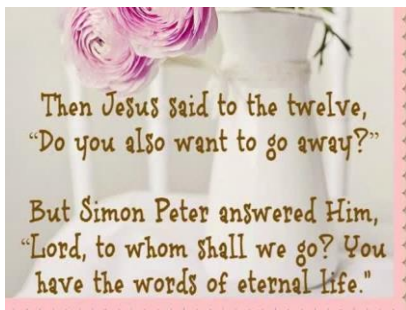




ST. GABRIEL'S NOTES

22nd August 2021



Farewell Mass for Fr. Gareth — Sun 5th Sept. at 10.30

A special Mass of Thanksgiving for Fr. Gareth's 21 wonderful years of service in St. Gabriel's will be celebrated at 10.30 on Sunday 5th September.

When he left in June we postponed our farewells until September in the hope that some of the Covid restrictions would have been lifted, and we could party as we like to do! Sadly, that is not the case but a special Mass is being prepared by a group of his former colleagues on the Family Mass team.

We will have to adhere to the regulations and only 100 will be allowed in the Church for the Mass. Our fantastic team of stewards will be on duty to look after us all. If the weather is kind, we can have seats outside and the loudspeakers on for the Mass and meet Fr. Gareth there after Mass. It has also been suggested that you may prefer to stay home and follow the Mass on your webcam and then immediately come to the Church to meet him. Thank you for observing social distancing at all times and wearing your mask. We cannot serve any refreshments.

We also cannot leave out pages for you to write your messages for Fr. Gareth. What we ask you to do please is to send us an email with your message (approx. 50 words) to info@stgabrielsparish.ie Please put FR. GARETH FAREWELL in the subject box so that we can collate them and copy them into a book to be presented to him on the day. No-one outside the office and Fr. Gareth will see what you have written

The Season of Creation 2021



The Season of Creation has a special significance for the Catholic Church, particularly since Pope Francis established 1 September as an annual World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation.

The Season of Creation or Creation Time, is marked throughout the Christian world from 1 September to 4 October (Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi) and celebrates the joy of creation as well as encouraging awareness-raising initiatives to protect the natural environment.

The theme for the Season of Creation 2021 is 'Restoring Our Common Home'. During this season we are asked to join together to celebrate creation and protect our common home through prayer, reflection and action.

The global Christian family is called to awaken to the urgent need to heal our relationships with creation and with each other and to encourage our parish communities to do the same, "for we know that things can change!" (Laudato Si', 13).

This year we celebrate this season mindful of the fact that our world continues to deal with the Covid-19 pandemic as well as a devastating climate and biodiversity crisis. We look towards two UN Conferences in the Autumn, COP15 (on Biodiversity, in China) and COP24 (on climate change, Glasgow) in the hope that world leaders take the urgent action that is needed to Restore Our Common Home. Catholics are urged to sign the "[Healthy Planet Healthy People](#)" petition as a key action for this year's Season of Creation. This petition has been endorsed by the Vatican Dicastery for Integral Human Development in the hope that millions of Catholics will raise their voices in the public sphere to help Restore Our Common Home in the run up to these vital UN Conferences. (www.catholicbishops.ie)