



ST. GABRIEL'S NOTES



1st September 2019

Fr Tony Coote RIP

We are saddened with the news of the passing of Fr Tony Coote who shared his energy for life and God. Fr Tony wrote in his book *"Live While You Can"*



"My prayer every day is very simple. I just rest in the presence of God, particularly each morning when I am awake very early. Instead of being annoyed that I can't go back to sleep, I remember that this is probably my only private time of the whole day so I literally place myself into a presence in the darkness. It's at this time that I reconcile everything going on within me and around me. This is when I am most calm, and I hear the words of Jesus to Peter: 'Courage. It is I, do not be afraid' (Matthew 14:27). I have celebrated many funerals over the past twenty-seven years and have always sought to find the right words to comfort the bereaved and place the one who has died within a prism of hope. All those words are tumbling around inside me now, as if to say, 'Do you feel that the same thoughts apply to yourself?' It is time for me to literally practise what I preach. I feel now that I am aboard a fast train with only one stop. I'm not in a mad hurry to disembark. I'm like everyone else; I only know this world and this life, but I see no meaning in this life ending in a grave. When the train stops, I will step onto that platform with hope and no fear."

Archbishop Martin said "Tony showed all of us how strength can be witnessed even in the face of human weakness. His courage and determination touched the hearts of people of all backgrounds. His courage leaves all of us more humble. May the

Lord welcome and give him the deep peace to which he witnessed in his suffering."

Funeral arrangements: Removal on Sunday (September 1st) to the Church of St. Laurence O'Toole, Kilmacud, arriving at 6pm. Requiem Mass on Monday (September 2nd) at 11.30am in the Church of St. Thérèse, Mount Merrion, followed by private burial. May he rest in peace.

"Our Sister, Mother Earth"

1st September marks the fifth World Day of Prayer for the Care of All Creation, initiated by Pope Francis in his Encyclical *Laudato Si* in 2015. It also marks the start of Creation Time, which continues until 4th October, the feast of St. Francis of Assisi. Creation Time celebrates the joy of creation and encourages awareness-raising initiatives to protect the natural environment.



The second collection today will be the Annual collection for CROSSCARE - the social support agency providing Community, Homeless and Youth services for the Archdiocese of Dublin,

Rest in Peace



We offer our sincere sympathies to the family and friends of **Patricia (Patty) Foley** Seapark Drive, whose funeral took place here on Tuesday. May she rest in peace.



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