Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place on **June 27th to July 3rd**. The fare is €850 for 6 nights which includes transportation to and from Galway/Shannon. Insurance is optional at €39 or pilgrims may have their own travel insurance. Further information can be got from Fr. Martin Moran, Killannin, Rosscahill, - 087/2508959. Bookings - Reservations - Enquiries to: Joe Walsh Tours, 89 Harcourt Street, Dublin 2; email: info@joewalstours.ie

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BECOME MORE INVOLVED IN THE PARISH?

Readers of the Word; Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers, Altar Society volunteers, Choir, Musicians and Parish Secretary are needed. If you are interested, please call into the sacristy after Mass or during parish office opening hours or email parishofshrule3@gmail.com



GLENCORRIB CHOIR

We are looking for members (adults, teenagers & children age 9 or older). If you or your child would like to become involved, please come along and join in our practice on **Saturday evenings from 5.30 - 6.20 pm** in Glencorrib Church. All are welcome. Contact: Terri (087) 6599781



COMMUNITY GAMES: TRACK & FIELD

Shrule, Glencorrib & Kilroe Community games athletics and field competition is this **Monday 1st May** in the Shrule pitch (Dalgan Road).



Registration is at **4.30pm**. Races start at 5pm. €5 per child and €10 per family. This covers all events in community games. See Facebook page for more details.



PLEASE SUBMIT ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER BY 8PM THURSDAY

Please take home your mass leaflet to reflect on the readings and prayers from today's service. It's an opportunity to deepen your spiritual journey and strengthen your relationship with God.



REGISTER NOW

darknessintolight.ie

4:15am • May 6th 2023

DARKNESS INTO LIGHT 2023:

Headford on May 6th. Link to sign up:
darknessintolight.ie/register/galway

Riddle me this:

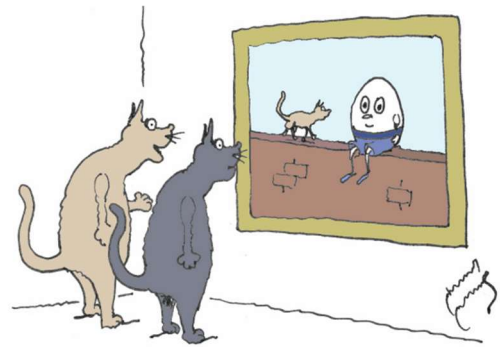
Forwards I am heavy, backward I am not.
 What am I?

(Last week's answer: a match)

A Little Bit of Humour:

"When your children are teenagers, it's important to have a dog so that someone in the house is happy to see you." —Nora Ephron

"Thousands of years ago, cats were worshipped as gods. Cats have never forgotten this."



"I'VE KNOCKED OVER LOTS OF STUFF,
 BUT THIS WAS MY GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT."

Totus Tuus Women of Faith Conference 2023 will be LIVE on Radio Maria Ireland this coming **Saturday May 6th from 2pm**. Speakers include Siobhán Dunniece, Sr. Benedetta (Sisters of Merciful Jesus), Katie Ascough and Mary Anne Collins. You can follow the conference by 1. Going online at www.radiomaria.ie. 2. Download the Radio Maria IRELAND App to your smartphone or tablet. 3. Listen live via Facebook. 4. Call 01 4373277 and listen live 5. Listen through your TV on SAORVIEW Channel 210

Family Support Drop-in Clinic

Are you dealing with a difficult issue at home? Do you need a friendly ear to voice your concerns? Solas Family Resource Centre in conjunction with Tusla and Foroige are offering a **Family Support Community Drop-In Clinic on the first Wednesday of every month commencing on the 3rd of May. No appointment needed** just call in for a cup of tea and a chat. We will provide a safe and confidential space to discuss your issues and concerns, we can support or link you with other services, provide information and guidance. For more information please contact John on 093-36446 or Eamonn on 086-1713384.

LEGION OF MARY CONFERENCE:

WHO IS SHE? What can we learn from early Irish Christian Marian devotion and how can we love Jesus as His mother loves Him?

Saturday, 13th May 2023, 9.30am – 4.30pm

All Hallows Campus, Dublin

All queries and bookings

to mariaassumptadublin@gmail.com

THREE-DAY PILGRIMAGE IN LOUGH DERG

Friday 23 to Sunday 25 June 2023. Bus departing Renmore church at 7.15am on Friday (pick-up points can be arranged if required). Cost €130 including bus. For more information and bookings please contact Anne on 086 838 1633 or Patrizia at 086 407 3192.



Accord is currently recruiting volunteers to train as marriage preparation facilitators. Marriage facilitators are part of a team that prepares couples for the

sacrament of marriage. Couples find our courses fun, engaging and very relevant, while facilitators gain valuable life skills. If you are interested, we would be delighted to hear from you. Please contact marriagepreparation@accord.ie or call 01-5053112 for more information.

PLEASE REMEMBER WITH A PRAYER THOSE WHO DIED ON THIS WEEK IN FORMER YEARS

Surname	Christian	Village	Date Died	Age	Cemetery
Davin	James	Brackloon	29/04/1925	86	Shrule
Thornton	Julia	Caherard, Glencorrib	29/04/1950	65	Kilmalura.
Murphy	Denis	Woodpark	29/04/1981	89	Shrule
Bohan	Joseph	Carramore	29/04/1985		Donaghpatrick
Lulling	Meredith	Dalgan Demesne	29/04/2022	44	Shrule
Walsh	Michael	Ramolin	30/04/1955	71	Shrule
Mohan	Johnny	Glencorrib	30/04/2019	89	Moyne
O'Connor	Mary Anne	Boherbee	01/05/1920	72	Shrule
Murphy	Thomas	Gortatubber	01/05/1924	7	Cong
Dooley	James	Gurteen, Shrule	01/05/1943	29	Shrule
Lee-Corbett	Delia	Shrule	01/05/1972	72	Shrule
Kenny	Delia	Cordarra	01/05/2001	81	Moyne
Molloy	Matthew	Ballisnahina	01/05/2005	70	Shrule
Payne	Mary	Poulcappel	02/05/1920	87	Shrule
Feeney	Andrew	Dalgan	02/05/1955	75	Shrule
Higgins	Patrick St. Leger	Shrule	02/05/1978	72	Shrule
Crowe	Winifred (Fred)	Moyne	02/05/2018		Shrule
Joyce	Michael	Glasbally	03/05/1923	65	Killursa
Carty	James	Dalgan	03/05/1955	79	Shrule
Hughes	Thomas	Brackloon	03/05/1962	73	Shrule
Gibbons	Thomas J.	Shrule	03/05/1966	70	Shrule
Murphy	Martin Gerard	Glencorrib	03/05/1985	4	Shrule
Lee	Jim	Glassvalley	03/05/2000	71	Killursa
McGath	Sean	Lakefield	03/05/2013	77	Shrule
Garvey	Patrick	Boula	04/05/1918	68	Killursa
Hoverty	Martin	England	04/05/1993	79	Shrule
Togher	Michael	Ballynalty	04/05/2006	75	Killursa
Murphy	Martin	Ballycurrin	04/05/2013	50	Cross
Corbett	Michael	Ballycurrin	04/05/2015	83	Shrule
Kirwan	Sheila	Toorard/Dublin	05/05/1985		Moyne
Walsh	Patrick	Ballycurrin	05/05/1995	87	Killursa
Walsh	Nora	Shrule	05/05/1996	81	Shrule
Shaw	Mary	Preston	05/05/2002	79	Killursa
Harkin	Francis	Shrule	06/05/1918	36	Shrule
Hennelly	Sara	Glencorrib	06/05/1934	82	Killursa
Garvey	James	Gortbrack	06/05/1938	73	Killursa
Prendergast	Michael	Shrule	06/05/1949	76	Shrule
Cottingham	Mary	Mount Henry	06/05/1950	78	Killursa
Naughton	Una Winifred	Rostaff	06/05/1977	76	Moyne
Kavanagh	Malachy	Shrule	06/05/1990	70	Shrule
Fitzgerald	Edward	Ballycurrin	06/05/2007	87	Shrule
Biggins	Tom	Wallpark	06/05/2012	70	Moyne
Garvey	Anne	Gortbrack	07/05/1983	70	Killursa
Browne	Sara	Shrule	07/05/2008	94	Shrule
O'Murchú	Aibhistín	Rostaff	07/05/2008	80	Moyne

HOLY LAND CHRISTMAS PILGRIMAGE

Independent pilgrimage organiser James Treacy is arranging a Galway/Mayo pilgrimage to the Holy Land for Christmas 2023, taking in Bethlehem, Jerusalem, Nazareth, the Dead Sea, Sea of Galilee, Last Supper Room, Garden of Gethsemane, and the Mount of Olives. Full day in Bethlehem on Christmas Day.

Please contact James Treacy at 061 921470 or Email jamestreacyphotography@gmail.com for further information.



Totus Tuus Women of Faith Conference



Katie Ascough



Mary Anne Collins



Sr. Benedetta (Sisters
of Merciful Jesus)



Siobhán Dunning



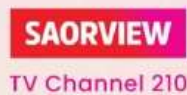
Saturday 6th May



2:00 pm

LIVE on Radio Maria Ireland

Listen Via:



Join our Marriage Preparation Team

Contact

marriagepreparation@accord.ie

Accord is currently recruiting volunteers to train as marriage preparation facilitators. Marriage facilitators are part of a team that prepare couples for the sacrament of marriage. Couples find our courses fun, engaging and very relevant, while facilitators gain valuable life skills. If you are interested, we would be delighted to hear from you. Please contact marriagepreparation@accord.ie or call 01-5053112 for more information.

A Word in your ear...

Up to and including Monday morning last, I belonged to a very exclusive club of healthy males who remained uninfected by Covid. Unfortunately, I lost that valuable tag when I was diagnosed positive for a highly debilitating strain of this infernal disease on Monday morning last. The disease had the same impact on me as Sea Sickness used have on my younger self: for the first four hours I was afraid I was about to die; for the next four hours I was afraid I wasn't!

Isolation leads to 'over-thinking' matters. Enforced isolation more so still. The 'stone in my shoe' over the last week has been 'authority' and its abuse. This particular bug-bear was prompted (I think) by the impending coronation of King Charles III of GB. (I know! Only a sick man with a very high fever could bother his head about such trivial matters!)

One of the characteristics of contemporary western society is a lack of trust for authority, or at least for those who have authority because of the position they hold or the organisation they represent. There are all kinds of reasons for this, growing largely out of a post enlightenment world view, which has relativized truth and emphasised individual autonomy. But suspicion of authority has also come about because those in positions of power have abused their status and distorted the true sense of what it means to have authority. There's barely an organisation, including the church, left untarnished by scandals of financial greed or sexual abuse. And all this suspicion is fuelled when those under authority feel they aren't listened to - that their voices aren't heard.

The word "authority" comes from the Latin *augere* - to grow. All authority, whether parental, religious, civic or professional should be used to help others grow towards greater freedom, justice and truth. Essentially authority is about those whom it serves, not about the individual who wields it. We catch a glimpse of this true meaning of authority in the lives of those health workers, more than 100 doctors, nurses and others, who in providing care for those struck down by the Coronavirus have themselves died, paying the ultimate price for carrying out their responsibilities and exercising their authority.

Christians are currently in the season of Easter, celebrating Jesus' resurrection, remembering Christ's triumph and authority even over death. But Christians also should always remember that this Jesus was the same Jesus who spent his life displaying authority through serving others: healing the sick, challenging the powerful, taking seriously those whom society undervalued and pushed to the margins: women, children, the poor, those with disabilities and so on. Just a few days before his death Jesus had knelt at the feet of his disciples to wash their feet, demonstrating quite literally what is sometimes referred to in Christian theology as "authority from below"- authority from a place of service and humility, a desire to see others grow and flourish. And in allowing their feet to be washed by Jesus each disciple was aligning them self to Jesus' message that God's Kingdom is a place where the weak and marginalised are given centre stage. Where all those in authority must seek to put others first and self second. Any government, any organisation, any church, that loses sight of this message, ceases to exercise authority in any meaningful sense.

-Dick Lyng, Our Lady of Good Counsel, Ballyboden

Tuam Archdiocese

JOB VACANCY

DIOCESAN PASTORAL RESOURCE PERSON

The Archdiocese of Tuam seeks applications from suitably qualified persons for the full-time position of **DIOCESAN PASTORAL RESOURCE PERSON**.

This contract position will be for two years. Salary will be commensurate with experience.

In addition to being a baptised Catholic, applicants will ideally have:

- a proven record of active engagement in parish life
- a qualification in theology or another relevant discipline
- an understanding of the role and function of pastoral councils
- an interest in youth ministry
- an ability to provide training and ongoing support for those involved in pastoral councils and in other parish ministries
- a commitment to further training to meet the need of evolving ministries
- a level of proficiency in the Irish language
- excellent communication skills
- computer and IT skills
- a driving licence and use of a car
- an openness to evening and weekend work.

Please contact the **Diocesan Secretary, Archbishop's House, Tuam, Co. Galway, H54 HP57** (admin@tuamarchdiocese.org) to request the application form.

Application forms to be returned by 5.00 p.m. on Friday, 12th May 2023



Tuam Archdiocese **JOB VACANCY**

DIOCESAN ACCOUNTANT

The Archdiocese of Tuam seeks applications from suitably qualified persons for the full-time position of **DIOCESAN ACCOUNTANT**.

The successful candidate will be responsible for, among other things, preparing accounts, co-ordinating the audit process, making returns to the Charities Regulator, overseeing investments, preparing an annual cash-flow and reviewing and updating as necessary, supporting diocesan and parish officials in the implementation and use of SURF on-site and remotely, and certain HR matters.

Salary will be commensurate with experience.

Application letter with up-to-date curriculum vitae to:

Diocesan Secretary, Archbishop's House, Tuam, Co. Galway, H54 HP57
by 5.00 p.m. on 12th May 2023.



MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS FOR THE 2023 WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Vocation: Grace and Mission

Dear brothers and sisters, dear young people!

This is now the sixtieth time that we are celebrating the World Day of Prayer for Vocations, established by Saint Paul VI in 1964, during the Second Vatican Ecumenical Council. This providential initiative seeks to assist the members of the People of God, as individuals and as communities, to respond to the call and mission that the Lord entrusts to each of us in today's world, amid its afflictions and its hopes, its challenges and its achievements.

This year I would ask you, in your reflection and prayer, to take as your guide the theme "Vocation: Grace and Mission". This Day is a precious opportunity for recalling with wonder that the Lord's call is grace, complete gift, and at the same time a commitment to bring the Gospel to others. We are called to a faith that bears witness, one that closely connects the life of grace, as experienced in the sacraments and ecclesial communion, to our apostolate in the world. Led by the Spirit, Christians are challenged to respond to existential peripheries and human dramas, ever conscious that the mission is God's work; it is not carried out by us alone, but always in ecclesial communion, together with our brothers and sisters, and under the guidance of the Church's pastors. For this has always been God's dream: that we should live with him in a communion of love.

"Chosen before the creation of the world"

The apostle Paul opens before us a remarkable horizon: in Christ, God the Father "chose us before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will" (*Eph 1:4-5*). These words allow us to glimpse life at its fullest: God has "conceived" us in his image and likeness and desires us to be his sons and daughters. We were created by love, for love and with love, and we are made for love.

In the course of our lives, this call, which is part of the fibre of our being and the secret of our happiness, comes to us by the work of the Holy Spirit in ever new ways. It enlightens our minds, strengthens our wills, fills us with amazement and sets our hearts afire. At times, the Spirit comes to us in completely unexpected ways. So it was for me when, on 21 September 1953, as I was on my way to an annual school celebration, I was led to stop by a church and go to confession. That day changed my life and left a mark that has endured to the present day. God's call to the gift of self tends to make itself known gradually: in our encounter with situations of poverty, in moments of prayer, when we see a clear witness to the Gospel, or read something that opens our minds. When we hear God's word and sense that it is spoken directly to us, in the advice given by a fellow brother or sister, in moments of sickness or sorrow... In all the ways he calls us, God shows infinite creativity.

The Lord's initiative and his gracious gift call for a response on our part. Vocation is "the interplay between divine choice and human freedom", [1] a dynamic and exciting relationship between God and the human heart. The gift of vocation is like a divine seed that springs up in the soil of our existence, opens our hearts to God and to others, so that we can share with them the treasure we ourselves have found. This is the fundamental structure of what we mean by vocation: God calls us in love and we, in gratitude, respond to him in love. We realize that we are beloved sons and daughters of the one Father, and we come to see ourselves as brothers and sisters of one another. Saint Therese of the Child Jesus, when at last she "saw" this clearly, exclaimed, "At last I have found my calling: my call is love. Indeed, I have found my proper place in the Church... In the heart of the Church, my Mother, I will be love". [2]

"I am a mission on this earth"

God's call, we said, includes a "sending". There is no vocation without mission. There is no happiness and full self-realization unless we offer others the new life that we have found. God's call to love is an experience that does not allow us to remain silent. Saint Paul says, "Woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel!" (1 Cor 9:16). And the First Letter of John begins with the words, "What we have heard and seen, looked at and touched – the Word made flesh – we declare also to you, so that our joy may be complete" (cf. 1:1-4).

Five years ago, in the Apostolic Exhortation *Gaudete et Exsultate*, I spoke to every baptized person, saying, "You need to see the entirety of your life as a mission" (No. 23). Yes, because each and every one of us is able to say: "I am a mission on this earth; that is the reason why I am here in this world" (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 273).

Our shared mission as Christians is to bear joyful witness wherever we find ourselves, through our actions and words, to the experience of being with Jesus and members of his community, which is the Church. That mission finds expression in works of material and spiritual mercy, in a welcoming and gentle way of life that reflects closeness, compassion and tenderness, in contrast to the culture of waste and indifference. By being a neighbour, like the Good Samaritan (cf. Lk 10:25-37), we come to understand the heart of our Christian vocation: to imitate Jesus Christ, who came to serve, not to be served (cf. Mk 10:45).

This missionary activity does not arise simply from our own abilities, plans and projects, nor from our sheer willpower or our efforts to practice the virtues; it is the result of a profound experience in the company of Jesus. Only then can we testify to a Person, a Life, and thus become "apostles". Only then can we regard ourselves as "sealed, even branded, by this mission of bringing light, blessing, enlivening, raising, healing and freeing" (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 273).

The Gospel icon of this experience is that of the two disciples journeying to Emmaus. After their encounter with the risen Jesus, they said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the Scriptures to us?" (Lk 24:32). In those disciples, we can see what it means to have "hearts on fire, feet on the move". [3] This is also my fervent hope for the coming World Youth Day in Lisbon, to which I joyfully look forward, with its motto: "Mary arose and went with haste" (Lk 1:39). May every man and woman feel called to arise and go in haste, with hearts on fire.

Called together and convened

The evangelist Mark relates the moment when Jesus called to himself twelve disciples, each by name. He appointed them to be with him and to be sent out to proclaim the message, to heal infirmities and to cast out demons (cf. Mk 3:13-15). The Lord thus laid the foundations of his new community. The Twelve were people from different social classes and trades; none of them was a person of influence. The Gospels speak too of other callings, like that of the 72 disciples whom Jesus sent out two by two (cf. Lk 10:1).

The Church is an *Ecclesia*, the Greek word for *an assembly of persons called and convened*, in order to form the community of missionary disciples of Jesus Christ committed to sharing love among themselves (cf. Jn 13:34; 15:12) and spreading that love to all others, so that God's kingdom may come.

Within the Church, all of us are servants, in accordance with the variety of our vocations, charisms and ministries. Our common vocation to give ourselves in love develops and finds concrete expression in the life of lay men and women, devoted to raising a family as a small *domestic church* and working as a leaven of the Gospel to renew the different sectors of society; in the testimony of consecrated women and men who are completely committed to God for the sake of their brothers and sisters as a

prophetic sign of the kingdom of God; in ordained ministers – deacons, priests and bishops – placed at the service of preaching, prayer and fostering the communion of the holy People of God. Only in relation with all the others, does any particular vocation in the Church fully disclose its true nature and richness. Viewed in this light, the Church is a vocational “symphony”, with every vocation united yet distinct, in harmony and joined together in “going forth” to radiate throughout the world the new life of the kingdom of God.

Grace and mission: a gift and a task

Dear brothers and sisters, vocation is a gift and a task, a source of new life and true joy. May the initiatives of prayer and of activity associated with this Day strengthen an awareness of vocation within our families, our parish communities, our communities of consecrated life, and our ecclesial associations and movements. The Spirit of the risen Lord dispels our apathy and grants us the gifts of sympathy and empathy. In this way, he enables us to live each day born anew as children of the God who is love (cf. *1 Jn* 4:16) and in turn to offer that love to others. To bring life everywhere, especially in places of exclusion and exploitation, poverty and death, in order to enlarge the spaces of love, [4] so that God may reign ever more fully in this world.

May the prayer that Saint Paul VI composed for the first World Day of Vocations, 11 April 1964, accompany us on our journey:

“O Jesus, divine Shepherd of souls, you called the apostles and made them fishers of men. Continue to draw to yourself ardent and generous souls from among the young, in order to make them your followers and your ministers. Give them a share in your thirst for the redemption of all... Open before them the horizons of the entire world... By responding to your call, may they prolong your mission here on earth, build up your Mystical Body which is the Church, and be ‘the salt of the earth’ and ‘the light of the world’ (*Mt* 5:13)”.

May the Virgin Mary watch over you and protect you. With my blessing.

Rome, Saint John Lateran, 30 April 2023, Fourth Sunday of Easter.

FRANCIS

[1] *Final Document of the XV Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops* (2018): “*Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment*”, No. 78.

[2] *Manuscript B*, written during her last retreat (September 1896), *Oeuvres complètes*, Paris, 1992, p. 226.

[3] Cf. *Message for World Mission Day 2023* (6 January 2023).

[4] “*Dilatentur spatia caritatis*”: SAINT AUGUSTINE , *Sermo* 69: PL 5, 440-441.

LOURDES



GALWAY DIOCESAN 2023 LOURDES PILGRIMAGE

Led by Fr. Martin Moran

27 June-03 July 2023

6 Nights

€850 per person sharing

- » Direct flights Shannon to Lourdes return
- » Return airport transfers in Lourdes
- » 6 nights' in the Hotel Agena or La Solitude
- » Breakfast, lunch & dinner each day
- » Coach transfer to and from Shannon Airport
- » Airport taxes included
- » Sanctuary levy included
- » Optional travel insurance from €39 per person

For enquiries & bookings, please contact:

JOE WALSH TOURS 01-2410800 | info@joewalstours.ie

Pilgrims with special assistance needs please contact:

Fr Martin Moran, Killannin, Rosscahill, Co Galway

Tel: 087-2508959



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